



# Fighting Wildfires and Adapting to a Changing Climate

Everyday the evidence mounts that climate change is happening faster and with more intensity than many scientists expected.

The extreme heatwave and wildfires in Western Canada this summer underscore the urgency of fighting and adapting to climate change. This includes preparing for more regular extreme weather events that cause wildfires, droughts and flooding. We must remain united in our goal of ensuring affected Canadians are fully supported through this crisis. But as the mounting evidence of climate change becomes even more clear, we need to invest now to mitigate the impact of future disasters.

## Training 1,000 Community-Based Firefighters

Through parts of this fire season, Canada faced a shortage of up to 1,000 fire personnel. With intensifying wildfire seasons across the globe, key allies face similar challenges, leading to shortages of fire fighting personnel and resources.

That is why a re-elected Liberal government will invest \$50 million to help train at least 1,000 firefighters in targeted wildfire risk management strategies in communities across the country. A portion of these funds will also be directed to support and expand Indigenous-led fire crews and build capacity to better incorporate Indigenous traditional knowledge strategies in fire management.

## Providing firefighters with the equipment they need to stay safe and fight wildfires

As we adapt to the reality of climate change, we need to make sure provinces and territories can provide firefighters the tools they need to be able to do their job safely. That's why a re-elected Liberal government will invest \$450 million ahead of the next fire season to allow provinces and territories to invest in the equipment needed to fight wildfires and keep firefighters safe, like Canadian-made firefighter aircraft.

## Protecting Homes and Communities from Floods and Wildfire

Information is power. And as climate change intensifies, it will only become more important for Canadians to understand what positive, affordable and practical measures they can take to protect their homes and communities against flood and wildfire.

To help ensure Canadians have this information, we will create a Climate Adaptation Home Rating Program that will be developed as a companion to the EnerGuide home energy audits. We will also expand the eligibility requirements of the CMHC deep home retrofit program and Canada Greener Home Grants to include more climate resilience measures.

We will also partner with the insurance industry and the private sector to develop strategies to reduce insurance premiums by finding cost-effective ways to better protect communities and homes from climate impacts, like floods and wildfires.

### **Additional Liberal action to support climate adaptation and resilience:**

- Supporting projects such as wildfire mitigation activities, rehabilitation of storm water systems, and restoration of wetlands and shorelines through a \$1.4B top up the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund;
- Supporting provincial and territorial disaster response and recovery efforts with \$1.9 billion over five years;
- Helping the Parks Canada Agency enhance wildfire preparedness in Canada's National Parks with \$100.6 million over five years, starting in 2021-22;
- Working with provinces and territories to complete flood maps for higher-risk areas, improve standards in areas like flood mapping, and support increased mapping of areas in Northern Canada at risk of wildfires;
- Increasing total AgriRecovery funding to up to \$500 million to address extraordinary costs faced by producers due to drought and wildfires;
- Working to advance the development of Canada's first-ever National Adaptation Strategy.