

FOR RELEASE
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Pan-Canadian framework on climate change meets Yukon's unique needs

Premier Sandy Silver joined Canada's first ministers in Ottawa today to finalize the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change.

The framework is both a concrete plan with key commitments and also a launching point for further collaboration across Canada in addressing and adapting to the impacts of climate change and shifting to a clean, renewable economy. It introduces carbon pricing across Canada and includes annexes addressing each jurisdiction's particular needs.

Yukon's annex commits the Governments of Yukon and Canada to partnering on investments in renewable energy projects, research and pilot projects, and energy efficiency improvements to buildings for the benefit of all Yukon communities.

It also commits that Yukon will retain 100 per cent of the revenues from carbon pricing. The Government of Yukon will distribute these revenues back to individual Yukoners and businesses through a rebate.

The framework's publication is the culmination of a series of successful meetings attended by Silver in Ottawa on December 8 and 9 where addressing climate change, strengthening Yukon's economy and funding health care were top of his agenda.

While not all provinces signed onto the framework today, national momentum to take action on climate change is clear and unequivocal.

As well as chairing his first Council of the Federation meeting with all premiers, Silver participated in a meeting with premiers, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, US Vice-President Joe Biden and national Indigenous organization leaders. In addition, Silver co-chaired a First Ministers' Meeting of Canada's premiers and the prime minister.

Quotes

"The Government of Yukon worked in full collaboration with the federal government and our provincial and territorial counterparts to ensure the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change meets Yukon's unique needs while also serving the entire country."

–Premier Sandy Silver

"Premiers made sure that the Pan-Canadian framework clearly commits us to moving forward with meaningful engagement with Indigenous Peoples. We are committed to building a stronger relationship between Indigenous Peoples and all Canadians, and working together to ensure that our country is a place where all Canadians can thrive. I am very pleased that both Chief Doris Bill and Chief Roberta Joseph were able to join me in Ottawa at these important meetings, and I look forward to working with all Yukon First Nations as we move forward with implementing the Pan-Canadian framework."

–Premier Sandy Silver

Quick facts

- The Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change was based on reports from four working groups in the areas of: mitigation opportunities; adaptation and climate resilience; carbon-pricing mechanisms; and clean technology, innovation and jobs.
- Examples of new actions that have been committed to in the Pan-Canadian Framework include:
 - Reducing Reliance on Diesel in Indigenous, Remote, and Northern Communities – Governments are committed to accelerating and intensifying efforts to improve the energy efficiency of diesel generating units, demonstrate and install hybrid or renewable energy systems, and connect communities to electricity grids.
 - Building Climate Resilience in the North – Federal, provincial and territorial governments and Indigenous Peoples will continue working together to develop and implement a Northern Adaptation Strategy to strengthen northern capacity for climate change adaptation.
- On December 8, Silver met separately with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Carolyn Bennett. He also met Nunavut Premier Peter Taptuna and the Northwest Territories Premier Bob McLeod for the first time.
- On December 9, Silver chaired a Council of the Federation meeting with all premiers and then participated in meetings with first ministers and national Indigenous organization leaders, one of which was also attended by US Vice-President Joe Biden.
- Accompanying the premier to Ottawa were Kwanlin Dün Chief Doris Bill and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Chief Roberta Joseph.
- The Council of the Federation comprises all 13 Canadian premiers. The Government of Yukon is the 2016 chair and hosted the annual summer meeting in July 2016. Alberta is the incoming 2017 chair.

Learn more: Clean Growth and Climate Change

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