

What is The Leap Manifesto?

The Leap Manifesto is a roadmap for how we can transition beyond fossil fuels in a way that creates a more just, fair, and caring world. The Leap launched in Canada in 2015, and the document is now available in a dozen languages. The manifesto has been signed by tens of thousands of people, from social justice, religious and cultural leaders to politicians and trade unionists. Today, the model is spreading around the world, and has inspired a new organization, The Leap, dedicated to bringing this vision to life.

Who's behind it?

The Leap Manifesto was initiated in the spring of 2015 at a two-day meeting attended by representatives from Canada's Indigenous rights, social and food justice, environmental, faith-based and labour movements. **The meeting was convened to move beyond saying “no” to the worst attacks on our rights and environment, and to dream together about the world we actually want and how to get there.** The manifesto was shaped by the contributions of dozens of people.

Is this a partisan project?

The Leap is a non-partisan social and political initiative. Those who have signed include supporters across political parties, and some who support none. All share the belief that now is the moment for a transformative agenda to emerge from outside electoral politics and to influence and shape political policy. **The Leap does not endorse political candidates, but encourages all candidates to endorse and advance The Leap's vision.**

Why leap now?

The scale and urgency of the challenges we face today - catastrophic climate change, rising racism, historic inequality - demand that our strategies be bigger, bolder, and more forward-looking than ever before. We launched the manifesto to demonstrate widespread support for bolder policy solutions than the ones on offer from major political parties. **The Leap Manifesto was created for this moment: to get off of defense and outline the bold, comprehensive solutions that we can say YES to.**

What's a “justice-based” energy transition?

A “just transition” is the idea that we can transition to a renewable-based economy in a way that changes our world for the better — fighting racism, achieving meaningful justice for Indigenous peoples, creating more and better jobs, restoring and expanding our social safety net, building a better food system, and reducing economic, gender and racial inequalities.

How do I get involved?

Join us at theleap.org to sign the manifesto and find out how people are taking the leap in their communities.

You can find downloadable versions of the manifesto in twelve languages, beautiful posters, and social media materials on the Resources page of the original Leap Manifesto website: leapmanifesto.org

theleap.org

the leap manifesto

Caring for the Earth
and One Another



theleap.org

The Leap Manifesto

We could live in a country powered entirely by renewable energy, woven together by accessible public transit, in which the jobs and opportunities of this transition are designed to systematically eliminate racial and gender inequality.

Caring for one another and caring for the planet could be the economy's fastest growing sectors. Many more people could have higher wage jobs with fewer work hours, leaving us ample time to enjoy our loved ones and flourish in our communities.

Canada is not this place today - but it could be.

1 The leap must begin by respecting the inherent rights and title of the original caretakers of this land, starting by fully implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

2 The latest research shows we could get 100% of our electricity from renewable resources within two decades²; by 2050 we could have a 100% clean economy³. **We demand that this shift begin now.**

3 No new infrastructure projects that lock us into increased extraction decades into the future. The new iron law of energy development must be: **if you wouldn't want it in your backyard, then it doesn't belong in anyone's backyard.**

4 The time for energy democracy has come: wherever possible, communities should collectively control new clean energy systems. Indigenous peoples and others on the front lines of polluting industrial activity should be first to receive public support for their own clean energy projects.

5 We want a **universal program to build and retrofit energy efficient housing, ensuring that the lowest income communities benefit first.**

6 We want **high-speed rail powered by renewables and affordable public transit to unite every community in this country** – in place of more cars, pipelines and exploding trains that endanger and divide us.

7 We want **training and resources for workers in carbon-intensive jobs**, ensuring they are fully able to participate in the clean energy economy.

8 We need to **invest in our decaying public infrastructure** so that it can withstand increasingly frequent extreme weather events.

9 We must develop a **more localized and ecologically-based agricultural system** to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, absorb shocks in the global supply - and produce healthier and more affordable food for everyone.

10 We call for **an end to all trade deals that interfere with our attempts to rebuild local economies, regulate corporations and stop damaging extractive projects.**

11 We demand **immigration status and full protection for all workers.** Canadians can begin to rebalance the scales of climate justice by welcoming refugees and migrants seeking safety and a better life.

12 We must **expand those sectors that are already low-carbon: caregiving, teaching, social work, the arts and public-interest media. A national childcare program is long past due.**

13 Since so much of the labour of caretaking – whether of people or the planet – is currently unpaid and often performed by women, **we call for a vigorous debate about the introduction of a universal basic annual income.**

14 We declare that **“austerity” is a fossilized form of thinking that has become a threat to life on earth.** The money we need to pay for this great transformation is available -- we just need the right policies to release it. **An end to fossil fuel subsidies. Financial transaction taxes. Increased resource royalties. Higher income taxes on corporations and wealthy people. A progressive carbon tax. Cuts to military spending.**

15 We must work swiftly towards a system in which **every vote counts and corporate money is removed from political campaigns.**

This transformation is our sacred duty to those this country harmed in the past, to those suffering needlessly in the present, and to all who have a right to a bright and safe future.

Now is the time for boldness.

Now is the time to leap.