

**SUBMISSION TO THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
PROPOSALS TO STRENGTHEN BILL C-12
MAY 17, 2021**

We are urging members of the Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development to significantly strengthen Bill C-12, the Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act.

We are members of The LIFE Institute's Climate Action Club affiliated with Ryerson University. We are an organization that is committed to learning more about climate change and its effects, discussing issues and potential solutions and acting together to support organizations in the climate change movement.

As seniors, we are already seeing the devastating impacts of climate change and we are very concerned about the world we'll be leaving to future generations.

With our country's complex federal system, a strengthened Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act may not guarantee that we meet our climate targets, but legislation can play an important role in bridging the gap between medium and long-term goals and our existing policies. Canadians will support the changes that must occur to transform to a low carbon economy if they have clear targets and regular reporting on progress.

We encourage the Committee to strengthen Bill C-12 by taking into account the recommendations made by numerous climate action groups, including the following key actions that Climate Action Network Canada refers to as the pillars of a robust climate accountability law.

- Five-year carbon budgets that cap total GHG emissions and fairly distribute emissions reductions across the country.
- Five-year impact reports tabled before Parliament that assess the risks of current and predicted climate impacts in Canada, beginning in 2025.
- Planning and reporting requirements to achieve carbon budgets and guide adaptation with plans, progress reports and the government's response to progress reports tabled before Parliament.
- An arm's-length expert climate advisory committee with an independent budget and a clear mandate to advise on long-term targets, five-year carbon budgets,

climate impact reports and policy solutions, and independently monitor and report on implementation progress.

- Canada's commitment to the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples reflected in climate actions.
- Planning processes for a just and equitable workforce transition to guarantee good jobs for all workers as social and economic shifts occur.

We urge all parties to work together to strengthen and pass Bill C-12 as quickly as possible.

We are sending this submission on behalf of The LIFE Institute's Climate Action Club.

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