

## UNDER 2 MOU – Final Appendix

Ontario recognizes climate change as one of the most urgent issues facing humanity today. Climate change is already damaging our environment, causing extreme weather like floods and droughts, and hurting our ability to grow food in some regions. Over the near term, it will increase the cost of food and insurance, harm wildlife and nature, and eventually make the world inhospitable for our children and grandchildren.

The province has demonstrated its leadership and commitment to fight climate change through several actions, most notably, ending coal-fired power – one of the largest greenhouse gas reduction initiatives in North America, equivalent to taking seven million vehicles off the road. Ontario recently established a new mid-term 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction target of 37% below 1990 levels and is establishing a cap on carbon pollution through a program that intends to link with carbon markets in Quebec and California.

Ontario recently made an unprecedented multi-billion-dollar commitment to transform its commuter rail network. As part of this plan, the current fleet of fossil-fuel powered commuter trains is being replaced with a fully electric Regional Express Rail system that will operate trains in both directions every 15 minutes on over 450 kilometres of track. This transformation is expected to have a positive impact on mode-splits, by tripling ridership over the next 15 years, while also supporting intensification and efficient land use patterns in suburban areas leading to significant GHG reductions.

Ontario's new Climate Change Strategy sets out the transformative change required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions sufficient to achieve our targets, including the Under2MOU target of an 80 percent reduction relative to 1990 levels by 2050. Ontario is also on track to reduce per capita carbon footprints to 2 tonnes per Ontarian by 2050.

Ontario's strategy builds on the foundation already established in Ontario to innovate and invest in a high-productivity economy that values our natural capital. It shifts Ontario toward a carbon neutral society and economy that will better protect our air, land and water and support growth and prosperity, while leaving a legacy of a healthy world for future generations.

Following consultation and input from Ontarians, our Climate Change Strategy was developed to highlight five areas of transformation:

### **1. A prosperous low-carbon economy with world-leading innovation, science and technology**

- Attract and retain investment and risk capital for low carbon innovation.
- Develop actions and strategies to support innovation, research and development of technologies that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Develop new ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through fuel switching, energy reduction and other measures that foster innovation.
- Build green infrastructure to restore ecosystems, reduce atmospheric carbon and protect and expand carbon sinks.

## **2. Government collaboration and leadership**

- Introduce new legislation that, if passed, will contribute to the fight against climate change by enshrining government carbon emission policies in legislation and establishing a requirement to develop, maintain and review climate change action plans.
- Require government departments to evaluate and consider GHG impacts when policy and spending decisions are made.
- Introduce changes to government operations, procurement, employee training, building retrofits and in other areas to help government move towards carbon neutrality.
- Work with First Nations and Métis communities to help implement the climate change strategy and to inform development of the action plan.
- Deploy electric vehicle charging equipment at key government locations for employees and visitors.

## **3. A resource-efficient, high-productivity society**

- Establish greenhouse gas reductions as a priority in the next Long-Term Energy Plan.
- Review and make recommendations regarding existing policies and programs that support fossil fuel use and fossil fuel intensive technologies.
- Implement a resource recovery and waste reduction framework to assist Ontario's shift to a "circular economy" where waste resources are fully recovered.
- Develop data and metrics to measure GHG impacts of projects and programs and progress including progress towards GHG reduction targets, available to government, business and the non profit sectors.

## **4. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions across sectors.**

- Reduce emissions from transportation by promoting the uptake of zero emission and plug-in hybrid vehicles with actions being developed in the following areas:
  - Reviewing and revising purchase incentives
  - Charging infrastructure investments with differentiated approaches for:
    - Workplaces
    - Downtowns/Towncentres
    - Inter-city Travel
    - Highrise residential
  - Code Improvements in residential, commercial and retail sectors.
- Reduce emissions from goods movement and deliveries by supporting the deployment of lower carbon fuel options, including electricity and natural gas.
- Develop a coordinated approach to reduce emissions from new and existing buildings through new retrofit programs, code changes, and potential incentives.
- Align all future reviews and updates to Ontario's land use planning frameworks, including guidelines, regional growth plans, policy statements and legislative frameworks with provincial emissions targets.

## **5. Adapting and thriving in a changing climate**

- Integrate resilience considerations into government infrastructure planning and funding
- Establish reducing greenhouse gas emissions as an important factor in transportation and land-use planning initiatives.
- Align climate change objectives with agriculture and natural systems.
- Develop an approach to assess emissions and removals from agriculture, forestry and other land uses.
- Establish a climate change modeling collaborative for climate data.