



CANADIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN



Spring 2025



TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
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PLEDGE	
• COC's Purpose	5
• United Nations Sport for Climate Action Framework	6
• COC's Climate Goals	6

PLAN AND PROCEED WITH ACTION	
• Our Path to Zero	7
• Our Strategy	8
• Our Plan	9-11

REPORT	
• COC's Impact Report	12
• COC's Carbon Footprint	12

CONCLUSION	13
-------------------	-----------

APPENDIX	
Table I: Greenhouse gas protocol expectations for sport organizations	14



THE CANADIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE FOCUSES ON FOSTERING AN INCLUSIVE, PURPOSE-LED AND HIGH PERFORMANCE CULTURE.

Our work of bringing people together through sports occurs on the traditional treaty and unceded territories that are part of Turtle Island. We acknowledge that Indigenous Peoples have been living and playing sports on this territory for generations and continue to do so today. We recognize that part of our journey as a colonial organization is to take an active role in learning, and unlearning about Indigenous histories on these lands, and to seek to understand the role we can take in reconciliation as we move forward. We acknowledge that our two head offices are located on the traditional territories of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, the Wendat peoples, and Kanien'kehà:ka Nation, and we are undertaking work to learn more about these territories and the Indigenous Peoples who call Tkaronto and Tiohtiá:ke home.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Through the Team Canada Impact Agenda, the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) is committed to making sport safe, inclusive and barrier-free so more young people can play and stay in sport. Our work is built around three pillars:

PODIUM

Relentlessly pursue a safe, inclusive, and barrier-free sport system

PLAY

Inspire more young people in Canada to play and stay in sport

PLANET

Take a leadership position to preserve our sporting environments

Across Canada, communities are experiencing the impacts of our changing climate. Since the 1970s, we've lost more than 30 viable days for outdoor skating in the winter season, witnessed a >10% reduction of snowfall across all regions, seen a growing number of out-of-control wildfires that have impacted air quality nationwide, and endured worsening heat waves, floods, and storms. As a sports leader in Canada, we acknowledge that we have a role to play in pursuing climate action and reducing our carbon footprint. We also must collaborate with partners across sectors to identify solutions that will keep sport safe and fun into the future. These actions are critical to the preservation of sporting environments, so athletes across Canada can continue to play and practice the sports they love.

The COC is committed to investing in our Planet pillar to ensure that our Podium and Play pillars can shape the future of sport in Canada. The health of the planet is an essential component of sport and we already observe how the climate crisis is impacting sport at all levels. At the same time, we realize that sport contributes to the climate crisis as well: when we travel to host cities, ship sport equipment by sea and air cargo to Games, etc. we do so with our own carbon footprint.

As a responsible non-profit organization with a national and international reach, we believe that adopting a strategic climate action plan will help move us from climate goals to climate actions. It will help us focus and prioritize our operations and decisions in accordance with our purpose of Transforming Canada Through the Power of Sport.

Through the Team Canada Impact Agenda and the COC's Climate Action Plan, we are committed to reducing our carbon emissions by 50% by 2030, achieving net zero by 2040, bringing a sustainability mindset to everything we do and empowering the sport community across Canada to become climate actors.

We know we must take action now. We are conscious that the cost of inaction could severely impact the sport sector and our ability to pursue our long-term mission. Therefore, we have prioritized strategic actions over perfection, and will adapt along the way as we strive to address one of the biggest problems of our time.



PLEDGE

COC'S PURPOSE

The COC's purpose is to *Transform Canada Through the Power of Sport*. This is supported by our mission to lead the achievement of the Canadian Olympic Teams (COT) podium success and promote the principles and values of Olympism.

As a sports leader in Canada, the COC acknowledges that it has a role to play to initiate climate action and reduce its carbon footprint to preserve our sporting environments so athletes and people across Canada can continue to practice the sports they love.

Through the Team Canada Impact Agenda, the organization is both leading and supporting efforts towards sustainable sport.

The COC is committed to making sport safe, inclusive and barrier-free so more young people can play and stay in sport. Our work is built around three pillars:

PODIUM

Relentlessly pursue a safe, inclusive, and barrier-free sport system

PLAY

Inspire and enabling more young people in Canada to play and stay in sport

PLANET

Take a leadership position to preserve our sporting environments

Under the Planet pillar, we commit to leading by example through an emissions reduction journey and sharing our learnings and resources with the broader sport community across Canada to support other organizations' efforts along their path to zero. We will also facilitate efforts to empower athletes, coaches, and members of the sport community to be part of a just transition through advocacy, policy, and sustainable practices.





UNITED NATIONS SPORT FOR CLIMATE ACTION FRAMEWORK

In 2020, in efforts to acknowledge the importance for a National Olympic Committee (NOC) to act in favor of reducing its footprint, the COC joined the United Nations Sports for Climate Action Framework (UN S4CAF).

This framework provides appropriate guidance and expertise to help organizations like the COC navigate their own work on climate action. It has two main objectives:

1. Achieve a clear trajectory for the global sports community to combat climate change;
2. Use sport as a unifying tool to drive climate awareness and action among global citizens.

By becoming a signatory, the COC is committed to leverage its national and international reach to act in alignment with the following principles:

Principle 1: Undertake systematic efforts to promote greater environmental responsibility;

Principle 2: Reduce overall climate impact;

Principle 3: Educate for climate action;

Principle 4: Promote sustainable and responsible consumption; and

Principle 5: Advocate for climate action through communication.

As a signatory, we are requested to adhere to the following process:

1. PLEDGE - Sports for Climate Action Commitment requires a pledge by the head of the organization to adopt the targets to reach (net)-zero by 2040.
2. PLAN - Participants of the Framework must issue plans on how they are aiming to achieve interim targets.
3. PROCEED WITH ACTION - All signatories are requested to take immediate action toward their climate goals, reflecting the urgency of rapid emissions reductions.
4. REPORT - For credibility of commitments and to maintain signatory status, all signatories are to submit annual public reporting from 2021 onwards.

COC'S CLIMATE GOALS

In 2022, to remain a signatory of the UN Sport for Climate Action Framework, the COC adopted ambitious targets to:

1. Reduce carbon emissions in scope 1, 2 & 3 by 50% by 2030
2. Achieve net zero emissions by 2040¹

1. As per the UN S4CAF and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) expectations, the COC is focused on reducing its carbon emissions in scope 1, 2 and 3, where applicable. A detailed table with greenhouse gas protocol expectations for sport organizations is available in Appendix I.



PLAN AND PROCEED WITH ACTION

The COC is committed to making climate action an essential component of all decision-making – because we know we have the reach and the platform to make a tangible difference.

OUR PATH TO ZERO

2028	2030	2032	2040
Finalize our strategy to achieve a 50% reduction in emissions to meet the 2030 target	Reduce our emissions by 50%	Finalize our strategy to achieve a 90% reduction in emissions to meet the 2040 target, aligned with a net-zero goal	Achieve net zero emissions

The COC, will consider our goal of net-zero to be achieved when we reach a 90% reduction in emissions compared to our 2022 baseline, with residual emissions offset through permanent removal mechanisms.

Following the guidance of the United Nations [Race to Zero](#) campaign, we adopt the following definition for net zero:

“An actor reduces its emissions following science-based pathways, with any remaining GHG emissions attributable to that actor being fully neutralized by like-for-like removals (e.g. permanent removals for fossil carbon emissions) exclusively claimed by that actor, either within the value chain or through purchase of valid offset credits.”



OUR STRATEGY

TAKE A LEADERSHIP POSITION TO PRESERVE OUR SPORTING ENVIRONMENTS

COMMITMENTS

CLIMATE ACTION

Bring a sustainability mindset to everything we do

CLIMATE ACTION EMPOWERMENT

Empower the sport community across Canada to become climate actors

AREAS OF FOCUS

Reduce our emissions

Strengthen our governance

Facilitate transition

Advocate

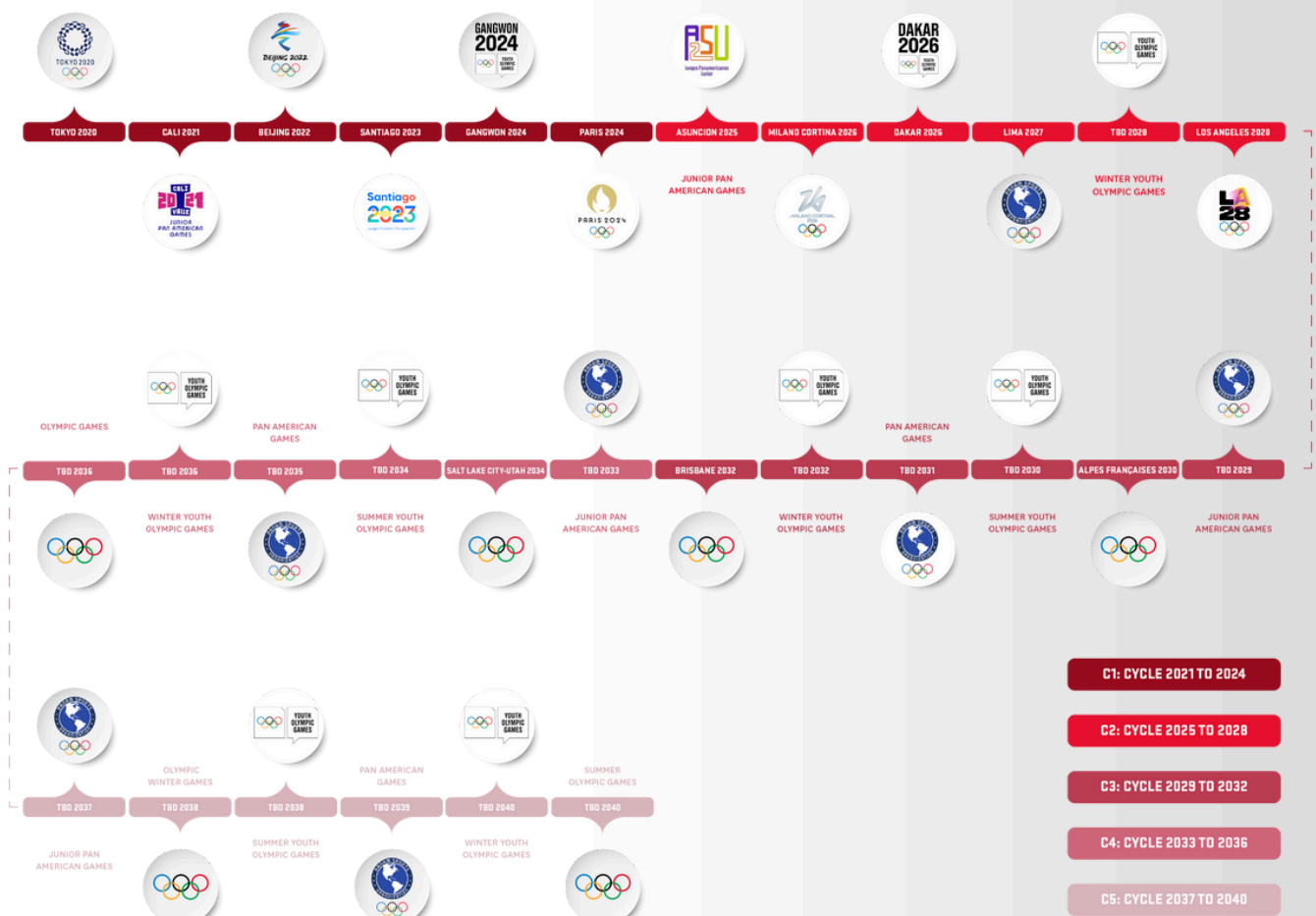
STRATEGIC GOALS

1. Reduce our carbon emissions by 50% by 2030 & achieve net zero emissions by 2040 by enhancing our operations, data & reporting
2. Share and engage with the COC workforce, athletes and partners

OUR PLAN

Our plan is built around Team Canada in action and refers to the Olympiad cycles. Our cycles start with the Summer Olympic Games and last four years. Team Canada is in action in different multi-sport Games across those four years. Our Climate Action Plan aligns to this rhythm and is made of 5 cycles from 2021 to 2040.

TEAM CANADA IN ACTION





OUR PLAN

CLIMATE ACTION						
REDUCE OUR EMISSIONS						
	Cycle	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5
CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS						
Actively pursue new partnerships with value-aligned organizations						
Engage with corporate partners on opportunities to collaborate in measuring and reporting carbon emissions						
Collaborate with corporate partners on their sustainability commitment and plan						
FREIGHT						
Prioritize low-carbon shipping options whenever feasible						
Work internally to identify opportunities to reduce freight volume and distance travelled						
Work with key groups to explore options to enhance efficiency and leverage lower intensity options where possible						
INVESTMENTS						
The Investment Committee & Chief Finance Officer to work with the Outsourced Chief Investment Officer for the continuous integration of ESG factors into the investment analysis and selection						
Monitor new investment opportunities for renewable energy sources						
SUSTAINABLE SOURCING						
Develop a sustainable procurement guide with a focus on highest emitting segments and include a list of recommended vendors						
Work internally and with our providers to streamline and reduce volume of purchased goods and to maximize circular economy						
Reduce our footprint across our offices (ex. paper consumption, waste, use of plastic, food & beverages, energy consumption)						
Require GHG reporting as part of vendor contracts						
TRAVEL						
Develop and implement sustainable travel policy						
Explore sustainable options with our travel agency						
MONITORING AND REPORTING						
Measure the COC's carbon footprint annually, report back to the UN S4CAF and enhance data collection for consistency						
Monitor the COC's decreasing footprint and plan for the next cycles of the Climate Action Plan						
Finalize our strategy to achieve a 50% reduction in emissions to meet the 2030 target						
Finalize our strategy to achieve 90% reduction in emissions to meet the 2040 target						
Explore carbon compensation options to address residual emissions, aligned with a net-zero goal						
STRENGTHEN OUR GOVERNANCE						
Appoint a Sustainability lead						
Join the United Nations Sports for Climate Action Framework & commit to the Race to Zero goals						
Share yearly progress to COC's Board of Directors						
Incorporate climate factors into strategic decision-making processes						
Capture climate risks (including risks related to health, sport performance, operations, legal, and commercial affairs) and monitor through the COC risk assessment plan						
Develop the Team Canada Impact Agenda Framework that aligns with our climate goals						
Create a sustainability-focused communication plan for relevant groups						
Integrate climate action into external reporting and publicly disclose COC's carbon footprint						
Integrate sustainability principles and objectives into each Games' strategic plan						
Review COC policies to ensure alignment with our climate goals						
Engage with staff to develop a climate champions network within the COC						



CLIMATE ACTION EMPOWERMENT

Cycle	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5
FACILITATE TRANSITION					
Integrate sport and climate action content into the COC's programs and events					
Connect with the Sustainability representatives of the COC's Athlete Commission to share alignment on sustainable practices					
Support athlete-led and/or research-led initiatives with a focus on climate action through grants, funding opportunities and by featuring their stories on Team Canada channels					
Provide ESG reference documents to support operational decisions for staff and Mission Team					
Embed sustainability training and best practices with new COC staff during the onboarding process					
Support the diversification of the COC workforce					
Engage and collaborate with subject matter experts, community leaders and external groups to support and advise on social and environmental sustainability work at the COC (ex. Indigenous leaders, academics, etc.)					
Ensure implementation of sustainability best practices by Team Canada Mission Team, Athletes and National Sport Organizations while participating in the Games					
Participate in the United Nations Sports for Climate Action Canadian Alliance community of practices					
Develop and distribute free carbon literacy resources and relevant tools for the sport community					
ADVOCATE					
Engage with the athlete community across Canada on climate action					
Raise climate action awareness to Team Canada fans through COC-owned channels					
Provide thought leadership on climate and sport issues across the Olympic Movement through panel participation and sport and climate action event attendance					
Support the climate goals of host cities, participate in the Organizing Committees' efforts to reduce Games' footprint and advocate for climate adaptations to training and competition protocols to protect athlete health and performance					
Participate in and enable research-led initiatives supporting the advancement of environmental sustainability science					

C1: CYCLE 2021 TO 2024

C2: CYCLE 2025 TO 2028

C3: CYCLE 2029 TO 2032

C4: CYCLE 2033 TO 2036

C5: CYCLE 2037 TO 2040



REPORT

COC'S IMPACT REPORT

The COC reports its initiatives around climate action and climate empowerment in its Impact Report published annually in April for the previous calendar year and is available at olympic.ca.

Initiatives are multiple and go from making changes and decisions to reduce the organization's carbon footprint, to participating in international and national panels on Sport & Climate Action, collaborating with the Sustainability representatives of the [COC's Athlete Commission](#), supporting climate action related projects led by Olympians through the OLY Canada Legacy Grant Program, engaging with Team Canada fans through digital platforms, etc. More Team Canada initiatives are available on COC's [Climate Action Resource Page](#)

COC'S CARBON FOOTPRINT

The COC reports its carbon footprint annually to the United Nations (UN) as per its commitment to the UN Sports for Climate Action Framework. The report is available at all times on the [Global Climate Action Portal](#).

The carbon footprint is measured in collaboration with a specialized consultancy firm using the GHG Protocol methodology to calculate emissions as well as the financial boundary to report the climate-related effects on our business.

Starting in 2025, the COC will report its yearly progress to the Board of Directors based on the composition of scopes 1, 2 and 3 available in the Appendix. The COC will as well disclose its carbon footprint in its Impact Report, with 2022 as the baseline year. COC's Impact Report is audited every year by an expert consultancy firm.



CONCLUSION

The COC is committed to addressing the climate crisis to ensure the future of sport in Canada. Through the Team Canada Impact Agenda, we invest in our Planet pillar to support safe, inclusive, and barrier-free sport environments. Recognizing our role in contributing to climate change, we have adopted a strategic climate action plan to reduce our carbon emissions by 50% by 2030 and achieve net zero by 2040.

We prioritize immediate action and continuous adaptation, knowing the high cost of inaction. By leading by example and sharing our journey, we aim to empower the sport community to become climate actors. Our commitment to sustainability, aligned with the United Nations Sport for Climate Action Framework, drives our efforts to promote environmental responsibility, education, and advocacy, ensuring that future generations can continue to enjoy and excel in sport and physical activity.



APPENDIX

TABLE 1: GREENHOUSE GAS PROTOCOL EXPECTATIONS FOR SPORT ORGANIZATIONS

As per the United Nations Sport for Climate Action Framework and the International Olympic Committee's expectations, the COC is focused on reducing its carbon emissions in Scope 1, 2 and 3, where applicable. The table below explains what the scopes are made of and what applies to the COC.

SCOPE	PROTOCOL EXPECTATIONS	APPLICABLE TO THE COC
Scope 1 Direct emissions from owned or controlled sources	Fuel combustion, driving own vehicles, refrigeration	Office utilities (natural gas, diesel, refrigerant)
Scope 2 Emissions from the generation of purchased energy	Purchased electricity, heat or steam	Office utilities energy consumption (chilled water and electricity)
Scope 3 Indirect emissions, (not included in scope 1 and 2) that occur in the value chain, including both upstream and downstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air travel paid for by the organization; • Ground transportation of staff and materials in vehicles not owned or controlled by the organization; • Extraction and production of purchased materials and fuels; • Electricity transmission losses; • Emissions from outsourced activities like production of any materials and delivery of services; • Supply chain-related emissions; • Waste disposal; • etc. 	Emissions that are not covered in Scope 2 and occur upstream or downstream in the COC's value chain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital goods • Fuel and energy-related activities • Employee commuting • Investments • Purchased goods and services • Travel • Third party upstream transportation (Transportation & Cargo) • Waste



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

