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Canada

Environment and Climate Change Canada

2026–27 Departmental Plan

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Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature

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Environment and Climate Change Canada's 2026-27 Departmental Plan

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At a glance

This departmental plan details Environment and Climate Change Canada's priorities, plans, and associated costs for the upcoming three fiscal years.

These plans align with the priorities outlined in the Mandate Letter, as well as Environment and Climate Changes Canada's Vision, mission, raison d'être and operating context.

Key priorities

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) identified the following key priorities for 2026-27:

- **Accelerate clean growth and climate action** through a new approach to climate policy that supports regionally responsive implementation, enhances Canada's economic competitiveness in a net-zero global economy, and catalyzes private sector investment and innovation in decarbonization and clean technologies. This work includes advancing the Climate Competitiveness Strategy announced in Budget 2025, along with targeted measures to enable more Canadians to participate in the transition to a climate competitive economy and strengthen their resilience to climate impacts.
- **Support the timely delivery of major project approvals while reducing regulatory burden** by advancing efficient, predictable, and transparent environmental review and regulatory processes that maintain strong environmental protections, provide certainty for investors, and support sustainable economic growth.
- **Deliver world class weather and climate services** that strengthen emergency management, support climate adaptation and resilience planning, reduce economic risks from extreme weather, reinforce Canada's sovereignty, and support evidence-based decision-making by governments, businesses, and communities.
- **Advance nature conservation and biodiversity** by implementing Canada's 2030 Nature Strategy and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as well as ensuring sustainable economic development, working in partnership with Indigenous Peoples.

Comprehensive Expenditure Review

The government is committed to restraining the growth of day-to-day operational spending to make investments that will grow the economy and benefit Canadians. The Comprehensive Expenditure Review exercise will reduce inefficiency and ensure focus on core priorities.

As part of meeting this commitment, ECCC is planning the following spending reductions:

- **2026-27**: $236,774,916
- **2027-28**: $244,390,919
- **2028-29:** $282,647,000

It is anticipated that these spending reductions will involve a decrease of approximately 837 full-time equivalents by 2028-29. The figures in this departmental plan reflect these reductions.

ECCC will achieve these reductions by doing the following:

- Reducing the Low Carbon Economy Fund
- Aligning nature funding for better overall results
- Improving internal business strategy
- Focusing ECCC activities and reducing duplication

ECCC will improve day-to-day operating efficiency by eliminating redundancies, consolidating functions and standardizing support models. These measures will enable the Department to streamline operations and enable better integration of automation tools. ECCC will also modernize service delivery and advance key enterprise platforms to find efficiencies by streamlining operations, reducing administrative burden, and improving the consistency and timeliness of program delivery.

Highlights for Environment and Climate Change Canada in 2026-27

In 2026-27, total planned spending (including internal services) for Environment and Climate Change Canada is $1,711,705,773 and total planned full-time equivalent staff (including internal services) is 7,868[1]. For complete information on Environment and Climate Change Canada's total planned spending and human resources, read the Planned spending and human resources section of the full plan.

Summary of planned results

The following provides a summary of the results the department plans to achieve in 2026-27 under its main areas of activity, called "core responsibilities." Throughout all core responsibilities, ECCC will continue to work in partnership with Indigenous Peoples to support the effective and sustainable delivery of climate action, conservation, and environmental stewardship. This includes collaborating on distinctions-based climate initiatives, supporting conservation and biodiversity efforts, working jointly on pollution prevention and environmental monitoring, and maintaining critical infrastructure in the North to enhance resilience and sovereignty. These partnerships strengthen stewardship, resilience, and self-determination while contributing to Canada's climate, nature, and sustainability goals.

Core responsibility 1: Taking action on clean growth and climate change

ECCC, in collaboration with other departments, will implement Canada's Climate Competitiveness Strategy, and creating the conditions for the investment needed to build an affordable net-zero future in which Canadian businesses are well positioned to compete and succeed in the global economy. The Department will continue to ensure that the requirements of the *Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act* are met .

As part of the Climate Competitiveness Strategy, the Department will work to improve the effectiveness of carbon pricing to reward innovation and spur investment in cleaner technologies, helping Canada's industrial sectors grow and compete. ECCC will work with provinces and territories to improve the effectiveness of industrial carbon pricing systems including setting a post-2030 carbon pricing trajectory that targets net-zero by 2050. The Department will continue to implement regulations that complement industrial carbon pricing, including the *Clean Fuel*

[1] Planned FTEs are calculated based on available salary funding.

Regulations, as well as regulations to reduce emissions from transportation and electricity, and enhanced methane regulations for the oil and gas sector and landfills. The Department will work with interested provinces and territories to negotiate equivalency agreements.

In support of clean growth and competitiveness, ECCC will also advance permitting reform by improving the efficiency and predictability of environmental assessment and permitting processes, particularly for Projects of National Interest and other major projects, while maintaining strong environmental protections.

ECCC will facilitate clean growth through the Low Carbon Economy Fund and the Output-Based Pricing System Proceeds Fund.

ECCC will further advance work under the National Adaptation Strategy to enhance Canada's resilience to climate impacts by delivering the suite of federal actions outlined in the Government of Canada Adaptation Action Plan, while working with provinces and territories to develop bilateral collaboration mechanisms, and continuing to collaborate with First Nations, Inuit and Métis on a distinctions basis to advance Indigenous climate action.

The Department will advance climate-positive action on plastics, addressing their adverse contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions.

ECCC, in collaboration with Global Affairs Canada, will support developing countries in their transition to sustainable, low-carbon, climate-resilient, nature-positive, and inclusive economies, including through cooperation initiatives, such as international climate finance. Navigating the changing international context, the Department will advance Canada's international competitiveness and clean growth, consistent with Canada's trade diversification efforts, by building and strengthening bilateral cooperation with new and traditional partners. ECCC will also advance Canada's interests in key multilateral for a related to the environment and climate change.

ECCC will also deliver Canada's first National Strategy to Assess, Prevent and Address Environmental Racism[2] and Advance Environmental Justice. This strategy, to be published in 2026, will establish a plan to promote efforts across Canada to advance environmental justice and to assess, prevent and address environmental racism.

Planned spending: $475,709,943

Planned human resources: 1,054

More information about Taking action on clean growth and climate change can be found in the full plan.

Core responsibility 2: Preventing and managing pollution

The Department will continue its efforts to reduce air pollution from industrial sources, vehicles, engines, fuels, and consumer and commercial products by working with provinces and territories

[2] There is no definition of environmental racism accepted by everyone, and it has not yet been defined by the Government of Canada. It is a broad concept that can be applied in various contexts. Environmental racism is a form of systemic racism. When it comes to the environment, environmental racism occurs when environmental decision-making, policies, and practices overly disadvantage some people due to their race. This outcome can be intentional or unintentional.

to implement the Air Quality Management System—a collaborative approach to reducing outdoor air pollution developed and advanced through the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, including updates to the implementation of the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards. ECCC will also continue to work with Health Canada to implement the Air Quality Health Index to support Canadians in making informed decisions to protect themselves from the effects of air pollution. Internationally, ECCC will continue work to reduce transboundary air pollution.

To protect people living in Canada and the environment from harmful substances, ECCC, in collaboration with Health Canada, will continue to deliver Canada's Chemicals Management Plan which relies on robust science to identify and understand the evolving risks and environmental impacts of chemicals in order to inform risk management measures.

ECCC and Health Canada will implement commitments under the modernized *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*, as amended by the *Strengthening Environmental Protection for a Healthier Canada Act*, which includes the implementation framework on the right to a healthy environment and the development of the new Plan of Priorities for the assessment and risk management of substances in Canada.

The Department will continue to lead federal efforts, both domestically and internationally, to reduce plastic pollution, move towards a circular plastics economy, support and undertake science, and promote innovation in collaboration with other federal departments, all levels of government, Indigenous Peoples, industry, civil society, and the public. The Federal Plastics Registry has begun receiving data on the quantities of plastics in packaging, electronics, and single-use and disposable items placed on the market in Canada in order to identify opportunities for further action to reduce plastic waste and pollution, and help monitor progress over time.

ECCC will continue to implement the pollution prevention provisions under the *Fisheries Act* to provide environmental protection for fish and fish habitat and administer and enforce regulations for authorized deposits.

ECCC will continue to protect water quality and fish and fish habitat through environmental emergency prevention, preparedness and response activities.

The Department will continue to administer the Environmental Damages Fund, which invests money collected from fines, penalties, and court orders following environmental infractions to support projects that benefit Canada's natural environment.

Planned spending: $343,095,309

Planned human resources: 2,075

More information about Preventing and managing pollution can be found in the full plan.

Core responsibility 3: Conserving nature

ECCC leads the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), as outlined in Canada's 2030 Nature Strategy, which provides the roadmap for implementing this Framework in Canada through a whole-of-society approach. In the 2025 Speech from the Throne, the Government of Canada committed to protecting more nature than ever before, aligned with the

KMGBF commitment to protect 30 percent of lands and waters by 2030. To this end, the Department works with federal, provincial, territorial governments, Indigenous Peoples and other partners to establish protected and conserved areas, recover species at risk, and to implement nature-based solutions to climate change.

The Department continues to fulfill key statutory obligations under the *Species at Risk Act*, informed by science and expert advice, to conserve and recover terrestrial species at risk in alignment with the overarching goal of halting and reversing biodiversity loss.

ECCC will continue to deliver emissions reductions from nature-based climate solutions through projects that conserve, restore, and improve the management of grasslands, forests, wetlands, and peatlands to store and capture carbon, while also conserving biodiversity.

The Department will explore options to expand its capacity to detect and stop the illegal trade of protected species across Canada's borders.

Planned spending: $366,158,820

Planned human resources: 1,156

More information about Conserving nature can be found in the full plan.

Core responsibility 4: Predicting weather and environmental conditions

ECCC will focus on advancing Canada's weather and environmental prediction and alerting systems, strengthening partnerships, and enhancing resilience, including through key priorities such as: advancing artificial intelligence and machine learning driven tools for forecasting; modernizing ECCC's warning system to improve public safety; and creating processes that emphasize risk communication and decision support. With the current high-performance computing contract expiring in 2028, ECCC is actively planning for a next-generation solution that supports artificial intelligence and machine learning workloads, which could yield faster forecasts and reductions in data transfers. The Department will build and diversify strategic partnerships with other national weather centres, academia and the private sector to accelerate innovation, diversify data sources, and reduce reliance on single providers.

The Department will continue to contribute to Canada's sovereignty by directly monitoring hydro-meteorological phenomena across Canada, including the most remote northern regions of the Arctic, and by supporting military operations and Coast Guard activities at home and abroad through the provision of specialized meteorological, ice, and environmental products and services. ECCC will also maintain its infrastructure footprint in the North, which is a key expression of Canada's sovereignty in the region.

The Department will continue to optimize and modernize its atmospheric monitoring networks across Canada to enable efficient weather data collection and dissemination. It will also continue to maintain and modernize its hydrometric infrastructure, improve hydrologic services, and support transboundary water management through technical advisory and leadership roles in domestic and international transboundary water boards and committees.

ECCC's efforts will enhance Canada's hydrometeorological forecasting capabilities, safeguard the public interest, reinforce Canada's position and sovereignty in the Arctic, and enable informed decision-making that supports and protects Canadians' safety, security and economic prosperity.

Planned spending: $267,655,376

Planned human resources: 1,978

More information about Predicting weather and environmental conditions can be found in the full plan.

For complete information on Environment and Climate Change Canada's total planned spending and human resources, read the Planned spending and human resources section of the full plan.

From the Minister

As Minister of the Environment, Climate Change and Nature, I am pleased to present Environment and Climate Change Canada's (ECCC) Departmental Plan for fiscal year 2026-2027. This plan outlines the priorities and the results we intend to achieve for the year ahead.

The Department's priorities include advancing clean growth and climate action so that Canadians can benefit from a strong economy and lower emissions. We are strengthening climate resilience so that Canadians can stay safe and adapt to a changing climate. We are also protecting Canada's natural capital to sustain our way of life and long-term prosperity.

Together, these efforts not only help build a cleaner, sustainable and more competitive economy, but they also help position Canada as one of the strongest in the G7, because environmental policy is economic policy.

I am very proud of what we have accomplished together so far. In the coming year, ECCC will build on this momentum by turning major policy and investments into real on-the-ground results. This means reducing pollution, strengthening communities against climate impacts like floods and wildfires, and protecting ecosystems, while supporting innovation and growth across the economy.

We will focus on delivering outcomes that Canadians can see and measure, working closely with provinces, territories, and Indigenous peoples and partners across the economy.

By seizing upon new opportunities and working together with Indigenous communities and other partners at home and abroad, ECCC is helping to build a more sustainable, competitive and prosperous Canada—today and for generations to come.

The Honourable Julie Dabrusin, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature

Plans to deliver on core responsibilities and internal services

Core responsibilities and internal services

Core responsibility 1: Taking action on clean growth and climate change

In this section

Description

Support and coordinate the development and implementation of Canada's environmental and climate change policies, programs, and plans to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and support a transition to a resilient, inclusive low-carbon economy. This will be achieved by: developing and implementing climate mitigation measures; supporting adaptation to climate change; contributing to international environment and climate-related actions and initiatives; and engaging with other federal government departments, Indigenous partners, provinces and territories, domestic and international partners and stakeholders, non-governmental organizations, and other interested parties.

Quality of life impacts

This core responsibility plays a pivotal role within the "Environment" domain of the Quality of Life Framework for Canada. Specifically, it contributes to the "Greenhouse gas emissions" and "Climate Change Adaptation" indicators through a range of activities. It also influences the "Prosperity" domain such as "GDP per capita" and "firm growth" among others. Its work is also strongly aligned with the overarching lens of "Sustainability and Resilience."

Indicators, results and targets

This section presents details on the department's indicators, the actual results from the three most recently reported fiscal years, and the targets and target dates approved in 2026-27 for Taking action on clean growth and climate change. Details are presented by departmental result.

Table 1: Canadian greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are reduced

Table 1 provides a summary of the target and actual results for each indicator associated with the results under Taking action on clean growth and climate change.

Departmental Result Indicators	Actual Results	2026-27 Target	Date to achieve target
Percentage reduction in Canada's annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions relative to 2005 (historical data)[3]	2022-23: This is a new indicator, as of 2023-24. The first year of reporting will be 2023-24. 2023-24: 13%[4] 2024-25: 5.5%[5]	At least 45%[6]	March 2038[7]

Table 2: Canada moves towards clean growth and a low-carbon intensity economy

Table 2 provides a summary of the target and actual results for each indicator associated with the results under Taking action on clean growth and climate change.

Departmental Result Indicators	Actual Results	2026-27 Target	Date to achieve target
Reduction in emissions intensity of the Canadian economy relative to 2005 (greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions per gross domestic product (GDP)) (Mt CO_2 eq/$B GDP)	2024-25: This is a new indicator, as of 2026-27. The first year of reporting will be in 2026-27.	Annual downward trend compared to 2005 base year	March 2033[8]

[3] This indicator was previously reported as "Canada's annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (Mt CO2 eq)" and included both historical data and future projections in one measure. It is now focused on historical data. Future projections are available on GC InfoBase under the indicator "Percentage reduction in Canada's annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions relative to 2005 (2035 projections)", under the Program "Clean Growth and Climate Change Mitigation".

[4] Canada's annual greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) were 637 Mt CO_2 eq or 13% below 2005 levels (2021). This result includes the Land-Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry (LULUCF) accounting contribution. Without the LULUCF accounting contribution, Canada's annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions were 670 Mt CO_2 eq or 8.5% below 2005 levels. More information on the calculation of Canada's greenhouse gas emissions with and without the LULUCF accounting contribution can be found in Canada's National Inventory Report.

[5] 5.5% below 2005 levels (2022). This value is from Canada's 2024 Biennial Transparency Report and includes Land-Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry accounting. Based on Canada's 2024 National Inventory Report and projections, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions peaked in 2007. The 2022 historical result of 5.5% (720 Mt CO_2 eq) below 2005 levels is significant, especially given that in 2015, Canada projected emissions to be 2.2% above 2005 levels by 2020 and 9% above by 2030. The 2022 increase was due to a climate-related event (drought) and underscores the urgency of climate action and the risk that climate impacts can drive emissions higher. Despite this, Canada continues to reduce emissions while recognizing that additional efforts will be required to achieve Canada's 2030 target.

[6] Canada has committed to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 45–50% below 2005 levels by 2035.

[7] Data for 2035 will be available by March 2038. This indicator is reported in arrears because data collection and processing timelines do not allow for reporting on the data's reference year.

[8] The data for 2030 will be available by March 2033. This indicator is reported in arrears because data collection and processing timelines do not allow for reporting on the data's reference year.

Table 3: Canadian communities, economies and ecosystems are more resilient to climate change

Table 3 provides a summary of the target and actual results for each indicator associated with the results under Taking action on clean growth and climate change.

Departmental Result Indicators	Actual Results	2026-27 Target	Date to achieve target
Number of Canadians (individuals, businesses, and governments) accessing federal climate services	2024-25: This is a new indicator as of 2026-27. The first year of reporting will be in 2026-27.	Increase over the preceding year's result	March 2027

Table 4: Canada contributes to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions globally

Table 4 provides a summary of the target and actual results for each indicator associated with the results under Taking action on clean growth and climate change.

Departmental Result Indicators	Actual Results	2026-27 Target	Date to achieve target
Cumulative greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions (Mt CO_2 eq) resulting from international initiatives funded by Canada[9]	2024-25: This is a new indicator as of 2026-27. The first year of reporting will be in 2026-27.	At least 500 Mt CO_2 eq	March 2051[10]

Additional information on the detailed results and performance information for Environment and Climate Change Canada's program inventory is available on GC InfoBase.

Plans to achieve results

The following section describes the planned results for Taking action on clean growth and climate change in 2026-27.

Canadian greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are reduced

Results we plan to achieve

- Publish the ninth National Communication and second Biennial Transparency Report under the Paris Agreement.
- Ensure requirements of the *Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act*, which legislates Canada's goal of net-zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050, are met.

[9] This indicator was previously reported as "Greenhouse gas emissions reductions resulting from international initiatives funded by Canada" and tracked progress against two separate climate finance commitments. To improve clarity with regard to ECCC's overall efforts, it now reports cumulative results, combining all envelopes into a single measure to provide greater flexibility for future climate finance commitments.

[10] Data for 2050 will be available by March 2051. This indicator is reported in arrears because data collection and processing timelines do not allow for reporting on the data's reference year.

- Work with partners on progress towards Canada's climate objectives, including net-zero emissions by 2050, and implement solutions to support emissions reductions in Canadian economic sectors aimed at increasing access to new markets in the low carbon economy of the future.
- Develop regulatory amendments to the *Passenger Automobile and Light Truck Greenhouse Gas Emission Regulations* to ensure they reduce emissions, remain effective, and help the automotive sector stay competitive.
- Advance methane mitigation in line with Canada's Methane Strategy to achieve Canada's part of the Global Methane Pledge goal of a 30 percent reduction in global methane emissions across all economic sectors from 2020 levels by 2030.
- Improve the efficiency of environmental assessment and permitting processes for Projects of National Interest and all major projects.
- Within the context of the Climate Competitiveness Strategy:
    - Work with provinces and territories to advance the *Clean Electricity Regulations* (or equivalency agreements) and ensure that Canada's grid is clean as electricity demand grows.
    - Publish an updated federal benchmark that improves the effectiveness of industrial carbon pricing to support clean growth investments without adversely affecting competitiveness or leading to carbon leakage.
    - Update the *Clean Fuel Regulations* to make Canada's low-carbon fuel sector more stable and competitive, ensuring a reliable supply of low-carbon fuels, while maintaining the Regulations' primary focus of lowering emissions and transitioning to a lower carbon economy.
    - Work with provinces to negotiate equivalency agreements on methane regulations as appropriate.

Why it Matters

Together, the actions outlined in this section advance Canada's transition to net-zero while supporting sustainable economic growth and environmental protection.

Canada remains committed to achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement and is advancing a new approach to reach net-zero by 2050, including by mobilizing firms, households and federal, provincial, and territorial partners in the fight against climate change. Updating carbon pricing benchmarks and collaborating with provinces will improve effectiveness of Canada's carbon pricing system and support investment in clean technologies, while regulatory improvements for methane, electricity, fuels, and vehicles are core components of the Climate Competitiveness Strategy to reduce emissions while advancing economic growth and competitiveness. Publishing the ninth National Communication and the second Biennial Transparency Report under the Paris Agreement will provide transparency on progress and inform future policy approaches to position the economy for a low-carbon future.

Canada moves towards clean growth and a low-carbon intensity economy

Results we plan to achieve

- Collaborate with other government departments to implement the measures contained in Canada's Climate Competitiveness Strategy, including strengthening industrial carbon pricing, providing clear and complementary GHG regulations, and mobilizing capital to achieve net-zero. Lastly, the Climate Competitiveness Strategy signals the government's plan to work with other government departments to develop and publish new metrics to track Canada's transformation to a low-carbon economy.
- Implement the Low Carbon Economy Fund to catalyze private and public investments in emissions-reducing projects that drive productivity and support Canada's plans to achieve GHG emissions reductions by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050.
- Return proceeds from the federal industrial carbon pollution pricing system through the Output-Based Pricing System Proceeds Fund in support of industrial decarbonization projects and greening the electricity sector.
- Continue to expand opportunities for clean technology investment and the use of high integrity offset credits under the *Canadian Greenhouse Gas Offset Credit System Regulations* to create tradable credits that incentivize cost-effective reductions and removals across the economy.
- Deliver projects under the Climate Action and Awareness Fund, supported by the Environmental Damages Fund (see the Preventing and Managing Pollution section below), to help reduce Canada's GHG emissions and build a sustainable net-zero emissions economy by 2050.
- Modernize digital services and open data for authoritative emissions, air pollutant and climate information to improve access and inform decisions and innovation from Canadian businesses and communities.[11]
- Maintain and further develop the Fuel Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) Model to provide transparent and traceable calculations of the life cycle carbon intensity of fuels and energy sources used or produced in Canada, in order to support clean fuels and hydrogen projects under the federal *Clean Fuel Regulations*, the Clean Hydrogen Investment Tax Credit, and the Clean Fuels Fund.
- Support net-zero planning across the Canadian economy through Canada's Net-Zero Challenge program.

[11] These will continue to be published by ECCC in the: National Inventory Report: Greenhouse Gas Sources and Sinks in Canada; the Overview of Reported Emissions: the Facility Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program; Canada's Air Pollutant Emissions Inventory; Canada's Black Carbon Emissions Inventory; and Canada's Greenhouse Gas and Air Pollutant Emissions Projections.

Why it Matters

Canada's clean growth initiatives strengthen competitiveness and reduce emissions while supporting affordability and innovation. The Low Carbon Economy Fund leverages investments across the country to drive decarbonization projects and improve residential energy affordability, including for Indigenous communities. The Output-Based Pricing System Proceeds Fund accelerates industrial decarbonization by supporting clean technology and grid-greening projects. The Climate Competitiveness Strategy is a cornerstone of Canada's plan to grow low-carbon investments and maintain economic strength during the global transition to clean economies. These measures prioritize cost-effective emissions reductions and position Canadian businesses to compete and access new markets in a net-zero world. ECCC also provides authoritative science and emissions data through national inventories and reports, enabling transparent tracking and informed decision-making.

Canadian communities, economies, and ecosystems are more resilient to climate change

Results we plan to achieve

- Implement the National Adaptation Strategy through federal actions, bilateral provincial and territorial collaboration mechanisms, and distinctions-based collaboration with First Nations, Inuit and Métis.
- Publish the 2026 National Adaptation Strategy Progress Report and updated National Adaptation Strategy Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.
- Provide state-of-the-art and fit-for-purpose climate data, information, and services via the Canadian Centre for Climate Services (CCCS), including sector-specific training, and support to those seeking to understand and reduce their vulnerability to climate change.
- Deliver a new Canada-wide climate science assessment providing authoritative knowledge and data about climate change in Canada to inform future adaptation approaches and advance a near-real-time extreme event attribution system capable of quickly establishing the link between human-caused climate change and extreme hot temperature events by 2027-28.
- Deliver public awareness and communication initiatives focused on climate, nature and severe weather.
- Publish and promote Canada's first National Strategy to Assess, Prevent and Address Environmental Racism and Advance Environmental Justice. The strategy is being developed in consultation with interested persons, bodies, organizations, or communities, including representatives of governments in Canada, Indigenous Peoples and communities. The Minister will report on progress every five years thereafter.

Why it Matters

Climate impacts pose a growing economic threat, with severe and more frequent weather events driving financial losses through reduced productivity, supply chain disruptions, increased health costs, and infrastructure damage. Strengthening resilience helps lower costs for Canadians and reduces long-term government spending. Providing Canadians with state-of-the-art, interoperable

climate data and services enables informed decisions that reduce risks and support adaptation. Indigenous Peoples are vital partners in advancing resilience and prosperity, bringing Indigenous Knowledge and leadership to climate action at all levels. Successful adaptation requires Canada-specific climate science and solutions that protect economic assets, minimize disruptions, and sustain growth across regions.

Canada contributes to reducing greenhouse gas emissions globally

Results we plan to achieve

- Lead Canada's engagement in multilateral fora (G7, G20, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nations Environment Assembly, and the Arctic Council) to advance ambitious action on climate change and clean growth, including advancing climate-related outcomes of Canada's 2025 G7 Presidency, such as the Kananaskis Wildfires Charter and the Toronto Action Plan on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency.
- Guide Canada's engagement in international negotiations toward the effective collective and national implementation of the Paris Agreement while advancing Canada's climate and economic interests.
- Publish Canada's second Biennial Transparency Report and ninth National Communication to the UNFCCC by December 2026.
- Negotiate environmental provisions in free trade agreements in support of Canada's trade diversification strategy.
- Strengthen bilateral relationships with key international partners to promote methane and GHG emissions reduction, the adoption of clean growth, and the transition to clean energy and circular economies.
- Accelerate climate action and reduce short-lived climate pollutants through international Initiatives, including the Powering Past Coal Alliance (PPCA), Climate Club, Global Methane Pledge, Climate and Clean Air Coalition, Breakthrough Agenda, the Arctic Council's Arctic Contaminants Action Program, and the Global Methane Initiative.
- Highlight Canadian leadership and best practices to encourage and accelerate global climate action at the annual UNFCCC Conference of the Parties and through ongoing outreach and engagement.

Why it Matters

Cooperation with international partners on climate initiatives protects and promotes Canada's national climate and economic interests by accelerating collective progress toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change. Working collaboratively in multilateral fora and through bilateral relationships allows Canada to advance its priorities while contributing to global efforts for a sustainable and resilient future. Working with economic partners through environmental provisions in free trade agreements helps protect against countries compromising their environmental standards to attract trade or investment. Cooperation with international partners also positions Canada as a responsible leader in global energy transitions.

Canada is a party to the Paris Agreement and is committed to its objectives, including reporting on GHG emissions reduction targets. On behalf of Canada, ECCC is responsible for publishing reporting to the United Nations as a record of Canada's national GHG emissions. Canadians and the international community can rely on this standardized record of Canada's climate action to transparently scrutinize climate action efforts and be able to compare them with the efforts of other countries. This reporting helps build trust and accountability among countries and contributes to tracking global progress on climate action.

Gender-based Analysis Plus[12]

Canada's changing climate exacerbates existing challenges and health stressors for Indigenous Peoples in Canada. Climate change also disproportionately impacts different segments of society, thereby exacerbating existing inequalities and compounding risks among already impacted populations, including northern, rural, remote, and coastal communities, younger and older generations, people with health issues or disabilities, low-income groups, women, and those at the intersection of these identities. ECCC will continue to consider the impacts of its climate change policies, regulations, and programs to avoid, as much as possible, any further negative impacts on affected populations. Building on the Department's Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) published in Annex 7 of the 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan, ECCC will continue to conduct additional GBA Plus for each policy, regulatory and program initiative to maximize benefits and minimize barriers to accessing, participating, or otherwise benefitting from ECCC initiatives and in particular for those most impacted by the negative effects of climate change.

The National Adaptation Strategy includes a set of guiding principles to ensure adaptation investments and solutions in Canada are fair, inclusive, and equitable. ECCC will continue its ongoing engagement with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners through senior-level bilateral tables to support self-determination and Indigenous-led climate solutions. ECCC will also continue to engage with Indigenous partners to increase opportunities and capacity to participate in Canada's Greenhouse Gas Offset Credit System. On the international front, GBA Plus considerations are included during the negotiation and implementation of free trade agreements and are integrated into bilateral and regional environmental cooperation activities with international partners. Canada also continues to implement the Gender Action Plan that was adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Gender Action Plan aims to increase women's participation and leadership in climate action and to better integrate gender considerations in national climate plans and policies.

[12] Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) is an analytical tool used to support the development of responsive and inclusive policies, programs, and other initiatives. GBA Plus goes beyond biological (sex) and socio-cultural (gender) differences to consider other factors, such as age, disability, education, ethnicity, economic status, geography (including rurality), language, race, religion, and sexual orientation.

Planned resources to achieve results

Table 5: Planned resources to achieve results for Taking action on clean growth and climate change

Table 5 provides a summary of the planned spending and full-time equivalents required to achieve results under Taking action on clean growth and climate change.

Resource	Planned
Spending	$475,709,943
Full-time equivalents	1,054

Complete financial and human resources information for Environment and Climate Change Canada's program inventory is available on GC InfoBase.

Program inventory

Taking action on clean growth and climate change is supported by the following programs:

- Clean Growth and Climate Change Mitigation
- Climate Change Adaptation
- International Environment and Climate Change Engagement

Additional information related to the program inventory for Taking action on clean growth and climate change is available on the Results page on GC InfoBase.

Summary of changes to reporting framework since last year

ECCC has brought changes to the performance information in its Departmental Results Framework to ensure a clear and focused representation of its core mandated responsibilities. The updated result information for the Core Responsibility on Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change continues to reflect Canada's progress toward a low-carbon economy and enhanced resilience to climate impacts. While the revised content is focused on the key performance indicators that best reflect its core mandate, removed indicators continue to be available at the Program level on GC InfoBase.

By refining its reporting framework, the Department seeks to ensure that Canadians have clear information on the role and core responsibilities of the department. Performance information across ECCC's Departmental Results Framework and the Program Inventory continues to be available on GC InfoBase. We invite you to visit these measures which continue to offer multi-year information on our progress and success.

Core responsibility 2: Preventing and managing pollution

In this section

Description

Develop measures to reduce releases of harmful substances into the environment; monitor levels of pollutants and pollution precursors in air, water, and soil; promote and enforce compliance with environmental laws and regulations; and implement pollution reduction and restoration actions and programs. This will be achieved by coordinating, collaborating, and consulting with other federal government departments, provinces and territories, Indigenous partners, non-governmental organizations, international partners, and other stakeholders.

Quality of life impacts

This core responsibility contributes to the "Environment" domain of the Quality of Life Framework for Canada and, more specifically; the "Air quality" and "Water quality in Canadian rivers[13]" indicators by reducing releases and monitoring levels of contaminants in air and water; the "Waste management" indicator by promoting and enforcing compliance with environmental laws and regulations; and the "Satisfaction with local environment" indicator by preventing and managing pollution.

Indicators, results and targets

This section presents details on the department's indicators, the actual results from the three most recently reported fiscal years, the targets and target dates approved in 2026-27 for Preventing and managing pollution. Details are presented by departmental result.

Table 6: Canadians have clean air

Table 6 provides a summary of the target and actual results for each indicator associated with the results under Preventing and managing pollution.

[13] While the Canada Water Agency is responsible for many freshwater quality activities, ECCC's mandate still includes the preservation and enhancement of the natural environment, including water and air.

Departmental Result Indicators	Actual Results	2026-27 Target	Date to achieve target
Percentage of the population living in areas where air pollutant concentrations are less than or equal to the Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards	2022-23: 64%[14] 2023-24: 85%[15] 2024-25: 74%[16]	At least 85%	March 2033[17]

Table 7: The Canadian environment is protected from harmful substances

Table 7 provides a summary of the target and actual results for each indicator associated with the results under Preventing and managing pollution.

Departmental Result Indicators	Actual Results	2026-27 Target	Date to achieve target
Percentage of actions taken in a timely manner to protect Canada's environment from chemicals found to be a risk to the environment	2022-23: 93% 2023-24: 86% 2024-25: 100%	100%	March 2027

Additional information on the detailed results and performance information for Environment and Climate Change Canada's program inventory is available on GC InfoBase.

Plans to achieve results

The following section describes the planned results for Preventing and managing pollution in 2026-27.

Canadians have clean air

Results we plan to achieve

- Implement the federal Air Quality Program with key partners, including Health Canada and the National Research Council Canada.
- Implement the Air Quality Management System (AQMS), a collaborative approach to reducing outdoor air pollution in Canada, in partnership with provinces and territories. This includes applying the updated Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) for key pollutants and advancing a review of AQMS to identify opportunities for improvement.
- Operate the National Air Pollution Surveillance Program network and maintain the Air Pollutant Emissions Inventory.

[14] Based on 2018-20 data.
[15] Based on 2019-21 data.
[16] Based on 2020-2022 data. This represents a decrease from the previous period (2019 to 2021), which experienced relatively low wildfire activity and lower pollutant levels due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The decrease is also influenced by exceedances of the ozone standard in southern Ontario and the 2022 wildfires in British Columbia and the United States that caused PM2.5 standards to be exceeded in Alberta and British Columbia. Nevertheless, this result (74%) is better than in 12 of the 16 previous reporting periods, and is higher than the baseline value of 60% in 2005-2007.
[17] The target is at least 85% by December 2030. The data for 2030 will be available by March 2033. This indicator is reported in arrears because data collection and processing timelines do not allow for reporting on the data's reference year.

- Enhance Air Quality Health Index observation and forecast services to support Canadians in making decisions to protect their health.
- Administer regulations to reduce air pollutants (e.g., the *Multi-sector Air Pollutants Regulations* (MSAPR), the *Reduction in the Release of Volatile Organic Compounds (Storage and Loading of Volatile Petroleum Liquids) Regulations*, and the *Reduction in the Release of Volatile Organic Compounds Regulations (Petroleum Sector)*, *and Volatile Organic Compound Concentration Limits for Certain Products Regulations*).
- Advance integrated air quality research and monitoring to strengthen our understanding of pollutant sources and atmospheric processes, including the role of climate-driven events, such as wildfires, that shape air quality trends across Canada.
- Engage internationally under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution to revise and strengthen the Gothenburg Protocol.
- Advance work to consolidate five current regulations concerning fuel quality: the *Benzene in Gasoline Regulations*, *Fuels Information Regulations No. 1*, *Gasoline Regulations*, *Sulphur in Diesel Fuel Regulations*, and *Sulphur in Gasoline Regulations*.
- Amend, where appropriate, regulations to reduce air pollutant emissions from vehicles and engines.

Why it Matters

Ensuring clean air is vital for the health of Canadians. It is estimated that air pollution causes approximately 17,400 deaths in Canada each year and costs the Canadian economy $146 billion annually. Addressing air pollution provides numerous health benefits, helps lower the financial burden on the healthcare system, contributes to reducing economic losses related to damages to the environment, agriculture and infrastructure, and protects sensitive ecosystems and biodiversity. Canada's air quality continues to be impacted by emissions from other countries, making international efforts critical to amplify domestic actions and promote best practices globally. The Department's scientific work delivers the evidence needed for effective air quality regulations, monitoring, and innovation. These efforts help protect Canadians' health and environment while enabling industry and communities to adapt, innovate, and remain competitive in a low-carbon economy.

The Canadian environment is protected from harmful substances

Results we plan to achieve

- Implement the modernized *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* (CEPA), including advancing the Implementation Framework on the right to a healthy environment and the Plan of Priorities for managing harmful substances.
- Lead efforts to reduce plastic waste and pollution and support the transition to a circular plastics economy with initiatives such as Federal Plastics Registry data collection, and innovation challenges (e.g., Canadian Plastics Innovation Challenges for small and medium-sized enterprises). These efforts also contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with plastics across their life cycle.

- Lead Canada's engagement in negotiations toward a legally binding new global agreement on plastic pollution and participate in other multilateral and bilateral efforts to address transboundary pollution and promote resilient, circular supply chains.
- Continue to work with provincial and territorial governments under the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment to implement the Canada-wide Strategy on Zero Plastic Waste and Action Plan.
- Strengthen the *Cross-border Movement of Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Recyclable Material Regulations* in alignment with Canada's commitments under the Basel Convention, and continue to actively engage with domestic and international partners under the Convention.
- Administer and enforce the pollution prevention provisions and associated regulations of the *Fisheries Act*, which prohibit the release of harmful substances into waters frequented by fish.
- Advance freshwater science and monitoring under the Freshwater Action Plan and the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program to improve water quality and protect aquatic ecosystems, including assessments following significant environmental events.
- Deliver science-based preparedness and response for environmental emergencies under federal emergency management directives and plans, including the Oceans Protection Plan.
- Administer the amended *Wastewater Systems Effluent Regulations*, *Pulp and Paper Effluent Regulations*, *and Metal and Diamond Mining Effluent Regulations* to strengthen environmental protection and improve transparency and regulatory oversight.
- Continue to co-lead the Oil Sands Monitoring Program with Alberta Environment and Protected Areas working with industry representatives and Indigenous communities and organizations to provide comprehensive monitoring data that improves understanding of the cumulative environmental effects of oil sands development and informs responsible resources management.
- Continue evaluating policy options for the accumulation of oil sands mine water with the Crown-Indigenous Working Group and advance regulatory development of potential Oil Sands Mining Effluent Regulations.
- Continue the development of coal mining effluent regulations under the federal *Fisheries Act* to establish a regulatory framework to authorize the deposits of coal mining effluent subject to specified conditions.
- Administer the Northern Contaminants Program to safeguard northern and Arctic ecosystems and communities by monitoring and reducing exposure to priority environmental contaminants.
- Assess environmental impacts in Antarctica through permitting under the *Antarctic Environmental Protection Act* and its regulations.

- Assess environmental impacts and prevent marine pollution, including through permitting through the Disposal at Sea Program under CEPA.
- As part of the Chemicals Management Plan, continue to administer and enforce approximately 70 risk management instruments related to industrial sectors and chemicals.
- Continue participating in international fora to support Canada's international commitments related to the management of chemicals and hazardous waste.[18]
- Strengthen Canada's emergency management system by improving ECCC's ability to provide comprehensive, timely, technical and scientific advice during the response to pollution events.
- Continue to manage approximately 4,100 federal contaminated sites through the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan, providing science support and cleanup to reduce risks, providing technical guidance on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination, remediating priority sites under ECCC's responsibility, enabling economic development, and supporting Indigenous communities.

Why it Matters

Protecting Canada's environment from harmful substances is essential to safeguarding ecosystems and human health and supporting a competitive and sustainable economy. ECCC advances this goal in collaboration with provincial, territorial, Indigenous, and international partners through science, monitoring, and regulatory oversight that reduces pollution risks and informs evidence-based decisions. These efforts support Canada's domestic and international commitments, including the negotiations of the UN treaty on plastic pollution, and promote innovation and sustainable economic growth. Compliance and enforcement activities ensure strong environmental protections and create a level playing field for industry, while programs such as freshwater science, oil sands monitoring, and the Northern Contaminants Program help conserve vital ecosystems and protect communities across Canada.

Plastics pollution and waste continue to grow, in Canada and globally, costing up to $2.5 trillion in ecological, economic and social impacts annually. Continuing to implement ambitious, science-based actions to reduce plastic waste and pollution helps to build a resilient circular plastics economy that protects the environment and human health, and supports investments in made-in-Canada innovations.

There are thousands of chemicals on the Canadian market, with hundreds of new substances entering the market every year. While many are essential, some of these chemicals can result in harmful exposures that impact human health and the environment. Continuing to effectively

[18] These commitments include the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer as well as the Intergovernmental Science Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution, the Global Framework on Chemicals and the OECD Chemicals and Biotechnology Committee and its Working Party on Risk Management.

assess and manage harmful chemicals, as well as control the movement of hazardous waste and address federal contaminated sites, is critical to the health and well-being of Canadians and to a sustainable, competitive economy.

Additional expected departmental results

Results we plan to achieve

- Maintain risk-based enforcement capacity and provide expert advice under the *Impact Assessment Act*.
- Continue to support projects that will benefit Canada's natural environment through the Environmental Damages Fund, which is funded from fines, penalties, and court orders stemming from environmental infractions.

Gender-based Analysis Plus[19]

ECCC continues to apply a Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) lens to the development of policy recommendations, programs, and measures to address air pollution and improve air quality. Exposure to air pollution can have detrimental health effects on all people. These effects can be compounded in individuals who have multiple risk factors, such as being elderly or having chronic health conditions. In addition, populations living in areas that have elevated air pollution are disproportionately impacted. The Department will continue to involve impacted populations, including Indigenous communities, to ensure monitoring and scientific activities reflect diverse needs. Compliance promotion materials are adapted to consider cultural and linguistic differences, and ECCC continues to analyze how environmental justice and the right to a healthy environment intersect with enforcement priorities. Looking ahead, ECCC will evaluate projects for their integration of GBA Plus principles and support initiatives that deliver measurable benefits for those communities across Canada that are located near large industrial complexes or those affected by smoke during wildfires. ECCC's work to identify and manage harmful substances continues to use scientific information and reflects the importance of sound risk management to reduce risks posed to at-risk groups from exposure to toxic chemicals.

The Department adapts compliance promotion material to better reflect target audiences' cultural, linguistic, education, and geographic profiles, and to facilitate targeted engagements efforts with communities and groups that are disproportionately exposed to harmful substances or environmental risks. Looking ahead, ECCC will work closely with its partners to conduct further analyses of how environmental justice and the right to a healthy environment intersect with enforcement's risk-based prioritization and operational decision-making. The Department will continue to evaluate proposed projects for their incorporation of GBA Plus principles to ensure that environmental good follows environmental harm by supporting projects with measurable outcomes in Canadian communities.

[19] Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) is an analytical tool used to support the development of responsive and inclusive policies, programs, and other initiatives. GBA Plus goes beyond biological (sex) and socio-cultural (gender) differences to consider other factors, such as age, disability, education, ethnicity, economic status, geography (including rurality), language, race, religion, and sexual orientation.

Planned resources to achieve results

Table 8: Planned resources to achieve results for Preventing and managing pollution

Table 8 provides a summary of the planned spending and full-time equivalents required to achieve results for Preventing and managing pollution.

Resource	Planned
Spending	$343,095,309
Full-time equivalents	2,075

Complete financial and human resources information for Environment and Climate Change Canada's program inventory is available on GC InfoBase.

Program inventory

Preventing and managing pollution is supported by the following programs:

- Environmental Pollution Management
- Pollution Enforcement

Additional information related to the program inventory for Preventing and managing pollution is available on the Results page on GC InfoBase.

Core responsibility 3: Conserving nature

In this section

Description

Protect and recover species at risk and their critical habitat, maintain and restore healthy populations of migratory birds and other wildlife, and manage and expand Canada's network of protected areas to conserve biodiversity, contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation and support human health and well-being. This will be accomplished through evidence-based decision-making that considers cumulative effects, promoting and enforcing applicable laws and regulations, engaging meaningfully with Indigenous peoples, and collaborating with provinces and territories, other domestic and international stakeholders, and the public.

Quality of life impacts

This core responsibility contributes to the "Environment" domain of the Quality of Life Framework for Canada and, more specifically, the "Conserved areas" and "Canadian species index" indicators through its conservation and stewardship activities, including the protection of migratory birds, species at risk, and critical habitats. It also contributes to "Satisfaction with local environment" by collaborating with domestic partners to advance the conservation of biodiversity and "Greenhouse gas emissions" through the expansion of protected areas.

Indicators, results and targets

This section presents details on the department's indicators, the actual results from the three most recently reported fiscal years, and the targets and target dates approved in 2026-27 for conserving nature. Details are presented by departmental result.

Table 9: Natural habitat is protected and conserved

Table 9 provides a summary of the target and actual results for each indicator associated with the results under Conserving nature.

Departmental Result Indicators	Actual Results	2026-27 Target	Date to achieve target
Percentage of Canadian areas[20] conserved as protected areas and	2022-23: 13.6% 2023-24: 13.7%	At least 30%	December 2030

[20] Terrestrial lands and inland waters.

Departmental Result Indicators	Actual Results	2026-27 Target	Date to achieve target
Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures	2024-25: 13.8%[21]		

Table 10: Canada's species at risk are recovered

Table 10 provides a summary of the target and actual results for each indicator associated with the results under Conserving nature.

Departmental Result Indicators	Actual Results	2026-27 Target	Date to achieve target
Percentage of migratory bird species that are within target population ranges	2022-23: Result not available[22] 2023-24: 54% 2024-25: 54%[23]	At least 90%[24]	March 2031
Percentage of species at risk for which changes in populations are consistent with recovery and management objectives	2022-23: 43% 2023-24: 44% 2024-25: 40%[25]	At least 60%	March 2027

Additional information on the detailed results and performance information for Environment and Climate Change Canada's program inventory is available on GC InfoBase.

[21] While Canada continues to collaborate with a broad range of partners to advance conservation priorities, expanding protected and conserved areas remains a complex process. Limited federal jurisdiction, competing priorities (e.g., economic development), and the lack of sustainable financing continue to pose challenges.

[22] Due to a comprehensive database rebuild, past results for 2021-22 and 2022-23 are unavailable; the 2023-24 result now reflects the updated data system.

[23] This indicator reports every two years or as resources allow. The result reported this fiscal year reflects the measurement executed last fiscal year. ECCC continues to lead conservation efforts, working with domestic and international partners. It provides guidance on major development projects to avoid or reduce impacts on bird populations. Preventing declines is more cost-effective than recovering at-risk species. A key initiative is the modernization of the Migratory Bird Regulations (2022), which clarified protections, including nest protection based on conservation value. These updates aim to improve compliance and support long-term conservation. The indicator is based on monitoring data collated and analyzed via the State of Canada's Birds website. The launch of the redesigned, more powerful State of Canada's Birds website will allow for more frequent reporting on the indicator and tracking of progress, as the website is scheduled to be updated regularly.

[24] Target reflects that of the 2030 Global Biodiversity Framework objectives.

[25] The recovery of species requires a long-term approach to investment. The decline in the percentage of species at risk, showing population trends consistent with recovery or management objectives, reflects the complex and long-term nature of species recovery, which is often affected by multiple, compounding threats such as habitat fragmentation, climate change, invasive species, and pollution. In many cases, recovery takes time to manifest in measurable population changes, especially for long-lived or slow-reproducing species. Additionally, gaps in monitoring data and challenges in implementing some recovery actions, particularly on non-federal lands or across jurisdictions, limit the ability to fully assess and support progress. Efforts are underway to improve population monitoring, enhance collaboration with Indigenous Peoples and other partners, and better align funding with high-priority recovery actions. These measures are expected to strengthen outcomes and support future improvements in this indicator.

Plans to achieve results

The following section describes the planned results for Conserving nature in 2026-27.

Natural habitat is protected and conserved

Results we plan to achieve

- Advance biodiversity conservation and sustainable use through the ongoing implementation of international conventions and agreements, including the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
- Collaborate internationally on conservation and enforcement through trade agreements and multilateral fora (G7, G20, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, United Nations Environment Assembly, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development).
- Lead and advance work under Canada's 2030 Nature Strategy in collaboration with federal partners, provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples, and others.
- Advance efforts to conserve 30 percent of Canada's lands and oceans by 2030 through protected areas, Indigenous-led conservation, and Nature Agreements.
- Continue to implement the five existing Nature Agreements with Quebec, Northwest Territories, Yukon, Nova Scotia, and the tripartite agreement with British Columbia and the First Nations Leadership Council.
- Advance discussions towards new Nature Agreements, while supporting the Project Finance for Permanence model (e.g., Northwest Territories: Our Land for the Future) with partners, to secure durable conservation outcomes and reconciliation.
- Expand National Wildlife Areas (NWAs) to protect important wildlife and its habitat, such as the Big Glace Bay NWA in Nova Scotia, the Big Creek and Mississippi Lake NWAs in Ontario, and the Shoudy and Tintamarre NWAs in New Brunswick.
- Deliver the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund to conserve, restore and improve the management of forests, grasslands, wetlands, and peatlands that store and capture carbon and provide valuable habitat. These projects will deliver measurable emissions reductions while conserving biodiversity.
- Support and implement established conservation and restoration initiatives, such as the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.
- Lead initiatives to mobilize ecological data and map critical habitats for migratory birds and species at risk to enable proactive strategies for avoidance, mitigation, and restoration and minimize adverse impacts on biodiversity.

Why it Matters

Nature is the foundation of Canada's economy and quality of life. Nature-based sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, forestry and ecotourism contribute significantly to Canada's gross domestic product, exports and employment. Beyond economic value, nature provides essential benefits that Canadians rely on every day, including clean air and water, fertile soil, pollination that supports

food production, and green spaces that improve health and well-being through a delicate biodiversity balance.

Advancing Canada's 2030 Nature Strategy and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework strengthens Canada's international leadership on conservation and sustainability. Delivering on ECCC's nature responsibilities also supports informed decision-making through science and data, enabling sustainable economic activity. By conserving nature and its services, the Department helps maintain public confidence and meets Canadians' expectations that nature will be protected for future generations.

Wildlife is recovered and maintained

Results we plan to achieve

- Fulfill key obligations under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) to protect and recover Canada's species at risk and their habitats based on sound science and Indigenous Knowledge.
- Advance implementation of the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (MBCA) by strengthening protection and management measures for migratory bird populations and their habitats.
- Advance species conservation through the continued implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and focus associated enforcement efforts on high-risk species.
- Protect and recover priority species and priority places for species at risk through collaborative stewardship with provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples and stakeholders. Focus on conservation planning, implementation, and measuring results to realize recovery strategy objectives.
- Implement the Pan-Canadian Approach to Transforming Species at Risk Conservation in Canada in collaboration with provinces and territories, Indigenous Peoples and stakeholders to achieve better conservation outcomes for species at risk.
- Renew and implement SARA Section 11 conservation agreements to advance the recovery and conservation of priority species, including boreal and southern mountain caribou.
- Support and enable Indigenous Partnerships for Species at Risk program to advance Indigenous-led recovery and stewardship actions on Indigenous lands and territories, and support meaningful participation in SARA consultation and cooperation processes.
- Strengthen wildlife health surveillance and collaboration under the One Health approach[26].
- Mobilize biodiversity information to support land-use planning and economic prosperity while reducing risks to biodiversity.
- Focus enforcement efforts on protecting high-risk species listed under CITES by enforcing the *Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial*

[26] "One Health" is a collaborative, multi-sectoral and transdisciplinary approach that recognizes the connection between people, animals, plants, and their shared natural environment.

Trade Act, increasing enforcement presence at borders, and strategically monitoring ports of entry.

Why it Matters

Healthy ecosystems are essential for clean air and water, carbon storage and disaster mitigation, all of which support community well-being and economic prosperity. ECCC safeguards biodiversity and enforces wildlife laws that protect ecosystems and sustain key economic sectors such as forestry, fisheries, agriculture and tourism. These efforts to combat poaching, illegal trade and habitat destruction, strengthen Canada's reputation as a responsible trading nation, support sustainable industries and reduce long-term costs associated with environmental degradation.

Through collaboration with provinces, territories, Indigenous communities and international partners, ECCC builds public trust, protects species at risk and ensures Canada meets its commitments to climate action and biodiversity protection—advancing both national priorities and departmental mandates. Advancing the implementation of SARA, MBCA, CITES and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework reinforces Canada's international leadership on nature conservation and fulfills commitments to reconciliation through meaningful partnerships with Indigenous Peoples.

Gender-based Analysis Plus[27]

In 2026-27, ECCC will continue advancing protection and recovery goals for wildlife by expanding protected and conserved areas, including on Indigenous lands that often provide important refuge for species at risk and migratory birds. Indigenous Peoples in Canada are also the holders of Indigenous Knowledge, which is essential to achieving these goals. To ensure the respectful inclusion of Indigenous Knowledge systems while addressing consultation fatigue, the Department is advancing ecosystem-based and multi-species conservation approaches, and improving coordination among federal, provincial, and territorial governments.

ECCC will strengthen its capacity to assess and report on how conservation and recovery programs affect diverse groups, including women, youth, and Indigenous Peoples through the continued development of GBA Plus data frameworks and performance indicators. Efforts will focus on improving the collection and integration of socio-economic and demographic information related to participation in conservation programs, Indigenous-led stewardship, and access to funding opportunities.

Through these actions, ECCC aims to better understand who benefits from and participates in conservation initiatives, reduce barriers to participation, and ensure equitable outcomes in meeting Canada's biodiversity commitments. The Department will also continue to provide expert advice and knowledge through federal impact assessment processes to support resource development decisions that mitigate negative impacts on at-risk populations.

[27] Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) is an analytical tool used to support the development of responsive and inclusive policies, programs, and other initiatives. GBA Plus goes beyond biological (sex) and socio-cultural (gender) differences to consider other factors, such as age, disability, education, ethnicity, economic status, geography (including rurality), language, race, religion, and sexual orientation.

Planned resources to achieve results

Table 11: Planned resources to achieve results for conserving nature

Table 11 provides a summary of the planned spending and full-time equivalents required to achieve results for Conserving nature.

Resource	Planned
Spending	$366,158,820
Full-time equivalents	1,156

Complete financial and human resources information for Environment and Climate Change Canada's program inventory is available on GC InfoBase.

Program inventory

Conserving nature is supported by the following programs:

- Conservation and Species
- Conservation and Species Enforcement

Additional information related to the program inventory for Conserving nature is available on the Results page on GC InfoBase.

Summary of changes to reporting framework since last year

ECCC has brought changes to the performance information in its Departmental Results Framework to ensure a clear and focused representation of its core mandated responsibilities. The updated result information for the Core Responsibility on Conserving Nature focuses on the department's ultimate outcomes with regard to conserving and restoring Canada's natural environment. While the revised content is focused on the key performance indicators, the removed indicator continues to be available at the Program level on GC InfoBase.

By refining its reporting framework, the Department seeks to ensure that Canadians have clear information on the role and core responsibilities of the department. Performance information across ECCC's Departmental Results Framework and the Program Inventory continues to be available on GC InfoBase. We invite you to visit these measures which continue to offer multi-year information on our progress and success.

Core responsibility 4: Predicting weather and environmental conditions

In this section

Description

Provide authoritative forecasts, warnings, data, and information services related to weather, hydrological, and environmental conditions using a wide range of dissemination systems to help Canadians, public authorities, and targeted weather-sensitive sectors make informed decisions about health, safety, and economic prosperity. This will be achieved by: monitoring weather, water quantity, ice, air quality and climate conditions; conducting research and development activities targeting continuous improvement; operating advanced integrated weather and environmental prediction models using high-performance computing platforms; exchanging data in near real time, on a continual basis, with members of the World Meteorological Organization to ensure accurate and timely predictions; and collaborating closely with other nations' weather and hydrologic institutions, and international organizations to improve services for citizens everywhere.

Quality of life impacts

This core responsibility contributes to the "Environment" domain of the Quality of Life Framework for Canada. More specifically, it contributes to the "Air quality" and "Natural disasters and emergencies" indicators by ensuring that Canadians use weather and related environmental information to make decisions about their health and safety.

Indicators, results and targets

This section presents details on the department's indicators, the actual results from the three most recently reported fiscal years, the targets and target dates approved in 2026-27 for predicting weather and environmental conditions. Details are presented by departmental result.

Table 12: Canadians use authoritative meteorological, hydrological, and related information to make decisions about their health and safety

Table 12 provides a summary of the target and actual results for each indicator associated with the results under Predicting weather and environmental conditions.

Departmental Result Indicators	Actual Results	2026-27 Target	Date to achieve target
Percentage of the population of a warned area who report having seen or heard a recent weather	2024-25: This is a new indicator, as of 2026-27. The first year of	At least 40%	March 2027

Departmental Result Indicators	Actual Results	2026-27 Target	Date to achieve target
warning and who took actions in response	reporting will be 2026-27.		
Percentage of program partners rating their satisfaction with Environment and Climate Change Canada's hydrological services as 8 out of 10 or higher	2022-23: 69% 2023-24: 91% 2024-25: 94%	At least 80%	March 2027

Table 13: Canadian public authorities use authoritative meteorological and related information to make decisions about the health, safety, and prosperity of Canadians

Table 13 provides a summary of the target and actual results for each indicator associated with the results under Predicting weather and environmental conditions.

Departmental Result Indicators	Actual Results	2026-27 Target	Date to achieve target
Percentage of public authorities agreeing that the weather and related information provided met their needs with respect to decision-making	2024-25: This is a new indicator, as of 2026-27. The first year of reporting will be 2026-27.	At least 90%	March 2027

Additional information on the detailed results and performance information for Environment and Climate Change Canada's program inventory is available on GC InfoBase.

Plans to achieve results

The following section describes the planned results for Predicting weather and environmental conditions in 2026-27.

Canadians use authoritative meteorological, hydrological, and related information to make decisions about their health and safety

Results we plan to achieve

- Progressively integrate artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) methods into forecasting systems in line with the Artificial Intelligence Integration Road Map for Numerical Weather and Environmental Predictions, which outlines and prioritizes activities, pinpoint areas for collaboration, and considers ethics and alignment with the Government of Canada AI guidelines. The integration of AI/ML could yield faster forecasts and reductions in data transfers.
- With Shared Services Canada, advance the procurement of the next-generation high-performance computing (HPC) solution, which will modernize supercomputing infrastructure, providing resilient, cloud-smart, graphics processing unit-enabled capacity needed to integrate next-generation AI prediction systems.
- Increase internal capacity, expertise, and readiness to adopt and manage AI/ML technologies, including workforce upskilling.

- Seek diversified collaborations with other national weather centres, academic institutions, international consortia, and private sector entities to advance AI/ML research and strengthen service, data, and technological sovereignty.
- Strengthen efforts in areas related to national sovereignty by investing in Canadian-made AI modelling capabilities.
- Advance service delivery transformation, including modernizing alerting systems, automating routine forecasts, restructuring service verification, and refocusing meteorologist expertise toward impact-based decision support.[28] These improvements will strengthen risk communication and ensure Canadians receive timely, actionable information to protect their health, ensure their safety, and support economic activities.
- Modernize and optimize atmospheric monitoring networks, including radar, upper air, surface and marine weather observations, lightning detection, and satellite reception through proactive maintenance, technology upgrades, and the integration of innovative data management solutions. These efforts will enhance reliability, interoperability, and efficiency across coordinated multi-platform observations (ground-based, airborne, and satellite) to ensure timely, high-quality data that underpins forecasting, climate services, and emergency response.
- Enhance the hydrometric monitoring network through the implementation of innovative technologies for measurement and telemetry, delivered in collaboration with provincial and territorial partners.

Why it Matters

ECCC provides authoritative weather and environmental information that helps Canadians protect their health, safety, and property. Accurate forecasts, alerts and expert advice enable individuals and communities to prepare for severe weather and environmental conditions, reducing risks to lives, homes, and economic activity. Monitoring the state of the weather and of the environment is essential for delivering timely, reliable information that Canadians can trust.

As climate change drives more frequent and severe weather events, Canadians expect timely, high-resolution digital products that support informed decisions. To meet these expectations and advance government priorities, ECCC is modernizing its services, strengthening operational resilience, and optimizing observation networks. Investments in HPC and emerging technologies such as AI and ML will enhance current capabilities and improve forecasting accuracy and alerting systems, helping Canadians stay safe and adapt to changing conditions.

[28] Impact-based decision support refers to the process of translating hazard forecasts into actionable insights about the potential consequences of those hazards. It focuses on what the weather or hazard will *do* rather than just what it will *be*, enabling decision-makers, communities, and authorities to anticipate impacts and take informed actions to reduce risks, protect lives, and safeguard livelihoods.

Canadian public authorities use authoritative meteorological and related information to make decisions about the health, safety, and prosperity of Canadians

Results we plan to achieve

- Protect Canada's water interests and support transboundary water management through continued participation in domestic and transboundary water boards and committees.
- Continue to work closely with the Canadian Armed Forces, the Canadian Coast Guard, and our allies to provide meteorological and related products and services that support Canada's national defence and security, while expanding collaboration with allied defence and intelligence organizations.
- Continue to work with Natural Resources Canada, the Canada Space Agency and the Department of National Defence to advance the Arctic Observing Mission proposal and to close weather and climate data gaps in the North.
- Strengthen data resiliency and sovereignty by diversifying and strengthening collaborations to maintain access to global weather and environmental data, scientific knowledge, and technological innovations.

Why it Matters

Canada's ability to provide reliable meteorological, hydrological, marine, air quality, and ice services is critical for safe transportation, economic activity, and defence readiness, particularly as geopolitical interest in the Arctic intensifies. ECCC advances national priorities by supporting secure and sustainable economic development in the North and strengthening partnerships with the Department of National Defence. ECCC also fulfills its responsibility for water management by participating in domestic and transboundary boards, including the International Joint Commission, to ensure fair water apportionment and informed decision-making. These efforts contribute to Canada's security, prosperity and environmental stewardship.

Gender-based Analysis Plus[29]

ECCC continues to deliver weather forecasts, alerts, and expert advice to support the needs of Canadians, including those most impacted by extreme weather and environmental events such as wildfires and floods.

In Canada, disproportionately or differentially impacted groups may include northern/rural residents, older Canadians and children, people with health issues or disabilities, low-income communities, and people experiencing homelessness. To enhance the reach and accessibility of this information, ECCC will employ several strategies and approaches to better communicate risk to all Canadians and prepare them for potential impacts from hazardous weather.

ECCC will revise its public forecast over the next several fiscal years, offering enhanced alerts and decision-making information so that Canadians can protect themselves from extreme weather. To

[29] Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus) is an analytical tool used to support the development of responsive and inclusive policies, programs, and other initiatives. GBA Plus goes beyond biological (sex) and socio-cultural (gender) differences to consider other factors, such as age, disability, education, ethnicity, economic status, geography (including rurality), language, race, religion, and sexual orientation.

ensure that all demographic groups benefit equitably from these improvements, ECCC will conduct beta testing and surveys to understand differential barriers to accessing and acting on this information. Building on these efforts, ECCC will continue to address data gaps and build capacity to report on gender and diversity impacts related to predicting weather and environmental conditions. For example, ECCC, in collaboration with Health Canada and experts in public health and meteorology, will implement revised extreme temperature alert messaging that accounts for factors that may disproportionately impact certain groups, such as gender, age, socio-economic level, disability, and geography. To understand and mitigate the disproportionate impacts of extreme temperatures, as well as other hazardous weather, ECCC will continue to work with provincial governments and local health agencies.

ECCC provides weather and environmental information through a wide range of dissemination platforms (including the WeatherCAN app and the Weather Website), and directly to key decision makers, such as emergency management and public health organizations. The Department continues to improve the accessibility and documentation of its weather and environmental data and services based on the results of stakeholder engagement.

Planned resources to achieve results

Table 14: Planned resources to achieve results for Predicting weather and environmental conditions

Table 14 provides a summary of the planned spending and full-time equivalents required to achieve results for Predicting weather and environmental conditions.

Resource	Planned
Spending	$267,655,376
Full-time equivalents	1,978

Complete financial and human resources information for Environment and Climate Change Canada's program inventory is available on GC InfoBase.

Program inventory

Predicting weather and environmental conditions is supported by the following programs:

- Meteorological Services
- Hydrological Service

Additional information related to the program inventory for Predicting weather and environmental conditions is available on the Results page on GC InfoBase.

Summary of changes to reporting framework since last year

ECCC has brought changes to the performance information in its Departmental Results Framework to ensure a clear and focused representation of its core mandated responsibilities. The updated result information for the Core Responsibility on Predicting Weather and Environmental Conditions enhances the Department's ability to equip Canadians to make informed decisions about weather, water, and climate conditions.

The revised indicator information reflects transformation initiatives and evolving data structures. By refining its reporting framework, the Department seeks to ensure that Canadians have clear information on the role and core responsibilities of the department. Performance information across ECCC's Departmental Results Framework and the Program Inventory continues to be available on GC InfoBase. We invite you to visit these measures which continue to offer multi-year information on our progress and success.

Internal services

In this section

Description

Internal services are the services that are provided within a department so that it can meet its corporate obligations and deliver its programs. There are 10 categories of internal services:

- acquisition management services
- communications services
- financial management services
- human resources management services
- information management services
- information technology services
- legal services
- materiel management services
- management and oversight services
- real property management services

Plans to achieve results

This section presents details the department's plans to achieve results and meet targets for internal services.

ECCC delivers efficient, modern internal services that enable high-quality programs and results for Canadians.

Results we plan to achieve

- Modernize human resources (HR) processes and digital tools by expanding automation of HR services, streamlining approvals and workflows and centralizing key HR programs to reduce administrative burden and strengthen departmental performance.
- Support organizational transformation through integrated workforce planning and the review of organizational structures to align with departmental goals and strategic change management.
- Invest in upskilling and reskilling to prepare employees for evolving roles and technologies, expand leadership development programs, and promote equity and growth through initiatives anchored in the renewed Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategy 2025-2030.
- Maintain and improve the department's management and oversight function by implementing the ECCC Audit and Evaluation Plan 2025 to 2030, which provides ongoing, risk-based assurance, advisory, and evaluation coverage.

- Implement the Scientific Integrity Policy and advance the implementation of ECCC's Science Strategy and Open Science Action Plan 2021-2026, including the mobilization of science advice through the Science Advisory Governance Framework.
- Optimize real property in alignment with the TBS Horizontal Fixed Asset Review by ending small lease agreements to reduce the Department's physical footprint in line with Budget 2025.
- Advance service modernization by launching ECCC's Service Strategy, focusing on user-centred design, clearer governance, and enterprise digital platforms. This will strengthen alignment with the Government of Canada's *Policy on Service and Digital* and help deliver faster, more intuitive, and secure services.
- Deliver essential programs and services by advancing key enterprise platforms, such as the Regulatory Services Platform (including electronic permitting capabilities), Enterprise Stakeholder Management, the Grants and Contributions Enterprise Management System, and Enterprise Service Management.
- Advance the ECCC's Green Procurement Plan by promoting the procurement of environmentally preferable goods and services, and developing and applying criteria to reduce the environmental impact of procurement decisions.
- Continue to develop and implement initiatives to transition the Department to net-zero emissions and climate-resilient operations, and reduce other environmental impacts beyond carbon—including waste, water, and biodiversity—in line with the Greening Government Strategy.
- Advance reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples by fostering respectful relationships, supporting Indigenous rights, and consolidating engagement efforts. This includes enhancing internal coordination, improving communication measures and developing guidance for officials who consult and engage with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners in line with whole-of-government obligations and commitments, such as those of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and the Inuit Nunangat Policy.

Planned resources to achieve results

Table 15: Planned resources to achieve results for internal services this year

Table 15 provides a summary of the planned spending and full-time equivalents required to achieve results.

Resource	Planned
Spending	$259,086,325
Full-time equivalents	1,605

Complete financial and human resources information for Environment and Climate Change Canada's program inventory is available on GC InfoBase.

Planning for contracts awarded to Indigenous businesses

Government of Canada departments must meet a target of awarding at least 5 percent of the total value of contracts to Indigenous businesses each year. ECCC will continue to work throughout 2026-27 to meet and exceed this minimum target, which took effect April 1, 2024. To achieve this, ECCC will pursue voluntary set-aside opportunities[30] with Indigenous businesses, where feasible, in collaboration with program clients. Key commodity areas considered for set-asides include air charter services, professional services, construction and specific goods.

Table 16: Percentage of contracts planned and awarded to Indigenous businesses

Table 16 presents the current, actual results with forecasted and planned results for the total percentage of contracts the department awarded to Indigenous businesses.

5% Reporting Field	2024-25 Actual Result	2025-26 Forecasted Result	2026-27 Forecasted Result
Total percentage of contracts with Indigenous businesses	6.65%	6.81%*	6.73%**

*The 2025-26 forecasted result is based on the average of actual results obtained over the last two fiscal years (6.65% in 2024-25 and 6.97% in 2023-24).

**The 2026-27 planned result is based on the average of forecasted results for 2025-26 and actual results for 2024-25.

[30] Voluntary set-aside opportunities with Indigenous businesses are reserved portions of contracts, funds, or resources specifically for Indigenous-owned businesses. This is done voluntarily, with the aim of providing Indigenous businesses with better opportunities to compete for contracts and grow their businesses, helping to support their economic development and inclusion in the broader marketplace.

Department-wide considerations

Related government priorities

United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the UN Sustainable Development Goals

More information on Environment and Climate Change Canada's contributions to Canada's Federal Implementation Plan on the 2030 Agenda and the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy can be found in its Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy.

Expanding the use of artificial intelligence

The department is taking the following steps to expand the use of artificial intelligence in the pursuit of its objectives:

- Enable artificial intelligence (AI) adoption across the department by providing secure Generative AI solutions to increase operational efficiency.
- Provide AI training to empower the departmental workforce to effectively leverage AI tools and capabilities.
- Continue exploring and developing AI and machine learning applications to drive innovation in science, services, and weather forecasting, including enabling faster generation and updating of forecasts through a reduction in data transfer in support of time-critical operational needs.
- Establish an assessment process to evaluate AI and machine learning projects for ethical and responsible practices, in alignment with the TBS *Directive on Automated Decision Making*.

Key risks

The achievement of departmental objectives depends on sustained collaboration with federal, provincial, territorial, Indigenous, and international partners. However, shared jurisdictions combined with differing regional priorities, limited resources, and evolving political and economic conditions can challenge efforts to maintain strong relationships and deliver a cohesive national and international approach to environmental issues.

To mitigate these risks and advance priority initiatives, ECCC will strengthen coordination with the Canada Water Agency and deepen partnerships with Indigenous Peoples, building on engagement models like the Senior Bilateral Tables on Clean Growth and Climate Change, and the Nature Tables.

Aging infrastructure and climate-related events—such as floods, droughts, and wildfires—pose significant risks to ECCC's assets and operations. The Department will continue to identify infrastructure gaps, apply lessons learned, and invest in modernization to ensure service

continuity. A new Service Strategy will leverage digital tools to drive ongoing improvements, focusing on client needs and expectations.

ECCC is committed to safeguarding the integrity of its data, research, and collaborations. As global partnerships expand, protecting sensitive research, technologies, and data is increasingly critical. To support this, the Department is developing policies, guidance, tools, and awareness initiatives that enable researchers to work securely while advancing international collaboration. ECCC will also advance its Digital Agenda by implementing robust cybersecurity measures, strengthening data governance, and promoting secure data handling practices across the Department.

Planned spending and human resources

This section provides an overview of Environment and Climate Change Canada's (ECCC) planned spending and human resources for the next three fiscal years and of planned spending for 2026-27 with actual spending from previous years.

In this section

Spending

This section presents an overview of the department's planned expenditures from 2023-24 to 2028-29.

Budgetary performance summary

Table 17: Three-year spending summary for core responsibilities and internal services (dollars)

Table 17 presents ECCC spending over the past three years to carry out its core responsibilities and for internal services. Amounts are forecasted based on spending to date.

Core responsibilities and Internal services	2023-24 Actual Expenditures	2024-25 Actual Expenditures	2025-26 Forecast Spending
Taking action on clean growth and climate change	570,748,742	1,232,484,771	1,243,520,074
Preventing and managing pollution	471,476,416	442,650,317	419,598,752
Conserving nature	720,108,036	694,145,266	962,579,096
Predicting weather and environmental conditions	281,191,207	277,249,619	285,834,641
Subtotal	**2,043,524,401**	**2,646,529,973**	**2,911,532,563**
Internal services	318,605,055	319,238,526	291,889,639
Total	**2,362,129,456**	**2,965,768,499**	**3,203,422,202**

Analysis of the past three years of spending

Please refer to Graph 1 below for an analysis of the past three years of spending.

More financial information from previous years is available on the Finances section of GC Infobase.

Table 18: Planned three-year spending on core responsibilities and internal services (dollars)

Table 18 presents how much money ECCC's plans to spend over the next three years to carry out its core responsibilities and for internal services.

Core responsibilities and Internal services	2026-27 Planned Spending	2027-28 Planned Spending	2028-29 Planned Spending
Taking action on clean growth and climate change	475,709,943	348,828,163	190,910,795
Preventing and managing pollution	343,095,309	317,911,155	313,539,234
Conserving nature	366,158,820	358,136,169	350,692,262
Predicting weather and environmental conditions	267,655,376	269,765,413	267,489,754
Subtotal	**1,452,619,448**	**1,294,640,900**	**1,122,632,045**
Internal services	259,086,325	255,904,744	243,027,381
Total	**1,711,705,773**	**1,550,545,644**	**1,365,659,426**

Analysis of the next three years of spending

Approximately $1,711.7 million in total funding is anticipated for 2026-27. The $1,491.7 million decrease in planned spending from the 2025-26 forecast to the 2026-27 planned spending is primarily due to the following factors:

- The statutory funding allocated for Returning Fuel Charge Proceeds to Indigenous Governments will decrease, as all current proceeds must be returned by March 31, 2026.
- The statutory funding allocated for the distribution of revenues from excess emissions charge payments under the Output-Based Pricing System will decrease.
- The sunsetting of the initiative "Conserving Canada's land and freshwater, protecting species, advancing Indigenous reconciliation, increasing access to nature, and continuing efforts to protect species at risk (Enhanced Nature Legacy)."
- A one-time payment was issued in 2025-26 for the "Our Land for the Future Trust – Northwest Territories Project Finance for Permanence."
- Reductions beginning in 2026-27 related to the Comprehensive Expenditure Review as part of the government's commitment to restraining the growth of day-to-day operational spending in order to support investments that will grow the economy and benefit Canadians.

This decrease is partially offset by an increase in funding for the initiative "Implement Natural Climate Solutions in Canada."

Overall, there is a decrease in planned spending over the 2026-27 to 2028-29 planning horizon. This is primarily the result of sunsetting initiatives with temporary funding, Comprehensive Expenditure Review and variations in funding profiles for other initiatives. Funding requests to renew sunsetting initiatives are subject to government decisions and will be reflected in future Budget exercises and Estimates documents, if approved.

Initiatives with funding profiles that decrease significantly in 2027-28 include:

- The planned Output-Based Pricing System Proceeds Fund returns; and
- Contributions for the Low Carbon Economy Fund (LCEF).

Initiatives with significant decreases in funding or that will sunset in 2028-29 include:

- The planned Output-Based Pricing System Proceeds Fund returns;
- Contributions for the Low Carbon Economy Fund (LCEF); and
- Canada's National Adaptation Strategy.

More detailed financial information on planned spending is available on the Finances section of GC Infobase.

Table 19: Budgetary gross and net planned spending summary (dollars)

Table 19 reconciles gross planned spending with net spending for 2026-27.

Core responsibilities and Internal services	2026-27 Gross planned spending (dollars)	2026-27 Planned revenues netted against spending (dollars)	2026-27 Planned net spending (authorities used)
Taking action on clean growth and climate change	475,756,851	-46,908	475,709,943
Preventing and managing pollution	355,549,935	-12,454,626	343,095,309
Conserving nature	370,359,704	-4,200,884	366,158,820
Predicting weather and environmental conditions	328,938,336	-61,282,960	267,655,376
Subtotal	**1,530,604,826**	**-77,985,378**	**1,452,619,448**
Internal services	263,487,464	-4,401,139	259,086,325
Total	**1,794,092,290**	**-82,386,517**	**1,711,705,773**

Analysis of budgetary gross and net planned spending summary

ECCC’s largest sources of revenues netted against expenditures are the following:

- Provinces, to which ECCC provides water quantity monitoring services (Hydrometric);
- NAV CANADA, to which ECCC provides aviation weather services;
- Third parties, to which ECCC provides scientific and analytical projects services, as well as rental of non-research facilities;

- Department of National Defence, to which ECCC provides detailed weather services in support of its military operations;
- Revenues received under the 2017 Alberta-Canada Memorandum of Understanding respecting environmental monitoring of oil sands;
- Canadian Coast Guard, to which ECCC provides marine and ice monitoring forecasts and services;
- Third parties, to which ECCC provides permits to dispose of non-hazardous substances into the sea; and
- Fees for new chemical substance notification submissions.

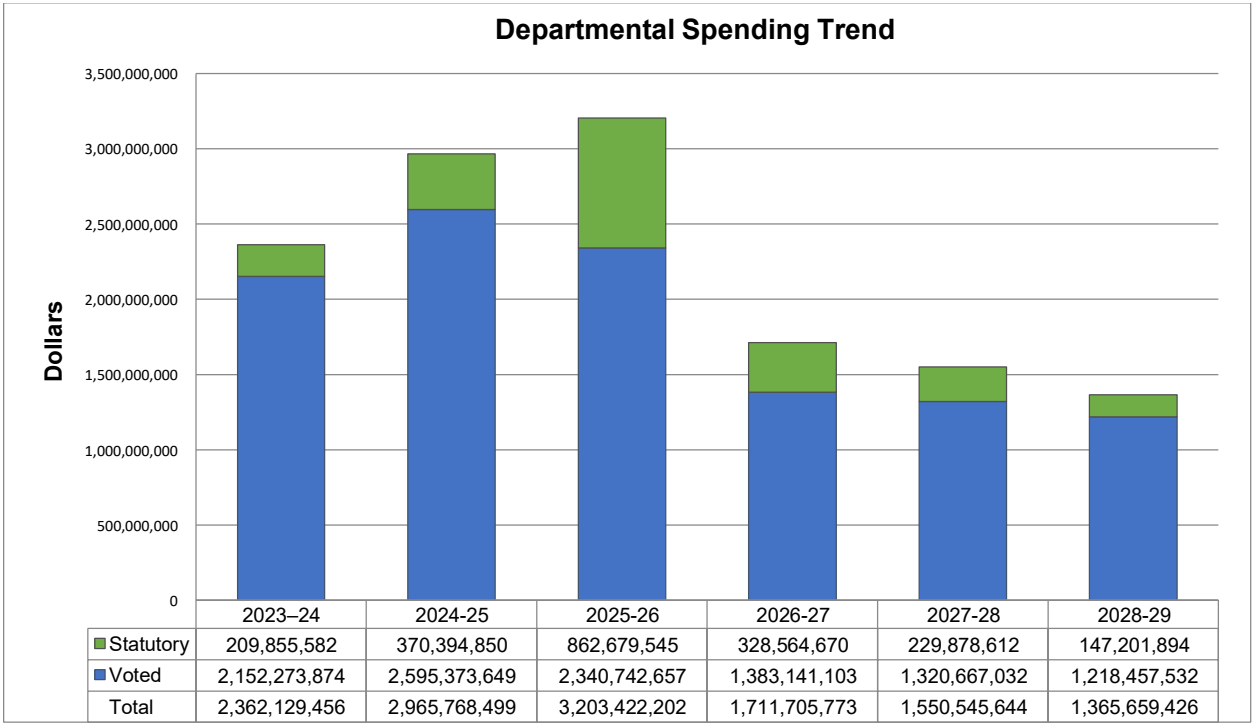
Information on the alignment of Environment and Climate Change Canada's spending with Government of Canada's spending and activities is available on GC InfoBase.

Funding

This section provides an overview of the department's voted and statutory funding for its core responsibilities and for internal services. For further information on funding authorities, consult the Government of Canada budgets and expenditures.

Graph 1: Approved funding (statutory and voted) over a six-year period

Graph 1 summarizes the department's approved voted and statutory funding from 2023-24 to 2028-29.



	2023–24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Statutory	209,855,582	370,394,850	862,679,545	328,564,670	229,878,612	147,201,894
Voted	2,152,273,874	2,595,373,649	2,340,742,657	1,383,141,103	1,320,667,032	1,218,457,532
Total	2,362,129,456	2,965,768,499	3,203,422,202	1,711,705,773	1,550,545,644	1,365,659,426

Text description of graph 1

Fiscal year	Total	Voted	Statutory
2023-24	2,362,129,456	2,152,273,874	209,855,582

Fiscal year	Total	Voted	Statutory
2024-25	2,965,768,499	2,595,373,649	370,394,850
2025-26	3,203,422,202	2,340,742,657	862,679,545
2026-27	1,711,705,773	1,383,141,103	328,564,670
2027-28	1,550,545,644	1,320,667,032	229,878,612
2028-29	1,365,659,426	1,218,457,532	147,201,894

Analysis of statutory and voted funding over a six-year period

For fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25, the amounts shown represent the actual expenditures as reported in the Public Accounts.

For fiscal year 2025-26, the forecast spending represents the planned budgetary and statutory expenditures as presented in the Estimates documents (Main Estimates and Supplementary Estimates B), the Operating and Capital budget carry forward, approved reprofiles of funds to future years, and other adjustments from Treasury Board central votes.

For the period from 2026-27 to 2028-29, the planned spending reflects approved funding through the 2026-27 Main Estimates by Treasury Board to support departmental priorities.

Environment and Climate Change Canada's actual spending for 2024-25 was $2,965.8 million, a year-over year increase of $603.6 million (25.6%) from the 2023-24 actual spending. This increase is mainly due to the up-front multiyear payment to the Green Municipal Fund, the return of fuel charge proceeds to Indigenous governments, and to revenue distributions to provinces from excess emissions charge payments supporting the Output-Based Pricing System Proceeds Fund. These increases are offset by reductions in contribution payments under the Low Carbon Economy Fund and the Natural Climate Solutions Fund.

The increase of $237.7 million (8.0%) from 2024-25 actual expenditures of $2,965.8 million to 2025-26 forecast spending of $3,203.4 million is mainly due to the distribution of statutory revenues to provinces from excess emissions charge payments for the contributions in support of the Output-Based Pricing System Proceeds Fund, and to return Fuel Charge Proceeds to Indigenous Governments. It is also related to a one-time payment to the “Our Land for the Future Trust – Northwest Territories Project Finance for Permanence”.

For explanations of the variance between 2025-26 forecast spending and 2028-29 planned spending, please see the Budgetary planning summary section.

For further information on Environment and Climate Change Canada’s departmental appropriations, consult the 2026-27 Main Estimates.

Future-oriented condensed statement of operations

The future-oriented condensed statement of operations provides an overview of ECCC’s operations for 2025-26 to 2026-27.

Table 20: Future-oriented condensed statement of operations for the year ended March 31, 2027 (dollars)

Table 20 summarizes the expenses and revenues which net to the cost of operations before government funding and transfers for 2025-26 to 2026-27. The forecast and planned amounts in this statement of operations were prepared on an accrual basis. The forecast and planned amounts presented in other sections of the Departmental Plan were prepared on an expenditure basis. Amounts may therefore differ.

Financial information	2025-26 Forecast results	2026-27 Planned results	Difference (planned results minus forecasted)
Total expenses	3,336,521,730	1,877,747,707	-1,458,774,023
Total revenues	93,843,317	96,089,171	2,245,854
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	3,242,678,413	1,781,658,536	-1,461,019,877

Analysis of forecasted and planned results

Total expenses are expected to decrease by $1,458.8 million in 2026-27 in comparison with the forecast results of 2025-26. The decrease is mostly due to a decrease in funding profile for the distribution of carbon pollution pricing proceeds, for the Enhanced Nature Legacy initiative and for the Northwest Territories *Our Land for the Future* Project Finance for Permanence.

Compared to fiscal year 2025-26, total revenues for 2026-27 are expected to increase by $2.2 million mostly due to an increase related to meteorological services provided to NAV CANADA.

For comparative purposes, 2026-27 planned results are based on the Main Estimates, adjusted based on historical data and trends. 2025-26 forecast results are based on funding from the 2025-26 Main Estimates, Supplementary Estimates (B) and (C) and carry forward funding, adjusted based on historical data and trends.

A more detailed Future-Oriented Statement of Operations and associated Notes for 2026-27, including a reconciliation of the net cost of operations with the requested authorities, is available on ECCC's website.

Human resources

This section presents an overview of the department's actual and planned human resources from 2023-24 to 2028-29.

Table 21: Actual human resources for core responsibilities and internal services

Table 21 shows a summary of human resources, in full-time equivalents, ECCC's core responsibilities and for its internal services for the previous three fiscal years. Human resources for the current fiscal year are forecasted based on year to date.

Core responsibilities and internal services	2023-24 Actual full-time equivalents	2024-25 Actual full-time equivalents	2025-26 Forecasted full-time equivalents
Taking action on clean growth and climate change	1,056	1,161	1,011
Preventing and managing pollution	2,334	2,335	2,188
Conserving nature	1,568	1,561	1,385
Predicting weather and environmental conditions	1,733	1,772	1,741
Subtotal	**6,691**	**6,829**	**6,325**
Internal services	1,880	1,974	1,871
Total	**8,571**	**8,803**	**8,196**

Analysis of human resources over the last three years

One FTE equals one person working a 37.5-hour work week for the entire year, or any number of part-time employees whose combined hours of work equal one FTE.

For fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25, the amounts shown represent the actual FTEs as reported in the Departmental Results Report. The overall increase of 232 FTEs between 2023-24 and 2024-25 is the result of new digital services projects in 2024-25 such as for the Regulatory Services and Stakeholder Management platforms; the ongoing development, implementation and administration of carbon pricing and *Clean Fuel Regulations*; increasing capacity and support for various activities under the Meteorological Services; and to the top up funding for the Canadian Centre Climate Services under the National Adaptation Strategy.

This increase is partially offset by a transfer of FTEs from ECCC to the Canada Water Agency following the launch of the stand-alone agency on October 15, 2024, and a reduction to Conserve Canada's land and freshwater, protecting species, advancing Indigenous reconciliation, increasing access to nature and continuing efforts to protect species at risk (Enhanced Nature Legacy).

The decrease of 607 FTEs from 2024-25 actuals to 2025-26 forecast is primarily attributed to attrition partially related to the Refocusing Government Spending Exercise, including retirements and deployments, for which positions were not backfilled in anticipation of the Comprehensive Expenditure Review, and a transfer of FTEs related to the creation of Canada Water Agency which became a stand-alone agency on October 15, 2024.

Table 22: Human resources planning summary for core responsibilities and internal services

Table 22 shows information on human resources, in full-time equivalents, for each of Environment and Climate Change Canada's core responsibilities and for its internal services planned for the next three years.

Core responsibilities and internal services	2026-27 Planned full-time equivalents	2027-28 Planned full-time equivalents	2028-29 Planned full-time equivalents
Taking action on clean growth and climate change	1,054	1,021	836
Preventing and managing pollution	2,075	1,955	1,926
Conserving nature	1,156	1,149	1,109
Predicting weather and environmental conditions	1,978	1,952	1,921
Subtotal	**6,263**	**6,077**	**5,792**
Internal services	1,605	1,601	1,560
Total	**7,868**	**7,678**	**7,352**

Analysis of human resources for the next three years

One FTE equals one person working a 37.5-hour work week for the entire year, or any number of part-time employees whose combined hours of work equal one FTE.

The overall decrease of 328 FTEs between the 2025-26 forecast and the 2026-27 planned FTEs is the result of multiple sunsetting initiatives, including:

- Conserving Canada's land and freshwater, protecting species, advancing Indigenous reconciliation, increasing access to nature, and continuing efforts to protect species at risk (Enhanced Nature Legacy);
- Carbon Pollution Proceeds Return;
- Climate Lens initiative; and
- Chemicals Management Plan initiative.

There is a decreasing trend in planned FTEs over the 2026-27 to 2028-29 planning horizon resulting from sunsetting initiatives with temporary funding. Funding requests to renew such initiatives are subject to government decisions and will be reflected in future Budget exercises and Estimates documents if approved. In addition, over the next three years ECCC will implement its approved Comprehensive Expenditure Review (CER) savings measures, as announced in Budget 2025, which will result in a reduction of FTEs.

The overall decrease of 190 FTEs between the 2026-27 and 2027-28 planned FTEs is the result of a decrease in funding profile and sunsetting initiatives with temporary funding related to:

- Oceans Protection Plan initiatives, under the Preventing and Managing Pollution and under Conserving Nature Core Responsibilities;
- Advancing a circular economy for Plastics in Canada, under the Preventing and Managing Pollution Core Responsibility;
- Low Carbon Economy Fund, under the Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change; and

- Strengthening Environmental Protection for a Healthier Canada, under the Preventing and Managing Pollution.

The overall decrease of 326 FTEs between the 2027-28 and 2028-29 planned FTEs is the result of a decrease in funding profile and sunsetting initiatives with temporary funding related to:

- Canada's National Adaptation Strategy, under the Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change Core Responsibility;
- Clean Fuel Standards, under Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change Core Responsibility;
- Impact Assessment, under Conserving Nature and Preventing and Managing Pollution Core Responsibilities; and
- Low Carbon Economy Fund, under the Taking Action on Clean Growth and Climate Change Core Responsibility.

Supplementary information tables

The following supplementary information tables are available on Environment and Climate Change Canada's (ECCC) website:

- Details on transfer payment programs
- Up-front multi-year funding
- Horizontal Initiatives
- Regulatory and Permitting Efficiency for Clean Growth Projects

Information on ECCC's departmental sustainable development strategy can be found on ECCC's website.

Federal tax expenditures

ECCC's Departmental Plan does not include information on tax expenditures.

The tax system can be used to achieve public policy objectives through the application of special measures such as low tax rates, exemptions, deductions, deferrals and credits. The Department of Finance Canada publishes cost estimates and projections for these measures each year in the Report on Federal Tax Expenditures.

This report also provides detailed background information on tax expenditures, including descriptions, objectives, historical information and references to related federal spending programs as well as evaluations and GBA Plus of tax expenditures.

Corporate information

Departmental profile

Appropriate minister(s): The Honourable Julie Dabrusin, P.C., M.P.

Institutional head: Mollie Johnson

Ministerial portfolio: Environment and Climate Change

Enabling instrument(s):

- *Department of the Environment Act, 1971*
- *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*
- *Fisheries Act, 1985* (administration and enforcement of the Pollution Prevention Provisions)
- *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act, 2018* (joint responsibility with Finance Canada)
- *Species at Risk Act, 2004*
- *Manganese-based Fuel Additives Act, 1997*
- *Antarctic Environmental Protection Act, 2003*
- *Perfluorooctane Sulfonate Virtual Elimination Act, 2008*
- *Canada Wildlife Act, 1985*
- *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*
- *Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act, 1992*
- *National Wildlife Week Act, 1985*
- *Canada Water Act, 1985*
- *International River Improvements Act,1985*
- *Lake of the Woods Control Board Act, 1921*
- *Canada Emission Reduction Incentives Agency Act, 2005*
- *Weather Modification Information Act, 1985*
- *Canadian Environmental Week Act, 1985*
- *Environmental Enforcement Act, 2010*
- *Environmental Violations Administrative Monetary Penalties Act, 2009*
- *Federal Sustainable Development Act, 2008*
- *National Strategy for Safe and Environmentally Sound Disposal of Lamps Containing Mercury Act, 2017*
- *Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, 1985*
- *Bridge to Strengthen Trade Act, 2012*
- *Canada Foundation for Sustainable Development Technology Act, 2001*
- *Canada Oil and Gas Operations Act, 1985*
- *Canada-Newfoundland Atlantic Accord Implementation Act, 1987*
- *Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act, 1988*
- *Energy Supplies Emergency Act, 1985*
- *Income Tax Act, 1985*
- *Marine Liability Act, 2001*
- *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act, 2013*
- *Resources and Technical Surveys Act, 1985*

- *Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act, 2003*

Year of incorporation / commencement: 1971

Departmental contact information

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Gatineau QC K1A 0H3
Toll Free: 1-800-668-6767

Email: enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

Website(s): https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change.html

Definitions

appropriation (crédit)

Any authority of Parliament to pay money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

budgetary expenditures (dépenses budgétaires)

Operating and capital expenditures; transfer payments to other levels of government, departments or individuals; and payments to Crown corporations.

core responsibility (responsabilité essentielle)

An enduring function or role performed by a department. The intentions of the department with respect to a core responsibility are reflected in one or more related departmental results that the department seeks to contribute to or influence.

Departmental Plan (plan ministériel)

A report on the plans and expected performance of an appropriated department over a 3-year period. Departmental Plans are usually tabled in Parliament each spring.

departmental result (résultat ministériel)

A consequence or outcome that a department seeks to achieve. A departmental result is often outside departments' immediate control, but it should be influenced by program-level outcomes.

departmental result indicator (indicateur de résultat ministériel)

A quantitative measure of progress on a departmental result.

departmental results framework (cadre ministériel des résultats)

A framework that connects the department's core responsibilities to its departmental results and departmental result indicators.

Departmental Results Report (rapport sur les résultats ministériels)

A report on a department's actual accomplishments against the plans, priorities and expected results set out in the corresponding Departmental Plan.

full-time equivalent (équivalent temps plein)

A measure of the extent to which an employee represents a full person-year charge against a departmental budget. For a particular position, the full-time equivalent figure is the ratio of number of hours the person actually works divided by the standard number of hours set out in the person's collective agreement.

gender-based analysis plus (GBA Plus) (analyse comparative entre les sexes plus [ACS Plus])

Is an analytical tool used to support the development of responsive and inclusive policies, programs, and other initiatives. GBA Plus is a process for understanding who is impacted by the issue or opportunity being addressed by the initiative; identifying how the initiative could be tailored to meet diverse needs of the people most impacted; and anticipating and mitigating any barriers to accessing or benefitting from the initiative. GBA Plus is an intersectional analysis that goes beyond biological (sex) and socio-cultural (gender) differences to consider other factors, such as age, disability, education, ethnicity, economic status, geography (including rurality), language, race, religion, and sexual orientation.

Using GBA Plus involves taking a gender- and diversity-sensitive approach to our work. Considering all intersecting identity factors as part of GBA Plus, not only sex and gender, is a Government of Canada commitment.

government priorities (priorités gouvernementales)

For the purpose of the 2026-27 Departmental Plan, government priorities are the high-level themes outlining the government's agenda in the 2025 Speech from the Throne.

horizontal initiative (initiative horizontale)

An initiative where two or more federal departments are given funding to pursue a shared outcome, often linked to a government priority.

Indigenous business (entreprise autochtones)

Requirements for verifying Indigenous businesses for the purposes of the departmental result report are available through the Indigenous Services Canada Mandatory minimum 5% Indigenous procurement target website.

non-budgetary expenditures (dépenses non budgétaires)

Non-budgetary authorities that comprise assets and liabilities transactions for loans, investments and advances, or specified purpose accounts, that have been established under specific statutes or under non-statutory authorities in the Estimates and elsewhere. Non-budgetary transactions are those expenditures and receipts related to the government's financial claims on, and obligations to, outside parties. These consist of transactions in loans, investments and advances; in cash and accounts receivable; in public money received or collected for specified purposes; and in all other assets and liabilities. Other assets and liabilities, not specifically defined in G to P authority codes are to be recorded to an R authority code, which is the residual authority code for all other assets and liabilities.

performance (rendement)

What a department did with its resources to achieve its results, how well those results compare to what the department intended to achieve, and how well lessons learned have been identified.

performance indicator (indicateur de rendement)

A qualitative or quantitative means of measuring an output or outcome, with the intention of gauging the performance of a department, program, policy or initiative respecting expected results.

plan (plan)

The articulation of strategic choices, which provides information on how a department intends to achieve its priorities and associated results. Generally, a plan will explain the logic behind the strategies chosen and tend to focus on actions that lead to the expected result.

planned spending (dépenses prévues)

For Departmental Plans and Departmental Results Reports, planned spending refers to those amounts presented in Main Estimates.

A department is expected to be aware of the authorities that it has sought and received. The determination of planned spending is a departmental responsibility, and departments must be able to defend the expenditure and accrual numbers presented in their Departmental Plans and Departmental Results Reports.

program (programme)

Individual or groups of services, activities or combinations thereof that are managed together within the department and focus on a specific set of outputs, outcomes or service levels.

program inventory (répertoire des programmes)

Identifies all the department's programs and describes how resources are organized to contribute to the department's core responsibilities and results.

result (résultat)

A consequence attributed, in part, to a department, policy, program or initiative. Results are not within the control of a single department, policy, program or initiative; instead they are within the area of the department's influence.

statutory expenditures (dépenses législatives)

Expenditures that Parliament has approved through legislation other than appropriation acts. The legislation sets out the purpose of the expenditures and the terms and conditions under which they may be made.

target (cible)

A measurable performance or success level that a department, program or initiative plans to achieve within a specified time period. Targets can be either quantitative or qualitative.

voted expenditures (dépenses votées)

Expenditures that Parliament approves annually through an appropriation act. The vote wording becomes the governing conditions under which these expenditures may be made.