



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Laurel Collins

Member of Parliament
Députée Victoria

NOTE: This will be a collective letter from MPs to the Prime Minister. The letter will be submitted by MP Laurel Collins on May 22.

If you are a member of Parliament and would like to add your name to the signatory list, please email: laurel.collins@parl.gc.ca

May 22, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

cc. The Honourable Chrystia Freeland
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance
90 Elgin Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0G5

cc. The Honourable Steven Guilbeault
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
351 Saint-Joseph Boulevard
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3

SUBJECT: Now is the time to establish a Canadian Youth Climate Corps

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

Summer 2023 was the worst Canadian wildfire season on record. 18.5 million hectares of forest went up in flames, and thousands were forced to evacuate from their homes. Other extreme weather events like the massive flooding in British Columbia; more frequent and more severe



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storms in the Maritimes; heatwaves in southern Ontario, BC, and Quebec; and massive droughts in the prairies have become a normal part of life in Canada. We are in a climate crisis.

We have heard from so many young people from across the country who have expressed their fears about their future. These extreme weather events are part of their reality, and they know that governments are not doing enough to keep our climate below the 1.5 °C threshold. According to a study cited in Nature last year, out of 10,000 young people across 10 countries, 84% expressed that they are worried about climate change, and over half reported being very or extremely worried. This makes sense when pollution from the oil and gas industry increases every year, and as we get closer and closer to runaway climate change.

But we have also heard from many young people across Canada that they want to be engaged in a collective effort to confront the climate crisis. They want to help respond to extreme weather events, they want to help build more resilient communities and ecosystems. And most importantly, they want to help drive down our GHG emissions. But they are waiting for an invitation from their government to meet this generation challenge.

To engage young people in climate solutions, American President Joe Biden announced an American Climate Corps in the fall of 2023. The US climate corps aims to mobilize young people, create new jobs, support conservation efforts, and address the climate crisis. It will train people to develop skills necessary for the clean energy sector, climate resilient infrastructure, and conservation. President Biden's Climate Corps will also offer education funding to youth who serve, promoting education in key sectors for the future.

Young Canadians cannot be left out of this opportunity and pivotal moment in history. Through a large-scale national program, young people under 35 could serve their country and community through a climate corps, even as they acquire vital new skills. This would put youth on a path to good, well-paying unionized jobs and would secure not only their own individual futures but the future of our country and planet.



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We write in support of MP Laurel Collins' motion to establish a Youth Climate Corps (M-105).

Mr. Prime Minister, we urge you to implement a youth climate corps, not only to employ thousands of young people, but to reduce our carbon emissions, uphold environmental justice, and set our youth on a path of success.

Warmly,

Laurel Collins, MP for Victoria
NDP Critic for Environment and Climate Change

Alistair MacGregor, MP for Cowichan—Malahat—Langford

Don Davies, MP for Vancouver Kingsway

Rachel Blaney, MP for North Island—Powell River



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Leah Gazan, MP for Winnipeg Centre

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richard Cannings".

Richard Cannings, MP for South Okanagan—West Kootenay

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenny Kwan".

Jenny Kwan, MP for Vancouver East

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathaniel Erskine-Smith".

Nathaniel Erskine-Smith, MP for Beaches-East York

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gord Johns".

Gord Johns, MP for Courtenay—Alberni



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Charlie Angus, MP for Timmins—James Bay

Lindsay Mathyssen, MP for London-Fanshawe

Lisa Marie Baron, MP for Nanaimo—Ladysmith



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Jagmeet Singh, MP for Burnaby South
Leader of Canada's NDP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alexandre Boulerice'.

Alexandre Boulerice, MP of Rosemont-La Petite-Patrie

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carol Hughes'.

Carol Hughes, MP for Algoma—Manitoulin—Kapuskasing

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randall C. Garrison'.

Randall Garrison, MP for Esquimault—Saanich—Sooke

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Blake Desjarlais, MP for Edmonton Greisbach

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Green'.

Matthew Green, MP for Hamilton Centre



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Heather McPherson, MP for Edmonton Strathcona

Brian Masse, MP for Windsor West

Bonita Zarrillo, MP for Port Moody—Coquitlam

Niki Ashton, MP for Churchill-Keewatinook Aski

Peter Julian, MP for New Westminster — Burnaby

Leah Taylor Roy, MP for Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill



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Mike Morris, MP for Kitchener Centre

John Aldag, MP for Cloverdale-Langley City

Taylor Bachrach, MP for Skeena — Bulkley Valley

Elizabeth May, MP for Saanich — Gulf Islands
Co-leader of the Green Party of Canada

Jonathan Pedneault
Co-leader of the Green Party of Canada



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Ken Hardie, MP for Fleetwood-Port Kells

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Collins".

Chad Collins, MP for Hamilton East—Stoney Creek

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Idlout".

Lori Idlout, MP for Nunavut