

CANADA'S CLIMATE CHANGE AGREEMENTS

Successes?

Challenges?

Was the agreement effective in tackling the global climate change crisis? Why or why not?

2021

GLOBAL METHANE INITIATIVE

(founded in 2004, charter renewed in 2021)

The GMI is an initiative founded in 2004 and dedicated to reducing methane emissions while advancing the recovery and use of methane as an energy source. The GMI is an international partnership of 46 partner governments and more than 700 non-governmental members. In 2021, the GMI renewed its charter for an additional 10 years, and Canada assumed the role of Chair of the GMI Steering Committee.

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2015

PARIS AGREEMENT

In 2015, Canada signed the Paris Agreement and committed to spending \$2.65 billion over five years toward climate action. The agreement sets a target of limiting global temperature rise below 2°C and a carbon-free world before 2100.

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2002

KYOTO PROTOCOL

The Kyoto Protocol was designed to be an extension to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. By signing the Kyoto Protocol, Canada committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 6% vs. 1990 levels between 2008 and 2012. However, Canada withdrew from the Kyoto Protocol in 2011, as the national emissions increased by over 30% in this period.

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1987

MONTREAL PROTOCOL

Landmark agreement that drastically reduced the consumption and production of ozone depleting substances, such as chlorofluorocarbons. Canada was one of the first countries to ratify the Montreal Protocol.

2017

POWERING PAST COAL ALLIANCE

This alliance was co-launched by Canada and the UK, with the goal of accelerating the transition from coal to clean energy. Phasing out unabated coal power is a necessary step in order for Canada and other nations to meet the climate goals set by the Paris Agreement. As of January 2022, 165 governments and organizations have joined the PPCA.

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2009

COPENHAGEN ACCORD

Canada signed the Copenhagen Accord at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2009. By signing this agreement, Canada committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 17% below 2005 levels by 2050.

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1988

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE

IPCC was created by the United Nations Environment Program in 1988, tasked to assess climate change based on the latest science. Canada has been an active participant in the IPCC since its inception, where it has made significant scientific contributions to assessment reports.

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Are global climate agreements necessary to meet collective climate action goals? Why or why not?