



DECODING CARBON CHALLENGE

Empower Students to Create Climate Policy!

2023 - 2024

The [Decoding Carbon Program](#) explores the important role that policy plays in building a low carbon future. Students are challenged to create their own climate policy, empowering them to become informed and active citizens for tackling climate change. This package contains everything you need to complete and submit an entry for the 2024 Decoding Carbon Challenge. Get inspired for your participation by taking a look through our [showcase of previous entrants!](#)

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Complete the following entry form and upload it to the submission page (accessed GreenLearning's [Challenge Page](#)) by **Friday, May 3, 2024 at 11:59pm PST**. Best of luck to you and your learners! If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please contact us at programs@greenlearning.ca or check out our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.

Challenge Instructions

To participate in the 2024 Decoding Carbon Challenge, please follow the steps below:

Step 1: Preparation

We **highly recommend** completing a selection of the following learning activities from the [Decoding Carbon Program](#) to equip your learners with the necessary knowledge and skills for the Decoding Carbon Challenge:

What is Climate Change and How Does it Shape Our World?

- [How is Climate Change Shaping the World?](#)
- [Evolution of Climate Science](#)
- [Global Impacts of Climate Change](#)

Introduction to Climate Change Policy

- [Exploring the Need for Climate Policy: Climate Change and Negative Externalities](#)
- [Market Failures: What Role can Policy Play in Building a Low Carbon Future?](#)
- [Building a Low Carbon Future: The Need for Collective Action](#)

Canada's Role in Climate Policy

- [How does Canada Contribute to Global GHG Emissions?](#)
- [What Role Can Canada Play in Global Climate Action?](#)

Designing a Climate Policy

- [Climate Policy Options](#)
- [What Makes a Good Climate Change Policy?](#)
- [Climate Change Policy Simulator Activity](#)
- [The Negative Externality Game: Collective Action to Address Climate Change](#)
- [Climate Change Policy and Indigenous Relations](#)

Step 2: Create Your Climate Policy

Applying their knowledge, **students will propose an innovative climate policy for a selected level of governance** that showcases strategies to

effectively **reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote sustainability**. Examples of levels of governance include: Federal, Provincial, Municipal, Council, School Board, and more. We know that policies can take various shapes and forms, so we encourage students to explore their creativity in this project. For some inspiration, see what others have done in the [Challenge Showcase](#).

Step 3: Share and Spread the Word

Share your Climate Policy with your family, within your school community, on the radio, on social media, or any other forms! Celebrate your learnings and accomplishments and educate others on how they can learn more about climate policy and take climate action!

We would love to see your Decoding Carbon Challenge process, tag [@GreenLearning](#) on [Twitter \(X\)](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

Step 4: Submission

Use the following checklist as a guide to help get organized for submitting all materials and forms by **May 3, 2024 at 11:59 pm PST**.

Submission Checklist:

- Decoding Carbon Challenge Package with completed Entry Form, Sharing Your Learning, and Reflection Questions
- Clear communication of your proposed Climate Policy
- Supporting materials for judging, such as:
 - Copies of student work and worksheets
 - Photos and videos of students and their projects- *tell us your story!*
- Media Release Form(s) for individuals shown in photos or videos

Use the Selection Criteria below to support your Challenge process.

Entries that meet the requirements outlined in the [Decoding Carbon Challenge Rules and Regulations](#) will be judged between May 6, 2024 and June 5, 2024. The first, second and third place submissions will be awarded cash prizes of \$1,000, \$500 and \$250 respectively. Winners will be announced online on or around June 5th, 2024.

Selection Criteria

GreenLearning has recruited a panel of industry experts with experience and expertise on policy and climate action to judge and provide feedback on challenge submissions. This panel of judges will be evaluating submissions based on the following selection criteria:

Criteria	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
Climate Policy: Ideas & Impact <i>Problem solving and innovation</i> (20 points)	The policy proposed is highly feasible, would result in a high reduction of CO ₂ emissions, and is scalable and innovative in nature.	The policy proposed is feasible, would result in reduction of CO ₂ emissions, is scalable and shows some innovation.	The policy proposed is somewhat feasible, would result in a limited reduction of CO ₂ emissions, and is limited in scalability and innovation.	The policy proposed is minimally feasible, would result in minimal reductions of CO ₂ emissions, and is not scalable or innovative in nature.
Presentation & Supporting Materials <i>Communication, Creativity, & Evidence of Learning</i> (15 points)	The proposed policy is presented in a highly creative, clear and engaging format. 5+ photos, videos or student worksheets were submitted demonstrating student experience.	The proposed policy is presented in a creative, clear and engaging format. 3-4 photos, videos or student worksheets were submitted demonstrating student experience.	The proposed policy is presented in a somewhat creative and engaging format. 1-2 photos, videos or student worksheets were submitted demonstrating student experience.	The proposed policy is not presented in a creative or engaging format or is unclear. No photos, videos or student worksheets were submitted demonstrating student experience.
Sharing Your Learning <i>Communication and collaboration.</i> (10 points)	Learning was shared with clear educational intention and through multiple forms.	Learning was shared with some educational intention <i>and/or</i> through multiple forms.	Some learning was shared.	No learning was shared throughout this challenge.
Reflection Questions <i>Creativity, critical thinking and knowledge mobilization.</i> (10 Points)	Response is highly logical and creative in explaining and expanding on climate policy learnings.	Response is logical and creative in explaining and expanding on climate policy learnings.	Response is somewhat logical and creative in explaining and expanding on climate policy learnings.	Response is difficult to follow and limited in explaining and expanding on climate policy learnings.

Entry Form

Please tell us about yourself and your class. If more than one educator or group leader was involved please complete this form based on who will be the **main contact**.

This section is not scored.

Educator's name:

Educator's email address:

Preferred Title: *(E.g. Ms. Frizzle, Mx. Simpson)*

School Name and Board:

School City:

School Province:

Educator and/or School Social Media Handles:

Number of Learners Participating:

Grade Level(s):

Subject(s) or Club Name:

Number of proposed policies:

Level of governance your climate policy(ies) applies to:

Estimated amount of GHGs saved with policy(ies):
(your best estimate, include brief rationale):

Sharing Your Learning

The following question can be answered by the **joined effort** of educators and learners and is **supported by the photos, videos, and other relevant materials** provided in your submission. Sharing learning may include social media platforms, school assemblies, school announcements, school posters, sharing within the school (i.e. to younger grades), community events, presentations to community leaders, local media coverage, or any other forms.

This section is scored out of 10 points. Please see the Selection Criteria for details.

1. How did you share your experience learning about climate policy while participating in the Decoding Carbon Challenge? What did you do to help inspire others to learn more or take action? How many people did you reach as a result? *Please break down the number of people you shared your learnings with and how you shared it.*

Total # of people shared with: _____

Educator Feedback

GreenLearning is consistently looking for ways to improve our challenges and collect participant feedback. Please take a few moments to tell us about your experience by answering the questions below.

This section is not scored, but we greatly appreciate your feedback!

Efficacy of Challenge & Supporting Resources:

Please complete the table regarding the efficacy of the Challenge and associated learning:

	Not Effective	Somewhat Effective	Effective	Quite Effective	Very Effective
Developing student understanding of renewable energies.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Building confidence in teaching about renewable energies.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Providing students opportunity to demonstrate their understanding through action.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reflecting On YOUR Experience:

Tell us about your experience as an educator with the Re-Energy Challenge:

Did you face any barriers? Align with your objectives? Use the resources? Do you have suggestions?

Reflecting On STUDENT Experience:

Tell us about your students' experiences with the Re-Energy Challenge:

Did they face any barriers? What were your students most excited about? Do they have suggestions?

Please use this opportunity to share any other questions, comments, or thoughts with us.

Congratulations!

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Your child's class, school, or eco club is participating in an exciting Climate Action Challenge hosted by GreenLearning! It's a great chance for them to learn and work together with their peers to make a difference in the fight against climate change. Plus, they could win up to \$1000 for their school, amplifying the impact of their climate actions!

To help share their story and experience in the Climate Action Challenge, please complete the attached media release form and return it to the school. This form gives permission to capture and include photos, statements, and projects created by the students. More details can be found on the *Media Release Form* below.

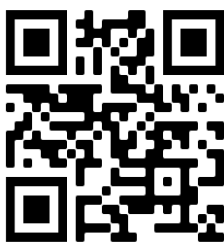
More about us: GreenLearning creates free education programs about energy, climate change and green economy that engage and empower students to create positive change for our evolving world. Our programs include both hands-on and critical thinking activities to equip educators with the educational tools they need to help students understand complex environmental issues.

For Your Attention:

*** Please Sign and Return the Media Release Consent Form on Page 2**



SCAN the QR codes below for more info!



Website



Challenges



Showcase

GreenLearning's Challenges: Media Release Consent Form

Sign and return to secure your child's participation!

Due date: _____

I, _____ hereby authorize

(Name of parent or guardian if participant is a minor, under the age of 18)

GreenLearning Canada Foundation to use and publish my child's name, image, likeness, statements, participant work and performance without charge, for public viewing and promotional purposes in publications, advertising, video, web, new media and other formats as determined by the organization. I also give permission for any content as uploaded to the Google shared folder associated with GreenLearning's programs or challenges to be used and/or edited as required.

I am aware that my child's name and/or picture and/or voice may appear in a print advertisement or other promotional material or be shown on the internet on which my child's picture can be seen or voice heard on a recording and I hereby grant permission to GreenLearning Canada Foundation to use my child's picture, voice, and/or name for these purposes.

I hereby waive any right to inspect or approve the use of these works or any electronic materials that may be used in conjunction with them now or in the future, whether the use is known to me not. I also waive all rights to any royalties related to the use of these works.

I hereby release GreenLearning Canada Foundation, and its officers, employees, shareholders and directors from any and all liability whatsoever, for now and forever.

External Media and Special Events

I also understand that external media or partner organizations might attend special events that are related to GreenLearning's programs and challenges. At these events, I give permission for my child's name, image, likeness, statements, participant work and performance to be photographed, filmed, audio or video taped for the purpose of being published and/or broadcasted online or on radio and television.

Please mark this checkbox if you **AGREE** for your child to be photographed, filmed, audio or video taped as mentioned or described above **in parts one and two.**

Child's name: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____

Teacher's name: _____

Parent's / Guardian's name: _____

Parent's / Guardian's email: _____

Parent's / Guardian's signature: _____

Date: _____