WE DECIDE

Green New Deal Communities

ORGANIZING GUIDE
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WHO DECIDES?

Who decides what our climate future will be? Will it be the corporations that have caused the interconnected economic, climate, and water crises we’re facing, or will it be people and communities?

The answer is simple: We decide.

People and communities, not corporations and the governments doing their bidding, will decide our future. We will decide what a Green New Deal looks like with people, organizations, communities, and movements, from coast-to-coast-to-coast.

Together, we can build a Green New Deal from the ground up. Will you join us?

You can use this Organizing Guide to raise awareness in your community and build support for a Green New Deal. You will have everything you need to build support within your community and work together to have your local city or town council or school board pass a resolution in support of a Green New Deal.

Working together, we can create a better future for us all.

What is a Green New Deal?

A Green New Deal is a transformational project that recognizes the urgency of the climate crisis and the scale of what’s necessary to tackle it.

The world’s scientists and Indigenous peoples are telling us that we have to change course – and we need to do it quickly. We have to cut our global greenhouse gas emissions by at least half by 2030 if we are going to have a livable planet in the future.

A Green New Deal for all will ensure that transformation is carried out equitably, that it is rooted in climate justice, that it respects the rights of Indigenous peoples, and that it creates over a million jobs in the process.
At the Council of Canadians, we want a Green New Deal that:

- Prioritizes good jobs, public services, and workers’ rights, including support for just transition initiatives that expand local and national public transit, cycling, and pedestrian infrastructure, affordable housing, public health care, trade justice, water justice, and postal service transformation. A “just transition” is an approach to policy-making developed by the labour movement that aims to minimize the impacts on affected workers as we transition to a fossil fuel-free future.

- Centres on Indigenous self-determination, including the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the Calls to Justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and respecting Free, Prior and Informed Consent.

- Ensures social justice, equity, and human rights are a central part of climate action.

- Opposes hate, including racism, Islamophobia, white supremacy, and the rise of the far right, while supporting migrant and refugee rights.

- Defends and expands democracy by directly challenging the influence of corporations and the wealthy, corporate capture, and false market solutions that are preventing climate action.

- Increases taxes on billionaires and corporations to pay for the just transition we need.

Where did the idea for a Green New Deal come from?

Members of Parliament in the UK have been meeting since 2007 to build a Green New Deal. There’s a growing movement for a European Green New Deal and the 2019 elections in Spain were won by the Spanish Socialist Party, which ran on a Green New Deal Platform. In the U.S., there has been a recent surge in movement organizing and support for a Green New Deal. Recently, some international organizers have begun calling for a global Green New Deal.

And there’s growing momentum for a Green New Deal here too. In Canada, polling indicates that 61% of people support a Green New Deal – and that number jumps to 66% if it’s paid for by increasing taxes on “corporations and the wealthy.” In other words, a majority of Canadians recognize that we can tackle the climate crisis with a Green New Deal and pay for it by tackling inequality at the same time.

The Council of Canadians is also partnering with people, communities, and organizations from coast-to-coast-to-coast to build a pan-Canadian movement for a Green New Deal. You can learn more about it at greennewdealcanada.ca.
What is a Green New Deal Community?

A Green New Deal at the federal level is not just one thing. By necessity, it will need to include a mix of approaches to address the scale of the climate crisis. The same is true locally.

Each of our communities is different so a Green New Deal may look different in each community. The important thing is the common foundations of equity, climate and social justice, Indigenous rights, and a just transition for workers.

A Green New Deal Community is one that ensures the transition we need leaves no one behind and builds a better present and future for all of us by adopting policies that include:

• Addressing science and Indigenous knowledge by implementing a plan to reduce municipal emissions by at least 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2050.
• Reducing inequality by using available municipal revenue generation tools while requesting additional tools from other levels of government, which will also help pay for a local Green New Deal.
• Actively supporting the expansion of good, unionized, low carbon jobs and public services to build a greener local economy.
• Respecting Indigenous rights and treaties.
• Ensuring accessible, affordable, and safe housing, free transit, and food security.
• Reducing corporate influence on local decision-making, particularly by developers, to enhance local democracy and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction efforts, as well as opposing privatization.
• Upholding equity, anti-racism and migrant justice in municipal policies.
• Rejecting new fossil fuel infrastructure and committing to expanding local installation of renewable energy sources.
Why are Green New Deal Communities necessary?

To build the necessary political pressure for federal parties and the federal government to implement a Green New Deal, we need to build as much momentum as possible everywhere we can.

Making your community a Green New Deal Community is a way of both moving ahead on a Green New Deal locally without waiting for action from the federal government, while also applying upward pressure to make a federal Green New Deal more likely. Every community that adopts a plan and passes a resolution supporting a local Green New Deal tips the scales toward federal, provincial, and territorial governments doing the same.

In addition to the need for grassroots pressure on provincial and federal governments, adopting a Green New Deal locally will put your community ahead of the curve in defining its unique needs and priorities in the just transition ahead.

Municipalities directly own and operate, as well as oversee the development and maintenance of the majority of local infrastructure and public services, including electricity, transportation (public transit, cycling, and pedestrian infrastructure), affordable housing and buildings, child care, education, drinking water and wastewater, arts and entertainment, living wages, cultural and recreational centres, snow and waste management, accessibility, food security, public spaces, health and social services. Despite the growing need for reinvestment, Canadian municipalities are chronically underfunded.

Municipalities can also play a key role in rejecting new fossil fuel infrastructure in their jurisdictions.

Federal and provincial governments have instead attempted to push municipalities into privatization through public-private partnerships (P3s). A P3 is a form of privatization involving multi-decade contracts on public infrastructure and services. P3s take away community control and public oversight and would make it more difficult for communities to set their own Green New Deal priorities and should be opposed.

The transit projects led by SNC-Lavalin in Ottawa and Montreal are prime examples of how P3 infrastructure projects are shrouded in secrecy and prone to ballooning costs and delays. Public infrastructure projects are more affordable, more likely to stay on schedule, and more democratically accountable. Given the urgency of the climate crisis, we can’t afford to wait for P3s to maybe be completed some day with a price tag that has spiralled out of control, undermining what’s possible with other important projects.

As we see more migration due to the impacts of the climate crisis, municipalities can ensure everyone, irrespective of their immigration status, can access services without fear of detention or deportation.

Becoming a Green New Deal Community is also the next natural step for communities that have declared a climate emergency, which hundreds of municipalities from coast-to-coast-to-coast and around the world have now done. Now that the recognition of the urgency of the climate crisis is widespread, it’s time to take the next step.

What is a community?

Any municipality, school board, regional governance body, or institution can become a Green New Deal Community. Schools and places of worship can become Green New Deal Schools or Green New Deal Churches/Mosques/Temples/etc. Community organizations, unions, neighbourhood associations, and residents can also pass Green New Deal resolutions.
MAKE YOUR COMMUNITY A GREEN NEW DEAL COMMUNITY

How can your community into a Green New Deal Community?

Your community can become a Green New Deal Community by passing a resolution or a combination of resolutions that:

1. Recognize we are in a climate emergency.

2. Bring municipal operations, development, services, infrastructure, emissions, and other areas under the purview of municipal governance, etc, in line with the climate science timelines.

3. Implement policies that address inequality, jobs, public services, Indigenous rights, racism, equity, accessibility, local democracy, energy and electricity, to address the climate crisis and rising inequality.

4. Call on the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to adopt a Green New Deal and for other levels of government to support the local Green New Deal with matching financing as they do with other infrastructure projects.

Image by Andy Leung on Pixabay.
Steps to Becoming a
GREEN NEW DEAL COMMUNITY

Municipal councillors and school board trustees will be more likely to support a resolution if they hear from their constituents about the issues.

Here are a few things you can do to build support for passing a Green New Deal resolution:

1. Using the information provided in this guide, develop a strategy to adopt a Green New Deal in your community. An effective strategy includes community organizing, communications and media outreach, engaging the public, building alliances, and engaging elected officials.

2. Identify local officials (councillors, school board trustees, etc) who would likely be in favour of the resolution, those who would not be in favour, and those who are likely swing votes (open to being convinced about the need for supporting a Green New Deal resolution).

3. Create a petition and a public list online noting councillors’ and/or school board trustees’ confirmed positions on the issue, as well as those who haven’t indicated whether or not they support it.

4. Organize neighbourhood assemblies to harness the knowledge and experience in your community to design a Green New Deal that works for everyone and involves residents in the process from the beginning. This can be especially effective when organized in the areas of the councillors who may be swing votes and/or not in favour of a resolution to demonstrate support from their constituents. This can play an important role in them deciding whether to support a resolution.

5. Publicize your organizing meetings widely on social media and in the media and encourage the local councillor to support a Green New Deal for your community.

6. Once a resolution is put forward to be voted on, organize constituents to email and phone your councillors or school board trustees to call on them to vote in favour of the resolution.

7. Once your resolution passes, continue to monitor your council to ensure the local Green New Deal is implemented.

Send an email to greennnewdeal@canadians.org to join the network of community activists, public sector workers, and local government officials working on creating a Green New Deal. Community members working on building local Green New Deals are setting up committees and coalitions. Visit canadians.org/greennnewdeal to find out more.
SAMPLE GREEN NEW DEAL RESOLUTION

The sample resolution below is intended to be a starting point for your efforts. We encourage you to adapt it to suit your community, in consultation with local residents and allies, including in ways that can help amplify existing local organizing efforts. We also recommend adapting it to reference local municipal initiatives and longer-term plans that may already be in progress. Municipalities also periodically update their long-term plans, which can also provide an opportunity to put forward the concept of a Green New Deal.

Resolution:

A Green New Deal for [name of municipality]

WHEREAS a Green New Deal is a transformational project that recognizes the urgency of the climate crisis and the scale of what’s necessary to tackle it.

WHEREAS the world’s scientists and Indigenous peoples are telling us that we have to change course – and we need to do it quickly. We have to cut our global greenhouse gas emissions by at least half by 2030 if we are going to have a livable planet in the future.

WHEREAS a Green New Deal for all will ensure that transformation is carried out equitably, that it is rooted in climate justice, that it respects the rights of Indigenous peoples, and that it creates over a million jobs across communities from coast-to-coast-to-coast in the process.

Emissions Targets

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] commit to implementing a local Green New Deal in line with the climate science, outlined in the October 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, which requires Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reductions of at least 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2050.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] write a letter to local Members of Parliament, federal election candidates and party leaders, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, and the Prime Minister calling on them to commit to implementing a Green New Deal in line with the climate science that requires emissions cuts of at least 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2050.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] call upon the federal government to conduct countrywide public hearings to allow the public to make submissions on what a Green New Deal should include.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall ensure a reduction of at least 30% in municipal government emissions by calendar year 2025, and a 50% reduction in city government emissions by calendar year 2030, relative to such emissions for the base year for municipal government emissions.
BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] emissions reductions shall be achieved through the applicable policies, programs and actions to reduce GHG emissions that contribute to the climate crisis, including methods to ensure equitable investment in environmental justice communities that preserve a minimum level of benefits for all communities and do not result in any localized increases in pollution. If [name of municipality] determines that such emissions reduction is not feasible despite the best efforts of city government operations, such office shall report such findings and make recommendations with respect to policies, programs and actions that may be undertaken to achieve such reductions.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] forward this resolution to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for circulation to its members

Low Carbon Jobs

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] set wages for municipal workers in accordance with a living wage and tie it to inflation.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] set conditions for municipal contracts that require employers to pay a living wage to be eligible for municipal contracts and grants and implement community benefits agreements to ensure jobs are accessible to all residents regardless of their immigration status.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] direct staff to report on the economic and climate case for reducing the work week of municipal workers to four days, without reductions in salary or benefits.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] direct staff to identify ways for [name of municipality] to support the expansion of good, unionized, low carbon jobs, including in child care, health care, education, transit, and arts and culture.

Indigenous Rights

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will implement Indigenous rights frameworks and bring municipal operations into compliance with them. These include the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action, the Calls to Justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall ensure that Free, Prior, Informed Consent from impacted Indigenous peoples has been provided on new development projects, including those perceived as environmentally sustainable, before projects may proceed.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall consult with Indigenous peoples on whose territory [name of municipality] resides about applying an Indigenous lens on current and future municipal policies, including ensuring all local applicable treaties are respected.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall direct staff to report on options for [name of municipality] to contribute to decolonization and the revitalization of Indigenous languages.
Anti-Racism and Equity

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** [name of municipality] shall establish funding for community-led resources that serve women and LGBTQ2S communities, including ensuring a gender lens is applied to climate adaptation plans, such as addressing the demonstrated negative impact that inadequate snow removal has on women and people with disabilities.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** [name of municipality] shall ensure municipal planning processes and new developments are accessible for people with disabilities. [name of municipality] shall also direct staff to report on the state of accessibility in the municipality, what needs to be done to ensure municipal infrastructure is accessible, and what needs to be done to ensure accessibility is included in climate adaptation plans.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** [name of municipality] shall ensure green infrastructure is affordable and accessible to all residents.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** [name of municipality] will direct staff to study the local impacts of the climate crisis on gentrification and to what extent the climate crisis is exacerbating existing patterns of inequality, affordability, structural racism, and housing accessibility, as well as what measures can be taken to prevent further negative impacts on marginalized and racialized communities.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** [name of municipality] shall implement existing recommendations made by grassroots organizers to eliminate systemic racism, including anti-Indigenous racism, anti-Black racism, and Islamophobia. This shall include a review of [name of municipality] policies, practices, infrastructure, and other areas over which the municipality has jurisdiction.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** [name of municipality] will ensure access to services and jobs and grant these to all residents, regardless of their immigration status, ensuring access without fear.

Policing

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** police funding be drastically reduced and redistributed towards community health and safety initiatives led by Black, Indigenous, and racialized community organizations.

Housing

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** [name of municipality] establish building emissions limits, which may include limits on the use of fossil fuels in individual buildings where applicable, to reduce GHG emissions at a minimum of 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2050. Such limits shall establish:

1. An annual building energy or emissions assessment methodology with demonstrated predictive values that account for key variables influencing building energy use; and
2. Building energy or emissions reduction requirements for city-owned buildings that are required by a date earlier than that required by covered buildings or greater reductions than covered buildings; and
3. Ensure the participation and cooperation of relevant departments. Such cooperation shall include, but not be limited to, detailing department staff to assist office staff consistent with department and office functions and reporting to the office on building energy performance issues and related enforcement efforts.
BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall ensure at minimum a reduction of GHG emissions of 50% by the year 2030 and 100% by the year 2050 for the portfolio of housing developments operated by the housing authority of [name of municipality]. Such reductions may be met by reducing the total emissions of all housing developments operated by the housing authority of the [name of municipality] as a portfolio, or reducing building emissions for each individual housing development.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] recognize affordable housing as a human right and ensure that there is safe, accessible, affordable housing for all, including those without immigration status.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] require all city landlords (including the City) to apply and pay for licences, subject properties to regular inspections similar to those performed on restaurants and food vendors, paid for by the licensing fees, and allow [name of municipality] to levy fines against landlords found to be in noncompliance with municipal regulations. This regulatory by-law for rental apartment buildings would require property owners to:

1. Register the building with [name of municipality] and submit required information;
2. Have a process for receiving, tracking and responding to tenant repair requests;
3. Notify tenants of service disruptions, property standards appeals, work orders and cleaning plan;
4. Install a notification board in a central location;
5. Have a comprehensive pest management plan that includes the use of licensed pest management professionals;
6. Have a waste management plan;
7. Have a cleaning plan;
8. Use contractors with relevant provincial or territorial certification to conduct maintenance of Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) and plumbing systems;
9. Have a state of good repair capital plan; and
10. Pay all applicable fees;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] direct staff to report to the meeting of the municipal committee responsible for Licensing and Standards in the next fiscal quarter with the new regulatory by-law.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] direct staff to develop standard operating procedure service standards for [the next fiscal year], subject to annual review that provide targeted timelines by violation category to bring landlords into compliance with municipal by-laws from the date an order is issued, and make the standards available to the public on the [name of municipality] website in the fourth quarter of [the next fiscal year].

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] direct staff to explore the feasibility of a rating system similar to municipal programs that require landlords to post a colour-coded sign that displays [name of municipality]’s rating in a prominent, publicly identifiable location, along with posting the same information on [name of municipality] municipal website and to report to the municipal committee responsible for Licensing and Standards in the fourth quarter of [the next fiscal year].

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will establish a municipally-controlled escrow account. When a landlord is found to be in by-law noncompliance, tenants’ rent will be paid into the escrow account and the funds from the account can then be used to complete the necessary repairs and upgrades, including for environmental retrofits.
BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will prohibit “renovictions,” and ensure the enforcement of this prohibited activity, including through:

1. Tying rent to the unit, not the tenant, so landlords can’t increase rents when tenants move.

2. Amending tenant policies to apply to all forms of rental accommodation in all areas of the municipality and all permits that will result in the temporary or permanent displacement of tenants

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall require any new housing developments be subject to inclusionary zoning, so that a minimum of 20% of the new units will be affordable housing units.

Development, Commercial, and Industrial Buildings

WHEREAS Corporate influence and capture of regulatory and governance processes undermines climate action.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will prohibit councillors who have received donations from development corporations from sitting on planning committees.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will call on the province to ban corporate donations to municipal elected officials.

Transit and Transportation

WHEREAS the transportation sector is the second-largest contributor of GHG pollution in Canada, representing 23% of total emissions.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] calls on the Government of Canada and [the province/territory] to fully implement their commitment in the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change to shift investments “from higher to lower-emitting types of transportation,” including public transit, cycling, and pedestrian infrastructure.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall commit to ensuring that transit in [name of municipality] remains public and that it is operated and maintained by [the municipality’s transit system] and will oppose threats to public ownership, operation, maintenance and local control of transit within the [name of municipality].

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will begin to phase out transit fares and shift to a system of free and accessible public transit within three years.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will ensure future transit vehicle purchases are electric and will begin phasing out non-electric transit vehicles.
Energy and Electricity

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall establish a by-law that all new developments of three stories or higher must include installation of renewable energy systems such as to-scale solar, wind, and/or geothermal.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall establish and install renewable energy systems, such as to-scale solar, wind, and/or geothermal, on all municipal facilities.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] reject any new fossil fuel infrastructure, exploration and/or extraction in its jurisdiction.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] direct staff to produce a study of the projected impacts of potential spills from existing and proposed fossil fuel projects in or near its jurisdiction.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [municipality or school board] will prohibit fossil fuel advertising on its property, including transit stops and vehicles.

Drinking Water and Wastewater

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] recognizes and affirms that water and sanitation services are fundamental human rights.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will implement climate adaptation plans for water and wastewater services, as well as other public utilities, to bolster the protection of municipal water sources from extreme weather events.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will refrain from shutting off water and wastewater services in any residence where residents have an inability to pay their bills, and furthermore that [name of municipality] will make every effort to work with the resident to remediate the debt.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will call on the federal and provincial governments to enshrine the human rights to water and sanitation in federal and provincial law.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will call on the Government of Canada to develop a federal plan of action to implement the human rights to water and sanitation.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT where access to municipal tap water exists, single-use bottled water will no longer be sold in municipal facilities, from municipally-owned or municipally administered concessions, or from vending machines in public facilities.
BE IT RESOLVED THAT single-use bottled water will no longer be purchased and provided at municipal meetings, events or work performed outdoors where access to municipal water exists. 

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the availability of water jugs with municipal water will be increased at municipally-organized meetings and events. 

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a staff and public awareness campaign will be developed to support the rationale for these changes. 

BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff develop an implementation schedule with timelines that includes an assessment of access to tap water at municipal facilities. 

BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff provide a progress report at regular intervals. 

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] oppose privatization in any form of water and wastewater treatment infrastructure and services, including through P3s or short-term service contracts, and resolve to keep these services publicly financed, owned, operated and managed. 

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] lobby the federal government to fulfill its responsibility to support municipal infrastructure by investing in a national water and wastewater infrastructure fund that would address the growing need to renew existing water and wastewater infrastructure and build new systems, and that would only fund public projects. 

Livability, Food Security and Health and Social Services 

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall eliminate barriers to residents growing their own food and create incentives for residents to grow bee-friendly plants. 

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall direct staff to identify opportunities for increasing the number of community gardens. 

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall establish a bylaw that all new developments of three stories or higher must include the installation of green roof vegetation, including rooftop gardens and vegetation. 

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] shall establish an action plan for urban reforestation and ecological restoration. 

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] direct city-funded agencies, boards and services to review their existing policies and practices in order to ensure that everyone has access to municipal services regardless of their immigration status, and that they may access these services without fear of discrimination, detention or deportation. 

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] direct staff to report on how the municipality can ensure full access to quality public services including health care, education, income security, child care, pensions and more for all residents.
Revenue Generation

WHEREAS Property taxes are generally regressive, but can be made more progressive by increasing commercial rates.

WHEREAS User fees disproportionately affect lower-income households and lead to greater inequality and social exclusion. They can also be administratively expensive to collect and are often not a very effective way of managing usage or consumption.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will direct staff to assess municipal revenue generation options available through progressive taxation that increases taxes on corporations and the wealthy in order to finance a local Green New Deal.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will increase commercial rates and charge higher rates for higher-valued residential properties, including both the property transfer tax and the school tax on residential properties valued over $3 million.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] apply higher land transfer tax rates for higher-valued properties to make the tax more progressive.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] direct staff to assess the current development charges to identify areas where the full costs of new developments and urban growth are not currently applied.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] will reject private sector financing whether provided through public-private partnerships (P3s), the Canada Infrastructure Bank, or other mechanisms. [name of municipality] recognizes that these are not revenue sources and thus not solutions to the local government revenue challenges since any loans or investments made by private companies will eventually have to be paid back from public funds or by the public through higher user fees.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] request that [the province or territory] share carbon pricing and cannabis tax revenues as the municipality also bears many of the costs in these areas.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] request that the province establish a municipal financing authority to significantly reduce the cost of borrowing and provide other valuable services to municipalities.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT [name of municipality] identify whether the province has made available diverse revenue and financing sources, including business taxes, area improvement taxes, amusement and advertising taxes. If these revenue and financing sources are available, [name of municipality] will direct staff to identify opportunities for applying them. If these revenue and financing sources are not currently available, [name of municipality] will request that [the province or territory] make them available.
WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Community members are organizing locally from coast-to-coast-to-coast for a Green New Deal. Contact the Council of Canadians to join the network of community activists, workers, and local government officials working on it.

We would love to feature your work on our website and share your stories and ideas with other communities in Canada. Visit our website at www.canadians.org/greennewdeal to find out more about this ongoing campaign. Send an email at greennewdeal@canadians.org and update us on your progress, or call us toll-free at 1-800-387-7177.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

What community activists can do:
1. Support a municipal declaration, resolution, or combination of resolutions for a Green New Deal.
2. Ask your Member of Parliament and federal election candidates to support a Green New Deal and to include it in party platforms.
3. If your community isn’t a Green New Deal Community yet, work in coalition to introduce a motion for your local municipality, school board, or campus to become one.

What municipalities can do:
1. Sign a municipal declaration, resolution, or combination of resolutions supporting a Green New Deal.
2. Call on regional municipal bodies and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to support a Green New Deal.
3. Promote a Green New Deal through municipal public education campaigns.
RESOURCES

Pact for a Green New Deal
   greennewdealcanada.ca

Green Economy Network
   greeneconomynet.ca

Blue Green Canada
   bluegreencanada.ca

Climate Action Network
   Climateactionnetwork.ca

Municipal Revenue Generation Options
   https://cupe.ca/fair-taxes-and-municipal-revenues

FACT SHEET: One Million Climate Jobs

REPORT: Green, Decent and Public

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action
   http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf

Resources for action on the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
   https://canadians.org/statement-mmiwg

Migrant Justice Resources
   https://migrantrights.ca/resource/

Sanctuary City resources
   https://ottawasanctuarycity.ca/resources/

IPCC Report: Summary for Policymakers
   https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/summary-for-policy-makers/

For more information about the Council of Canadians’ campaign for a Green New Deal, visit our website at www.canadians.org/greennewdeal or call us toll-free at 1-800-387-7177.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Green New Deal Organizing Guide has been influenced and inspired by many organizations and movements. It is our hope that this guide reflects and amplifies those movements and helps to bring even more groups together to build a Green New Deal from the ground up.

We would particularly like to thank ACORN Canada, the Amalgamated Transit Union, the Canadian Labour Congress, Canadian Union of Public Employees, the Canadian Union of Postal Workers, the NowWhat?! Ottawa Municipal Platform on gender-based equality, the Ottawa Sanctuary City Network, the Migrant Rights Network, Ottawa Transit Riders, TTCriders, the Healthy Transportation Coalition, the Vancouver Tenants Union and Ecology Ottawa. The work of these organizations inspired the sample resolution in this guide and their organizing has helped create the conditions for local Green New Deals to be possible.