



Tackling the Climate Crisis—Towards a Just, Sustainable, and Public Future

Building a Better Future

2023





The National Union of Public and General Employees (NUPGE) is a family of 13 Component unions. Taken together, we are one of the largest unions in Canada. Most of our 425,000 members work to deliver public services of every kind to the citizens of their home provinces. We also have a large and growing number of members who work for private businesses.

The office of the National Union of Public and General Employees is on the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

We recognize the crimes that have been committed and the harm that has been done and dedicate ourselves as a union to moving forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and striving for justice.

Bert Blundon, President

Jason MacLean, Secretary-Treasurer



Building a Better Future

The climate crisis presents an existential threat—to our communities, livelihoods, and planet. It is easy to feel hopeless in the face of the climate crisis. There are rising rates of so-called eco-anxiety, particularly amongst young people who face uncertain futures.

But it is not too late to act. We can all take actions in our households, workplaces, and communities to foster sustainability. And, when we work together, we can pressure our elected officials, employers, and businesses to step up to tackle the climate crisis. As a country, we can afford ambitious climate action and a Just Transition through a strong public sector. In fact, we can't afford not to.

What's more, the climate crisis presents an opportunity. Coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic recovery, we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform our economy, our workplaces, and our communities to become more economically, socially, and ecologically just and sustainable. This is not to dismiss the suffering and hardship that has happened and is to come. But, seeing as we have no choice but to face this crisis, we can see it as an opportunity to create change for the better.

It will be no small feat. But unions are no strangers to tough, uphill battles. We can draw on the expertise we have, members' experiences, and lessons from past struggles. We can also join together with our allies to realize the vision of a world that puts people and the planet before profits.

nupge

COMPONENTS



B.C. GENERAL EMPLOYEES' UNION



CANADIAN UNION OF BREWERY AND GENERAL WORKERS



HEALTH SCIENCES ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA



HEALTH SCIENCES ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



HEALTH SCIENCES ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN



MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS



MANITOBA GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL EMPLOYEES' UNION



NEW BRUNSWICK UNION OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EMPLOYEES



NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR ASSOC. OF PUBLIC & PRIVATE EMPLOYEES



NOVA SCOTIA GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL EMPLOYEES UNION



ONTARIO PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES UNION / SYNDICAT DES EMPLOYÉS DE LA FONCTION PUBLIQUE DE L'ONTARIO



PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND UNION OF PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES



SASKATCHEWAN GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL EMPLOYEES' UNION

The National Union of Public and General Employees is an affiliate of the Canadian Labour Congress and a member of the Public Services International.