

BRITISH COLUMBIA HUMANIST ASSOCIATION

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British Columbia Climate Leadership Plan

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Climate change is one of the single greatest challenges facing humanity today. We are encouraged to see the Government of BC fully back the scientific consensus that human activities are the significant driver of climate change and that it is committed to strong targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The draft paper acknowledges that reaching reduction targets will require us to “transform the way we live, work and travel.”

The strategies to reach these targets should be based on the best available scientific evidence and developed and implemented in an open and transparent manner so independent organizations can scrutinize its efforts. Conflicts of interest should be declared and groups with a vested interest in continuing the fossil fuel industry should not be the only, or dominant, voices at the table.

The cost of reducing our emissions should not be unduly born by marginalized communities and should be shared by industries responsible for many of the emissions.

Finally, we are concerned about the timing of these consultations, which are scheduled during the middle of summer holidays and during end of year holidays. These strategies must also engage all British Columbians and the chosen timing risks excluding much of the public’s participation.

We look forward to engaging with the Government’s draft strategies later this year.

Sincerely

Ian Bushfield
Executive Director

*For over 30 years, the **British Columbia Humanist Association** has provided a community and voice for the two-thirds of British Columbians who are not religious. Humanism is a progressive philosophy of life that, without theism and other supernatural beliefs, affirms our ability and responsibility to lead ethical lives of personal fulfillment that aspire to the greater good of humanity.*