



Thank you for continuing your advocacy for a safe future for our kids with us! We have a variety of ways you can make an impact and some great sessions to participate in!

1) Action: **No Fossil Fueled Thank You please.** Send an email to your councillor and our Mayor to tell them to stop burning natural gas in our City Hall Flame (see details at the bottom of this email)

2) Education: **Black History Month**

We have a series of posts showcasing Black Women who have been leaders in the climate movement. You can read about them on our Facebook page or learn more on our [page](#). Over the next few weeks we will also be talking about [Bill C-230](#), a national strategy to redress environmental racism in Canada. This may be up for a vote in March. It was introduced by Nova Scotia MP Lenore Zann. A Canadian first, it would require the Minister of Environment and Climate Change to develop a national strategy to redress environmental racism. All parties should support its passage.

3) Action: Ottawa's Official Plan

We are currently working with a variety of groups in Ottawa including Ecology Ottawa, to provide a summary of comments that busy parents and grandparents can use to tell the city about our concerns about the environmental and social issues that need to be considered for our city. Keep an eye on our Facebook and twitter for more details. Or if you want, contact us and we will send you the google doc once its completed. Residents can send in an email to newop@ottawa.ca or [fill in the one-pagers](#) before March 12, 2021.

4) Action: Help us strengthen Bill C12 Canada's Net Zero (Climate accountability act)

We have an opportunity to change our country's trajectory in their approach to climate action. We need your voice to make Bill C12 stronger so it will truly protect our kids ([read more here](#)):

- A. You can add your signature to our [submission to the standing committee on the environment](#).
- B. Email your MP about your concerns (You can use this [draft email](#) or short on time: [sign this letter petition](#).)
- B. Call your MP and leave a voice message (we have a phone script too!)
- C. Set up a meeting with your MP (If you do this, please also let us know as there may be other constituents who want a meeting. There is strength and greater impact in numbers and by having a group meeting, you may be helping a new parent build up their confidence to become a more vocal advocate!)
- D. **Super simple:** Send us a photo of your children's hands. In March we will be using our voices on twitter and social media to say: our children's hands are much too small to hold the responsibility of a weak climate action plan.

5) Social: Welcome Session

Join our FOK Ottawa - Gatineau [Welcome Session on Friday March 5th at 3 pm](#). You can learn more about our current projects and its a great chance for adult conversation!

6) Save the Date: Global Climate Strike - Friday March 19th.

FOK Ottawa-Gatineau will be working with Fridays for Future Ottawa to help

promote and encourage parents and families to participate in the Global Climate Strike to show our solidarity for the youth that are taking action and raise their voices to protect the future they will inherit if we don't act. Stay tuned for more details on our social media channels and our webpage.

Things to do:

Join other parents across North America on March 4th at 6 pm to discuss [How to Talk to Children About Climate Change](#) by the Author Harriet Shugarman

Things to watch:

If you missed our Eco-Anxiety webinar: [Eco-Action as Fuel for Climate Action by Dr. Courtey Howard](#) we highly recommend it as a more hopeful and productive option to doom scrolling :-)

Need some good news? [Canada has announced their advisory committee for the Net-Zero Emissions Climate Accountability Plan](#), this is great progress and shows the federal government's committee to achieving a net-zero future. Thanks to all of you that have shared your concerns, the advisory committee includes expert scientists as well as indigenous voices.

Invite others to join us. If you like our approach and our projects, please help make our impact stronger by forwarding this message to another parent or grandparent. They can also signup for our monthly newsletters [here](#):

Marianne,

For our Kids Ottawa/Gatineau.

https://www.forourkids.ca/ottawa_gatineau

Facebook group: [For Our Kids/Parents for the Planet Action Group](#)

Fossil Fueled Thank you:

ASK: Help us send a message to OUR MAYOR that no one wants a fossil fueled "thank you message".

Email Jim.watson@ottawa.ca and Forourkidsottawa@gmail.com (use our letter below or write your own!)

In January, Mayor Watson decided to light the 2017 Cauldron using natural gas, and to keep it lit every evening for THREE months! We can easily light it with LED lights, they already are set up (and save about 360 MILLION BTUs of carbon emissions)

Here's the [news article](#).

If you DO send an email, we would love if you CC'd us, so we know how many residents are concerned by this. Forourkidsottawa@gmail.com

----- Template Email:

Dear Honourable Watson,

Your decision to light the 2017 Cauldron, in collaboration with Enbridge, as a "thank-you to our essential workers and as a light at the end of the tunnel, providing hope and optimism for our community." is misguided during a climate emergency. Instead, the city should turn on the LED lights of the Cauldron, to provide a lower carbon footprint 'thank you' which better aligns with the message of appreciation.

Frontline workers need our gratitude and everyone needs hope during this time, but let's do that in a way that doesn't further contribute to the global climate emergency we are all facing

I am writing this letter to you as a concerned resident of Ottawa, and a parent who is working hard to protect the future for my children.

I hope that with your help we can transform the flame into something that provides ALL our Ottawa's residents with hope and optimism for surmounting our COVID crisis AND our climate crisis.