From floods, to ice and wind storms, to heat waves, we know this is not how it used to be. Climate change is damaging the places we care about. For the love of New Brunswick, we need to prepare for a future with less pollution and safer communities.

New Brunswick has the 3rd highest per capita emissions in Canada after Alberta and Saskatchewan. Canada itself ranks in the top ten global emitters in the world and on a per capita basis we rank 4th. Doing our part means doing our fair share.

We need to rebuild our energy system and we can do it over the next five to 10 years. But to get there we need a plan based on clear targets.

The provincial Government says it is committed to implementing the 2016 provincial climate action plan but wants to abandon its science-based greenhouse gas reductions targets.

How is that doing our part to fight climate change?

The province is abandoning science in favour of the less acceptable federal target of 30% below 2005 levels by 2030. Canada has already agreed that this target must be stronger by 2020 if we are to slow climate change.

Failing to reach science-based targets does not protect New Brunswickers’ health and well-being and fails to prepare the province to thrive in a world with low-carbon-footprint economies.

In 2016, the province of New Brunswick committed to lowering greenhouse gas emissions 35% below 1990 levels by 2030 (to 10.7 million tonnes, MT, which is about 45% below 2005 levels, the federal base year).

The province also committed in its Transitioning to a Low Carbon Economy: New Brunswick’s Climate Action Plan to being 80% below 2001 levels (to 5 Mt, which is 75% below 2005 levels, the federal base year).

Our 2030 reduction target is in line with what the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) says is required to keep global average temperature increases to no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels but our 2050 target is not. By 2050, the world needs to be net zero to stave off the worst effects of climate change.

The good news is that New Brunswick succeeded in meeting its 2020 target of 10% below 1990 levels by 2020 (14.8 Mt) and achieved this goal by 2016.

But we must do more.
NEW BRUNSWICK IS NOT ON TRACK TO Lower emissions by 45% by 2030

...unless it fully implements its climate action plan and complies with federal regulations

There is little evidence the province is implementing its comprehensive climate action plan which requires significant investments in infrastructure, efficiency, clean electricity and electric vehicles.

Instead, we are wasting taxpayers’ money fighting the federal government in court.

What we should be doing is implementing our climate action plan and fully complying with federal regulations, including carbon pricing, phasing coal out of electricity production, phasing in lower-emitting fuels (clean fuel standard), strengthening efficient building standards, implementing targets for electric vehicle sales, and increasing use of renewable energy.

New Brunswick needs a plan for the long-term. A plan that sets the course to a ZERO-EMITTING SOCIETY over the next 15 to 30 years.

A made-in-New Brunswick plan should REGULATE INDUSTRIAL, ELECTRICITY AND HOUSEHOLD EMISSIONS in line with our science-based targets spurring innovation and modernization of our economy and communities.

An economy fueled by CLEAN, RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY MADE IN NEW BRUNSWICK and POWERING EFFICIENT BUILDINGS, TRANSPORTATION AND INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS is a better plan for New Brunswick.

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