

March 1, 2023

Ultimatum to the Liberal Government of Canada

Dear Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Honorable Ministers of the Cabinet,

This ultimatum is authored by members of the nonviolent, civil resistance community of British Columbia. We are youth, teachers, workers, and students. We formally issue an ultimatum to the Canadian government:

We have lost faith in politicians. [Over the past 50 years, carbon emissions have gone up globally by 90%.](#) Elected officials such as yourselves have a legal obligation to both represent and act on the interests of the public, and you have failed to do so on the climate crisis - a crisis that threatens the existence of Canada and the human race itself. We believe that all state power must be transferred away from political and economic elites and into the hands of ordinary people.

The government has until April 1, 2023, to begin establishing a citizens' assembly to decide how Canada's economy will be transformed to tackle the climate and ecological emergency in the next 2-3 years.

A [citizens' assembly](#) is a sortition-based assembly of people, selected at random from the general public, like a jury; as ordinary people, they are more likely to represent the interests of ordinary people. Randomness cannot be corrupted, unlike politicians. Ordinary people represent common decency and common decency does not allow for the destruction of all life on Earth.

By the known norms of common decency, we seek to resist your government's criminal inactivity on the climate and ecological emergency, and we seek to secure our right to a future. It is the inalienable right of every generation to have a future. The government of Canada has promised in numerous international treaties that the state will use appropriate and necessary measures to tackle the climate emergency. Meanwhile, Canada's carbon emissions have increased every year. Sir David King, the former chief scientific advisor to the U.K. government, said 2 years ago: ["what we do in the next 3-4 years, I believe, will determine the future of humanity."](#)

If this ultimatum is ignored, or mocked, we will take action to pressure the Canadian government - you - to uphold the demands of this ultimatum: to establish a citizens' assembly that has legally-binding power to determine how Canada's economy is to be transformed to appropriately mitigate the climate and ecological emergency.

If this ultimatum is not met, we will initiate multiple waves of caravans going East, to Ottawa, every 3 months. These caravans will arrive in Ottawa and will aim to occupy the capitol indefinitely, until the government decides to act in the interests of the people of Canada, or until this government falls and makes way for a better, more just, government of ordinary people - our only hope to secure our sacred and inalienable right to a future.

In Peace and Rage,

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