

**CITY OF OTTAWA MUNICIPAL ELECTION
CLIMATE EMERGENCY QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES**

1. Will you commit to re-building trust in City politics and operations? Specifically,
 - How will you handle the new super mayor powers?
 - Will committees include balanced voices of urban and suburban councillors?
 - Will planning and development processes have early and continuing consultations with affected citizens - not just developers?
 - How will you ensure that the budget process is transparent and based on City priorities?
 - Will you commit to engaging Indigenous communities in Ottawa on all Climate Emergency matters? How might effective engagement best be done?
 - Do you accept political donations from local Ottawa developers?
2. Will you commit to making the climate emergency a priority and ensuring it is a program requirement for senior managers, staff and committees by appointing a senior management climate official to champion climate actions and by including climate targets in the job descriptions, performance reporting and evaluations of managers, departments and committees?
3. Will you commit to developing a climate budget for the city with the 2023 budget cycle?
This budget must include breakdowns of amounts spent on all climate actions in the City's capital and operating budgets and include a carbon budget. (See attachment for more details)
4. Given the urgency of the Climate Emergency, will you commit to increasing the annual capital budget for implementing energy transition actions in Ottawa to the amount Ottawa's Energy Evolution study estimates is needed (at least \$200 million)?
5. In addition, will you commit to increasing the annual operational budget for enabling the 'Energy Evolution Strategy' to \$30 million to ensure that the financial and policy tools and capacity are in place and barriers removed for residents and businesses to aggressively reduce GHG emissions in Ottawa?
6. Will you commit to ensuring that the 40 high climate risks (identified in the City's Vulnerability and Risk Assessment) that require action within 1-3 years are fully funded in the 2023 budget? Moreover, will you commit to accelerating the 'Climate Resilience Strategy' (to be done in a year – by end of 2023) and to fully fund the Climate Resilience Strategy during the next term of City Council?
7. Will you commit to a local planning process for zoning and secondary plans that engages the public and balances density with health, livability, active transport, while reducing GHG emissions and protecting from heat, water and ice damage?
8. Will you commit to giving priority to increasing and preserving green space as part of the City of Ottawa's planning and development processes?
9. Will you commit to giving priority to pedestrian, cycling and affordable public transit infrastructure over automobile infrastructure to meet the future growth of travel demand in your ward (for Council candidates) / City-wide (for mayoral candidates)?
10. Will you commit to a significant increase to electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the City of Ottawa during the next term of City Council?

11. Will you commit to a ban on natural gas as a heating fuel in all new buildings in Ottawa?

12. Will you commit to public reporting of the City of Ottawa's GHG emissions reduction progress by end of Q2 to inform the budget process?

ATTACHMENT:
DETAILED CLIMATE BUDGET QUESTIONS FOR MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES

Question 3.1: Will you commit the Council to presenting a **City of Ottawa Climate Budget** as part of the City's 2023 budget cycle?

This should show how much each City department plans to spend in 2023, on what climate actions, to help Ottawa meet a specific portion of our carbon reduction target, and reduce climate damages to Ottawa.

Rationale for Question 3.1: We need to know how much it'll **cost** us - residents, businesses and governments - to meet Ottawa's Net Zero carbon targets, and to reduce damages from climate disturbances. We need an idea of how much we can **earn** in the business of achieving the targets. And we need to know how much we'll **save** from the cost of climate damage by meeting the targets.

Question 3.2: Will you commit the Council to presenting a **First Ottawa Climate Funding Report** as part of the City's 2023 budget cycle?

The Report will propose projections of where funds for required climate actions will come from, across all sources - residents' own investments, municipal taxes, partnerships and business investments, provincial and federal governments.

Rationale for Question 3.2: To meet Ottawa's climate targets, a significant proportion of all our budgets - City, business, investment, individual, provincial and federal - has to be mobilized for climate. The costs, earnings, and savings involved will be in the \$ billions. We need City Council to lead a climate funding partnership strategy for Ottawa as a whole.