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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Unveiling of the 2024 Federal Budget: Fairness for Every Generation

Today, our government unveiled its financial plan for 2024, highlighting equity for every generation. In this Budget, we invest for a Canada where young Canadians can progress, where young families can access affordable housing, where seniors can age with dignity, and where everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

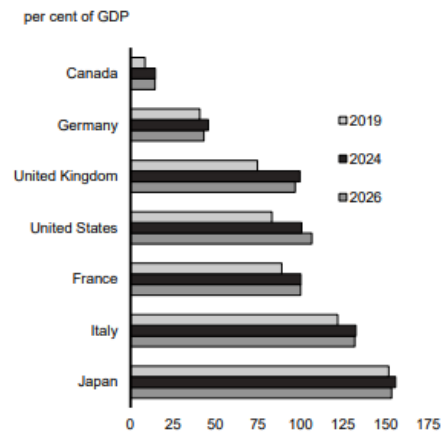
Overview of Economic and Budgetary Situation

First and foremost, it is important to take stock of Canada's financial health. The current economic situation in Canada exceeds expectations despite recent challenges posed by COVID-19 and the inflation crisis. The following points illustrate the country's remarkable economic performance:

- Canada has avoided a recession.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) forecast that Canada will experience the highest economic growth among the G7 countries in 2025.
- Inflation is at 2.9%, compared to 3.5% in the United States.
- Our deficit, set at \$40 billion, is expected to decrease in the coming years.
- The debt-to-GDP ratio has improved compared to fall predictions and is now the best among G7 countries.
- The deficit-to-GDP ratio is also the lowest in the G7 and is expected to drop below 1% in 2026-2027.

Although some advocate for a zero deficit, this strategy would only be suitable for current expenditures. Borrowing to buy a house adds long-term value, unlike borrowing for daily expenses like groceries. By increasing its debt, Canada strategically invests in major projects that facilitate its transition to a green and technological economy, thereby strengthening its position on the international stage.

Chart 26
**IMF General Government Net Debt
 Projections,
 G7 Economies**



Despite this good news, many young people feel left behind, seeing the dream of homeownership slip away. That's why the first pillar of the Budget focuses on historic investments in housing. The second pillar aims to make life more affordable for many Canadians, ensuring that no one is left behind. The third pillar invests in the green and technological economic transition to propel us into the new economic era. Finally, we must have a tax system where everyone pays their fair share of taxes.

II - More affordable housing

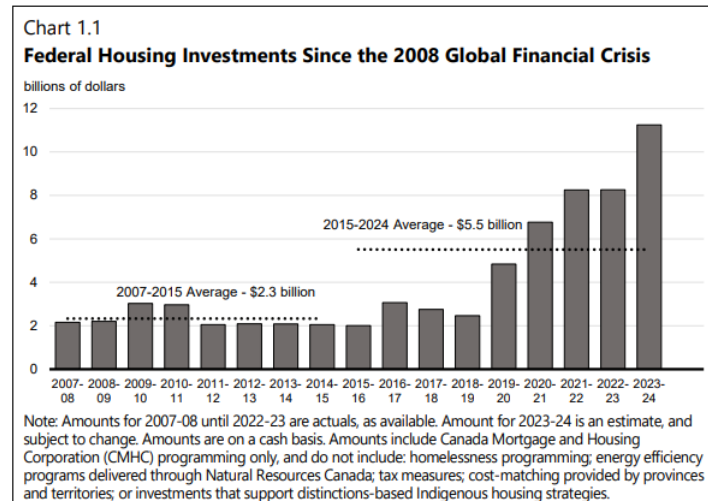
One of the biggest challenges for every generation of Canadians right now is housing. Canadians need housing solutions now. That is why Budget 2024 announced our new housing plan, "Solving the Housing Crisis: Canada's Housing Plan," which focuses on three key areas:

1. Building More Homes

We will build more homes by speeding up homebuilding by offering incentives to builders, streamlining zoning and permitting processes, adopting new technologies, and training the workforce. For example:

- The Apartment Construction Loan Program and the Public Lands for Homes Plan will help to build more affordable, middle-class homes and rental units in big cities, small towns and rural communities alike so Gen Z and Millennials can have accessible and affordable housing options.
- The new Secondary Suite Loan Program will provide up to \$40,00 in low-interest loans to single-family homeowners to add secondary suites to their homes to help enhance the availability of rental options and generate additional income.

- The new \$6 billion Canada Housing Infrastructure will accelerate the construction and upgrading of critical housing infrastructure, including water supply, wastewater treatment, stormwater drainage and solid waster management systems.



2. Facilitating Homeownership or Rental Access

We are going to restore the prospect of home ownership and create a healthy rental sector in Canada by launching a Canadian Renter’s and Homebuyers’ Bills of Rights, using rental payments to enhance credit scores, and extending to 30-year amortizations for first-time buyers starting August 2024. For example:

- The new \$15 million Tenant Protection Fund and new Canadian Renters’ Bill of Rights will help safeguard tenants from unfair practices and rent hikes.
- Budget 2024 will help first time home buyers purchase homes sooner by extending the mortgage amortization period, increasing the withdrawal limit from the Home Buyers Plan to save for down payments faster, and helping renters more easily qualify for a mortgage by receiving credit for paying rent.

3. Assisting Individuals Unable to Afford Housing

We will do this by maintaining affordability through a rental protection fund, increasing funding for new housing, supporting local homelessness initiatives, and providing dignified housing for the most vulnerable. For example:

- The Affordable Housing Fund will receive a \$1 billion top up to support deeply affordable housing, supportive housing, and shelters for the most vulnerable, and will launch a permanent Rapid Housing Stream.
- The new \$1.5 billion Canada Rental Protection Fund will help community housing providers secure rental units at risk of being lost to the private market, ensuring long-term affordability for tenants.

II - Making Life More Affordable and Ensuring a Place for Youth in the Middle Class

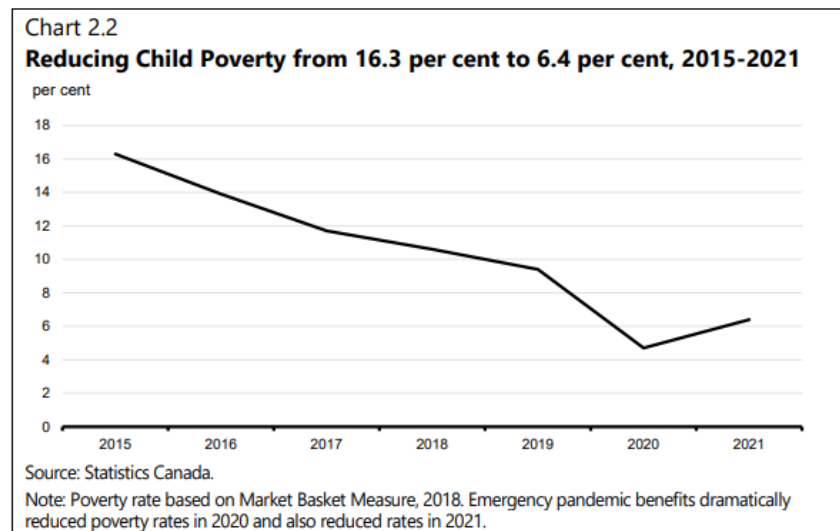
To promote equal opportunities and the development of young people in our constituency, the Budget includes measures to create a supportive environment where each young person can realize their full potential:

For young adults:

- Enhances interest-free loans and scholarships;
- Increases support for student housing costs;
- Enhances student loan forgiveness for doctors and nurses who choose positions in rural and remote areas;
- Creates more jobs, internship opportunities, and employment support;
- Launches a new fund for youth mental health.

For children:

- Launches of a national school food program aimed at providing meals to over 400,000 students each year across Canada;
- Assists parents saving for their children's education;
- Supports extracurricular learning, such as mentorship and academic assistance;
- Helps children acquire coding skills with CanCode 2.0.



To take care of every generation:

- Recognizes foreign healthcare credentials;
- Establishes a new national pharmacare plan including free contraception;
- Gradually implements the Canadian Dental Care Plan until 2025.

For farmers:

- Launches consultations on the right to repair in June to optimize the use of their equipment;
- Increases the exemption of capital gain on the disposition of the farm.

IV - Economic Growth for Every Generation

Budget 2024 focuses on fostering economic growth through innovation and productivity, with significant investments in key areas such as:

1. Net-Zero Economy

Canada is leading the global investments in net-zero economies with a robust plan, investing over \$160 billion in critical initiatives, including innovative tax credits to attract \$93 billion in investment by 2034-35. This could quintuple the GDP from clean energy to \$500 billion by 2050, supporting Canada's net-zero emissions goal and underscoring the interconnection between environmental and economic policies.

2. Clean Electricity Tax Credit

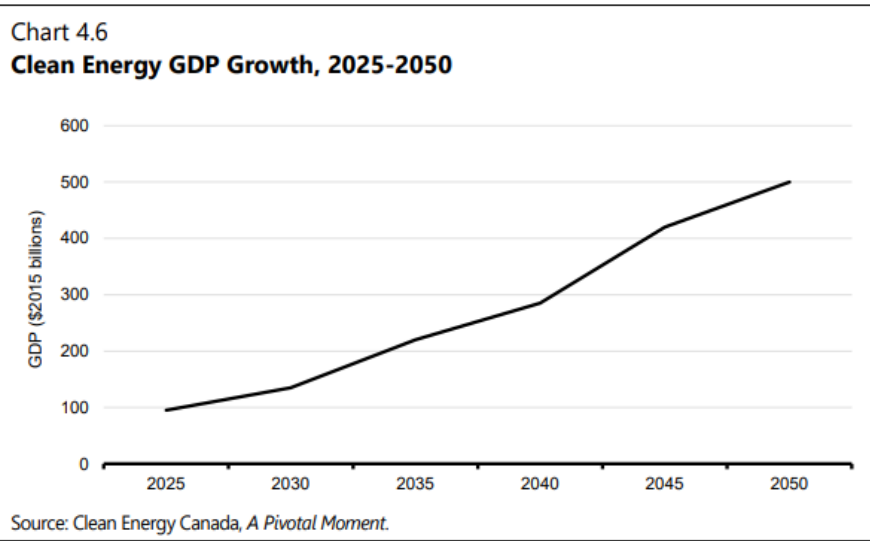
Canada Introduced a 15% refundable tax credit for investments in clean electricity generation and storage, and interprovincial electricity transmission. This initiative is expected to lower the monthly energy costs by 12% and create 250,000 jobs by 2050.

3. AI Sector Investment

An allocation of \$2.44 billion will enhance Canada's AI capabilities, including an AI Compute Access Fund and a Canadian AI Sovereign Compute Strategy. Budget 2024 also allocates \$50 million over to establish the AI Safety Institute of Canada, ensuring the safe development and deployment of AI technologies.

4. Additional Measures

- A survey in June 2024 will address interprovincial trade barriers to enhance economic efficiency.
- Budget 2024 allocates a 10% Electric Vehicles (EV) Supply Chain investment tax credit to boost the automotive industry and secure jobs in EV assembly, battery production, and cathode material production.

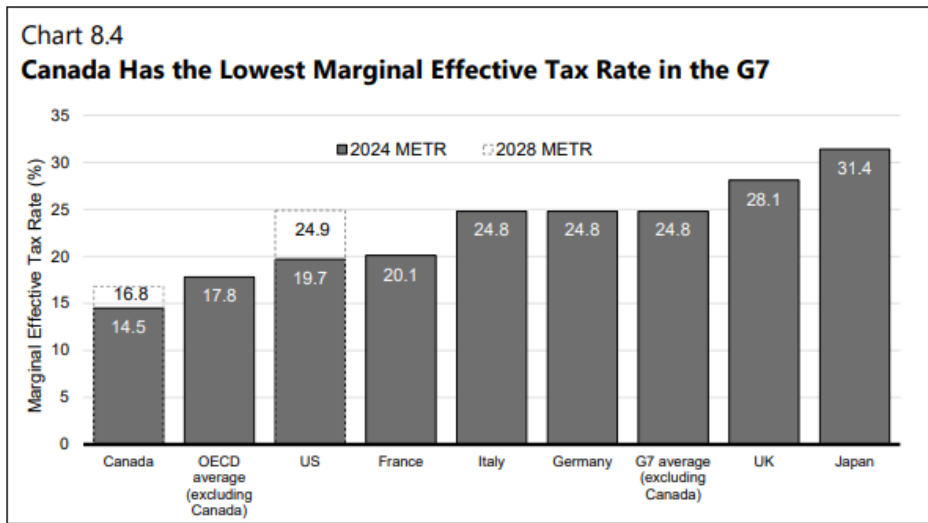


V - Improving Tax Fairness

The wealthy often derive a larger portion of their income from capital gains, which allows them to benefit from lower tax rates than middle-class workers. Therefore, the Budget proposes measures to improve tax fairness, while also reducing tax on capital gains for entrepreneurs.

To ensure fairness, the Budget plans to increase the inclusion rate for capital gains from 50% to 66% for annual gains exceeding \$250,000 starting June 25, 2024, while the rate for gains up to \$250,000 will remain at 50%. Additionally, specific exemptions are maintained for the principal residence.

Small business owners and farmers will also benefit from a significant reduction in capital gains taxes on the sale of their businesses, with the capital gain exemption raised to \$1.25 million. Furthermore, a new incentive for entrepreneurs will reduce the capital gain taxable to a 33.3% for eligible capital gains up to \$2 million.



VI - Gatineau-Ottawa Tramway

Integral transportation infrastructure is needed in the west of Gatineau city, where demographic growth projections are strongest. I hope that funds from the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program will be used to finalize the financial setup of the tramway's preliminary project study. I will continue my collaboration with key stakeholders to ensure rapid progress of this project, which is essential for my constituency and for the Outaouais.

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