

SENIORS' CLIMATE WITNESS

August 18, 2026

The Right Honourable Mark Carney (MP, Nepean)
Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Email: pm@pm.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister,

We are writing on behalf of **Seniors' Climate Witness**, a grassroots movement of seniors, people of faith, and allies from across Canada who are deeply concerned about the accelerating climate crisis and the future we are leaving to our children and grandchildren.

As Parliament reconvenes this September, Climate Caravans will travel toward Ottawa from Canada's East and West Coasts, bringing people together along the way before converging for a week of public witness and nonviolent action. **The West Coast Caravan will be launched in Vancouver on September 9 by David Suzuki before travelling across the country to Ottawa.**

Our caravans will travel through communities that have experienced the devastating impacts of this summer's wildfires, either directly from the fire or indirectly through evacuations, smoke, loss of forestry, and loss of tourism. We hope to meet and listen to people whose lives and communities have been directly affected. Their experiences underscore what is at stake as Canada confronts decisions that will shape our climate and economy for decades to come.

We believe Canada is at a crossroads. At a time when communities across the country are experiencing increasingly severe wildfires, heat, floods, and other climate impacts, we are deeply concerned by the federal government's plans to invest billions of public dollars in new fossil fuel pipelines rather than in accelerating the transition to a renewable energy future.

We respectfully request the opportunity to meet personally with you before the Climate Caravans arrive in Ottawa on September 18, to discuss our concerns and explore how Canada can better protect present and future generations while advancing reconciliation and a just transition. **We would also welcome the opportunity for people directly affected by wildfires whom we meet along the Caravan routes to join the conversation, either in**

person or virtually, so that you can hear firsthand about the impacts on their families and communities.

Specifically, we urge the Government of Canada to:

1. **End subsidies and support for new fossil fuel exploration, pipelines, and related infrastructure**, and reaffirm Canada's commitment to meeting its climate targets by investing instead to accelerate the transition to renewable energy, energy efficiency, and climate resilience.
2. **Respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples and uphold Canada's commitments to reconciliation**, including ensuring that Indigenous rights and leadership are central to decisions affecting their lands and waters.
3. **Meet with representatives of Seniors' Climate Witness and people directly affected by wildfires—including those joining virtually—to hear their experiences and discuss how Canada can better protect present and future generations.**

Seniors' Climate Witness will gather in Ottawa from **September 19–24**, participating in public witness alongside other organizations committed to climate justice.

We hope you will welcome this opportunity for respectful dialogue. Even if we do not agree on every issue, we believe Canadians are best served when their government is willing to listen to people who come forward in good faith—including those already experiencing the consequences of a changing climate.

We would be grateful for a response at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully,

Amalia Schelhorn, Victoria, BC
Bill Darnell, Victoria, BC
Brian Short, Victoria, BC
Brooke Lydbrooke, Toronto, ON
Dawn Moorhead, Victoria, BC
Etienne, Eason, Ottawa, ON
Michael Polanyi, Victoria, BC
Sharon Bider, Toronto, ON
Yves Parizeau, Victoria, BC

Members of Seniors' Climate Witness Steering Committee,

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cc: M. Yves-François Blanchet, Leader of the Bloc Québécois
Mr. Avi Lewis, Leader of the NDP
Ms. Elizabeth May, Leader of the Green Party of Canada
Hon. Pierre Polievre, Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada