Energy and energy systems play a central role in Canada’s economy. They will also be an integral part of Canada’s transition to a clean growth economy. This will involve addressing climate change, GHG emissions, and resilience, without sacrificing economic growth, wealth creation, and social well-being. Reconciling those aspirations with business-based decision-making presents both a challenge and an opportunity. The Centre for a Clean Energy Growth Economy supports research and dialogue that leaders need, building on Canada’s business and intellectual strengths to provide independent evidence for the path forward.
Canada needs responsible, well-informed dialogue on the issues that will shape a clean growth economy. The Conference Board of Canada believes a collaborative approach involving diverse stakeholders can help create consensus on how to balance economic prosperity and environmental sustainability.

The concept
The Centre for a Clean Energy Growth Economy (CEGE) brings together and builds consensus among diverse funders to develop a road map toward a clean energy growth future for the Canadian economy. CEGE provides the following to its funders and to leaders throughout Canada:

- valuable learning
- networking
- policy development
- focused research

CEGE harnesses the strength of the Conference Board’s non-partisan, multi-stakeholder model that includes business, government, associations, and foundations. In addition to research and dialogue, we also create discussion forums to share best practices and new knowledge.

Benefits for funders
In addition to the Centre’s research, meetings, and convening platform, funders will be able to:

- gain a deeper understanding of the issues facing Canada as it moves toward a clean growth economy;
- receive early access to and provide input on the evidence-based research produced;
- participate in an independent forum for sharing ideas on research, policy, and practice among businesses, policy-makers, and other stakeholders;
- provide input into a road map that will guide the way toward a clean growth economy for Canada;
- share knowledge and best practices confidentially and constructively and build networks.
What we’ve achieved so far

In April 2018, a group of funders pooled their resources and developed a foundational platform of research around four key themes: consumer behaviour, decarbonizing Canada’s electricity production, carbon competitiveness, and financing a clean growth economy. As of January 2019, the following research reports and activities (all available to new funders) have been undertaken:

- **Watt? Decarbonizing Canadian Electricity Production in Select Provinces**—an overview of electricity production in select provinces, assessing the potential for full decarbonization by 2029;
- **Financing a Clean Energy Growth Economy**—eight-part series;
- **It’s Not Easy Being Green: The Challenge of Carbon Competitiveness**—an examination of the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change and assessment of where competitive risks to Canadian firms may come from;
- **Shades of Gray: Consumer Attitudes Toward a Low-Carbon Economy**—low-carbon choices from the viewpoint of consumers;
- **Clearing the Air With a Complex System: A Pan-Canadian Approach to Carbon Pricing and Reducing GHG Emissions**—taking stock of the Canadian government’s carbon-pricing initiatives;
- **Reshaping Energy 2018: Today and Tomorrow conference**—insights on proactively managing the transition to a clean energy growth path;
- **November 2018 meeting**—a discussion of the United Kingdom’s clean growth path, biological carbon and offsets, and Shell’s Sky scenario.
The CEGE research platform

Principles

Our research is guided by the following principles:

- an evidence-based approach to providing insights;
- an integrated or systems approach to research;
- an inclusive approach to Canada’s energy future;
- independent, non-partisan, and objective thought leadership;
- economic-driven

Framework

We developed a framework to guide our research and engagement plan using insights and evidence from year one, consultations with CEGE funders, and input from other stakeholders. It encompasses three themes:

- **Theme 1: Effective and improved environmental performance.** We will create a better understanding of how environmental outcomes drive performance.

- **Theme 2: Efficient and inclusive economic growth.** We will demonstrate how to maximize short- and long-term economic potential and prosperity.

- **Theme 3: Reliable and cost-competitive energy.** We will fill knowledge gaps and inform discourse on pathways to clean energy systems.

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>What is a clean energy growth economy?</td>
<td>Unpacking the new growth story</td>
<td>A road map to action</td>
<td>Canada’s clean energy growth economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Included research in four areas: carbon competitiveness, consumer behaviour, decarbonizing electricity, and clean-growth finance.</td>
<td>Define measurable parameters that characterize a clean energy growth economy for Canada, with a focus on indicators, challenges, and required actions.</td>
<td>Initiate deep dives into the critical gaps, opportunities, and challenges uncovered in Year 2.</td>
<td>Explore gaps in policy and action, identifying key milestones and creating a road map toward a clean energy growth economy.</td>
<td>Review the evidence and analysis, culminating in an economically pragmatic and socially achievable view of Canada’s clean energy growth economy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our current research questions

• What does a clean energy growth economy look like for Canada, now and in the long term?
• How do we define it?
• Which indicators best measure Canada's progress?
• What gaps exist to advance a pragmatic road map?
• What are the lowest-cost and most effective technologies, energy systems, business practices, and policy and regulatory options?

Two activities will answer these questions:

Activity 1: A focus on indicators

We will create a pragmatic definition of a clean energy growth economy and determine what indicators best measure Canada's progress toward achieving it. We will assess current indicators, their applicability to Canada, and their appropriateness for the Canadian economy. We will then create indicators to measure the effectiveness of environmental actions, investments, and activities; short- and long-term economic potential and prosperity; and the reliability and competitiveness of Canadian energy production and services.

Activity 2: A focus on challenges and actions

This activity will answer two questions: What gaps exist in advancing a pragmatic road map for a clean energy growth economy in Canada; and what are the cheapest and most effective technologies, energy-production mix, and business practices, policies, and regulatory options for Canada?

Gaps will be defined based on the challenges to implementation of technologies, business practices, and policy responses to improve environmental outcomes. The focus will be on practicality and achievability.

We will then assess the current state of adoption and adaptation, primarily with large emitters and in areas that are major sources of energy-related emissions. The objective will be to identify low-hanging fruit that can be pragmatically addressed.
**Getting involved**
You can help shape the future of Canada's clean growth economy. Become a funder of the Centre for a Clean Energy Growth Economy or fund its research platform.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CEGE funder</th>
<th>Research platform</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Champion</strong></td>
<td><strong>Associate</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 or more annually for five years</td>
<td>$100,000 or more in one year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Champions are members of the steering committee. They are highly visible and directly linked to the work of CEGE. We engage regularly with Champions on research, convening, and communications. Champions have priority opportunities to host meetings and events, and can review all research before its public release. Champions can direct up to $50,000 of their annual investment toward an organizational priority that also serves the collective agenda of the Centre.</td>
<td>Funding can be directed to a specific part of the platform, to an additional research question that supports the theme of moving toward a clean energy growth economy, or to the collective budget for research and convening activities. We engage regularly with Associates and solicit their insights into research, convening, and communications. During the fiscal funding year, Associates participate in all CEGE meetings, are included in communications, and are recognized in all activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leader</strong></td>
<td><strong>Supporter</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 annually for five years</td>
<td>$50,000 in one year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaders participate in the overall planning and conduct of the Centre, including helping to define the research agenda and selecting research projects. They have access to all research before its public release.</td>
<td>Funding can be directed to a specific part of the platform or to the collective budget for research and convening activities. During the fiscal funding year, Supporters participate in all CEGE meetings, are included in communications, and are recognized in research associated with their funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Partner</strong></td>
<td><strong>Contributor</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 annually for five years</td>
<td>$25,000 in one year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partners participate in all meetings and convening opportunities. They receive all research as it is released.</td>
<td>Funding can be directed to a specific part of the platform or to the collective budget for research and convening activities. Contributors are recognized in research associated with their funding.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CEGE funder benefits</th>
<th>Champion $100,000/year</th>
<th>Lead $50,000/year</th>
<th>Partner $25,000/year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contribute to design and implementation of engagement, research, and communications programs</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Opportunity to act as rotating co-chair of meetings</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Priority to host Centre meetings and/or other events</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review and comment on draft research</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advance access to Centre research</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgement in all Centre publications</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference registration packages (CEGE conference)</td>
<td>Six</td>
<td>Four</td>
<td>Two</td>
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A multi-year commitment from funders is essential to underpin the planning, research, and operations of this initiative. As such, funders are asked to commit for a minimum of five years.
The Conference Board of Canada advantage

We empower and inspire leaders to build a stronger future for all Canadians through our trusted research and unparalleled connections.

For over 60 years, the Conference Board has adopted an objective, non-partisan policy stance that offers evidence-based advice but does not advocate for specific interests. It is known for bringing together diverse groups with competing interests in a cooperative setting to develop effective advice for businesses, policy-makers, and other key stakeholders.

The Conference Board of Canada is the ideal home for the Centre for a Clean Energy Growth Economy. We have:

- a long track record of independent, non-partisan, evidence-based research and analysis;
- demonstrated experience in creating focused centres for research and engagement;
- ability to convene stakeholders from across the spectrum of interests and views;
- demonstrated ability to engage with businesses, governments, and others;
- ability to cooperate with other organizations on research and dialogue;
- specific in-house quantitative and qualitative research expertise in:
  - the energy sector (production, distribution, and consumption);
  - economic forecasting and impact analysis;
  - the transportation sector;
  - consumer behaviour;
  - fiscal and tax policy.
Contact
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Tel. 403-221-3040 ext. 502
francis@conferenceboard.ca

https://www.conferenceboard.ca/ctei