

2019 Youth Energy Policy Design Competition

How can Canada meet its 2030 climate goals?

As part of the Paris Agreement adopted in 2015, Canada committed to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions 30% below 2005 levels by 2030.

To achieve these goals Canada implemented the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change, a set of policies that will help reduce emissions, grow the economy, and build resilience to a changing climate. Despite the progress set into motion by the Pan-Canadian Framework, Canada needs to do more to meet its 2030 target under the Paris Agreement and reach carbon neutrality by 2050. In collaboration with Energy Innovation, the Pembina Institute created the Canadian Energy Policy Simulator (EPS), a tool to build scenarios that explore how climate policies in Canada can get us on

track to meet our long-term goals.

The EPS is Canada's first free open-source computer model that gives you a chance to see how over 50 energy and climate policies influence emissions across the country in an effort to gain a deeper understanding of how Canada can lower carbon emissions and meet our international climate commitments. We are asking you to utilize the EPS to create a feasible and optimal policy package designed to ensure Canada meets its climate goals in 2030 and beyond.

Contest question

What combination of policies creates the optimal pathway for Canada to meet its 2030 climate target?

Successful submissions will be original, creative, and innovative. Submissions should clearly demonstrate an understanding of policy synergies, barriers to implementation and opportunities to overcome them, and present strategic thinking up to and beyond 2030.

Prize The winning team will receive:

- The opportunity to present their policy package at a national conference
- Passes to the full-day conference
- Airfare and accommodation
- Report will be published in collaboration with the Pembina Institute
- The policy package will be added to the EPS as a built-in scenario example

The following questions outline the type of thinking we hope to see from quality submissions:

What makes your policy package unique and innovative? What policies or policy combinations in the package are most transformative?

Consider the underlying assumptions of your policy pathway. What technology innovation/behaviour change/economic implications are required to make this possible? Beyond 2030, what needs to happen in order to make achieving the 2050 target possible?

What are the broader impacts of your policy package? Consider the impacts in a political, social, economic, technological, or health context. What can be done to mitigate adverse impacts? How do impacts differ from a national to global context?

How are the policies in your package connected? What are some challenges and opportunities presented by their interdependence? How can you leverage the open-source nature of the EPS to explore policy scenarios not included in the tool?

Scoring

Submissions will be graded on a scale of 1-4 in the following categories, and the team with the highest total score will be selected as the winner.

Argument — Original and supported by evidence

Consideration of social and economic impacts — Benefits, challenges, and synergies are well understood

Feasibility of implementation — Barriers and opportunities are clearly articulated

Data and references — Meaningful context is provided with reference to external data

Organization, style, and language — Logically and clearly presented in an organized fashion

Learn more

You can find more information about the EPS and this competition at www.pembina.org/event/2019-youth-energy-policy-design-competition.

For questions or clarification on your submission, please contact: policysolutions@pembina.org

Submission requirements

- Open to all students currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program at a Canadian post-secondary institution
- Teams can be made up of 1-3 students
- Report presenting your suggested policy pathway in a maximum five pages of main body content including all figures and tables, in PDF format
- Export your policy scenario from the EPS by clicking the “share the scenario by email” button and putting your name and “2019 Youth Energy Policy Design Competition” in the “optional comments” box, sending to policysolutions@pembina.org
- Submit your team report PDF by email to policysolutions@pembina.org with the subject line “2019 Youth Energy Policy Design Competition”
- Submissions are due by 11:59 p.m. EST March 29, 2019