



TASK FORCE FOR A RESILIENT RECOVERY

BACKGROUND

Not your typical recession.

The COVID-19 pandemic has locked the world in what will probably be the deepest global recession since the 1930s. In Canada, it has resulted in record job losses that are unique not only in their scale, but also their scope and the types of jobs lost. The burden on Canadian households, businesses, communities and vulnerable populations has been extreme and governments across Canada have responded by investing in much-needed relief measures.

As Canada comes out of the COVID crisis, governments and the private sector will turn their attention to building a long-term economic recovery.

The challenge of recovery will be how to get Canadians back to work quickly while also building back better. Building back better means supporting the jobs, infrastructure and growth that will keep Canada competitive in the clean economy of the 21st century. It means a recovery that ensures not only more jobs in five and ten months, but also in five and ten years. Our focus should not be simply on returning to growth, but on growing smarter and cleaner to support a more resilient future. The post-COVID economic recovery is a critical opportunity to build that future. We need to seize it.

We need to help people get back to work now, in all sectors and regions of the country, at the same time as investing in the future that Canadians want: clean, competitive and resilient.

About the Task Force.

The Task Force for a Resilient Recovery is an independent and diverse group of Canadian finance, policy and sustainability leaders. The 15 members are determined to make sure that Canadian governments get the best advice on building a resilient economic recovery.

The Task Force will make actionable recommendations on how governments can use a range of tools – including direct public investment, leveraging private capital, targeted tax cuts and incentives, regulatory sandboxes (to enable innovation), and behavioural ‘nudges’ – to spur jobs and generate lasting economic activity while also helping to build a clean and resilient economy.

The Task Force’s work will be informed in part by eight expert advisors, listed below. It will also be supported by dedicated economic research from leading institutions, including Smart Prosperity Institute, the International Institute for Sustainable Development and the Transition Accelerator, and their research teams at various universities. These research partners will submit background research and briefing notes, which will be made public at the same time as they are submitted to the Task Force. The Task Force will review and revise these research inputs in order to produce a final report and recommendations which reflect the broad consensus of all members. Research will draw upon cutting-edge academic concepts, insights from leading thinkers and Task Force Expert Advisors, and case studies of international success stories.

The Task Force will meet for 8 weeks beginning in May and produce its final report in the summer.

Task Force Members:

- Andy Chisholm - Andy Chisholm - Member, Board of Directors, Royal Bank of Canada & Member, Expert Panel on Sustainable Finance
- Barbara Zvan – Former Chief Risk & Strategy Officer, Ontario Teachers’ Pension Plan
- Bruce Lourie – President, Ivey Foundation
- Don Forgeron – President and CEO, Insurance Bureau of Canada
- Gerald Butts – Senior Advisor, Eurasia Group
- Helen Mountford – Vice President, Climate & Economics, World Resources Institute
- James Meadowcroft – Professor, School of Public Policy and Administration and Department of Political Science, Carleton University
- JP Gladu – Former President and CEO, Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business
- Merran Smith – Executive Director, Clean Energy Canada
- Michael Horgan – Senior Advisor, Bennett Jones
- Mitchell Davidson – Executive Director, Strategy Corp Institute of Public Policy and Economy
- Mira Oreck – Executive Director, The Houssain Foundation
- Philippe Dunsy – President, Dunsy Energy Consulting
- Richard Florizone – President & CEO, International Institute for Sustainable Development
- Stewart Elgie – Executive Chair, Smart Prosperity Institute

Expert Advisors:

- Kathy Bardswick – President and CEO, Canadian Institute for Climate Choices
- Sonia Baxendale – President and CEO, Global Risk Institute
- Corinne Boone – Chair, Canadian Energy Research Institute
- Edward Greenspon – President & CEO, Public Policy Forum
- Stephen Huddart – President & CEO, The McConnell Foundation
- Melissa Kennedy - Executive Vice-President, Chief Legal Officer & Public Affairs, Sun Life
- Jeremy Kronick – Associate Director, Research, CD Howe Institute
- Jeremy Oppenheim – Senior Managing Partner, SYSTEMIQ
- Kyla Tienhaara – Assistant Professor and Canada Research Chair in Economy and Environment, Queen’s University
- Christian Zabbal – Managing Partner, Spring Lane Capital

About the Partners.

The Task Force for a Resilient Recovery has been designed not to promote a single interest or opinion, but to collect the most authoritative insights from a diverse group of experts, and to develop a detailed policy framework that will help governments make Canada’s economic recovery clean and resilient. Many partners are contributing to this objective.

Funding for the initiative is provided by: The Jarislowsky Foundation, Ivey Foundation, The McConnell Foundation, The Schad Foundation, The Echo Foundation.

The founding partners are: Smart Prosperity Institute, International Institute for Sustainable Development, Insurance Bureau of Canada, Ivey Foundation.

For more information.

RecoveryTaskForce.ca
RepriseResiliente.ca

Media inquiries:
Eric Campbell
Communications Coordinator
613-790-1100 | eric@smartprosperity.ca