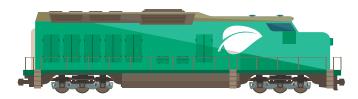
CANADA'S RAILWAYS:

Part of the climate change solution

As a signatory to the Paris Agreement on climate change, Canada has pledged to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 30 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030. Canada's freight and passenger railways can play a vital role in reaching that goal — through their exceptional fuel economy and longstanding commitment to reducing GHG emissions.

RAIL = GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Railways are highly energy efficient and low emitters of GHGs. A locomotive can move one tonne of freight more than 200 km on a single litre of fuel. Despite moving more than 84 million passengers and close to 70 per cent of all intercity freight each year, our railways produce just 1 per cent of our country's GHG emissions — making rail one of our country's greenest transportation options.



Canada's railways have a long track record of reducing emissions. Through a memorandum of understanding with the federal government, Canada's freight railways have voluntarily reduced their GHG emissions intensity by more than 40 per cent since 1990, despite rising traffic over that time.



Railways invest roughly
20% of their revenues
into their infrastructure
each year — including
investments to make their
network more efficient and
sustainable. From engine
retrofits to anti-idling devices,
railways are investing in the
technologies and operational changes
needed to reduce their carbon footprint.

Railways are between four and five times more fuel efficient than trucks, and three times more fuel efficient than cars. Shifting just 15 per cent of freight from trucks to rail would reduce GHG emissions by close to 5.6 megatonnes of CO₂ equivalent.





Governments should recognize the important role that railways can play in reducing Canada's GHG emissions. By incentivizing a shift from other transportation modes to rail, and by identifying opportunities to invest in railway infrastructure, governments can take concrete action in the fight against climate change.



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