## **CANADA'S RAILWAYS:**

Part of the climate change solution

Canada has pledged to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 30 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030 and 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 a highly efficient and low emission mode of transportation. A locomotive can move one tonne of freight more than 220 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.



Railways invest between 20 and 25% 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

are investing in the technologies and operational changes needed to reduce their carbon footprint.

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.



The Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change has recognized modal shift as a credible solution to achieve Canada's climate change objectives. Railways are between four and five times more fuel efficient than trucks, and three times more fuel efficient than cars. Shifting just 10 per cent of freight from trucks to rail would reduce GHG emissions by close to 3.7 megatonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> 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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