

May 25, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

As Canada recovers from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it is important that governments work together to accelerate economic growth. On behalf of the Council of Atlantic Premiers, I wish to draw your attention to important initiatives we are pursuing as a region, and the role these can play as we shift our collective focus to economic recovery.

Atlantic Provinces have a long and proud history of collaboration, as a region and with the Federal Government, and of making meaningful progress on the priorities of Canadians through the Atlantic Growth Strategy. Key among these are environmental protection and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions.

As a region, we are united in advancing these important priorities through a number of means. In January 2020, Atlantic Premiers met with Quebec Premier Francois Legault to discuss opportunities to develop, transmit and exchange Eastern Canada's clean energy resources. Atlantic, Quebec and federal officials continue to work collaboratively on the development of a Clean Power Roadmap for Atlantic Canada. The time has come to intensify this work.

Each Atlantic province has taken steps to capitalize on our tremendous energy resources, supporting the goal of reducing GHG emissions. For example, New Brunswick is investing in small modular nuclear technology and Nova Scotia is developing its marine renewables. Further, Prince Edward Island is investing in energy efficiency and conservation programs and Newfoundland and Labrador, which has committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, is working to develop a sustainable and economically competitive oil and gas industry and investing in its significant hydro capacity. Nova Scotia has set some of the most ambitious GHG reduction targets in Canada and further investment in enhanced and strengthened transmission networks will ensure these targets are met. Taken together, these actions ensure Atlantic Canada's continued leadership in clean energy development and GHG reductions.

Atlantic Premiers continue to support Canada's Ocean Supercluster, which includes members from across our region in sectors such as fisheries, aquaculture, oil and gas, clean technology, and robotics. This initiative helps diversify our ocean economy while advancing the Clean Growth and Climate Change pillar of the Atlantic Growth Strategy.

Now is the time for concerted action to advance our shared priorities. Actions to support the revitalization of the region's economy will assist in Atlantic Canada's recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Atlantic Premiers look forward to working with you to make these initiatives a pillar of Canada's economic recovery.

Sincerely,



DWIGHT BALL

Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador
Chair, Council of Atlantic Premiers

Cc: Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister
Hon. Blaine Higgs, Premier of New Brunswick
Hon. Stephen McNeil, Premier of Nova Scotia
Hon. Dennis King, Premier of Prince Edward Island