

NATIONAL TELEWORK STRATEGY

WHEREAS Canada has committed to leading the world in reducing Global Climate Change by placing priority on addressing the challenges associated with reducing the impact of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions;

WHEREAS Canada must adapt to the changing demographics and global technological advances in the way we do our day to day work in order to remain competitive;

WHEREAS emissions from vehicular transportation for work have been identified by Environment and Climate Change Canada as leading to harmful air pollution that raises healthcare and infrastructure costs, which leads to lost productivity and impacts Canada's competitiveness;

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic illustrates the need for and efficacy of telework as a business continuity strategy, during a national crisis and as a means to help the economy bounce back from a crisis, while reducing commutes, thereby reducing gas emissions;

WHEREAS many Canadians face economic disparity, particularly those living in small cities, rural, remote, and Indigenous communities far from employment hubs;

WHEREAS telework lowers air pollution, cuts GHGs, eases traffic congestion, improves the tax base of small communities, while also providing job opportunities, particularly for vulnerable populations;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberal Party of Canada demonstrate leadership:

- create a National Telework Strategy to put Canadians to work at home;
- identify and address technology and communications infrastructure gaps and make the necessary investments in telecommunications infrastructure and IT security;
- provide financial incentives to help employers find innovative ways to fill those gaps and to retrofit their business, where necessary, to accommodate this new approach;
- commit to aggregate and disseminate best practices amongst stakeholders to ensure continuous improvement to Canadian telework.

Endorsed by:

EDA Hastings, Lennox & Addington (ON);
EDA Oxford (ON);
National Liberal Women's Commission(ON)
Indigenous Peoples Commission (ON)

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Background Paper:

<http://slc-cal.liberal.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/18/2020/07/TeleworkbackgrounderFINAL.pdf>

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