

Canadian Architectural Certification Board Equitable Climate Action Commitment

As an association representing architectural educators and practitioners, the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB) has a responsibility to address climate change mitigation (emissions reduction) and adaptation (responding to the impacts we cannot avoid) through timely and ethical climate planning and action in an integrated model for Equitable Climate Action.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C states that due to climate change, unprecedented action is required to keep global heating below the threshold of 1.5°C. 2020 initiated a ten-year countdown before the effects of climate change – which is projected to be the world's largest health and economic crisis – become irreversible.

Climate change is a social, political, and ethical issue with profound implications for the health, safety, and well-being of people and communities worldwide, especially poor and marginalized populations. Climate change is causing a variety of unavoidable impacts, which are projected to increase in duration, magnitude and severity. In the years ahead, these impacts will affect the outcomes of professional decisions made today.

If we are to minimize risk and maximize co-benefits within the timeframe set by the IPCC, Equitable Climate Action addressing mitigation, adaptation and equity is required urgently. Equitable Climate Action can save time and resources, increase returns on investment, and generate economic, environmental, social, and health co-benefits. Taking a human-centred approach to climate action protects the rights of the most vulnerable and shares the burdens of climate change, and the resources required to manage its impacts fairly.

To advance awareness, education, practice and policies that support Equitable Climate Action, the CACB, within its mandate, operations, and practices, commits to:

	Commitment	Action Areas
1	Recognize the ethical and practical implications of climate change and global heating for the CACB, architectural educators, and practitioners.	Research and Knowledge Development; Policy and Planning
2	Set Equitable Climate Action as an organizational priority, with carbon neutrality and equity as the primary outcomes.	Standards and Certification; Operational Practices
3	Implement recognized monitoring and reporting processes for accountability on organizational Equitable Climate Action. Report annually on status.	Standards and Certification; Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting; Operational Practices

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Commitment Action Areas Support education and training for the Directors, CACB Professional Development and administration, and promote education and training for Education; Research and Knowledge partner associations and affiliates in climate change science, 4 Development; Best Practice, Resources best practices, tools, equity, implementation and approaches and Support to climate action. Promote Equitable Climate Action with partner associations and between affiliates. Collaborate to gain shared Best Practice, Resources and Support; 5 understanding of best practice and support capacity-Collaboration and Partnerships building. Cooperate with all levels of government to advance 6 Government Relations Equitable Climate Action. Provide leadership in the public sphere to advance Marketing and Public Engagement; understanding and support for Equitable Climate Action 7 Collaboration and Partnerships amongst the public, decision-makers and stakeholders.

CACB Directors

March 30, 2021

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