



Canadian Youth Climate Coalition

**join the
movement!**

2011 Organizational Membership Guide

we're building a movement...

Our generation is facing down a triple crisis of climate, energy and the economy, we are also presented with a chance for real change. We have the opportunity to shift and redefine the political, economic and social structures that created this crisis. Change that makes the future, our future, not just cleaner and greener, but more just and equitable for people around the globe.

In Canada politicians either cannot or simply refuse to, take real action when it comes to the climate. Instead of funding accessible post-secondary education, or job training programs for a new green economy, they are mortgaging our generation to defend dirty energy, keeping Canada at the starting line while other nations start to lap us in the race to a clean energy future.

So how do we change this?

We need to get back to basics. The solutions we need exist, solutions that reflect exactly what our generation is great at – innovation, creativity and thinking outside of the box. But, in order to make these solutions into reality we need to organize, we need to teach one another and we need to learn from each other and from those people living on the front-lines of this crisis. In short, we need to come together like never before and build this movement.

The solution never has and never will lie with the politicians, political parties or corporations. It lies in us, we are the force that will create this change. What happens this December in Durban depends on what we do over the coming months, but my money is on us. Dirty energy, money and politics don't stand a chance against the power of an entire generation.

This is our future that we're talking about, and its time to start acting like it.

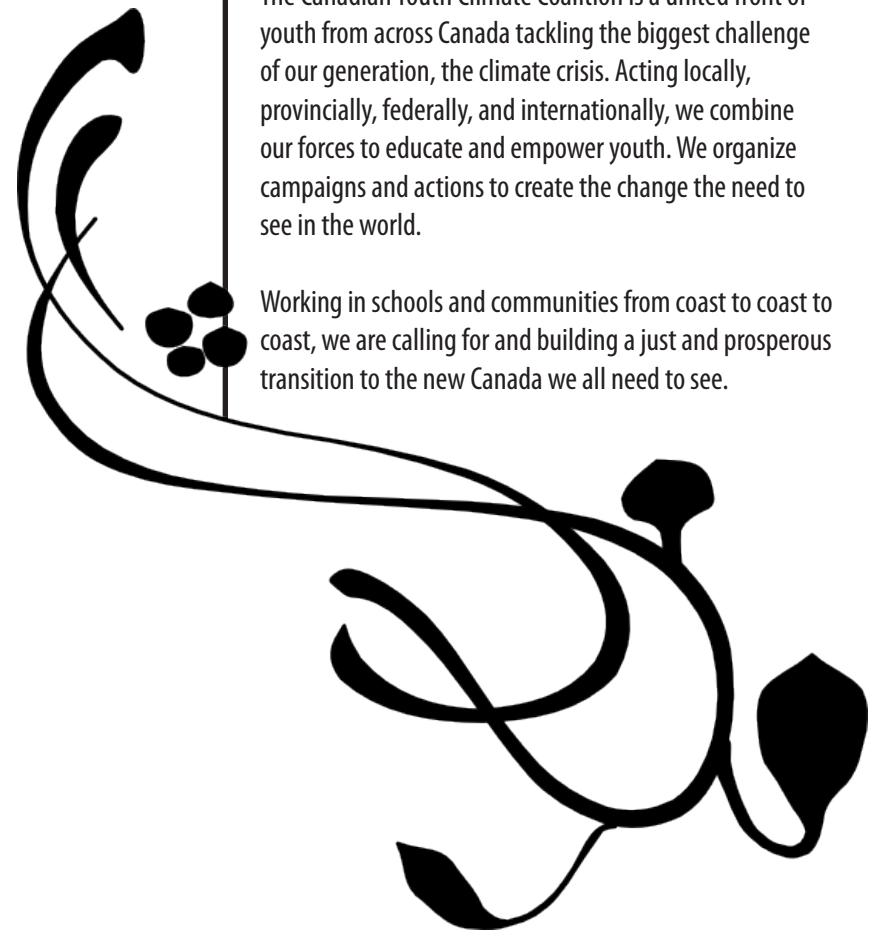
- Cameron Fenton
CYCC National Director

About the CYCC

On the weekend of September 8-10, 2006, 45 youth organizations from across Canada came together to form the Canadian Youth Climate Coalition - to stand united for a sensible climate future. The first meeting brought together 60 young people. Immediately following the founding meeting, local groups of volunteers developed in Ottawa and Edmonton, with the aid of CYCC founding members. Through these groups and with the guidance of a dedicated volunteer Council, the CYCC became newsmakers.

The Canadian Youth Climate Coalition is a united front of youth from across Canada tackling the biggest challenge of our generation, the climate crisis. Acting locally, provincially, federally, and internationally, we combine our forces to educate and empower youth. We organize campaigns and actions to create the change the need to see in the world.

Working in schools and communities from coast to coast to coast, we are calling for and building a just and prosperous transition to the new Canada we all need to see.



...and we need your help

Organizational Membership

The CYCC operates with 2 different types of members, organizational and individual members.

Including labour organizations, environmental groups, youth organizations and other groups, our organizational members represent a broad range of interests, all working towards the common goal of preventing catastrophic climate change, and transitioning to a safe, just and equitable future for all. This year we are hoping to grow this list, constantly becoming a more diverse, and representative organization.

We are currently accepting applications for new organizational members of the CYCC Council from across the country.

Benefits of Membership

- Participation in CYCC projects and campaigns.
- Connection to progressive youth organizations across the country working on climate change and other social justice issues.
- Input into the leadership and direction of the Canadian Youth Climate Coalition.
- The chance to link the work of your organization to that of the Canadian Youth Climate Coalition, our member organizations, our network of individual members, and the climate justice movement.
- Lots of fun.

CYCC Organizational Membership Criteria:

- Be an organization that fosters youth development through the leadership of young people, or the youth programming arm of a larger organization. Young people must be involved in significant, non-tokenistic decision-making at the organization.
- Maintain a significant presence in Canada
- A pre-existing climate change or environmental program is not a requirement, but a commitment to social justice must be demonstrated.
- Be incorporated or a component of a larger incorporated entity
- Be approved unanimously by the existing member organizations of the Coalition.

Membership | Voting Members

Voting members make up the core of the CYCC Council, the Coalition's decision-making body. Although called "voting" members, the council makes all decisions by consensus.

Who they are:

Youth-driven social justice organizations, or organizations with a youth representative/youth program. They can be partisan, as long as members understand that the coalition itself is non-partisan (youth networks of political parties do not qualify). Organizations must be primarily active in and focused on Canada.

Current Voting Members:

- Bringing Youth Towards Equailty (B.Y.T.E.)
- Check Your Head
- Manitoba Environmental Youth Network
- Canadian Auto Workers Youth Network
- Canadian Federation of Students
- Sierra Youth Coalition
- Canadian Labour Congress
- Indigenous Environmental Network
- Polaris Institute
- Taking It Global

What they are committing to:

- Must sign declaration, support coalition's mission & accept a diversity of tactics in fulfilling it, understanding a commitment within the CYCC to principles of non-violence.
- Must participate in and support actions, summits and campaigns to the best of the group's capacity.
- Must appoint at least one person to sit the CYCC Council, and remain in email contact regularly with council and and the National Director.
- Must participate in 50% of coalition calls, which happen every 2 months.
- Not to speak on behalf of coalition unless along lines of declaration or other agreed-upon principles.
- CYCC can use the organization's name.

Membership | Non-Voting Members

Non-Voting Members of the CYCC advise and collaborate on all our projects, but do not participate in organizational decision making. New organizational members may be asked to go through a provisional period of approval as non-voting members before becoming voting members.

Who they are:

Social Justice organizations, they may be youth-driven organizations but it is not required for non-voting members. They can be partisan, as long as members understand that the coalition itself is non-partisan (cannot be the youth network of a political party). Canada based and focused.

Current Voting Members:

- Council of Canadians
- Environment Jeunesse
- Peel Environmental Youth Alliance

What they are committing to:

- Must sign declaration, support coalition's mission & accept a diversity of tactics in fulfilling it.
- Must participate in actions, summits and campaigns to the best of the group's capacity.
- Not to speak on behalf of coalition unless along lines of declaration or other agreed-upon principles.
- CYCC can use the organization's name.

How To Apply

Download the Application Form or fill in the Online Application Form Available at:
<http://www.ourclimate.ca/wordpress/join-us/organizational-membership/>

Application Steps:

- Prospective members contact staff for an application form, complete and return.
- CYCC steering committee and staff together “vet” the application, addressing major points needing clarification.
- Staff presents the application to council via email at least 1 week prior to the next board call; council decides on call.
 - If successful, staff will inform the applicant, and provide them with orientation package
- Staff and new members will organize an orientation call no later than 2 week after sending the orientation package.

Good Luck!



