



**BUSINESS  
COUNCIL OF  
TORONTO**

# The Climate and Energy Transition Council



## 90% of Ontario's electricity

already comes from non-emitting sources – it's one of the cleanest grids in North America.



## More than twice

the electricity capacity we have today is projected to be required by the province by 2050.



## 21% increase

projected industrial electricity demand in five major investments alone—three in battery manufacturing, and two in clean steelmaking—during 2022 and 2023.

## The Challenge

Access to reliable, affordable, and clean energy is quickly becoming table stakes for operating a globally competitive business. Ontario is well-positioned with an electricity grid that is 90% emissions-free, well ahead of our peers, and a natural gas system providing reliable and relatively low-emissions power for homes and businesses. But forecasts show we will need to more than double our current electricity capacity to meet our needs in 2050. This requires significant investment in new generation, distribution, and other technologies to keep costs low and drive emissions to net zero. Critical sectors of our economy—from transportation to real estate, to manufacturing, and much more—depend on us getting this transition right.

## The Opportunity

The BCT's Climate and Energy Council will work to address our productivity gap by driving projects and advocacy that position our region as a global leader in crucial technologies like nuclear and electric vehicles, critical minerals, hydrogen, and more. By de-risking investments and making the case for business-led innovation, the region can build an energy sector powering our own growth and establishing ourselves as global champions in exporting our technology.

## The Approach

Below are examples of the types of projects the Council may take on. Council priorities will be developed in collaboration with its members.

### POTENTIAL DEMONSTRATION PROJECT: CLEANTECH ADOPTION

This initiative would look at launching demonstration projects to support making the region a leader in the adoption and scaling of emerging climate technology. This would help to promote the uptake in homegrown technologies and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

#### Sample projects may include:

- Connecting building owners, financial institutions, and technology providers to enable and accelerate building retrofits.
- Removing barriers to Distributed Energy Resources, expanding the supply of affordable and clean energy available to businesses.

### POTENTIAL ADVOCACY STREAM: MAKE OUR REGION AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE TO INVEST

Access to clean, reliable, and affordable energy is critical to attracting and retaining investment. This initiative would reduce business costs by advocating for improved support and programs to help businesses access clean energy.

#### Sample advocacy may include:

- Improved concierge services for potential investors to understand Ontario's energy system and build clean energy portfolios.
- Advocating for the adoption of virtual Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) allowing large energy users to decide their own energy mix.



## Council Workplans

Throughout the year, each council will meet four times to drive their initiatives forward. At the end of each year, we will host the annual Legacy Leaders' Dinner where council members will highlight their key takeaways from Year One and next steps moving into Year Two.

Here's what a high-level Year One workplan could entail:

### Meeting One

#### MEETING FOCUS: LEVEL-SETTING

- Consensus on council mandate toward reducing the productivity gap.
- Identify what success looks like and crosswalks with other Councils.

### Meeting Two

#### MEETING FOCUS: PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

- Prioritization of proposed projects and impact.
- Activation of projects.

### Meeting Three

#### MEETING FOCUS: ADVOCACY AMPLIFICATION

- Prioritization of advocacy items.
- Council to set advocacy campaign strategy.

### Meeting Four

#### MEETING FOCUS: PROGRESS EVALUATION

- Working session to evaluate progress on projects and advocacy items.
- Steer initiatives.