



# RUBY SAHOTA

Member of Parliament – Brampton North

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## News Release

For Immediate Release

### **Putting a Price on Pollution to Protect our Environment and Grow our Economy**

30/10/2018 – Brampton, ON- Ms. Ruby Sahota, Member of Parliament for Brampton North firmly believes that we need to act now to fight back against climate change, for our children and grandchildren. Our government was successfully elected with a mandate to put a fair price on pollution across Canada.

Our Government has a plan that protects the environment while growing the economy, and that plan is working – our emissions are down, and the economy has grown by 500,000 full-time jobs. But we know we need to do more.

Our Government worked with provinces and territories for two years, giving them the flexibility to design their own climate plans that included putting a price on carbon pollution. A price on pollution gives people the incentive to make cleaner choices and gives businesses incentives to find clean solutions.

The current Progressive Conservative government in Ontario has failed to show leadership on fighting climate change. In Ontario the Government of Canada, through the Climate Action Incentive, will ensure that any direct proceeds collected will go directly back to people of Ontario.

Households will receive a Climate Action Incentive, which will give most families more than they pay under the new system. Funds will also be given to the provinces' cities, schools, hospitals, and businesses to, for example, help them become more energy efficient and reduce emissions, helping Canadians save even more money, and improve our local economies.

Canadians know pollution isn't free. And they know that carbon pollution doesn't have boundaries. Old or young, rich or poor, urban or rural, living in the south or the north, we are all in this together. Applying practical solutions today will give all Canadians more economic opportunities and a safer and more prosperous future.

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## Quick facts

- The three provinces that already have carbon pollution pricing systems – British Columbia, Alberta, and Quebec – were also among the top performers in GDP growth across Canada in 2017.
- According to the World Bank, 70 jurisdictions – representing about half of the global economy – are putting a price on carbon pollution.
- Investing in the clean economy presents an enormous economic opportunity. According to the Global Commission on the Economy and the Climate, the clean economy is expected to grow to \$26 trillion and create 65 million jobs worldwide by 2030.
- Climate change has already had financial impacts on Canada, and these costs will only continue to grow. In 2016, it was estimated that larger and more intense weather events will cost the federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements program around \$902 million each year. The health costs of extreme weather are estimated to be over \$1.6 billion a year.
- The cost of property damages from climate change averaged \$405 million per year between 1983 and 2008, but have risen dramatically to \$1.8 billion a year since 2009. That number is expected to grow as high as \$43 billion by 2050.
- Since 2015, the Government of Canada has invested more than \$9 billion in public transit for more than 1200 projects across Canada.
- The federal carbon pollution pricing system has two components: the fuel charge and the output-based pricing system (OBPS) for emissions-intensive trade-exposed industries. In the provinces in which the backstop applies, the OBPS will take effect on January 1, 2019, and the fuel charge will take effect in April 2019. In Nunavut and Yukon, both components of the backstop will come into effect no later than July 1, 2019, at the same time as Northwest Territories' price on carbon pollution.
- To address high costs of living and energy, a full exemption from carbon pollution pricing will be granted to diesel-fired electricity generation in remote communities, and for aviation fuel in the territories.
- In addition, a full exemption for farmers and fishers from the fuel charge would be provided for eligible fishing and farming activities. Partial relief from the fuel charge would also be provided for eligible commercial greenhouse operators.
- We will continue to work with Atlantic provinces to advance an interconnected and efficient clean electricity grid to support growth in the region.