

**Date:** June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

The Right Honourable Mark Carney  
Prime Minister of Canada  
House of Commons

**Re: Environmentally Friendly Buildings**

Dear Prime Minister Carney,

The National Council of Women of Canada strongly supports the promotion of environmentally friendly buildings in Canada.

Buildings are responsible for about 18% of the country's greenhouse gas emissions. Most of these emissions come from equipment powered by fossil fuels—such as gas furnaces and boilers—while the remainder is generated by construction materials like concrete, aluminum, and steel. More than 96% of building emissions result from space and water heating fueled by fossil sources.

Current Clean Electricity Regulations permit natural gas plants to supply energy during peak demand, rather than encouraging demand reduction strategies such as smart controls for water heaters and thermostats or leveraging electric vehicles and batteries to return power to the grid. Additionally, there is no policy in place to address natural gas use in new buildings. Emissions could be significantly reduced by installing heat pumps in new buildings, which provide both heating and cooling in a more efficient manner.

Using environmentally friendly building materials—such as recycled steel, reclaimed wood, bamboo, cellulose insulation, and solar panels—would also help lower emissions associated with new construction.

We urge the government to promote environmentally friendly buildings through mandatory performance standards and public investments aimed at achieving net-zero emissions, as outlined in the Canada Green Buildings Strategy. Such measures are essential for reducing carbon emissions and electricity use across the country.

Sincerely,

Penny Rankin  
NCWC/CNFC President  
613-712-4419/514-931-3067

cc. Hon. Julie Dabrusin, Minister of Environment and Climate Change

Mission Statement:

*To empower all women to work together towards improving the quality of life for women, families, and society through a forum of member organizations and individuals.*