



TELL US WHAT YOU THINK  
RAIC CLIMATE ACTION PLAN



RAIC | IRAC  
Royal Architectural Institute of Canada  
Institut royal d'architecture du Canada

# WHO?

**ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA (RAIC)**

# WHY?

Climate change is an existential threat to all of humanity and the natural world. Globally, buildings and their construction are responsible for roughly 39% of energy-related greenhouse gas emissions.

As one of the central actors in built environment design, architects have a professional and ethical responsibility to act. As the only national voice for architecture in Canada, the RAIC has an obligation to enable pathways forward for positive change.

# OUR COMMITMENTS

**(THE FUTURE WE ENVISION)**

To facilitate a rapid scaling of the transition to a low carbon, resilient and regenerative built environment through approaches that concurrently strengthen ecosystem and human health for present and future generations



# OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Embed Reconciliation and uphold the principles of UNDRIP in our work

Include social justice and intergenerational equity in all we do

Foster holistic health and a regenerative future

# OUR PRIORITIES

WHAT?



1

**ACCELERATE**  
the transformation of practice toward a regenerative future



2

**ADVOCATE**  
boldly to create pathways for change



3

**MOBILIZE**  
partnerships and collaborative action



4

**INVEST**  
in education and research for climate action

HOW?

Align RAIC honours, awards and publications with our commitment to a resilient, low carbon and regenerative built environment

Spotlight case studies, success stories and inspiring precedents that demonstrate how to take action

Support greater collaboration, mentoring and transformative learning between and across architectural firms to scale the capacity of firms to take action

Include the next generation of architects in decision making in the development about programs and pathways for climate action

Engage with small practices to identify specific supports and barriers needed to address climate change

Create frameworks and resources to support firms to advance climate action and demonstrate their progress

Strengthen the presence and voice of the RAIC and architects at local, national and international forums for the built environment, climate and biodiversity

Advocate for mandatory professional development to increase knowledge and competencies for effective climate action

Increase advocacy for policy, regulation and legislation to accelerate climate action

Advocate for recognition and compensation for new scopes of work necessary to achieve climate-responsive built environments

Advocate for incentives and supports for resilient, low carbon, regenerative built environments with an emphasis on reuse and renewal

Advocate for differentiated insurance rates for resilient, low carbon and regenerative projects and for firms engaged in delivering them

Catalyze a multi-sectoral approach that is regionally informed and aligned with international goals and science-based targets

Convene a national roundtable for the advancement of resilient, low carbon built environments

Engage in international partnerships, resource sharing, and collaboration for climate action

Broaden and deepen engagement on climate action among the ecosystems supporting education and regulation of the architectural community

Raise the profile of the interconnected nature of the climate and biodiversity crisis, Indigenous rights and reconciliation, and social justice including affordable housing

Rapidly scale the knowledge and competencies of licensed architects for effective climate action through increased professional development pathways for resilient, low carbon and regenerative built environments

Uplift Indigenous knowledge systems and land based learning across all professional development programs

Develop and/or partner with educational institutions in the delivery of micro-credentials related to climate action preparedness

Develop resources for the general public and prospective clients on investing in resilient, low carbon and regenerative built environments and how architects can help

Create scholarships to support practitioner-scholar efforts to develop resources to accelerate practice transformation

Collaborate with schools of architecture and professional education groups to fast-track the development of a new generation of graduates for a regenerative future