Canada's Nature Advantage

Canada's *A Force of Nature* strategy says nature should be protected, restored and valued as a foundation of our economy, sovereignty and well-being.

Canada's Nature Advantage can help turn that goal into reality, with investment pathways and projects that work on the ground. Our leaders and entrepreneurs in agriculture, forest management, finance and Indigenous-led business have identified practical policy solutions rooted in research to advance this strategy and attract more private investment.

THE ASK:
Budget 2026 can lay the foundations to mobilize billions in private investment in Canada's nature-positive working landscapes

Unlocking the Value of Nature

Healthy forests, wetlands, grasslands and farmlands protect homes and infrastructure, support food production, provide clean water and sustain local jobs. With clear rules and targeted public investment, this value can become the foundation of a resilient and prosperous economy that benefits businesses, communities and the environment.

Across Canada, businesses are proving that nature-positive models deliver economic returns:

- The Prince Edward Island Federation of Agriculture demonstrated how **improved data systems could save farmers $50 to $120 on inputs per hectare** while reducing 50 to 150 kilograms of CO_2e per hectare.
- As part of British Columbia's Community Forest Agreements, the Cheakamus Community Forest is using carbon markets to fund stewardship. Since 2009, the project has **avoided an estimated 10,000–15,000 tonnes of CO_2e annually, generating over 150,000 carbon credits to date** – which equates to about $100,000 per year from carbon sales to reinvest in forest stewardship.
- The Great Bear Rainforest conservation initiative has been a catalyst for Indigenous-led-and-owned economic development initiatives, which includes the **growth or establishment of 144 businesses and the creation of more than 1,400 jobs** – including 850 full time roles with salaries totaling more than $70 million.

What are nature-positive solutions?

They are actions that protect, restore or better manage forests, farms, grasslands, wetlands and water. They use nature to solve problems like floods, fires, drought, poor water quality and declining soil health.

Five building blocks for Budget 2026:

The first steps to deliver Canada's *A Force of Nature* pillars

A targeted federal investment of $160 million over two years can put the basic systems in place to bring more private capital into projects that benefit Canadians.

1. Treat nature as a capital asset

Nature-based investments generate long-term value, just like roads, energy systems and transit. Treating them as capital would better reflect their economic role and help unlock private investment.

Valuing Nature and Mobilizing Capital

2. Create one set of reliable information

Capital flows to what can be measured, valued and verified. High-quality, standardized and accessible data underpins natural capital accounting and attracts investment.

Building Canada Well

3. De-risk early investment

Many nature-based projects show strong potential, but early-stage risk still holds investors back. Blended finance can bring the first wave of projects to market and build confidence in the sector.

Valuing Nature and Mobilizing Capital

4. Build reliable credit markets

Investments follow predictable cash flow. Regulated credit markets can help turn environmental outcomes into credible, investable revenue streams.

Valuing Nature and Mobilizing Capital

5. Anchor projects in Indigenous partnership

Projects grounded in Indigenous rights and governance are more stable, credible and better positioned for long term success. Embedding Indigenous partnerships strengthens outcomes and reduces risk.

All Pillars

The Path to 2030

- **2026 ADOPT** — Commit to the five building blocks in Budget 2026
- **2027 BUILD** — Advance data, accounting, finance and credit-market systems
- **2028-29 SCALE** — Move capital into credible projects across farms, forests and Indigenous territories
- **2030 DELIVER** — **Unlock $10B in private investment**

What comes next

- Build these five building blocks into Budget 2026 and in the implementation of *A Force of Nature*.
- Continue to work with Canada's Nature Advantage on policy design and delivery.
- Build the shared foundation. Businesses and investors do the rest.

Visit our website to learn more

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