



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Wowchuk introduces resolution against federal carbon tax

Unfair tax on carbon emissions hurts Manitoba's economy and threatens jobs: Wowchuk

Rick Wowchuk, MLA for Swan River, today proposed a private member's resolution calling on the federal government to not impose its carbon tax on Manitoba and to respect the provincial Progressive Conservative government's Climate and Green Plan.

"The carbon tax is not part of a federal climate plan, but rather an escalating tax plan to take money off the kitchen tables of Manitobans and to threaten jobs and economic growth throughout our province," said Wowchuk, Legislative Assistant to Sustainable Development Minister Rochelle Squires. "This tax is not in the national interest and is unfair to Manitoba. Our PC caucus and government are saying yes to fighting climate change, but no to the federal government's carbon tax."

Wowchuk pointed out that the PC government's Climate and Green Plan continues Manitoba's tradition of billions of dollars in investments in renewable energy, including hydro-electricity and solar power, while encouraging Manitobans to reduce energy consumption. He noted that Manitoba has the best green record in Canada as well as the new Conservation Trust to protect natural infrastructure. He proposed that the Legislative Assembly urge the federal government to respect Manitoba's investments in the green economy.

"The federal government has a patchwork quilt of ad hoc environmental agreements with several provinces, creating different standards in each one," added Wowchuk. "Our PC government is going to court to challenge Ottawa's carbon tax, because the federal government can't impose a carbon tax on a province that has a credible greenhouse gas reduction plan of its own."

Though Wowchuk's resolution was supported by PC MLAs, the opposition used their speaking time to run out the clock and prevent it from coming to a vote.

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