

NRT



NATIONAL
ROUND TABLE ON
THE ENVIRONMENT
AND THE ECONOMY





BRINGING THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE ECONOMY TOGETHER

More than ever, Canada's future rests on a common foundation that brings our environment and economy together.

From climate change to clean energy, from water sustainability to air quality, Canadians are touched by decisions made by governments, industry, and communities about environmental and economic policy.

Traditional ways of thinking saw conflict between the economy and the environment. No longer. Not only *can* we reconcile environmental and economic considerations in our public policy choices, but we *must*.

Environmental and economic matters cannot be considered in isolation from each other. Both are driven by the same objectives – to sustain Canada's prosperity without borrowing from future generations or compromising their ability to live securely.

There are many challenges ahead to our future prosperity; yet, great opportunities also.

Our response, as Canadians, to meeting those challenges and seizing those opportunities will have profound economic and environmental implications for our country.

In a world where environmental stewardship and economic prosperity are increasingly linked, the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy is engaging Canadians in ideas and solutions.

We find sustainable pathways that help preserve our environment while building a strong economy.



NRT: CANADA'S ROUND TABLE

From the beginning, the National Round Table was meant to be different. In 1988, the NRT was established to bring *“leadership in the new way we must think of the relationship between the environment and the economy and the new way we must act.”* In 1993, Parliament legislated our mandate setting out in statute the NRT's uniquely independent, national policy advisory role on sustainable development.

Today, the NRT is “Canada’s Round Table”, as the only national organisation with a direct mandate from Parliament to engage Canadians in the generation and promotion of sustainable development advice and solutions.

We take our charge seriously.

Excerpt from the NRTEE Act

The purpose of the Round Table is to play the role of catalyst in identifying, explaining and promoting, in all sectors of Canadian society and in all regions of Canada, principles and practices of sustainable development.



OUR PROCESS



We accomplish this mandate by *first*, fostering sound and well-researched reports on issues that matter; *second*, by convening diverse perspectives from all sides of an issue around our table; and *third*, by offering advice to government on how best to reconcile the often divergent challenges of economic prosperity and environmental conservation. This is what sets the NRT apart and allows it to bring new and insightful approaches to our future.

OUR MEMBERS

The NRT builds consensus, beginning with our Members. NRT Members are appointed by the Government of Canada for up to three years. Our Members are themselves a group of distinguished sustainability leaders active in businesses, universities, environmental groups, labour and public policy from across Canada. While they hold different perspectives, they think and work through the same lens – bringing the environment and economy together.



OUR SECRETARIAT

The NRT is supported by a dynamic group of professionals led by a President and CEO appointed by Governor-in-Council. Motivated to achieve the best results for Canadians, NRT employees believe that they can make a difference – for sustainable development and for public service. The Secretariat conducts the research and analysis required by the Members for their consideration and engages top experts in the field who are convened for specific projects. The Secretariat also provides administrative and communications services to the NRT.

finding sustainable pathways

WE CREATE A CONTEXT FOR POSSIBILITIES TO EMERGE

Leading through our process, we release innovative reports with considered advice on reconciling environmental and economic issues. Our reports provoke discussion. They also provoke change.

A next generation of NRT research is emerging, offering long-term solutions for difficult, long-term challenges and new ways of engaging Canadians on our sustainable development journey.

We are looking ahead. Just like Canada.





FINDING SUSTAINABLE PATHWAYS

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