

Introduction

- **Canada has never met its Climate Targets.**
- **It is unlikely that Canada will meet our Glasgow targets of 40% to 45% reduction in GHG below 2005 levels by 2030.**
- **It is also unlikely that we will Paris target of net zero GHG emissions by 2050 in order to keep global warming to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels.**
- **The Federal Government's 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan is unlikely to be successful since it is heavily dependent on Carbon Capture and Storage (CCUS), an unproven technology.**
- **The Provincial Government has no climate action plan and has removed subsidies on electric vehicles and is increasing the amount of non-renewable energy.**
- **The Region of Waterloo's Official Plan does not include any substantial amount of Net Zero buildings. Furthermore the Official Plan will very likely increase urban sprawl.**

The Ontario Building Code sets the minimum standards for construction to minimize the risk to the health and safety of the occupants of a building and to provide for the barrier-free accessibility into a building and the energy efficiency of that building ^[1].

The Building Code does not set standards for a healthy and vibrant community.

The Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, Section 147 ^[2], allows local municipalities to set their own standards that go beyond the Ontario Building Code.

"The Planning Act provides for municipalities to mandate sustainable urban design through site plan approvals. Municipalities must also consider matters of provincial interest, such as conservation of natural resources, energy and water efficiency, waste minimization, healthy communities, and promoting transit-accessible and pedestrian-friendly development."

"The Municipal Act allows municipalities to pass environmental protection and conservation by-laws. It also allows municipalities to participate in long-term energy planning for energy use in their community."

Green Development Standards can be implemented by municipalities to address local concerns such as ^[3]:

- Maintaining the existing tree canopy
- Enhancing storm water quantity and quality
- Energy efficiency requirements for
- Water conservation requirements for buildings
- Waste minimization
- Protecting and integrating green space
- Promoting compact, mixed-use development
- Integrating access to active and public transportation
- Renewable energy generation and storage
- Access to public parks
- Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure
- Building resilience
- Bird-friendly design
- Pedestrian Infrastructure
- Conserving cultural heritage
- Material re-use and recycling
- Soil quantity and quality
- Connectivity

REFERENCES

- [1] <http://www4.oboa.on.ca/ibswmaster/BuildingCode.pdf>
- [2] <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/01m25>
- [3] <https://www.cleanairpartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Municipal-Green-Development-Standards-Final.pdf>