

JOBS FOR TODAY

CANADA'S BUILDING TRADES
& THE NET-ZERO TRANSITION



CBTU
CANADA'S BUILDING
TRADES UNIONS



Centre for
Civic
Governance

Executive Summary

Released in September 2025, *Jobs for Today: Canada's Building Trades and the Net-Zero Transition* explores the vital role Canada's construction industry plays in the net-zero transition, and the potential for green job growth in the building trades.

The report projects new work for construction and building workers in all trades totalling between 6.3 million and 9.5 million job years between now and 2050. That represents an average of up to 350,000 ongoing jobs over this period, equivalent to a permanent step increase of 20-30% in total current construction employment in Canada.

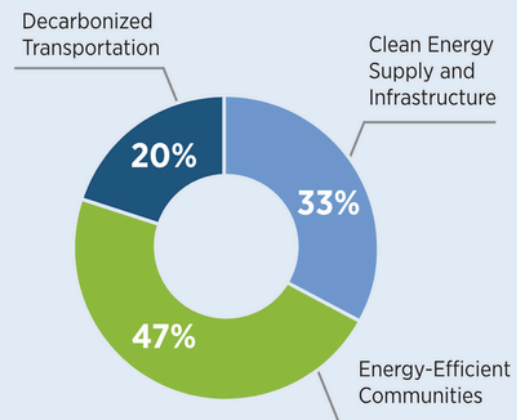
Investing in non-emitting energy, energy-efficient buildings, and transportation infrastructure will provide jobs, protect the climate, shield shield our economy from Trump's tariffs, and ensure Canada remains competitive in a net-zero world economy.

While the quantity of construction work required for the energy transition is very encouraging, parallel efforts will also be required to ensure the quality of the work. Government, employers, and unions need to move quickly to expand training apprenticeship, and Red Seal programs. Strong labour standards will also need to accompany publicly supported investments, including union representation, prevailing wages policies, and apprenticeship requirements.

For more information visit: www.ccg.eco/research/jobs-for-today

KEY FINDINGS

- Investments to support Canada's net-zero commitments by 2050 could generate up to **9.5 million job years** of construction work
- This historic potential for green job creation represents **350,000 ongoing jobs** from now until 2050, equivalent to a **permanent step increase of 20-30%** of total current construction employment in Canada



TOTAL EMPLOYMENT GAINS:
6.3 million to 9.5 million job-years.