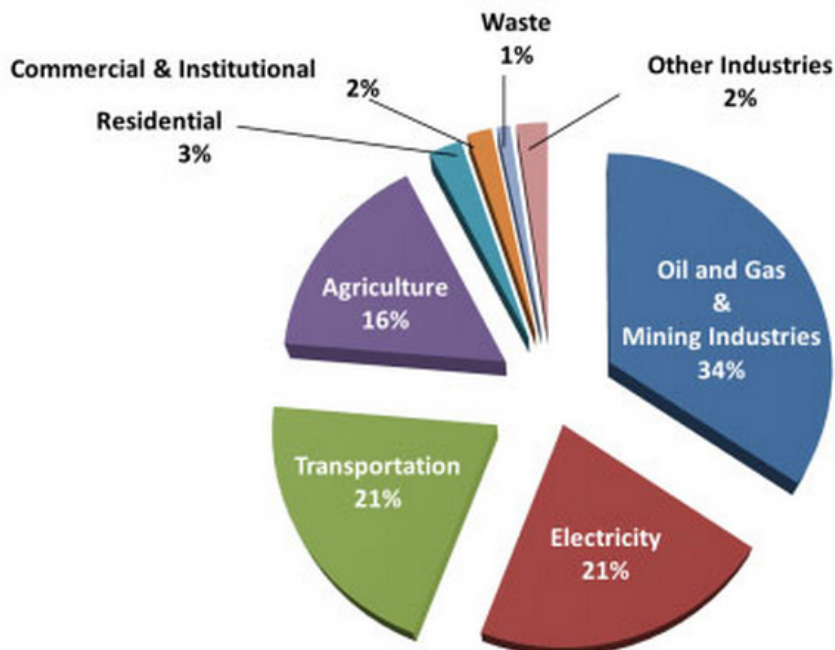




SASKATCHEWAN'S GREENHOUSE GAS FOOTPRINT AND HOW TO REDUCE IT

1. Saskatchewan's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions total over 74 million tonnes per year. Although our province has only 3% of Canada's population, we account for 10% of Canada's annual GHG releases to the atmosphere.
2. On a per capita basis, Saskatchewan GHG pollution levels are among the highest in the world. Saskatchewan's per capita emissions are 67 tonnes per year. Canada's are 20 tonnes. The global per capita average is approximately 7 tonnes per year. Per capita figures reflect GHG emissions for an entire province or country divided by the population of that province or country.
3. Climate scientists are urging countries to reduce their GHG emissions by 70% by mid-century in order to avoid severe dangers from climate change. That means global average per capita emissions must drop below 2 tonnes per year by 2050. By 2070 global net emissions will need to be at zero.
4. Saskatchewan's 4 big sources of GHG emissions are oil and gas extraction and refining, electricity generation, transportation and agriculture.



Sources: Environment Canada National Inventory Report, 1990-2011 and <http://www.environment.gov.sk.ca/climatechange>

Some ways governments could help reduce GHG emissions

Government of Canada

1. Adopt the targets that the European Union has agreed to under the Kyoto Protocol (20% reduction below 1990 levels by 2020).
2. Adopt a national program of feed-in tariffs to encourage installation of renewable energy systems for electricity generation. This program would guarantee that local renewable electricity producers would, during an initial period, receive a price for their power that reflects actual costs.
3. Phase out federal fossil fuel subsidies.
4. Continually upgrade national fuel efficiency standards for new cars and trucks.
5. Re-establish efficient passenger rail service between Canada's major cities.

Government of Saskatchewan

1. Introduce feed-in-tariffs (see above) to incent renewable energy-based electricity production.
2. Phase out conventional coal-fired power plants over the next 10 years, replacing them with renewable options, plus an aggressive program of energy efficiency, hydro imports from Manitoba and co-generation.
3. Strictly regulate venting and flaring of gas during oil and gas extraction.
4. Increase industrial electricity rates to match those paid by residential customers.
5. To save gasoline, reduce highway speed limits to 90 kilometres per hour.
6. Encourage a shift of commercial shipping from truck to rail.
7. Help city governments to improve urban transit.
8. Introduce a strong energy efficiency building code for all new construction.
9. Encourage sustainable farming practices and help farmers use energy and nitrogen fertilizer more efficiently.

Municipal Governments

1. Encourage community-based wind farm development.
2. Encourage solar energy development in existing and new neighborhoods.
3. Adopt bylaws that require energy efficiency standards in the municipal building code, and new homes to be equipped with solar water-heating and wired to accommodate solar photovoltaic systems.
4. Make major improvements in frequency and convenience of bus service.
5. Ban vehicle idling for more than 2 minutes at temperatures above 0 degrees C.
6. Install a proper system of bicycle paths to encourage more cycling and less driving.

*For full scientific references and more information, refer to:
www.climatefriendlyzone.ca*