



**MINISTER OF
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

July 19, 2019

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Government of Canada
Centre Block, Suite 433C
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister McKenna:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 25, 2019, which requests that Manitoba commit to a new and plainly rushed federal funding program by July 19, 2019.

This proposed program seeks to redirect a small portion of the rising federal carbon tax your government has wrongly imposed on each and every Manitoban. Given our government's fundamental objections to both the rising federal carbon tax and the unfair federal rejection of our own Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan, we cannot accept another Ottawa intrusion. None of the increasing federal carbon tax revenue – or the GST layered upon it – should be taken from Manitobans in the first place.

We again call on you to reconsider the entire carbon tax approach being applied to Manitoba. Instead recognize the large-scale investments already made by all Manitobans in clean and renewable hydroelectricity; acknowledge our unique profile and ability to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions here and beyond our borders; and fully respect the overwhelming merits of our Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan.

Regarding schools, in particular, our ongoing efforts will continue to place us at the forefront of cost-effective and energy-efficient design. In 2019-20, our government is already investing \$45 million to fund major mechanical systems, along with roof and wall envelope upgrades, in approximately 40 schools. These investments will achieve a further reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 930 tonnes of CO₂e/year. Moreover, as recognized by various experts, our past investments in upgrades to existing schools have resulted in a 25% to 40% reduction in energy consumption.

These steady and sustained efforts are just one component of our government's comprehensive commitment to addressing climate change. Our Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan focuses on actual results, not pre-election optics concerning taxes that shouldn't exist.

Highest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Squires', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Honourable Rochelle Squires
Minister

cc: Honourable Kelvin Goertzen, Minister of Education and Training