

Youth Climate Action Grants



Information Session



Land Acknowledgement

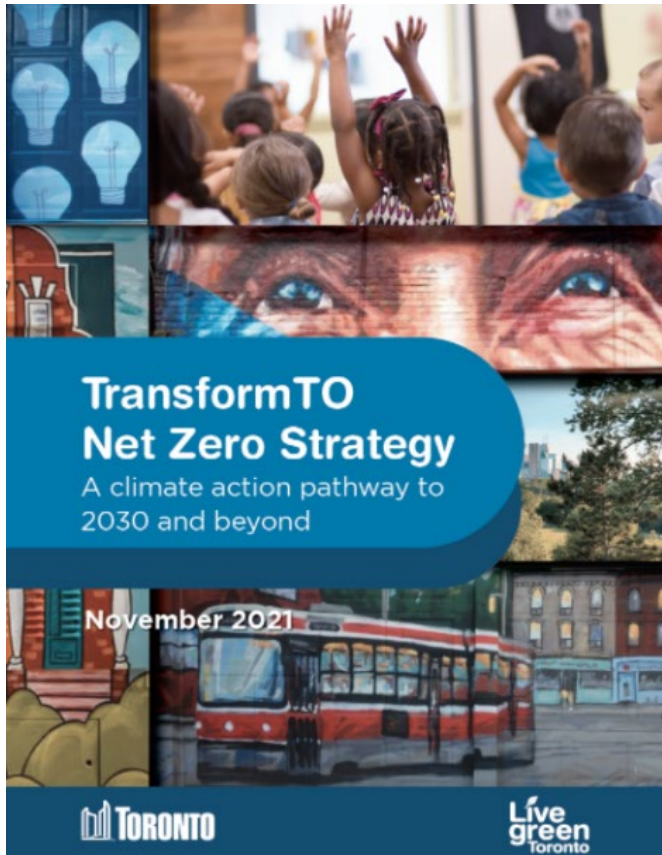


Who is She?



Tara Mabon (she/her)
Project Lead, Youth Climate Action
Grants

TransformTO Net Zero Strategy



GETTING TO NET ZERO BY 2040

The City's TransformTO Net Zero Strategy has set Toronto on a path to reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2040.

The Net Zero Strategy the responds to the climate emergency declaration from 2019.

2030 Short-term Goals

100% 

of new buildings are designed to net zero GHG emissions

50% 

decrease in emissions from existing buildings (from 2008 levels)

50% 

of energy comes from renewable or low-carbon sources

25% 

of commercial/industrial floor area uses low-carbon thermal energy

30% 

of registered vehicles in Toronto are electric

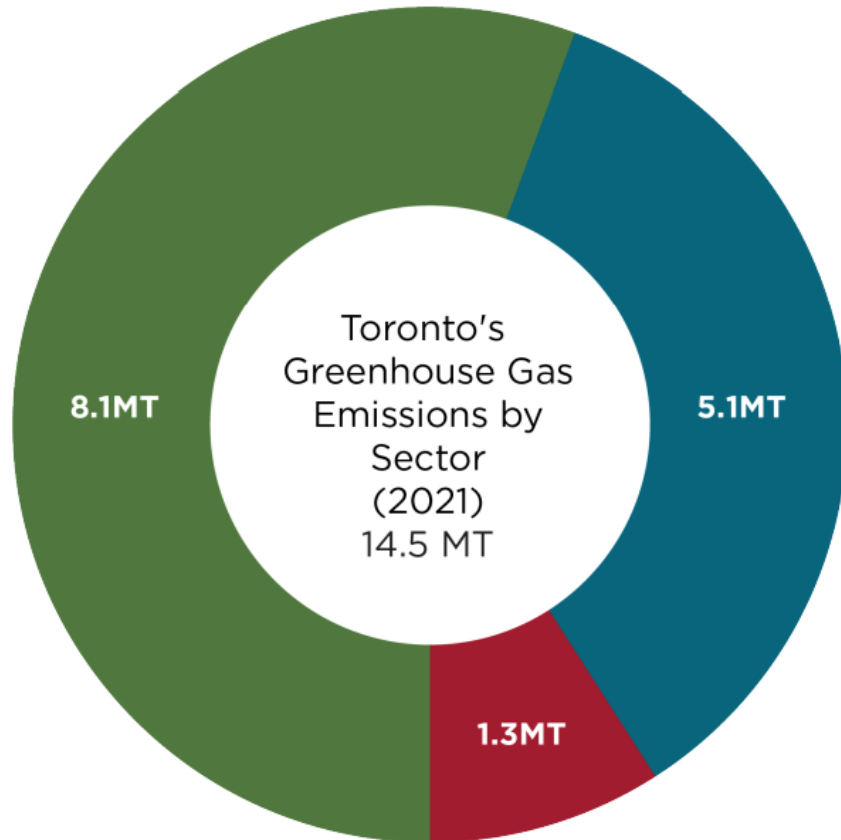
75% 

of school/work trips under 5km are walked, biked or by transit

70% 

of City of Toronto residential waste is diverted

Where Toronto's Emissions Come From



 **56%**
Buildings

Heating single family homes is the single largest source of emissions in Toronto. Most of those emissions are from natural gas used for space and water heating.

 **35%**
Transportation

Transportation emissions accounts for 35% of overall community-wide emissions, with most of those coming from gasoline used in passenger cars and trucks.

 **9%**
Waste

The remaining 9% of emissions are generated by waste. Emissions come from landfills, organics and yard waste processing and wastewater treatment processes.

Youth Climate Action Grants Overview

Take climate action in your school!

Grants of up to \$1,000 are available to support climate action by students in the Toronto District School Board.

Student-led activities and events that educate and engage students, families and the community on climate change and climate action are eligible. Apply today!

toronto.ca/YouthClimateGrants



- Launched in 2022
- Open to TDSB & TCDSB schools
- Up to \$1,000 per project
- Student-led projects, activities and events that help Toronto achieve its GHG emission reduction goals
- 87 projects at 70 schools have been funded since launching

Who Can Apply?

Student-led groups, including;

**Classroom
Projects**

**Student Groups
that Partner with
Parent Councils**

**School Clubs
and Teams**

**Student-
Teacher
Collaborations**

**Student
Councils**

What projects are eligible?



Created and delivered by students



Help reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Toronto



Educate and engage students, families and community members on climate change and climate actions

**Food gardens
and promoting
local foods**



**Cycling and low-
carbon transport
promotion**



**Eliminating single-
use and takeaway
items**



**The 3Rs (reduce,
reuse and/or
recycle)**



**Sharing and
repairing**



**Climate change
learnings**



Community Education & Engagement

Twentieth
Street Junior
School – Garden
Empathy
Connection



**Demonstrations
& workshops (in
person/online)**



**Community
planting &
maintenance
days**



**Dedicated social
media & web
page, video
content**



**Toolkits, how-to
guides, lesson
plans**

**Seed sharing,
plant giveaways**

**Citizen science
projects**

**Community bike
trains/rodeos**

**Second hand
swaps/free
markets**

Key Steps & Timeline

Karen Kain
School of the
Arts – Giving
Local Mimico
Creek a Voice

1

Submit a request for funding application by October 31, 2025 (11:59 p.m.)

2

Get feedback about your project idea

3

Submit a full grant proposal by November 28, 2025 (11:59 p.m.)

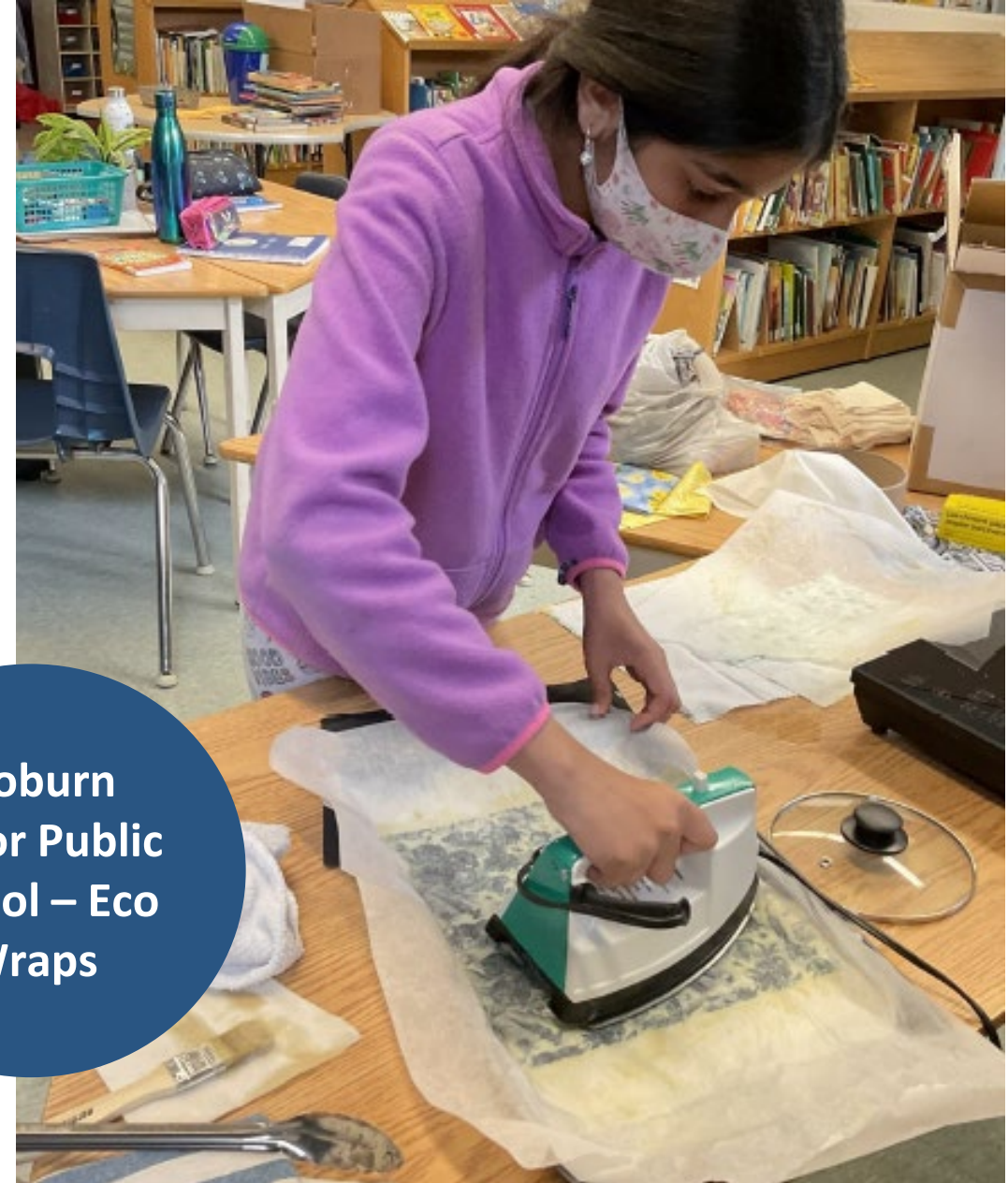
4

Full grant proposal review

5

Project approval

**Woburn
Junior Public
School – Eco
Wraps**



Key Dates

October 1

Request for
Funding
Applications open

October 31
by 11:59pm (midnight)

Request for Funding
Applications
deadline

November 28
by 11:59 pm
(midnight)

Full Grant Proposal
deadline

December

Application Review

January 2026

Project Approval

February-June 2026

Projects
implemented

June 2026

Final Reports Due. Project complete!*

Priority will be given to projects completed before the last day
of the current school year; however, we will consider
applications for projects that will be completed within one year.

Creating a Project Budget



Proposing a Budget

Research your budget items to accurately estimate project costs

Make sure items are eligible and that you do not go over allowed amounts

The maximum amount of funding a group can request is \$1,000

Eligible Costs

Budgets cannot exceed \$1,000.

- Project supplies such as paper, pens, poster boards
- Raw materials such as wood, screws and soil
- Rental or small equipment purchases
- Event promotion/communication
- Space rental
- Skilled labour (for example, hiring a contractor to build a garden box)*
- Food and refreshments (no bottled water)*
- Honouraria for voluntary services*

*Up to 25% of total grant request



St. Basil-The-
Great College
School – St.
Basil's Birds at
Risk Project

Past Projects

St. John Paul II
Catholic
Secondary School
– SJPII Community
Garden

Loretto Abbey – Repair Cafe



REPAIR ALTER REMAKE UPCYCLE

JOIN US FOR LAT'S REPAIR CAFE
MAY 29 IN ROOM 412

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! OUR FRIENDLY VOLUNTEERS WILL HELP!

Bloor Collegiate Institute – Miniature Wind Turbine



Our Project

Bloor Climate Futures (BCF) built a wind turbine from scratch – in a week! We cut the blades out of ABS pipe and repurposed a robotics motor for our generator. If high school kids can build wind energy, surely the world can too!



Curious about something? Ask us questions!

This project was funded by the City of Toronto's Youth Climate Action Grant



Ogden Junior Public School – Ogden Grows



OGDEN JR. PUBLIC SCHOOL

...Ogden... GROWS

May 15, 2025

In the GYM and YARD
3:30-4:30pm

The Activities

Tree and Soil Presentation by TRCA | Bring a Plant to
Swap | Paper Pot Making | Seed Sprouting |
Bucket Brigade | Spruce up the Yard

Volunteers Needed!

[Sign Up Here](#)



- please bring plants or cuttings to swap
- BYOT (Bring Your Own Tools) Like wheel barrows, shovels, buckets)
- wear clothes you can get dirty

Youth Climate Action Grants



Everything you need to know lives at toronto.ca/youthclimategrants

Youth Climate Action Grants applications are now open. [Submit an application](#) by October 31, 2025.

The Youth Climate Action Grants provides funding to TDSB and TCDSB student-led projects, activities and events that:

- educate and engage students, families and/or community members on climate actions
- help Toronto achieve its GHG emissions reduction goals by 2030
- align with the [TransformTO Net Zero Strategy](#) for net-zero emissions by 2040

Incentives & Rebates to Green Your Home		+
Home Energy Loan Program		+
Indigenous Climate Action Grants		
Neighbourhood Climate Action Grants		
PollinateTO Grants		+
Urban Forestry Grants & Incentives		
Youth Climate Action Grants		

Grant funding up to \$1,000 is available. This funding program is a partnership between the City and the Toronto District School Board.

Thank you!



climateactiongrants@toronto.ca



416-392-1127



toronto.ca/youthclimategrants