



Sending love to moms everywhere today! FOK member Marianne says it best in her [op-ed published in the National Observer](#) on Friday: **"It is comforting to know you are not alone in the journey of motherhood or climate action."**

As your national support team, we are deeply grateful to be on this journey with you.

Sharing three quick actions with you today, and please read on for more about what's happening near you and across the country.



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## 1. Call for Canada's Banks to Align with Climate Targets

The Climate-Aligned Finance Act (CAFA) could be a huge first step in bringing Canada's financial sector in line with climate science, mitigate growing risks to our financial system, and start pushing for an orderly transition to a low-carbon economy. The bill is currently being debated in the Senate.

FOK members have written an open letter urging senators to support CAFA and it will be delivered **tomorrow: Monday, May 15**. If by any chance you haven't yet seen it, please [read and sign it today!](#) **Deadline is 9 am ET tomorrow.**

[Here's a really helpful overview](#) about CAFA and how FOK's Banking For Our Kids campaign is supporting the bill. Reach out to [gabrielle@forourkids.ca](mailto:gabrielle@forourkids.ca) if you have questions, ideas, or want to be involved.

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## 2. Want to be part of a Sustainable Schools group?

We hear from many parents who want to be involved and make a difference in their school community and aren't sure how to start or connect with other parents. If that sounds like you, here's an open invitation to come to our first [Sustainable Schools meeting on May 25!](#)

- come as you are, wherever you are
- bring your ideas, hopes, dreams, concerns
- be ready to share, listen, and plan together - and don't worry; there is no obligation to attend any meetings in the future (:

In this first meeting we'll chat about what school actions people are most interested in, how to figure out who the decision makers are, and what types of projects have the greatest chance of success.

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## 3. Save the Date: Tuesday June 20 @4pm PT/ 7pm ET

For Our Kids and Seth Klein will co-host an interactive info session on the Climate Emergency Unit's [Youth Climate Corps](#)! If you have teenaged kids, please invite them to attend with you. More

details will be available shortly - in the meantime, please mark your calendars and, by the way, did we mention that **Raffi** will be a special guest at the session?

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On to what's happening across the network. If there's something near you that you'd like to be involved with, don't be shy - let us know and we'll connect you with the local team. New members are always welcome!

**Ottawa-Gatineau:** Check out the team's [monthly family-friendly bike rides](#) beginning May 28th - designed for anyone who loves to bike with their kids and anyone who'd like to start.

Are you following Engage Ottawa and the changes proposed to city bylaws to allow native plantings instead of grass on residential boulevards? It's a chance to take a big step forward in protecting biodiversity, managing stormwater and supporting pollinators - but it might be quashed. [Find out what the team is doing about it, here.](#)

**Toronto:** Schoolyard Climate Conversations are judgement-free online presentations and discussions where parents, teachers, and adult allies can deepen their understanding of the climate crisis, impacts, and solutions. [Talk to the FOK Toronto team about holding one at your school!](#)

Concerned about possible expansion of the Portlands gas plant as part of the Ontario government's plan to ramp up gas production to fuel the electricity grid? Contact the Toronto team: [corey.helmreice@gmail.com](mailto:corey.helmreice@gmail.com)

**Winnipeg:** Did you know FOK Manitoba is the newest group in the network? If you're a Manitoban or know someone who is, why not [connect with the team](#) and hear what they're up to.

**Alberta** is dealing with an early and severe wildfire season and with a contentious provincial election campaign at the same time. FOK Alberta team members are helping their communities however they can - [reach out](#) if you are a parent looking to connect with others.

**Burnaby:** the FOK team was influential in getting their city council to accelerate its plans to transition city buildings from fossil fuels to alternative energy sources! You can [connect with this awesome team here](#) - and here's part of their appeal to council:

*Our kids/parents climate group came together around advocating for the Fossil Fuel Non Proliferation Treaty last year, recognizing the significance of a commitment to ceasing expansion of fossil fuels in our community. If Council really does stand by its commitment to this treaty, they can not continue to allow fossil fuels to heat water and space in our buildings, when viable alternatives exist, and other cities around us are proving this can be done.*

*To ensure our kids really do have a livable future, please consider adopting a more accelerated path to zero carbon performance for both part 3 and 9 buildings.*

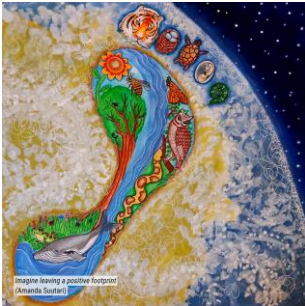
**Halifax:** FOK will be hosting its first Parent Talks Climate event on **June 10**, in collaboration with the Ecology Action Centre. It's an open, public event for parents concerned about the impacts of climate change on their kids to connect with each other in a welcoming, facilitated setting. If you know of parents in the Halifax area you think would be interested, please share this with them! We'll be posting about this very soon.

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## A few reminders

FOK has been approved to present to the BC Budget Committee on June 14th and put forward three recommendations for consideration. We'd love to know what issues you feel are important: some ideas are to include more funding for electric school buses, protection for old growth forests, support for Indigenous-led conservation initiatives, and support for municipalities to reduce emissions. What are your top three priorities for the budget committee? If you have feedback - or would like to be involved - please email [ruth@forourkids.ca](mailto:ruth@forourkids.ca)

## Parents are telling MPs they want an emissions cap



For Our Kids and other concerned groups across the country have teamed up to make it easy for you to share your message with the government as it draws up the regulation. Head to the [Cap Pollution Cards website](#) to send a postcard to your MP: choose an image, write your message or select a pre-written version, and we'll do the rest - **we'll print and mail your postcard to your MP.**

The images are beautiful and stirring, the messages are clear and compelling, and MPs need to hear from their constituents as they shape this profoundly important regulation. They are hearing from oil and gas industry lobbyists every day. Your voices, speaking up for our kids and future generations, need to be heard too.

Questions? Reach us at [hello@forourkids.ca](mailto:hello@forourkids.ca) or [find out more here](#)

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## Connect with us!

We know first-hand how overwhelming it can feel to think about what we can do to make a difference. We're here for you! If you're new to the network, or you've been following us for a while and want to take that first step, please don't hesitate to reach out to [jinhwa@forourkids.ca](mailto:jinhwa@forourkids.ca) for a chat.

And remember you can always reach the whole FOK national support team: Gabrielle, Jinhwa, Lella, Lorna, Natalie, Rebecca & Ruth at [hello@forourkids.ca](mailto:hello@forourkids.ca)

We also welcome your comments on our [feedback form](#)

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**Thanks for taking action for your kids.**

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For Our Kids parents and teams are grateful to live, work, meet, and act in communities built on the territories of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples across Turtle Island. We recognize the ongoing harm and injustices of colonization and we commit to working toward safe, inclusive, just, equitable and healthy communities for all.

You can [read more here](#) about our ongoing learning and commitment to justice, equity, diversity and inclusion.