



June 11, 2023

When the air is heavy with smoke from devastating wildfires across the country, it's tough not to feel heavy ourselves, knowing the cause is a lack of urgency and decisive action to cut GHG emissions and properly care for the natural environment we're in.

There are signs, though, that ongoing public pressure is having an impact. Today we're sharing three reasons for FOK parents and supporters to stay the course, knowing we're making a difference - along with some cool updates and news about an event on June 20 with Seth Klein, the Climate Emergency Unit, and Raffi! Sure, it's a lot of reading but we guarantee it's worth it!

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## Three things parents can count on:

### 1. Changes to the financial system are inching closer

Just last week, the Climate-Aligned Finance Act (CAFA) made it to the Senate's Finance Committee for review - bringing it one step closer to final review by the Senate. The bill was introduced by Senator Rosa Galvez a year ago and aims to regulate Canada's financial sector to bring it in line with emissions-reduction targets and transition to a low-carbon economy. It was seen as a long-shot but has been receiving strong support from the public including FOK members who met with Senators, sent emails, and signed an open letter urging them to support the bill.

CAFA is part of the FOK Banking For Our Kids campaign, which is bringing the connection between financial institutions, climate change and racial injustice into everyday conversation. [Check out what the campaign has done in its first year!](#)

And keep the conversations going! 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. MPs are getting the message about capping oil & gas emissions

Along with thousands of postcards arriving at MPs offices through the Cap Pollution Cards website, one special delivery of cards from les Hiboux kindergarten class in

Montreal prompted Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault to send a video message back to the class.

[Read this great story](#), initiated by FOK member Jennifer Smith and her daughter, as a reminder that even the youngest children can understand the importance of protecting the environment and holding decision-makers accountable - and that everyday, local actions can make a difference.

If you haven't yet had a chance to share your message about capping oil & gas emissions with your MP and federal ministers, check out the [Cap Pollution Cards website](#), 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**.

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

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### 3. You're not alone!

You can bet you have neighbours, parents from school, and colleagues at work who have questions, are worried, and want to do something, just like you. There might be a [group of parents near you](#) that you can join. If not, we can help you get one started!



You might be inspired by what happened last weekend in Halifax, where 15 parents and grandparents got together to share their concerns, hopes and climate action ideas at FOK's pilot Parents Talk Climate project - this with the impact of unprecedented wildfires in the area still top of mind. With our local partners at Ecology Action Centre and stellar facilitators the group

connected, shared ideas and insight, and made plans to take action together. [Read all about it here](#). We're really keen to support this group and see where these connections lead!

We'll be taking a deep look at participant feedback, hosting more Parents Talk Climate events in other communities, and applying the learning to provide a new community building tool for parents in the For Our Kids network. Want to hear more about this? Reach out to us at [hello@forourkids.ca](mailto:hello@forourkids.ca)

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**INFO SESSION FOR PARENTS:**  
**YOUTH CLIMATE CORPS**  
WITH SPECIAL GUEST: RAFFI

**TUESDAY, JUNE 20**  
VIRTUAL CANADA-WIDE EVENT

4:00 PM PT / 5:00 PM MT  
6:00 PM CT / 7:00 PM ET / 8:00 PM AT

**REGISTER NOW:**  
[www.tinyurl.com/YCCJune20](http://www.tinyurl.com/YCCJune20)

YOUTH CLIMATE CORPS CLIMATE EMERGENCY UNIT FOR OUR KIDS

Young people are organizing around the idea of a Youth Climate Corps. How can parents help?

Join us for a [Parent Info Session on the Youth Climate Corps](#): Tuesday June 20 @4pm PT/ 7pm ET

For Our Kids, **Seth Klein & Juan Vargas Alba** from the YCC, and special guest, entertainer **Raffi** will talk and field questions about this call from youth for decisive action on climate change and employment - and how parents can support this growing movement. If you have teenaged kids, please invite them to attend with you. [More info and registration for this free event here.](#)

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### In case you missed it ...

[Forourkids.ca](http://Forourkids.ca) has a fresh new look and feel - telling the story of the parents and supporters in this network and inviting others in. Check out and share our new [welcome video](#). And please let us know what you think! You can use our [feedback form](#) or email us at [hello@forourkids.ca](mailto:hello@forourkids.ca)

### Member survey key learnings

Thanks to all of you who participated in FOK's first member survey. You can find a summary of the key learnings, and plans to act on your feedback, [in this blog post](#).

## 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) [or book a welcome chat here](#).

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)

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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.