

Federal Budget 2021-2022 Highlights and Reactions

April 2021

MUNISCOPE



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Budget 2021 Brief

On April 19, 2021 Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland tabled the Government of Canada's 2021 budget titled *A Recovery Plan for Jobs, Growth, and Resilience*. The budget is projecting a \$100 billion in new spending over three the next three years. The budget indicates that the deficit for 2020-2021 is \$354 billion which is less than the earlier predictions of \$382 billion. The federal debt-to-GDP ratio is projected to be 49.2 per cent and the deficit is expected to be 1.1 per cent by 2025-2026.

The budget includes measures to provide investments in housing affordability, transit, green technology and climate change mitigation and adaptation, broadband internet expansion, economic development, mental health, childcare and elderly care.

Infrastructure

- The government passed legislation on March 25, 2021 for a one-time investment of \$2.2 billion for infrastructure projects in municipalities and First Nations communities. The Federal Gas Tax Fund, which will be renamed as the Canada Community-Building Fund, will be used to deliver this fund. With this development, the federal governments' regular funding for municipalities will be doubled in 2020-2021.
- \$22.6 million will be given over four years, starting in 2021-2022 to Infrastructure Canada for National Infrastructure Assessment. This will be the first ever nationwide attempt to determine the needs and priorities of Canada's infrastructure.
- \$1 billion over six years, starting in 2021-22 will be allocated to the Universal Broadband Fund for expansion of internet connections throughout the provinces, territories and other partners.
- The government expresses the intention to collaborate with the City of Montréal for the redevelopment of Bonaventure Expressway.
- National Capital Commission will receive \$35 million over five years, starting in 2021-2022 to support the acquisition and upkeep of federal assets, green infrastructure, and spaces in the National Capital Region.
- The feasibility of interprovincial tramway between Ottawa and Gatineau will be assessed by an interprovincial transit project office that will be created in the National Capital Commission.

Housing

- The Federal Government proposes to invest \$2.5 billion and reallocate \$1.3 billion in existing funding to help build, repair or support 35,000 housing units.
 - \$1.5 billion for the Rapid Housing Initiative in 2021-22 (25% will be for women-focused housing);
 - \$600 million over seven years, starting in 2021-22 to renew and expand the Affordable Housing Innovation Fund,
 - \$315.4 million over seven years, starting in 2021-22, through the Canada Housing Benefit (for low-income women and children fleeing violence),
 - \$118.2 million over seven years, starting in 2021-22, through the Federal Community Housing Initiative.
- \$1.3 billion will be reallocated on a cash basis including:

- \$750 million in funding under the National Housing Co-Investment Fund, which is proposed to be advanced to 2021-22 and 2022-23;
 - \$250 million in funding under the National Housing Co-Investment Fund;
 - \$300 million in funding in 2021-22 and 2022-23 from the Rental Construction Financing Initiative
- \$25 million in 2021-22 will be provided to the Government of Nunavut and Northwest Territories for housing and infrastructure needs.
- \$15 billion in joint funding with provinces and territories directed towards community housing, households in need through the Canada Housing Benefit, and support for provincial and territorial housing priorities related to repair, construction and affordability,
- \$10 billion for community and social housing,
- \$3 billion for Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy.
- \$1 billion to improve home ownership options, including through the First-Time Home Buyer Incentive.
- \$40 billion to support new construction and repair of affordable housing.
- \$567 million will be given over two years, beginning in 2022-23 to Employment and Social Development Canada for Reaching Home [to measure homelessness].
- \$45 million will be allocated to decrease veteran homelessness.
- The Federal Government will impose a national tax on underused property owned by non-residents starting January 1st, 2022.
- \$4.4 billion on a cash basis (\$778.7 million on an accrual basis over five years, starting in 2021-22, with \$414.1 million in future years) will be given to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) for home retrofits so that homeowners can be provided with interest-free loans worth up to \$40,000. For the loans, homeowners will provide an authorized EnerGuide energy assessment so that retrofits can be towards decreasing home's environmental footprint and energy bills.

Transit:

- \$14.9 billion over eight years starting in 2021-22 will be provided for public transit across Canada including new permanent funding of \$3 billion per year for communities across Canada, beginning in 2026-27 [\$14.9 billion previously announced].

Disaster Mitigation

- \$1.4 billion over 12 years, starting in 2021-22 will be allocated to Infrastructure Canada for Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund for wildfire mitigation activities, rehabilitation of storm water systems and restoration of wetlands and shorelines.
- \$11.7 million over five years, starting in 2021-22, will be allocated to Infrastructure Canada to renew the Standards to Support Resilience in Infrastructure Program.
- \$63.8 million over three years, starting in 2021-22 will be allocated to Natural Resources Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada and Public Safety Canada for flood maps.
- \$100.6 million over five years, starting in 2021-22, with \$4.7 million in remaining amortization will be allocated to the Parks Canada Agency for wildfire preparedness.

- \$28.7 million over five years, starting in 2021-22, with \$0.6 million in remaining amortization will be allocated to Natural Resources Canada for the preparation of wildfire risk assessment maps in Northern Canada.
- \$1.9 billion over five years, on a cash basis, starting in 2021-22 will be allocated to Public Safety Canada for provincial and territorial disaster response and recovery efforts.
- \$25 million in 2021-22 will be allocated to the Government of Yukon for climate efforts in partnership with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada.

Clean Technology and Emissions

- \$104.6 million over five years, starting in 2021-22, with \$2.8 million in remaining amortization, will be allocated to Environment and Climate Change Canada to reduce transportation and landfill emissions.
- \$54.8 million over two years, starting in 2021-22, will be allocated to Natural Resources Canada for Investments in Forest Industry Transformation program as well as for working with municipalities and community organizations that have expertise in new forest-based economic opportunities.
- \$200 million over three years, starting in 2021-22, will be allocated to Infrastructure Canada for a Natural Infrastructure Fund for natural and hybrid infrastructure projects.

Indigenous Communities

- Distinctions-based investments of \$6.0 billion over five years, starting in 2021-22 will be provided for Indigenous communities infrastructure with \$388.9 million ongoing including:
 - \$ 4.3 billion over four years, starting in 2021-22 for the Indigenous Community Infrastructure Fund.
 - \$ 1.7 billion over five years, starting in 2021-22, with \$388.9 million ongoing for infrastructure on reserves.
- \$40.4 million over three years, starting in 2021-22 will be allocated for hydroelectricity and grid interconnection in the North in the name of investing in clean energy in Northern and Indigenous Communities.
- \$36 million over three years, starting in 2021-22, will be allocated towards the Strategic Partnerships Initiative for local, economically sustainable clean energy projects in First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities.
- Indigenous recipients will benefit from the 10 per cent of the total funding that amounts to \$670 million that is given for new, small-scale projects that are benefiting from the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund of Infrastructure Canada.
- \$17.4 million over two years, starting in 2021-22 will be allocated to Environment and Climate Change Canada to work with provinces, territories, Indigenous peoples, and key stakeholders for resilient water and irrigation infrastructure.
- \$117 million in 2021-22 will be allocated to the renewal of Indigenous Community Business Fund.
- \$33.4 million in 2021-22 will be allocated for the First Nations Finance Authority.

- \$42 million, starting in 2021-22 will be allocated to expand the Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Program.
- \$2.4 million in 2021-22 will be allocated to the Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada.
- \$22 million over three years, starting in 2021-22 will be allocated to support the National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Association's Indigenous Women's Entrepreneurship Initiative.
- \$138 million will be allocated to Indigenous recipients through the Canada's Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund.
- \$1.4 billion will be allocated to Indigenous Community Support Fund and Indigenous Community Business Fund and funding for continued public health responses in Indigenous communities, including for Inuit.
- \$12 million will be allocated to renew the Standards to Support Resilience in Infrastructure Program for priority areas such as flood mapping and building in the North.

Reactions

Provincial and Territorial Governments

| PT Governments | Reactions |
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| British Columbia Globe and Mail | <ul style="list-style-type: none">B.C. Finance Minister Selina Robinson welcomed Ottawa's commitment to a new national \$10-a-day child-care plan as "very, very significant" and said she is looking forward to more details in order to see how it can bolster her province's years-long attempt to implement such a program.She also welcomed the budget's new vacancy tax, but said she was disappointed the federal government dedicated no new resources to creating a system of paid sick leave. |
| Alberta Edmonton Journal | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Alberta Finance Minister Travis Toews said the province agrees childcare is "essential for our economic recovery" and will help parents, especially women, enter or re-enter the workforce. Toews said the government is "gravely disappointed" the federal government hasn't changed the rules on the fiscal stabilization program. |
| Saskatchewan Saskatchewan | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The province's finance minister Donna Harpauer - some of the positives the minister has taken from the announcement include capital funding to Saskatoon's VIDO-InterVac, which matches what the province has committed, and \$3 billion towards long-term care. However, Harpauer said there are some negatives including no additional dollars for mental health."We definitely have prioritized that and this will be the third budget where the province thinks this should be a priority," explained Harpauer. "It's disappointing that the federal government didn't see that as a priority; I think that's significant." |
| Manitoba Manitoba | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Manitoba Finance Minister Scott Fielding: The Manitoba government was disappointed by the lack of health transfer money and lack of a deficit plan but liked the childcare spending and expansion of COVID-19 wage subsidies and sick leave. |
| Ontario Ontario | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Peter Bethlenfalvy, Ontario's Minister of Finance and President of the Treasury Board: I am pleased to see that the federal budget shares the same priorities our government identified in our <i>2021 Budget</i> last month — protecting people's health and our economy.However, as the COVID crisis intensifies, we are disappointed to see there was no action announced in today's budget in several key areas — including stricter border measures to limit the introduction and spread of new, more contagious COVID variants that are causing the third wave, vaccine supply and improvements to the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit.We were also disappointed to yet again see no movement on enhancing the Canada Health Transfer (CHT). |

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| Québec CTV News | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Québec Finance Minister took to Twitter to express support for the extension of pandemic economic support measures such as the Emergency Wage Subsidy, rent assistance and the Canada Economic Stimulus Benefit. But he criticized the budget for not including a permanent 35 per cent increase to healthcare funding, calling it a "missed unique opportunity." |
| Québec (Ministre des finances, Eric Girard) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nous tenons à saluer les mesures de relance et la prolongation des mesures de soutien dont la subvention salariale d'urgence, l'aide aux loyers commerciaux et la Prestation canadienne de relance économique. Nous soulignons aussi que le gouvernement fédéral reconnaît la qualité du programme québécois de services de gardes et apprécions la compensation financière qui devra nous être versée sans condition. Nous déplorons l'absence d'une hausse permanente du financement de la santé au niveau de 35% des coûts tel que demandé unanimement par les provinces et territoires. Le gouv. féd. vient de manquer une occasion unique pour un partenariat à long-terme en santé. |
| New Brunswick Global News | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Brunswick Premier Blaine Higgs echoed that criticism and didn't mince words about the Liberal budget. "It seems to be the only revenue that's coming in from anywhere are taxpayers. So it's a huge spending budget, which we all see. It's clearly an election budget and I would say focused on the Toronto and metropolitan area," • He went on to say this was a "chicken in every pot" budget that aimed to please as many people as possible before a potential election, without delivering on what he says should be a priority: health care transfers and vaccines. |
| Nova Scotia Global News | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nova Scotia Premier Iain Rankin told reporters Monday evening he was pleased with what he saw in the budget and that there was a "lot of alignment in my priorities." • While childcare goals were lauded by Nova Scotia's premier, Rankin says he's dismayed by the lack of boost to health transfers. "That will be a continued ask from all premiers, which I support," he said. |
| Prince Edward Island CBC News | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P.E.I. Finance Minister Darlene Compton said she was pleased to see an extension to the pandemic wage and rent subsidies. "It's very important for tourism, it gives operators and anyone involved in the industry some certainty moving forward to open this season," |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance Minister Siobhan Coady: "Very pleased to see the commitment to childcare.... looking to continue to lower the cost per child. It's very important for families, and particularly for women allowing them to get back into the workforce. It is a good economic program, as well," • "I'm also very pleased to see the just under \$18-billion commitment to green transition and, of course, this province has an abundance of renewable energy opportunities, and we will be looking at how we can utilize some of that funding." |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “A lot of progressive things in this budget and we are looking to working with the federal government as we move through this pandemic and then transitioning to a stronger economy,” she said. “I think there’s lots here for the province of Newfoundland and Labrador as we move forward.” |
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Municipal Associations

| Municipal Associations | Reactions |
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| FCM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Key investments announced today will help cities and communities of all sizes create jobs, continue tackling homelessness challenges, and build a greener, more sustainable post-COVID Canada. Together with other recent federal commitments—including to local infrastructure and transit—this budget features measures that strengthen the municipal toolbox for recovery.” |
| AUMA Edmonton Journal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AUMA president Barry Morishita said in a statement he looked forward to hearing how the province might take advantage of the federal funds. “These are sensible and targeted funding measures intended to help the members of our communities who have been hardest hit by the economic reality of the pandemic,” |
| Union des municipalités du Québec (UMQ) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> C'est un coup de pouce substantiel pour dynamiser l'économie de nos régions. Je pense ici aux sommes réservées pour soutenir nos entreprises dans le virage technologique et aider les secteurs du tourisme, de l'hôtellerie et des festivals qui ont grandement souffert dans le cadre de la pandémie. Par ailleurs, l'UMQ se montre satisfaite que le budget fédéral fixe une nouvelle cible nationale de réduction des émissions de GES à 36 % d'ici 2030. Alors que les communautés doivent composer avec des enjeux importants liés à l'adaptation et à l'atténuation des changements climatiques, cela envoie un signal fort quant à la volonté du gouvernement d'agir à ce chapitre, de concert avec les municipalités. |

Municipalities

| Municipalities | Reactions |
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| Belleville ON Quinte News | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “First of all, long term care investments, helping first-time home buyers and helping with social housing in the country, all of those are good. And then lastly for our region, something that's really important, is they seem to be doubling down on broadband funding to expedite those programs so they can go faster.” |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would love to see funds that are more generally available for us. For example, we may have to do road repairs, or bridge construction that don't fit into 'green technology' or 'transportation', but would allow us to get a jump start on that." |
| Edmonton AB Edmonton Journal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson welcomes \$1.5 billion in federal budget for rapid housing, but says it's not enough. Iveson said the city is happy to see the cash, but he was disappointed the top up is nowhere near the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' ask of \$7 billion to end chronic homelessness by building 24,000 units. • "It will require some more investment with this, and partnership with provinces, so there is some more work to do, but it is movement in the right direction on the shared path. We had hoped we could go a little faster," said Iveson, adding housing will provide huge savings and efficiencies for health, justice and law enforcement systems. |
| Kitchener-Waterloo ON CTV News | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kitchener Mayor Berry Vrbanovic and Regional Chair Karen Redman agreed the national child-care program is a big win for the region. They also highlighted spending on 35,000 new housing units and \$50 million over two years to support regional economic development. "This is absolutely critical at a time like this, especially as we look at the needs in our own community around supportive housing and deeply affordable housing going forward," Vrbanovic said. • "We can look at affordable housing, we can look at investment and infrastructure, we can point to Phase Two of the LRT, as well as investments in two-way, all-day GO," Redman said. "We have many projects that are shovel-ready and are priorities for this community, so \$50 million sounds like a lot of money. There's a lot of municipalities, but we have done our due diligence so we are really happy to hear that." |
| Calgary AB 680 News | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Naheed Nenshi says the federal budget fails to meet the challenges Calgary faces in a post-pandemic world. The mayor had hoped to see more targeted investments in areas hit the hardest. "We didn't really see a lot of that in this budget document," Nenshi said. • Nenshi wanted more commitment towards capital projects, affordable housing, and downtown. The mayor did highlight some of the positives including the investment in childcare and the permanent transit fund which will allow for the Green Line LRT to continue to be built after phase one. |
| Red Deer AB Red Deer News Now | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Direct Federal investment in municipalities will continue through the long-standing Canada Community-Building Fund (formerly known as Gas Tax Fund), with Red Deer expecting to receive approximately \$6 million in one-time funding for local infrastructure needs," said Mayor Tara Veer. "This is welcome news for Red Deer; however, we still need to analyze the budget and explore further funding opportunities we hope to leverage for our community." |

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| <p>B.C. Urban Mayors' Caucus Victoria</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Chairs Kelowna Mayor Colin Basran and Victoria Mayor Lisa Helps released the following statement following the tabling of Federal Budget 2021: "We are pleased to see many commitments in the budget, including on pandemic support programs, housing affordability, and mental health services, that align with our B.C. Urban Mayors' Caucus Blueprint, which presents a vision to address the most pressing issues facing cities across B.C. as we fight and recover from COVID-19." • "We welcome the extension of the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and lock-down support until September. We call on the government to collaborate with all stakeholders on the optimal design of those programs going forward and the right parameters for their eventual tapering." • "The shortage of affordable housing continues to be a critical issue in our communities and dedicated federal attention to the issue is an essential part of the solution." • "Finally, prior to the budget, the Federal government announced potentially transformative investments in public transit, including new permanent funding for municipalities and a one-time top-up of the Gas Tax Fund. As we build back from COVID-19, we know how important clean, affordable public transit is to the growth and competitiveness of our cities. Proper consultation on the design of those transit programs is essential in the near term." |
| <p>Montreal QC Global News</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montreal Mayor Valérie Plante said the budget will help support the city's "green and inclusive" recovery plans, with major investments in public transit, housing, economic development, as well as tourism and culture. • A spokesperson for the mayor pointed to \$250-million investment over a three-year period in Montreal's aerospace industry, a cornerstone of the city's economy which has been hard hit by the pandemic. Plante acknowledged that the \$1 billion earmarked for the tourism industry, including hospitality and festivals, will help revive those sectors and by the same token the downtown core. "These sectors are part of Montreal's DNA and will be intimately linked to its relaunch, which is why we are delighted with the support the government is giving them," Plante said. • Plante said the federal government has set aside significant sums for the creation of new affordable housing units. "Housing needs are great in Montreal and the funds provided by the Government of Canada will allow us to improve access to social and affordable housing for the population of Montreal," she said. • While the city is pleased with the \$15 billion over eight years going towards public transit initiatives across the country, there was disappointment over the lack of relief measures for public transit operators in big cities. |
| <p>Montréal (Mairesse Valérie Plante)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ce budget prévoit notamment des investissements importants en transport collectif, en habitation, en développement économique, en |

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| | <p>tourisme et en culture. Je suis satisfaite de voir que le budget viendra répondre aux occasions que la relance offre à la métropole.</p> |
| <u>Regina SK</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regina Mayor Sandra Masters: "The federal government's commitment to double its investment in cities across the country via the Canada Community-Building Fund for one year is important and welcome news for the City of Regina," "This funding is essential to making many of our city's infrastructure projects possible, including the improvement of approximately 150 km of Regina residential roads between 2018 and 2023. I was very pleased to see the recommendations from FCM's Western Economic Solutions Taskforce, with new investments made in trade infrastructure and regional economic growth. The federal focus on spurring economic growth is appreciated." |
| <u>Ottawa</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No extra money was in Monday's federal budget to help bail out municipal governments from the financial damage caused by COVID-19 in 2021, but Mayor Jim Watson wasn't concerned. Watson said the upper-government financial assistance confirmed to date should put the city in good shape for 2021 and the city can easily absorb the remaining \$13.5 million through other savings. |
| <u>Toronto</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toronto Mayor John Tory said while the budget reconfirms previously announced large cash commitments for transit and infrastructure, municipalities need more funding to recover from COVID-19. "Cities need this support to deal with the ongoing impact of the pandemic and the administration of vaccines that must be done so we can bring this emergency to an end," |

Organizations

| Organizations | Reactions |
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| <u>Assembly of First Nations</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "In an exceptionally challenging and unpredictable time as the entire country faces the impacts of COVID-19, Budget 2021 puts forward more than \$18 billion for Indigenous peoples — a result of sustained advocacy by First Nations to close the socioeconomic gap between First Nations people and the rest of Canada. The realities of First Nations have been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic. These investments will help First Nations respond and recover from the pandemic and will help support plans to end violence against Indigenous women and girls, better support First Nations policing, revitalize our languages and implement legislation related to child and family services." |
| <u>Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA)</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "This budget delivers big on two lessons that we learned from the pandemic: we need a public-led recovery in the child care and long-term care sectors. But does this budget reflect what we've learned from the pandemic in terms of failing to prepare for this deadly third |

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| | wave, fixing critical flaws in Canada's social safety net, and preparing for future crises?" |
| <u>Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB)</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Small businesses have been among the hardest hit by the pandemic, with only 56 per cent fully open across the country a year after the pandemic began. Today's budget delivered meaningful support to many, but there are still critical gaps in the federal relief programs that exclude tens of thousands of hard-hit businesses." |
| <u>Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) -EN</u> <u>Syndicat Canadien de la Fonction publique -FR</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Liberal government has wasted another opportunity to fund a strong and equitable recovery with Budget 2021. Instead of learning from the failures of Canada's care system during the pandemic, the Trudeau government is refusing to do what it takes to protect vulnerable residents in long-term care, promising yet another child care plan that may never see the light of day, and refusing to act on pharmacare. Le budget fédéral 2021 du gouvernement libéral constitue une autre occasion ratée de financer une reprise solide et équitable. Au lieu de tirer les leçons des échecs du système de soins du Canada pendant la pandémie, le gouvernement Trudeau refuse de faire le nécessaire pour protéger les résidents vulnérables en soins de longue durée, promet à nouveau un plan pour les services de garde d'enfants qui risque de ne jamais voir le jour et refuse d'agir sur l'assurance-médicaments. |
| <u>Chambre de Commerce du Montréal métropolitain</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> « Le gouvernement a bien compris l'importance de soutenir les PME. L'annonce d'un investissement de 1,4 milliard de dollars destinée à soutenir le virage technologique de nos entreprises vient compléter les sommes annoncées par le gouvernement du Québec ». « Ce budget comporte des sommes qui permettront le déploiement de grands projets structurants dans la métropole et favoriseront une relance verte. |
| <u>Le Front d'action populaire en réaménagement urbain (FRAPRU)</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Même s'il salue l'annonce du financement d'une deuxième phase de l'Initiative de création rapide de logement (ICRL), le Front d'action populaire en réaménagement urbain (FRAPRU) aurait souhaité que le budget de la ministre Chrystia Freeland contienne des investissements beaucoup plus significatifs et complets en matière d'aide au logement. |
| <u>Canada Housing and Renewal Association -EN</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expressed its deep disappointment that this Budget once again ignored the housing needs of Canada's urban, rural and northern Indigenous peoples by failing to announce an urban, rural and northern Indigenous housing strategy. Although the Budget provides \$2.5 billion in additional funding for existing affordable housing-related programs, these investments will not significantly address the affordable housing crisis in Canada, and will do nothing to address the imbalance in housing needs facing Canada's urban and rural Indigenous population. A exprimé sa profonde déception de voir une fois de plus un budget qui ignore les besoins en matière de logement des Autochtones des |

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| <u>Association Canadienne d'habitation et de rénovation urbaine -FR</u> | régions urbaines, rurales et nordiques du Canada en omettant d'annoncer une stratégie de logement pour eux. Bien que le budget prévoie un financement supplémentaire de 2,5 milliards de dollars pour les programmes existants liés au logement abordable, ces investissements ne permettront pas de résoudre de manière significative la crise du logement abordable au Canada, et ne feront rien pour remédier au déséquilibre des besoins en matière de logement auxquels est confrontée la population autochtone urbaine et rurale du Canada. |
| <u>Canadian Chamber of Commerce</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “The budget’s focus on growth and jobs is an important step towards our economic recovery, but our growth drivers will need to shift from public investment to private investment to help get our fiscal house in order. The plan to reduce deficits over the coming years is important, but it will depend on our ability to meet our growth targets.” |
| <u>Public Service Alliance of Canada</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “This historic investment in universal child care is a lifeline for parents who are struggling to afford rising child care fees. This is a major victory for our union and child care advocates who have been fighting for affordable, accessible and universal child care for decades.” “It remains disappointing however that the government has failed to act on its commitment to create a national, universal pharmacare program. Canadians need pharmacare now more than ever as workers continue to lose access to prescription drug coverage because of pandemic job losses.” |
| <u>Canadian Women’s Foundation</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “The pandemic impacts diverse women in profound ways, threatening gender equality gains Canada has made. Many community leaders called for an equitable feminist recovery plan to address it. This budget makes major moves in the right direction with crucial investments that will make women and gender-diverse people’s lives better. And we know that when gender equity is a national priority, everybody benefits.” |
| <u>Canadian Taxpayers Federation</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Make no mistake: the vast majority of measures in this budget have nothing to do with pandemic supports, and everything to do with exploiting a deadly crisis to indulge in a cynical, debt-fuelled spending binge. Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland will increase permanent federal spending by more than \$100 billion by 2026 with absolutely no idea how to pay for it.” |

Media

| Media | Reactions |
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| <p><u>La Presse</u></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quand Chrystia Freeland parlait d'un éventuel plan de 70 à 100 milliards l'automne dernier, plusieurs craignaient qu'on injecte encore de l'argent dans la construction... Or, Chrystia Freeland a pratiquement ignoré la construction. La décision est sage, sachant que ce secteur est en surchauffe. À la place, la ministre féministe a prévu de l'argent pour le travail des femmes, pour le redéploiement des travailleurs touchés et pour les victimes de la COVID-19... (1) En subventionnant la garde d'enfants, le fédéral fera augmenter la participation des femmes au marché du travail; (2) puisque l'économie post-COVID-19 offrira des emplois différents, le gouvernement aidera les travailleurs éclopés à bonifier leur formation et à se replacer; (3) le gouvernement fédéral bonifie l'allocation pour les travailleurs moins fortunés, en plus d'investir dans le logement abordable. • Notre endettement restera fort important, ne nous leurrions pas. Mais ce dégonflement prévu, jumelé à un plan sensé, permet de voir l'avenir post-COVID-19 du Canada avec assez d'optimisme. |
| <p><u>Le Devoir</u></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Le budget présenté lundi par la ministre fédérale des Finances, Chrystia Freeland, n'a pas surpris en maintenant plusieurs mesures d'aide d'urgence ni en mettant de l'avant un plan de relance post-COVID. Elle s'y était engagée lors de son énoncé de novembre. Le contexte préélectoral a par ailleurs donné lieu au prévisible saupoudrage de dépenses destinées à séduire de grands pans de l'électorat canadien progressiste. On pourrait par conséquent critiquer la nécessité de plusieurs de ces mesures, surtout que l'économie va mieux que prévu. • Mais voilà, certains des investissements les plus généreux annoncés lundi étaient nécessaires avant même la pandémie. Ils le sont encore. La crise sanitaire n'a fait que mettre en relief l'inadéquation de l'assurance-emploi, les obstacles à la pleine participation des femmes au marché du travail, le fardeau financier lié à l'éducation postsecondaire (surtout au Canada anglais), la vulnérabilité des travailleurs pauvres, jeunes et appartenant à des minorités visibles, le financement insuffisant du système de santé et l'organisation des soins de longue durée. Et tant que ces problèmes subsisteront et que des citoyens seront laissés derrière, la relance économique que tous appellent de leurs vœux ne sera jamais entière. Alors oui, il fallait délier les cordons de la bourse pour faire face à ces défis. |
| <p><u>Le Journal de Québec/Montréal</u></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On ne pourra pas taxer le gouvernement Trudeau d'incohérence. Dépensier un jour, dépensier toujours. S'il y a une incohérence, elle est ailleurs : comment le gouvernement Trudeau peut-il à la fois se targuer d'avoir dépensé ce qu'il fallait durant la pandémie pour sauver l'économie ET justifier un plan de sortie de crise aussi coûteux ? • Seuls les États-Unis ont dépensé plus que nous pour garder la tête hors de l'eau, parmi tous les pays du G7. • La mise en place d'un réseau de garderies à 10 \$ avec un coût de départ de 30 G\$ est un beau projet de société qui a fait ses preuves |

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| | <p>au Québec. Tout comme la relance verte. Or, la brique budgétaire de plus de 840 pages propose un épais saupoudrage préélectoral. M. Trudeau n'a pas fait semblant de vouloir recouvrir ses traces. Un chèque de 500 \$ aux aînés au mois d'août ? Que dire des 100 millions pour l'industrie du vin canadien, des fonds pour l'apprentissage du camping ou encore du codage pour les enfants ? Est-ce vraiment le rôle du gouvernement fédéral ?</p> |
| <u>Ici-Radio-Canada</u> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Le Canada est au nombre des pays qui couvrent le moins bien les revenus des gens à la retraite. On comprend, dans les circonstances, pourquoi le gouvernement Trudeau a décidé de corriger cette lacune. Mais, en versant un chèque unique de 500 \$ aux personnes de 75 ans et plus cet été, il est difficile de ne pas y voir une stratégie électoraliste. • Il a été prouvé, démontré, calculé à maintes reprises que ce programme de garderies à faibles coûts a bénéficié à l'économie du Québec avec une hausse du taux de participation au marché du travail, essentiellement chez les femmes... Maintenant, on verra bien si toutes les provinces voudront financer un tel programme, à parts égales avec le gouvernement fédéral. Et quelle entente le Québec va-t-il négocier? Quelle part le gouvernement fédéral viendra-t-il payer au Québec? |

Reference

[Budget 2021: A recovery Plan for Jobs, Growth, and Resilience](#)

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