

# Parks Canada Agency

## 2017-2020 Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy



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**Canada**

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## Section 1: Context for the Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy

The [2016–19 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy \(FSDS\)](#) presents the Government of Canada's sustainable development goals and targets, as required by the [Federal Sustainable Development Act](#). In keeping with the objectives of the Act to integrate environmental, social and economic considerations into decision-making, and make such decisions more transparent and accountable to Parliament, the Parks Canada Agency supports reaching goals laid out in the FSDS through the activities described in this Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy (DSDS).

## Section 2: Sustainable Development in Parks Canada Agency

Sustainable development is central to Parks Canada's mandate and vision. It is ingrained in all aspects of the Agency's activities from establishing and conserving national parks and national marine conservation areas to designating, commemorating and administering national historic sites. Parks Canada is committed to ensuring that Canada's treasured natural and cultural resources remain unimpaired for the understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Parks Canada contributes to the FSDS through the following Goals:

FSDS Goal 2: Low-carbon government - As part of the pan-Canadian framework on clean growth and climate change, Parks Canada has developed a Greening Operations Standard and Action Plan to provide strategic direction to ensure sustainable workplace operations that contribute to a low-carbon government.

FSDS Goal 6: Healthy coasts and oceans - Parliament mandated, through the Parks Canada Agency Act and the Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act, that Parks Canada establish a system of national marine conservation areas (NMCAs) representative of the diversity of Canada's 29 oceanic and Great Lakes marine regions. Parks Canada's role is to ensure the protection and ecological sustainability of these NMCAs, facilitate unique experiences and an appreciation of marine heritage, and engage Canadians in the management of NMCAs.

FSDS Goal 8: Sustainably managed lands and forests - Parks Canada has been entrusted to protect an increasing number of natural areas within a system of national parks that represents each of Canada's 39 natural terrestrial regions. Once established, Parks Canada's role is to manage these national parks in a manner that ensures their ecological integrity for present and future generations.

FSDS Goal 9: Healthy wildlife populations - Parks Canada has a legal obligation to maintain or improve ecological integrity of national park ecosystems, while providing benefit and enjoyment to Canadians and international visitors. The Agency uses indicators to summarize and assess the ecological condition of the main ecosystems in each national park, i.e. forests, tundra, wetlands or freshwater. Using this information, Parks Canada identifies and conducts priority restoration initiatives for impaired ecosystems.

Parks Canada is committed to the protection and recovery of species at risk, many of which can be found within Parks Canada lands and waters. Parks Canada works to protect species at risk, along with their residences and habitat, and also supports and undertakes recovery activities to maintain or improve their conservation status.

FSDS Goal 12: Connecting Canadians with nature - Parks Canada builds public awareness of and connection to the protected heritage places that it administers, as well as the natural and cultural resources in them. Through relevant and effective promotion and engagement initiatives, Parks Canada is working to strengthen Canadians' awareness and appreciation of their national protected heritage places and Parks Canada's important mandate to protect and present these places. By encouraging Canadians to visit these places, and in providing them with the information and means to enjoy them, Parks Canada allows more Canadians to experience the outdoors and learn about our heritage. These experiences can also lead to learning, personal growth and mental and physical health benefits. By strengthening the

connection Canadians feel to their national heritage places, Parks Canada is helping to foster enthusiasm for Canada's natural and cultural heritage and create a culture of stewardship and care for these places and the environment more broadly.

FSDS Goal 13: Safe and healthy communities - Parks Canada is responsible for 479 sites registered in the Federal Contaminated Sites Inventory as of March 31, 2017. With funding from the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan, the Agency undertakes risk reduction activities (through remediation and/or risk management) at federal contaminated sites under its responsibility. Efforts at remediating contaminated sites serves to protect the health of Canadians as well as the environment.

## Section 3: Commitments for Parks Canada Agency



**Low-Carbon Government: The Government of Canada leads by example by making its operations low-carbon**

Responsible Minister: All ministers

Low-Carbon Government FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding departmental action(s)	Contribution by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	Starting point(s) / performance indicators	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
<p>Reduce GHG emissions from federal government buildings and fleets by 40% below 2005 levels by 2030, with an aspiration to achieve this reduction by 2025</p>	<p>Improve the energy efficiency of our buildings/operations</p>	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce GHG emissions from its facilities and fleet by 2% below 2005 levels, with facilities contributing 1.4%.</li> <li>Validate its facilities portfolios for GHG reporting with regards to fuel, electricity and non-energy sources.</li> <li>Promote Energy Performance Contracts (EPC) for its facilities in order to include high-performance green building standards for new constructions or major renovations.</li> </ul>	<p>By 2030, Parks Canada actions are intended to reduce GHG emissions in facilities by 28% relative to total Agency 2005 levels.</p>	<p><b>Starting Points:</b></p> <p>Total Agency GHG emissions from facilities and fleet in fiscal year 2005–06 (base year): <b>[38.8] ktCO<sub>2</sub>e</b></p> <p>Total Agency GHG emissions from facilities and fleet in fiscal year 2016-17: <b>[33.3] ktCO<sub>2</sub>e</b></p> <p>GHG emissions from facilities in fiscal year 2005–06 (base year): = <b>[27.4] ktCO<sub>2</sub>e</b></p> <p>GHG emissions from facilities in fiscal year 2016-17 = <b>[20.8] ktCO<sub>2</sub>e</b></p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b></p> <p>Percentage change in total Agency GHG emissions from facilities and fleet since 2005 levels.</p>	<p>Internal Services P1 - Heritage Places Establishment P2 – Heritage Places Conservation P3 - Heritage Places Promotion and Public Support P4 - Visitor Experience P5 - Heritage Canals, Highways and Townsite Management</p>

Low-Carbon Government FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding <b>departmental action(s)</b>	<b>Contribution</b> by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	<b>Starting point(s) / performance indicators</b>	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
				Percentage change in GHG emissions from facilities relative to combined total (facilities and fleet) Agency 2005 levels.	
	Modernize our fleet	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce GHG emissions from its facilities and fleet by 2% below 2005 levels, with the fleet contributing to a 0.6% reduction.</li> <li>• Purchase 75% of its light fleet vehicles from more energy efficient vehicles on the Agency's Preauthorized Vehicle List (PVL).</li> <li>• Promote the development of 5-year replacement plans for heavy-duty fleet vehicles by moving to vehicles with greater efficiency and lower emissions.</li> <li>• Promote right-size and low-carbon intensity fleet-vehicles.</li> </ul>	By 2030, Parks Canada actions will contribute a reduction in fleet GHG emissions of 12% reduction relative to total Agency 2005 levels.	<p><b>Starting Points:</b></p> <p>Total Agency GHG emissions from facilities and fleet in fiscal year 2005–06 (base year): <b>[38.8] ktCO<sub>2</sub>e</b></p> <p>Total Agency GHG emissions from facilities and fleet in fiscal year 2016-17: <b>[33.3] ktCO<sub>2</sub>e</b></p> <p>GHG emissions from fleet in fiscal year 2005–06 (base year): = <b>[11.4] ktCO<sub>2</sub>e</b></p> <p>GHG emissions from fleet in fiscal year 2016-17 = <b>[12.4] ktCO<sub>2</sub>e</b></p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b></p> <p>Percentage change in total Agency GHG emissions from facilities and fleet relative to 2005 levels.</p> <p>Percentage change in GHG emissions from fleet relative to combined total (facilities and fleet) Agency 2005 levels.</p>	<p>Internal Services P1 - Heritage Places Establishment P2 – Heritage Places Conservation P3 - Heritage Places Promotion and Public Support P4 - Visitor Experience P5 - Heritage Canals, Highways and Townsite Management</p>
	Support the transition to a low-carbon economy through green procurement	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate sustainability into common-use procurement instruments, processes and</li> </ul>	Green procurement incorporates environmental considerations into purchasing decisions and is expected to motivate suppliers to	<p><b>Starting Points:</b></p> <p>Number of key procurement officials that have facilitated green procurement through</p>	<p>Internal Services P1 - Heritage Places Establishment P2 – Heritage Places</p>

Low-Carbon Government FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding <b>departmental action(s)</b>	<b>Contribution</b> by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	<b>Starting point(s) / performance indicators</b>	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
		<p>controls.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Require key procurement officials to support and promote green procurement.</li> <li>Provide green procurement awareness and training for staff involved in procurement.</li> <li>Set Agency targets to reduce the environmental impact of specific goods and services (e.g. IM/IT equipment, light fleet, heavy fleet).</li> </ul>	<p>green their goods, services and supply chain. GHG emissions reductions, recyclable content and packaging are all areas of consideration in green procurement.</p>	<p>various activities and/or tools. in 2016-17 (base year): [7]</p> <p>Number of procurement decision makers that have completed training on green procurement in 2016-17 (base year): [35]</p> <p>Number of goods and services categories with specific green procurement targets in 2016-17 (base year): [3]</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b></p> <p>Percentage of key procurement officials that have facilitated green procurement through various activities and/or tools.</p> <p>Percentage of procurement decision makers that have completed training on green procurement.</p> <p>Percentage change in the number of goods and services with specific green procurement targets.</p>	<p>Conservation P3 - Heritage Places Promotion and Public Support P4 - Visitor Experience P5 - Heritage Canals, Highways and Townsite Management</p>
	<p>Demonstrate innovative technologies</p>	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with Canadian environmental businesses to test on the Agency's sites new clean technology developments through the Build in Canada Innovation Program (BCIP). For example, the Agency will use innovative</li> </ul>	<p>Actions that incent, support, or procure state-of-the-art clean environmental innovative technologies lower the environmental footprint of government operations while contributing to the success of clean-tech businesses in Canada.</p>	<p><b>Starting Point:</b></p> <p>Number of BCIP-funded clean environmental technologies tested across Agency facilities in 2016-17 (base year): [2]</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b></p>	<p>Internal Services P1 - Heritage Places Establishment P2 – Heritage Places Conservation P3 - Heritage Places Promotion and Public Support</p>

Low-Carbon Government FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding <b>departmental action(s)</b>	<b>Contribution</b> by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	<b>Starting point(s) / performance indicators</b>	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
		technology to analyse in real time the amount of petroleum contamination in soil samples.		Percentage change in the number of BCIP-sponsored clean environmental technologies tested.	P4 - Visitor Experience P5 - Heritage Canals, Highways and Townsite Management
	Promote sustainable travel practices	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to apply its Travel Directive and related policies to ensure the most efficient travel practices are pursued.</li> <li>Promote green meeting practices by increasing videoconferencing facilities by 15% by March 2019 relative to March 2016 level.</li> <li>Promote the creation of voluntary workplace Green Teams that will steward sustainable commuting and resource use.</li> </ul>	Actions taken to reduce the amount of business travel or switch to less GHG intensive modes of transportation, for both business travels and commuting, will reduce GHG emissions.	<p><b>Starting Points:</b></p> <p>Number of videoconferencing facilities in fiscal year 2016–17 (base year): <b>[72]</b></p> <p>Number of voluntary workplace Green Teams in fiscal year 2016–17 (base year): <b>[2]</b></p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b></p> <p>Percentage change in videoconferencing facilities.</p> <p>Percentage change in the number of voluntary workplace Green Teams.</p>	<p>Internal Services</p> <p>P1 - Heritage Places Establishment</p> <p>P2 – Heritage Places Conservation</p> <p>P3 - Heritage Places Promotion and Public Support</p> <p>P4 - Visitor Experience</p> <p>P5 - Heritage Canals, Highways and Townsite Management</p>
	Understand climate change impacts and build resilience	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to identify, assess, prioritize and take action to address climate change risks across the Agency's areas of responsibility.</li> <li>Undertake site-specific climate change adaptation workshops to develop provisional climate change adaptation plans for at least 8 PCA heritage sites, as the start of a multi-year program.</li> </ul>	Parks Canada will integrate climate change considerations into policy, programs, and operations to adapt to a changing climate, enhance the protection of public, assets and resources, and strengthen planning and decision-making.	<p><b>Starting Point:</b></p> <p>A draft Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment for the Agency has been developed to identify climate change risks.</p> <p>Number of PCA heritage sites that have been subject to PCA's site-specific climate change adaptation planning exercise.</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b></p> <p>Percent completion of a</p>	This action will be coordinated by Program 2: Heritage Places Conservation, in collaboration with all other implicated Programs



Low-Carbon Government FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding <b>departmental action(s)</b>	<b>Contribution</b> by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	<b>Starting point(s) / performance indicators</b>	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
				comprehensive assessment of climate change risks and mitigation measures (target of 100% completion by Fall 2019).  Percentage of targeted PCA heritage sites which developed climate change adaptation plans (Target: 75% by 2020)	
	Improve transparency and accountability	In 2017-18, Parks Canada will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share annual energy and GHG emissions data with the Centre for Greening Government (CGG).</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A	<i>Internal Services</i>
	Develop policy for low- carbon government	In 2017-18, Parks Canada will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Align its greening operations policy suite with the federal Greening Government Framework (GGF).</li> </ul>	N/A	N/A	<i>Internal Services</i>



**Healthy Coasts and Oceans: Coasts and oceans support healthy, resilient and productive ecosystems**

Responsible Minister: Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

Healthy Coasts and Oceans FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding <b>departmental action(s)</b>	<b>Contribution</b> by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	<b>Starting point(s) / performance indicators</b>	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
By 2020, 10% of coastal and marine areas are conserved through networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures	Protect and manage marine and coastal areas	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirm and announce a final boundary and commencement of negotiations of an Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association for a national marine conservation area in Lancaster Sound in Nunavut.</li> <li>• Continue ongoing feasibility assessments for proposed national marine conservation areas in the Southern Strait of Georgia area of British Columbia and the Îles de la Madeleine area offshore Quebec.</li> <li>• Launch and support feasibility assessments for new proposals for national marine conservation areas in unrepresented marine regions including for a site in eastern James Bay and for a site in south western Hudson Bay.</li> </ul>	Parks Canada will work to protect marine and coastal areas in national marine conservation areas as a contribution to the government's commitment to protect 5 percent of the marine environment by 2017, and 10 percent by 2020.	<p><b>Starting Point:</b> As of March 31, 2016, the national marine conservation area system was 17 percent complete. The system includes four areas representing five of the 29 marine regions.</p> <p><b>Target(s)/performance indicator(s):</b> Number of unrepresented regions with demonstrable progress towards establishing national marine conservation areas. [Target: 2 (annually)]</p>	Program 1: Heritage Places Establishment
	Build our knowledge of coastal ecosystems, MPAs and fisheries	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue work with other federal departments, Indigenous Peoples and</li> </ul>	Parks Canada will continue efforts to maintain national marine conservation areas and contribute to effective area-based	<b>Starting Point:</b> National marine conservation area monitoring plans are being	Program 2: Heritage Places Conservation

Healthy Coasts and Oceans FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding <b>departmental action(s)</b>	<b>Contribution</b> by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	<b>Starting point(s) / performance indicators</b>	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
		<p>stakeholders on policy to govern the management of national marine conservation areas. This will contribute to meeting Canada's targets for marine conservation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue work on piloting a national monitoring program which will enable the Agency to better understand the state of the National Marine Conservation Area System and more effectively manage these areas.</li> </ul>	conservation measures by advancing knowledge of coastal and marine areas.	<p>implemented to help operating sites inform decision making and contribute condition assessments to future State of Canada's Natural and Historic Places Reports.</p> <p><b>Target(s)/performance indicator(s):</b></p> <p>Number of operating sites that contribute condition assessments to the State of Canada's Natural and Historic Places Report [Target: 4 by March 2021]</p>	



**Sustainable Managed Lands and Forests: Lands and forests support biodiversity and provide a variety of ecosystem services for generations to come**

Responsible Minister: Minister of Environment and Climate Change; Minister of Natural Resources

Sustainably Managed Lands and Forests FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding departmental action(s)	Contribution by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	Starting point(s) / performance indicators	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
By 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial areas and inland water are conserved through networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures	Conserve natural spaces	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm a final boundary and negotiate the necessary establishment agreements with the Government of the Northwest Territories and Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation, and an impact and benefit agreement with the Northwest Territories Metis Nation, leading to the establishment, development and operation of a national park reserve in the Thaidene Nëné area located in the East Arm of the Great Slave Lake of the Northwest Territories.</li> <li>Advance work on the feasibility assessment for a proposed national park in the Interlake region of the Manitoba Lowlands natural region of the national park system.</li> </ul>	Parks Canada's will work to expand the national parks system which contributes to the conservations of lands and inland waters.	<p><b>Starting Point:</b> Currently, 30 of 39 of Canada's natural regions are represented by 46 national parks and national park reserves.</p> <p><b>Target(s)/performance indicator(s):</b> Number of unrepresented regions with demonstrable progress towards establishing national parks. [Target: 2 annually]</p>	Program 1: Heritage Places Establishment
By 2019, the condition of 90% of ecological integrity indicators in national parks is maintained or improved	Conserve natural spaces	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to monitor the ecological integrity of park ecosystems, to restore impaired ecosystems and to recover species at risk on a priority basis through the national Conservation and Restoration program and other park-</li> </ul>	Parks Canada's will support the maintenance and improvement of the ecological integrity in national parks through protection, conservation, restoration or mitigation activities.	<p><b>Starting point:</b> 90% of indicators in national park monitoring plans consider the condition as maintained or improved.</p> <p><b>Target(s)/performance</b></p>	Program 2: Heritage Places Conservation

Sustainably Managed Lands and Forests FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding <b>departmental action(s)</b>	<b>Contribution</b> by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	<b>Starting point(s) / performance indicators</b>	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
		based initiatives. Thirteen major projects, from Terra Nova in Newfoundland to Gwaii Haanas in British Columbia, are oriented toward land and forest restoration by 2019 with three more projects to begin in 2017.		<b>indicator(s):</b> Percentage of indicators in national park monitoring plans for which condition is maintained or improved. [Target: 90% annually]	



**Healthy Wildlife Populations: All species have healthy and viable populations**

Responsible Minister: Minister of Environment and Climate Change

Healthy Wildlife Populations FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding <b>departmental action(s)</b>	<b>Contribution</b> by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	<b>Starting point(s) / performance indicators</b>	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
By 2020, species that are secure remain secure, and populations of species at risk listed under federal law exhibit trends that are consistent with recovery strategies and management plans	Use legislation and regulations to protect species at risk and migratory birds	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recover species at risk on a priority basis through the national Conservation and Restoration Program.</li> <li>Complete action plans for the remaining national parks with three or more species at risk (Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site, Pukaswa National Park Reserve and Banff, Jasper, Yoho, Kootenay and Waterton Lakes national parks).</li> </ul>	Parks Canada works to protect species at risk found in heritage places, along with their residences and habitat, and also supports and undertakes recovery activities to maintain or improve their conservation status.	<p><b>Starting point:</b> As of 2016, Parks Canada had completed seven multi-species action plans for parks with five or more species at risk. With the completion of that target, the current focus is on parks with three or more species at risk.</p> <p><b>Target(s)/performance indicator(s):</b> Number of action plans for national parks with 3 or more species at risk. [Target: 16 by March 2018]</p>	Program 2: Heritage Places Conservation



**Connecting Canadians with Nature: Canadians are informed about the value of nature, experiencing nature first hand, and actively engaged in its stewardship**

Responsible Minister: Minister of Environment and Climate Change

Connecting Canadians with Nature FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding departmental action(s)	Contribution by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	Starting point(s) / performance indicators	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
<p>By 2020, maintain or increase the number of Canadians that get out into nature – for example, by visiting parks and green space – and increase participation in biodiversity conservation activities relative to a 2010 baseline</p>	<p>Promote public participation</p>	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage and promote activities that focus on target urban markets to showcase iconic locations, experiences and learning opportunities by using market intelligence, product development and promotions.</li> <li>Continue to work with partners to increase reach through broadcasting, mass media, social media, and presence at partner venues and key events in major urban centres.</li> <li>Launch an improved website and a new mobile app designed to help new visitors learn about Canada’s natural and cultural heritage and plan their visit.</li> <li>Continue to engage youth through programs, such as The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge Youth Ambassador program, Canada’s Coolest School Trip Contest and the post-secondary Campus Club network, Students on Ice program and partnerships with youth organizations</li> <li>Continue to develop national strategic partnerships for targeted collaborative</li> </ul>	<p>In 2017 and beyond, the Agency will implement strategies to ensure targeted audiences, such as youth, newcomers and urban audiences are inspired to visit and connect.</p>	<p><b>Starting point:</b> As of 2016-17, Parks Canada reached 11.5 million Canadians through outreach and multimedia initiatives.</p> <p><b>Target(s)/performance indicator(s):</b> Increase the reach (media views and impressions and connections at outreach events) of Parks Canada’s administered places [Target: 10% by March 2018]</p>	<p>Program 3: Heritage Places Promotion and Public Support</p>

Connecting Canadians with Nature FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding departmental action(s)	Contribution by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	Starting point(s) / performance indicators	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
		activities including program delivery, promotional campaigns, contests, scientific and academic research, learning tools and products and experiences.			
	Enhance programs and services for visitors	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play a key role in the celebrations to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Canadian confederation by making admission to Parks Canada places free.</li> <li>• Prepare for free admission to Parks Canada places for all visitors under the age of 18, beginning in 2018.</li> <li>• Continue its partnership with the Institute for Canadian Citizenship, whereby new Canadian citizens are offered complimentary admission to Parks Canada's destinations for one year through the Institute's Cultural Access Pass.</li> <li>• Host 30 overnight Learn to Camp events, as well as new outreach events, half and full day learn to camp programs and other activities to help get Canadians outdoors.</li> <li>• Continue to innovate, expand and diversify the range of programs and services available at its heritage places.</li> <li>• Implement a strategy to improve collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, communities and businesses in offering a greater number of Indigenous Tourism experiences at Parks Canada places.</li> <li>• Continue to renew visitor infrastructure</li> </ul>	To fulfill the Government of Canada's priority to have more Canadians experience and learn about the environment and their heritage places, Parks Canada will develop and innovate its programs and services.	<p><b>Starting Point:</b></p> <p>In 2016, there were 24.7 million visits to Parks Canada administered places</p> <p><b>Target(s)/performance indicator(s):</b></p> <p>Increase in the number of visits at Parks Canada administered places. [Target: 2% (annually)]</p>	Program 4: Visitor Experience



<b>Connecting Canadians with Nature</b> <b>FSDS target(s)</b>	<b>FSDS Contributing Action(s)</b>	Corresponding <b>departmental action(s)</b>	<b>Contribution</b> by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	<b>Starting point(s) / performance indicators</b>	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
		such as trails, day-use areas, campgrounds and visitor centres to ensure the quality and reliability of visitor offers, and respond to changing demands and needs of Canadians.			



**Safe and Healthy Communities: All Canadians live in clean, sustainable communities that contribute to their health and well-being**

Responsible Minister: Minister of Environment and Climate Change; Minister of Health

Safe and Healthy Communities FSDS target(s)	FSDS Contributing Action(s)	Corresponding <b>departmental action(s)</b>	<b>Contribution</b> by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	<b>Starting point(s) / performance indicators</b>	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
By 2020, address the 4,300 substances identified as priorities for action under the Chemicals Management Plan	Demonstrate leadership on assessing and remediating contaminated sites	<p>In 2017-18, Parks Canada will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to the delivery of Phase III of the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP) to reduce potential environmental and human health risks and related financial liabilities.</li> <li>• Assess 13 FCSAP-funded federal contaminated sites.</li> <li>• Remediate or risk-manage 23 high-priority federal contaminated sites.</li> </ul>	Assessment at federal contaminated sites reduces uncertainty associated with the risk from these sites. Subsequent remedial or risk management actions reduce the associated risk and financial liabilities. It is anticipated that up to 95% of FCSAP remediation expenditures contribute to reducing financial liability.	<p><b>Starting Points:</b></p> <p>Number of FCSAP-funded sites where assessment activities have been completed by 2016-17 (base year): <b>[4]</b></p> <p>Number of FCSAP-funded high-priority sites where FCSAP-funded risk reduction activities have been completed by 2016-17 (base year): <b>[2]</b></p> <p><b>Target(s)/performance indicator(s):</b></p> <p>Change in the number of FCSAP-funded sites where assessment activities have been completed.</p> <p>Change in the number of Total number of FCSAP-funded high-priority sites where FCSAP-</p>	Internal Services P2 – Heritage Places Conservation

<b>Safe and Healthy Communities FSDS target(s)</b>	<b>FSDS Contributing Action(s)</b>	Corresponding <b>departmental action(s)</b>	<b>Contribution</b> by each departmental action to the FSDS goal and target	<b>Starting point(s) / performance indicators</b>	Program(s) in which the departmental actions will occur
				funded risk reduction activities have been completed.	

## Section 4. Integrating sustainable development

Parks Canada takes an integrated approach in managing its protected heritage places, including national parks, national historic sites, national marine conservation areas, and national urban parks. For example, Parks Canada carries out conservation and restoration projects in all of these places. These projects are designed in a manner that ensures the conservation of natural and cultural resources, while enhancing visitor experiences and engaging key audiences with a view to connecting Canadians to their heritage places. This integrated approach to the delivery of Parks Canada's mandate has strengthened the Agency's contribution to all aspects of sustainable development - environmental, social and economic.

Parks Canada's decision making and sustainable development practices include collaborating with groups that share its values and have an interest in its work. The establishment of national parks and national marine conservation areas, for example, requires early and ongoing engagement and consultation with provincial/territorial governments and Indigenous Peoples. The designation and commemoration of persons, places and events of national historic significance equally demand the active participation of stakeholders, partners and community groups. The Agency recognizes that building and maintaining these collaborative relationships is essential to achieving its mandate of protecting and presenting Canada's natural and cultural heritage and broader goals of sustainable development.

Parks Canada is custodian on behalf of the Government of Canada of many historic structures. Through sustainable maintenance and conservation actions, the Agency sees it is upholding not only mandated heritage conservation policy objectives, but also helping to achieve various environmental objectives including waste reduction and limiting greenhouse gas emissions throughout the life-cycle of its assets.

Moreover, Parks Canada promotes sustainable development practices by encouraging the use of analytical techniques that compare and integrate environmental, social, and economic objectives and that address multi-year or long-term concerns. For example, the Agency uses social science analytical and performance measurement tools to understand and engage Canadians, particularly certain segments of the population (e.g. urban, youth, new Canadians), in meaningful ways to ensure that its heritage places remain relevant for present and future generations.

### Strategic environmental assessment

Parks Canada will continue to ensure that its decision-making processes include consideration of FSDS goals and targets through its SEA process. An SEA for policy, plan or program proposals includes an analysis of the impacts of the given proposal on the environment, including on FSDS goals and targets.

Statements on the results of Parks Canada Agency's assessments are made public when an initiative that has undergone a detailed SEA is announced ([see here](#)). The purpose of the public statement is to demonstrate that the environmental effects, including the impacts on achieving the FSDS goals and targets, of the approved policy, plan or program, have been considered during proposal development and decision making.