

TAF: A LEADER IN SCALING UP URBAN CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

The Atmospheric Fund (TAF) is a regional climate agency that invests in low-carbon solutions in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA). We focus on the building and transportation sectors, which represent 77 percent of carbon emissions in the region. We collaborate with stakeholders in the private, public, and non-profit sectors. And we're particularly interested in ideas that offer benefits in addition to reducing carbon such as improving people's health, creating local jobs, boosting urban resiliency, and contributing to a fair society. We understand that no one player can advance the solutions to the complex problem of climate change so we challenge ourselves and others to take a "systems" approach, examining multiple aspects of issues.

THREE DECADES OF CARBON REDUCTION RESULTS

With endowment funds provided by the City of Toronto (\$23 million in 1991) and the Province of Ontario (\$17 million in 2016) and committed by the Government of Canada (\$40 million in 2019), TAF helps innovate, demonstrate and move low-carbon solutions to implementation at scale.

TAF IS AN INVESTMENT LEADER

We invest - and like to co-invest - in projects and companies that contribute to climate solutions, generate risk-adjusted ROI, and demonstrate opportunities to other investors. We've **invested \$60 million** in carbon-reducing projects and **mobilized \$188 million**. Our financing includes loans, performance contracts, guarantees and other instruments. Examples include:

- A recent \$1.5 million loan to Markham-based Pond Technologies **catalyzed** \$20.5 million in further investment for an innovative project to sequester carbon emissions from smokestacks
- TAF was the **first funder** of Enwave's "deep water cooling" system that delivers zero-carbon air conditioning to 100 buildings in Toronto's downtown core
- A TAF loan allowed the City of Toronto to upgrade its outdoor lighting which reduced carbon emissions by 20,000 tonnes and **saves the municipality \$2.7 million** a year
- TAF's Green Condo Loan enables developers to incorporate energy-efficient measures that dramatically reduce operating costs for condo owners
- **Financing of energy efficiency retrofits** using TAF's Energy Savings Performance Agreement™ avoids the need for building owners to borrow capital
- A start-up loan helped **launch** car-sharing in Toronto, which is now mainstream



TAF IS A STRATEGIC GRANTMAKER

We fund innovative projects that can deliver significant carbon reductions.

- We were the first and biggest funder of the campaign to end coal-fired electricity generation in Ontario which reduced **69 million tonnes of carbon emissions** and has dramatically improved Ontario's air quality
- A grant to municipal and private partners is helping to develop Canada's **largest** net zero, geothermal energy neighbourhood of about 300 homes
- TAF **helped establish** Smart Commute - now a regional Metrolinx program that helps employers reduce staff travel time and transportation emissions

TAF IS A POLICY ADVOCATE

As a nimble agency, TAF contributes bold ideas backed by practical business cases and solid evidence. This helps government staff advance new policy and programming. Our work has helped create policies and standards that reduce carbon emissions, such as national boiler efficiency standards, national lighting standards, the provincial Energy & Water Reporting and Benchmarking regulation, and TransformTO, Toronto's Climate Plan.

TAF DEMONSTRATES THE CASE FOR LOW-CARBON SOLUTIONS

Our programs focus on reducing the barriers to adopting low-carbon solutions; for example:

- Through our TowerWise program we undertake deep energy retrofits on multi-unit residential buildings in the region. The work demonstrates the technical feasibility and environmental, economic and social benefits of energy efficiency upgrades.
- LightSavers demonstrated the viability of and helped accelerate the adoption of advanced outdoor lighting technologies including LEDs and adaptive controls

TAF'S MODEL IS BEING REPLICATED

The Government of Canada is making a legacy investment in local climate action by endowing TAF, six new centres modelled on TAF, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Increasing local capacity to demonstrate, prove the case for and help scale up local solutions to climate change is key to achieving local, provincial, and national climate targets.

TAF has shown there are solutions to the big challenge of climate change. We've helped **reduce Toronto's carbon emissions 33 percent from 1990 levels**, despite the city's growth. We are now increasing our partnerships and collaborations in order to double this success by 2030 and get on track for an 80 per cent reduction by 2050.