

# LET'S SPEND MONEY ON CLIMATE... **NOT WEAPONS**

The climate crisis is the biggest challenge facing us today. Burning fossil fuels heats up the planet causing unnatural disasters. The world has just experienced two of the hottest years on record. We cannot solve this crisis on our own. Every country must reduce their dependence on oil and gas. Sadly, Western countries are racing to sink a larger share of their budgets into military spending. It is ironic that Canada cannot afford new water bombers or enough pilots, while forest fires are raging across the country.



## **MILITARY SPENDING CONSUMES RESOURCES**

Building weapons causes environmental damage from the extraction of precious metals and fossil fuels. Many mines on Indigenous lands ignore their free, prior and informed consent. The use of these weapons generates massive climate-warming greenhouse gas emissions. In the first two months of one current war, greenhouse gas emissions were greater than the annual emissions of more than 20 of the nations most vulnerable to climate change impacts.



## **HOW MUCH ARE WE BEING ASKED TO SPEND?**

The Canadian military is under pressure from Trump and NATO to increase our defence budget to 5% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) over the next decade: the largest increase since WW2. Canada is expected to spend \$62.7 billion on defence this year with the dollar amount increasing each year to \$150 billion per year by 2035.



## WHERE WILL THE MONEY COME FROM?

In Canada, we can expect deep cuts to our essential social programs. Canada will also cut support for climate action in developing countries to zero over the next few years. The consequences will be global. A study by the Centre for Policy Alternatives and the Climate Action Network (CANRAC), says that if Canada is to honour its commitment to take action to limit global warming to less than 2 C, the Federal government will need to increase spending on climate action to 2% of the GDP, an increase of about \$50 Billion a year by 2028/29.

## WILL INCREASED MILITARY SPENDING KEEP US SAFER?

Following Europe into a new global arms race in the name of "defence readiness" is an expensive mistake. Prioritizing militarization over diplomacy to resolve international tensions will lead us down the path to global instability and greater insecurity for us all.



## HERE IS WHAT WE CAN DO

Contact your MP. Tell them you are against increased military spending. Insist that they advocate to redirect resources to adapting and mitigating the effects of climate change in Canada as well as the global South. Let them know you want increased funding to protect Canada's precious social safety net: affordable housing, health care and food security



In particular, contact the Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change to demand money for water bombers, improved public transit and home and building energy efficiency, Indigenous led climate solutions and establishing a climate youth core as part of the Federal government's sustainable Jobs Act: Julie Dabrusin: 613-992-9381 [julie.dabrusin@parl.gc.ca](mailto:julie.dabrusin@parl.gc.ca)



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit SCAN!'s website and scroll down to War, Climate and Militarism.

