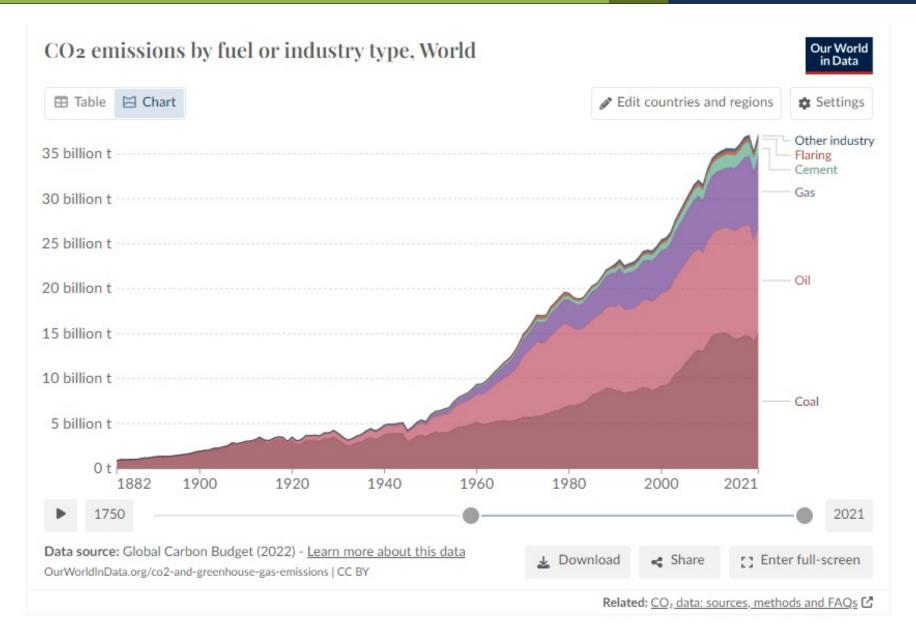




Where is the Money? Investment and divestment considerations for health care workers, associations and foundations.

October 19th, 2023









# Global Emissions by Gas

#### Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>):

- Fossil fuel
- Direct human-induced impacts on fores and other land use

#### Methane (CH4):

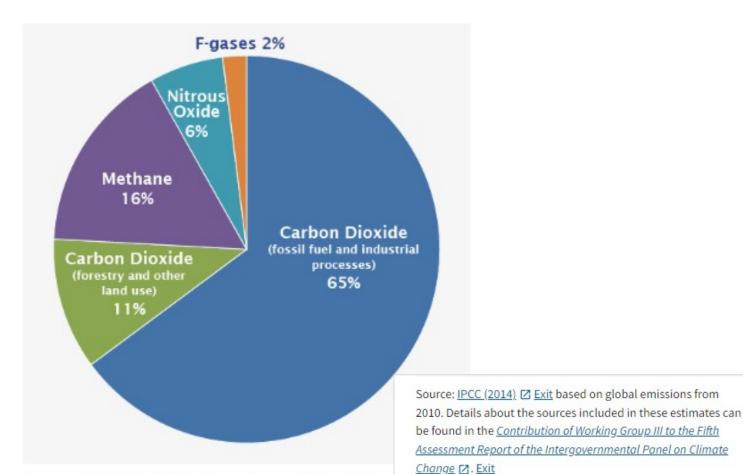
- Agricultural activities
- Waste management
- Energy use
- Biomass burning

#### Nitrous oxide (N2O):

- Agricultural activities
- Fossil fuel combustion

#### Fluorinated gases (F-gases):

- Industrial processes
- Refrigeration
- Consumer products









# The health impacts of fossil fuels

- "[A]ir pollution, primarily the result of burning fossil fuels, which also drives climate change, causes 13 deaths per minute worldwide." (WHO, October 2021: "WHO's 10 calls for climate action to assure sustained recovery from COVID-19")
- Air pollution in Canada :
  - 15,300 premature deaths per year in Canada
  - 2.7 million asthma symptom days per year
  - 35 million acute respiratory symptom days per year

(Health Canada, 2021: "Health Impacts of Air Pollution in Canada: Estimates of morbidity and premature mortality outcomes – 2021 Report")



# Where is the Money?

Investment and divestment considerations for healthcare workers, associations, and foundations



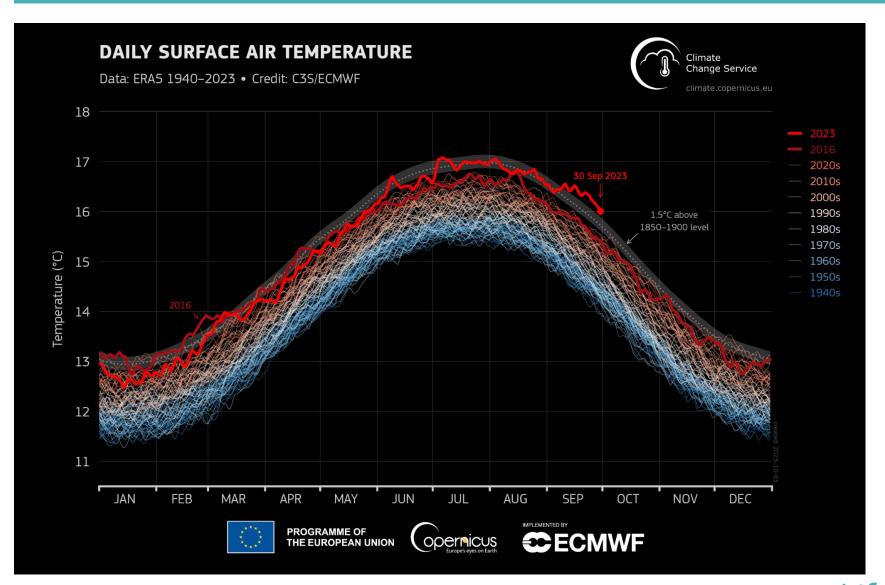
### **Disclosures**

# **Funding**

- Shift is a charitable project on MakeWay's shared platform, which provides operational supports, governance, and charitable expertise for changemakers.
   MakeWay (makeway.org) is a national charity that builds partnerships and solutions to help nature and communities thrive together.
- Shift's work is funded by grants from charitable environmental foundations:

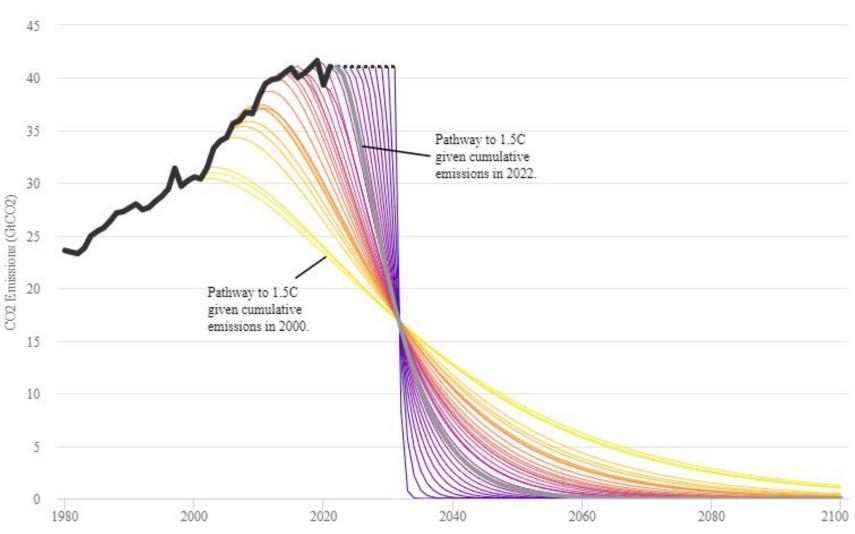


### **The Results**





#### What Do We Need to Do?



https://www.carbonbrief.org/unep-meeting-global-climate-goals-now-requires-rapid-transformation-of-societies/

Emission reduction trajectories associated with a 50% chance of limiting warming below 1.5C, without a reliance on netnegative emissions, by starting year. Solid black line shows historical emissions, while dashed black line shows emissions constant at 2022 levels. Source: Historical CO2 emissions from the Global Carbon Project. 1.5C carbon budgets based on the IPCC AR6 report. Data and original figure design from Robbie Andrews. Chart by Carbon Brief using Highcharts.



#### What's the Role of the Financial Sector?

The financial sector's decisions can determine how bad the climate crisis gets.

"The concern is whether we will spend another decade doing worthy things but not enough... and we will blow through the 1.5°C mark very quickly."

-Mark Carney in 2019



### WHO Endorses Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty

## FossilFuelTreaty.org

- End expansion of any new fossil fuel infrastructure and production by immediately ending activity and investment across all new or expanded fossil fuel exploration, extraction, and building of infrastructure.
- Phase out existing production and use of fossil fuels in a fair and equitable manner in line with the 1.5C global climate goal.
- A just transition for communities and respect for Indigenous rights.



## **How is Finance Part of Decarbonizing the Health Sector?**

## From the individual to the systemic

- Personal investments of health professionals
- Healthcare association investments
- Institutional investments e.g. healthcare pensions, foundations



"Limiting global warming to 1.5C would require

rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society"

**IPCC** 

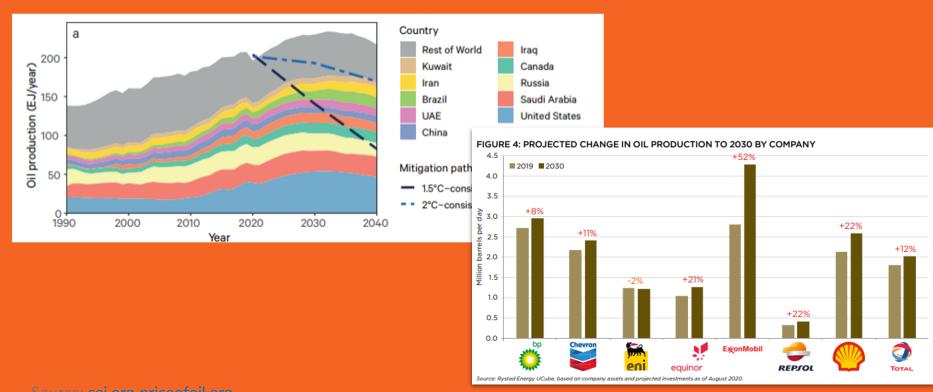
Source: ipcc.ch

# **Presenter Disclosures**

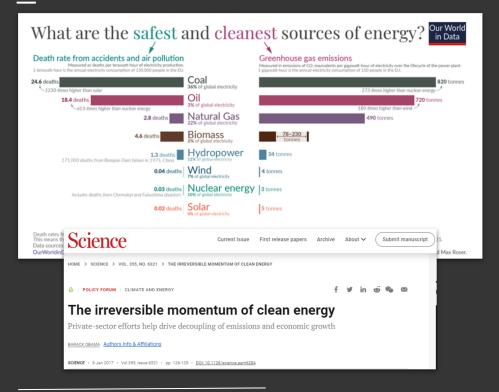
None.

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## Fossil fuel combustion is the biggest source of greenhouse gas emissions

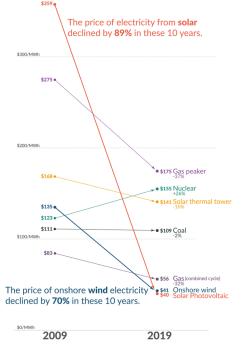


Source: sei.org priceofoil.org



#### The price of electricity from new power plants Our World Electricity prices are expressed in 'levelized costs of energy' (LCOE).

LCOE captures the cost of building the power plant itself as well as the ongoing costs for fuel and operating the power plant over its lifetime.

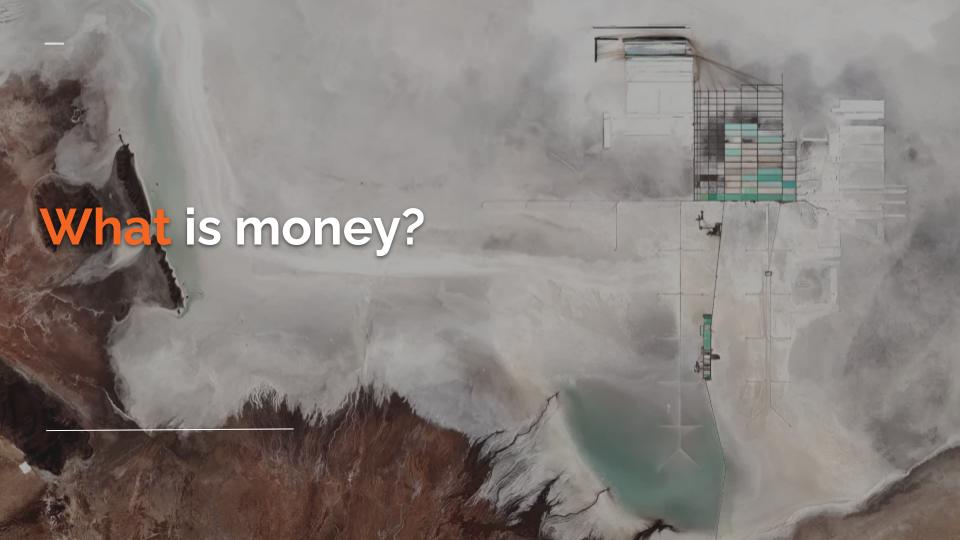


OurWorldinData.org - Research and data to make progress against the world's largest problems. Licensed under CC-BY by the author Max Roser.



This history illustrates the limitations of technological fixes, absent of corresponding economic and political changes, with respect to solving environmental problems.

Source: York 2017



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Money facilitates and compels action at a distance.

Money is an ecological relation.



Source: Patel and Moore (2018)

\_\_

The woods and groves are cut down, for there is need of an endless amount of wood for timbers, machines, and the smelting of metals. And when the woods and groves are felled, then are exterminated the beasts and birds [...] When the ores are washed, the water which has been used poisons the brooks and streams, and either destroys the fish or drives them away.



Source: Patel and Moore (2018)

TC Energy just sold its majority ownership stake in the Coastal GasLink pipeline to Alberta and South Korea's public sector pension funds, investing millions of individuals' retirement savings into one of Canada's most controversial industrial projects.

Growing opposition to privatisation in Chile follows this trend but has an unexpected twist. The Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan (OTPP) is currently the largest investor in Chile's water and sanitation, holding majority shares in three large Chilean water utilities - Essbio, Esval and Aguas del Valle - and with 41% of the sector under its control.

The province's integrity commissioner, J. David Wake, found Steve Clark, Ford's housing minister at the time, violated ethics rules. Clark resigned shortly after the commissioner's report was released.

The auditor general, Bonnie Lysyk, in a separate report, found the developers stood to see their land value increase by \$8.3 billion because of the land swap.





...capitalism has driven a wedge between the economic and the political [...] essentially political issues like the disposition of powers to control production and appropriation, or the allocation of social labour and resources, have been cut off from the political arena and displaced to a separate 'sphere'



Source: Wood (1981)



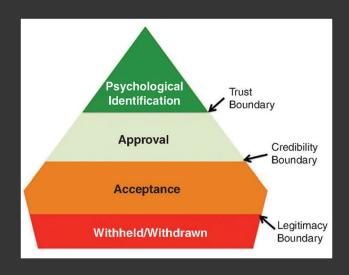
Divestment re-politicizes the economic and reveals ecological relations.

Divestment attacks social license.

\_\_\_

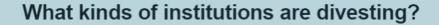
Social license is 'a community's perceptions of the acceptability of a company and its local operations [...] failure to [gain social license] can lead to conflict, delays, added costs, or even prohibition of projects





Source: ipt.spe.org







As of 2019, 1157 organizations worth \$11.51T are committed to fossil fuel divestment.

# Only 23 of those organizations are health institutions

Source: thelancet.com

# **Divestment 101**

+350.org

Get inspired

Build a group

Research

Make a demand

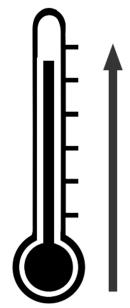
Negotiate with the target

Publicly launch the campaign

# **Divestment 101**

#### **CAMPAIGN PLANNING TEMPLATE**

has the power to fix the problem?	Tactics What do we think will move our target? Which tactics fit this situation? What tactics do we start with? [warm] What tactics might we move to if necessary? [hot]
OMA CEO OMA president OMA board OMA members	
	OMA CEO OMA president OMA board



- 14. Walked out of a meeting en masse
- 13. Spoke to the media
- 12. Pulled a publicity stunt
- 11. Called a meeting of supporters
- Used the result to formulate specific demands, with deadlines
- 9. Filed an information request
- 8. Reached out to parents
- 7. Published a newsletter
- 6. Formed a grievance committee
- 5. Developed a communication network
- 4. Conducted a health survey
- 3. Gathered signatures on a grievance
- 2. Defined their issue: air quality
- 1. Met as a small group

TURNING AN ISSUE INTO A CAMPAIGN



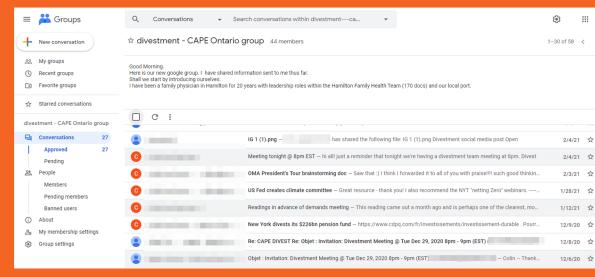
# Form a group/do your homework

Feb 2020 - Co-founded CAPE ON divestment interest group focused on the OMA via listserv

Apr 2020 - hosted webinar on divestment for CAPE members to build interest

Jan 2021 - attended OMA 'president's tour' to pose questions about divestment





# Make a demand/negotiate

Jan 2021 - email to OMA leadership providing information, requesting divestment and a meeting to discuss same

Feb 2021 - Met with OMA leadership regarding divestment



# OMA pledges divestment

August 2021

'[the] goal is to completely divest of fossil fuels and tobacco by this time next year'

# Why'd it work?

Committed team - 10+ of us - staff and trainee physicians, junior and senior medical students

No existing policy on the part of the OMA - ignorance rather than opposition

Sympathetic OMA leadership

CMA precedent

# Taking action

Start a conversation with a colleague about divestment - identify allies

Reach out to your organization to inquire about their investment practices

Money has emissions! ... who has the money?

Individual

Institutional investing (e.g., hospital, foundations)

Larger orgs: pension funds

# FIDUCIARY RE\$PON\$IBILITY

# Value

- -Fund returns
- -Fees
- -Tax

# Risk

-Diversification:

Market indexing
# of unique holdings
Global vs regional

# Value

- -Fund returns
- -Fees
- -Tax
- -ESG

Carbon intensity of fund

-Diversification:

Market indexing

Num. of unique holdings

Global vs regional

# How bad is investing money blindly... for climate change

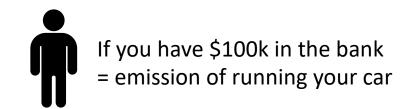
#### Broad market investing

Carbon intensity= 220 (tCO2e / \$m sales)



#### ESG funds with fossil fuel divestment

70-80% better carbon savings





e.g., \$300M long term investments = x14,500 car

# Why ESG investing in is important in healthcare

- Healthcare
  - Public sector
  - Charitable funds
- Healthcare contributes 4-5% of national carbon emissions
  - FF divestment might be a low hanging fruit
    - "Easy" to switch fund
    - Relative to changing clinical practice
- If hospitals are greening, foundations might mirror these shared values
  - Net-zero vision



# Where is the Money?

The role of healthcare pensions

October 19, 2023



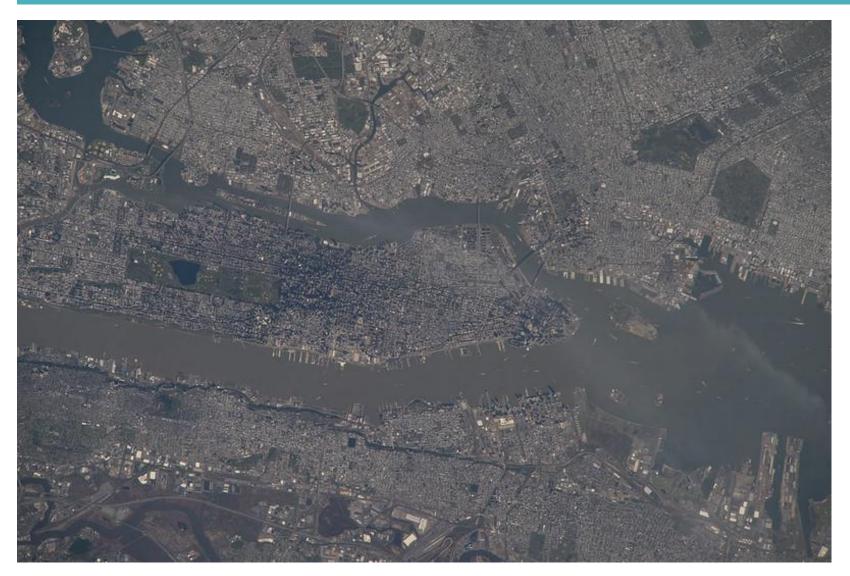
#### What is a Pension?

# \$2 trillion

- Your deferred wages
- Invested over time to generate returns
- Long-term horizons



#### **Why the Climate Crisis Matters to Pensions**







#### **Systemic Risk**



"UPP's ability to realize adequate investment returns and provide retirement benefits depends on a stable climate."



#### **A Climate-Aligned Pension Fund**



# 2022 CANADIAN PENSION CLIMATE REPORT CARD

January 2023



Paris-Aligned Target

Near-Term Targets

Climate Urgency

Climate Integration

Climate Engagement Fossil Fuel Exclusions



#### A Paris-Aligned Climate Plan Includes Divestment

There is no room for new fossil fuel projects in Paris-compatible scenarios, according to the International Energy Agency.

AkademikerPension Chief Investment Officer Anders Schelde was announcing the US\$20 billion pension fund's divestment of the last remaining upstream fossil fuel company in its portfolio.

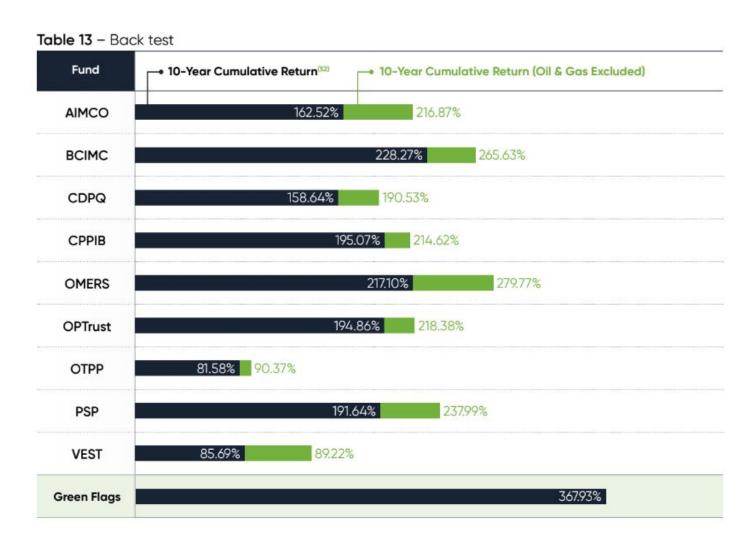


#### **Can They Do It?**





#### **Does it Make Financial Sense?**





#### What are Healthcare Professionals Saying?



Nurses are calling on @HOOPPnow to fund a just and sustainable future, not climate disruption!

Read our letter: RNAO.ca/media/6603/dow...

All Ontario health-care professionals — sign this open letter: act.newmode.net/action/shift-a...

@DorisGrinspun @ClaudetteHollow @LhamoDolkar2023

Source: https://twitter.com/RNAO/status/1707836726687801449



#### **Should Pension Funds "Engage" Instead?**

#### **PFZW**

"PFZW's [Dutch healthcare pension] decision to exit fossil fuel companies that were not meaningfully pursuing a net zero transition followed a lengthy period of engagement with the sector, including through the collaborative engagement initiative Climate Action 100+."

#### **AkademikerPension**

"After several years, where we together with other investors have tried to get these companies to change their climate course, we have to realize that the top management in the oil and gas sector simply refuse to do so in a manner consistent with the goals of the Paris agreement."

#### **Church of England Pensions Board**

There is a significant misalignment between the long term interests of our pension fund and continued investment in companies seeking short term profit maximisation at the expense of the ambition needed to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement."



#### **Pension Funds Answer to their Beneficiaries**



I have just joined HOOPP and I am so excited to be contributing towards a collective good that ensures people can age with dignity. But it's devastating to hear these investments are actually destroying our chance at a liveable future.



ELIZABETH HOULDING,
REGISTERED PHYSIOTHERAPIST

After years of pressure from beneficiaries, the Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan released its first climate plan, but stopped short of divestment.



### Thank you

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LinkedIn: /company/shiftaction

Facebook: @ShiftAction

Instagram: @shiftyourpension

