

Should New Pipelines Be Built in Canada?

General background

The oil industry is a significant part of Canada's economy, accounting for 11% of our GDP and requiring 740,000 jobs. This industry relies on a system of pipelines to transport oil and gas from the place of extraction to where it can be refined and consumed.

The first Canadian pipeline was built in the mid-1800s, but it took another hundred years for an oil and gas boom in Alberta to create the need for a rapid expansion of distribution networks. The second half of the 20th century saw the development of numerous major pipeline projects.

Today more than 840,000 km of pipelines criss-cross the country, bringing oil and gas to Canadian homes, as well as to international markets.

In recent years, the construction of new pipelines has become controversial along with growing awareness of the relationship between fossil fuels and climate change.

Proposed pipeline projects in Canada have faced strong opposition from members of the public, Indigenous groups, and local governments expressing concern over climate and potential environmental impacts.

For More Information:

- [Pipelines in Canada](#) | The Canadian Encyclopedia
- [Everything You Need To Know About Pipelines—And Why They're So Controversial](#) | Chatelaine