

Should Canada Ban Fossil Fueled Automobiles?

No

*Here are some of the reasons why people might argue that Canada **should not** ban the sale and manufacturing of fossil fueled automobiles.*

Lack of infrastructure

While we are in the process of building more electric vehicle charging stations across the country, right now we lack the infrastructure to provide all Canadians with accessible alternatives to fossil fueled automobiles. For instance, many Canadians living in rural areas do not have access to reliable public transportation systems, and electric vehicles require upfront payments that are often unaffordable. Moreover, as of now, many parts of the country lack public charging stations for electric vehicles.

Financial harm to Canadian manufacturers

The majority of Canadian manufacturers produce fossil fueled automobiles. To demand that they stop producing these vehicles would significantly harm the automobile industry, which has already taken a significant hit after tariffs imposed by the United States.

Human rights concerns with the production of electric vehicles

While Canada has an obligation to transition to green energy across sectors, Canada has a duty to ensure this transition should not come at the expense of human rights abuses in other places. Right now, the minerals required to make batteries for electric vehicles are often extracted in harmful conditions. For example, much of the cobalt required for lithium batteries that electric vehicles use is [mined in the Democratic Republic of Congo](#) (DRC), where the mining conditions are often extremely dangerous and labour rights are not consistently upheld.

Read More:

- [Energy Transition](#) | Amnesty International
- [Feds back big EV charging stations but gaps glare in small-scale project roll-out](#) | Canada's National Observer