



BOMA Canada Speaks Out On Climate Change

Ottawa, ON – 2003 - The Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) Canada is the voice of the Canadian commercial real estate industry. BOMA Canada represents nine local/regional associations across Canada, that in turn represent building owners and managers in all regions of the country, over 2000 members of the industry, and over 500 million square feet of office space in Canada.

BOMA Canada recognizes that climate change is a significant and serious global environmental issue and that long-term strategies are needed to reduce all GHG emissions.

BOMA Canada has been continually monitoring the ongoing deliberations and discussions about climate change. The Rio de Janeiro Convention in 1992 and the Kyoto Convention in 1997 have attempted to mobilize the international community of nations to take action on this issue. Although Canada agreed in Kyoto to do its part and reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 6% below the 1990 levels by 2010, GHG emissions have steadily increased since that time. Under a continuation of the "business as usual" scenario, emissions in 2010 will be 27% above 1990 levels.

Clearly, the time for action is at hand. All Canadians including members of our association will have to do their part to reduce GHGs.

Many of our BOMA member companies have already demonstrated leadership in managing energy use and taking significant steps to reduce their contribution to GHG emissions. The BOMA Earth Awards program recognizes leadership not only in reducing GHGs but also in other aspects of environmental stewardship in our industry. BOMA Canada is committed to continue to play a leading role in assisting our industry to do its part in helping Canada to achieve its international commitments.

Our association strongly supports the Canadian Government's intention to implement strategies that will stimulate action in all sectors of our economy to reduce GHGs. We do believe, however, that each country's situation is somewhat unique. We therefore believe there is a need to tailor the implementation strategy so each business sector approach can maintain its competitiveness, while at the same time achieving the objectives of the Kyoto Protocol.

BOMA Canada is prepared to work with the government leaders in devising appropriate strategies to further reduce GHG emissions in our industry.