

Generation Squeeze

[www.gensqueeze.ca](http://www.gensqueeze.ca)

Andrea Long, Senior Director of Research and Knowledge Mobilization, [andrea@gensqueeze.ca](mailto:andrea@gensqueeze.ca)

## Chapeau

Securing the wellbeing of current and future generations requires governments and global institutions to design policies that are generationally fair. [Generational fairness](#) means young and old alike have the chance to thrive, while being good ancestors to those who follow in their footsteps.

At the level of tactics the immediacy of asking people to think about how decisions we are collectively making today are *already* harming our immediate descendants is a powerful lever for action. Asking people to care about their kids, grandkids or other young people they care about is a powerful lever for action. Many people already have. Similarly,

governments around the world to preserve what we all hold sacred: healthy childhoods, healthy homes, and a healthy planet so that we can all be proud of the legacy we leave for those who follow.

International partners agree that governments around the world focus on solving short-term problems with little regard for long-term wellbeing or sustainability. Embedding generational fairness into national and international governance requires that we stop mortgaging the future to pay for things that are convenient in the present. Among other things, this includes extracting too much of the atmosphere's scarce capacity to absorb carbon, because we don't want to pay for our pollution or change our lifestyle and consumer habits. It also includes propping up unsustainable fiscal policies that grow spending on today's older demographics by shrinking what's left. 006 Tw -47.6 (e)-6 (f). (006 Tw -47.6 in)2.(