

Capital Regional District
Meeting Minutes
Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force (IMTF)

Friday, March 14, 2025

9:30 AM

Room 488/MS Teams

Present: Councillor S. Duck (Sidney), Councillor M. Gardiner (Victoria), Councillor D. Grove (Colwood), A. MacKenzie (View Royal), Councillor S. Riddell (Central Saanich), Councillor M. Wagner (Langford)

Electronic Participation: Councillor A. Appleton (Oak Bay), Councillor A. Baird (Highlands), Councillor J. Brownoff (Saanich), Councillor S. Gray (Metchosin), Director G. Holman (SSI EA), Councillor T. St-Pierre (Sooke), Director A. Wickheim (JdF EA)

Staff: M. Carolsfeld (Climate Action Coordinator), N. Elliott (Manager, Climate Action Programs), M. Greeno (Community Energy Specialist), M. Rowe (Climate Action Program Assistant, Recorder), R. Tooke (Senior Manager, Environmental Innovation & Strategy)

Regrets: Director P. Brent (SGI EA), Councillor D. Cavens (Esquimalt), Mayor P. Jones (North Saanich)

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

1. Welcome and Introductions

- A round of introductions was made by Task Force members, and CRD staff.

2. Territorial Acknowledgement

- N. Elliott provided a Territorial Acknowledgment.

3. Approval of Agenda

- Agenda for the [March 14, 2025](#) Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force meeting.

4. Adoption of Minutes

- Minutes from the [December 6, 2024](#) Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force meeting.

MOVED by Councillor S. Duck, SECONDED by Councillor A. Baird
That the minutes of the December 6, 2024 Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force meeting be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

5. Climate Action Program Updates

- N. Elliott provided background information and updates for the CRD Climate Action Service, including:
 - Staffing updates, electric mobility, Low Carbon Fuel Standard Reporting service, forthcoming reports to Environmental Services Committee in April, climate adaptation capacity building grant approval, climate adaptation backgrounder report, Climate Action Strategy renewal, and CRD 2025 Budget approval.

Action:

- a) CRD staff to upload final reports to SharePoint Collaboration site when finalized.

6. Check-in: CRD's Climate Action Strategy (CAS) Vision, Targets, Principles, Goals

To support renewal of the CAS, members were asked to participate in an exercise reviewing the guiding framework for the 2025-2030 strategy, with an implementation focus.

- Vision: Reviewed RGS and Climate Action Strategy Vision Statements. Feedback/discussion included:
 - Needs stronger equity and First Nations lens, future generations focus, and a broader, future-looking regional vision. Should inspire hope while being realistic about global trends, politics, and population growth. Greater emphasis on adaptation, emissions reduction, intergovernmental coordination, evidence-based decision-making, advocacy and high-impact actions. Should consider biodiversity, tree protection, and natural assets.
- Targets: Reviewed CRD corporate and regional emissions reductions targets. Feedback/discussion included:
 - Targets are mostly fine but could be more memorable (e.g., 50% by 2030 vs. 61% by 2038). CRD should lead by example with stronger corporate targets. Need to “walk the talk”. Regionally, consider sector-specific breakdowns and tangible impacts to improve engagement. Acknowledge non-linear progress (e.g., Zero Carbon Step Code effects take time). Population growth is challenging emissions reductions, with many key factors beyond CRD control.
- Principles: Reviewed the guiding principles for plan. Feedback/discussion included:
 - Could combine equity and reconciliation, guided by First Nations. Leadership should prioritize collaboration, evidence-based decisions, and efficiency. Add “Culture Shift” as a principle to make sustainable choices easy and appealing. Highlight co-benefits like economic resilience, biodiversity, and emergency preparedness. Use plain, practical language.
- Goals: Reviewed the 6 goal areas of the CAS and asked members to note “things they like” and “things they don’t”. Staff provided a link to an online platform for further feedback. Themes/summary of feedback collected included:
 - Ensure language is clear and relatable. Emphasize evidence-based decisions and cultural shifts (e.g., public transit, affordable housing). Add a goal for biodiversity and nature protection. Land use planning should consider densification. Strengthen adaptation focus (e.g., extreme heat, floods). Frame climate action positively—affordability, well-being, and quality of life—rather than fear-based messaging. Provide practical alternatives to high-emission behaviors.

- b) CRD staff to consider feedback for vision, principles, goals, targets of renewed CAS and

present to Board.

7. Municipal Roundtable – Open Discussion

- Deferred due to time constraints.

Action:

- c) Members to share any pertinent updates to CRD Staff for distribution with meeting minutes.

8. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

New Actions	Responsibility	Timeline
CRD staff to upload final technical reports to SharePoint Collaboration site when finalized.	Staff	ASAP
CRD staff to consider Task Force feedback in for vision, principles, goals, targets of renewed CAS and present to Board.	Staff	ASAP
Members to share any pertinent updates to CRD Staff for distribution with meeting minutes.	IMTF	ASAP
Past Actions	Responsibility	Timeline
Members to utilize Task Force SharePoint site to share key documents and resources between members. If you need assistance accessing the collaborative site, please contact staff.	IMTF	Ongoing
Members to provide future meeting topic requests to Manager, Climate Action Programs.	IMTF	Ongoing
CRD staff to attach the minutes from the previous meeting with future meeting invites, in addition to linking to the SharePoint collaboration site.	Staff	Ongoing