

Capital Regional District

Meeting Minutes

Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force (IMTF)

Friday, March 13, 2026

9:30 AM

Room 488/MS Teams

Present: Councillor M. Gardiner (Victoria), Councillor D. Grove (Colwood), A. MacKenzie (View Royal), M. Wagner (Langford)

Electronic Participation: Councillor A. Baird (Highlands), Councillor S. Duck (Sidney), Councillor S. Gray (Metchosin)

Staff: M. Carolsfeld (Climate Action Coordinator), P. Enright (Manager, Climate Action Programs), M. Greeno (CRD Community Energy Specialist), A. Lavigueur (CRD E-Mobility Coordinator), M. Rowe (Climate Action Program Assistant, Recorder)

Regrets: Councillor A. Appleton (Oak Bay), Councillor M. Brame (Esquimalt), Director P. Brent (SGI EA), Councillor J. Brownoff (Saanich), Director G. Holman (SSI EA), Mayor P. Jones (North Saanich), Councillor S. Riddell (Central Saanich), Councillor T. St-Pierre (Sooke), Director A. Wickheim (JdF EA)

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 am.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

- P. Enright provided a Territorial Acknowledgment.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Agenda for the March 13, 2026, Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force meeting was approved.

3. Adoption of Minutes

- Minutes from the December 12, 2025, Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force meeting were adopted.

4. Climate Action Program Updates

- P. Enright, M. Greeno, A. Lavigueur, M. Carolsfeld, and M. Rowe provided background information and updates for the CRD Climate Action Service, including:
 - Climate Action Strategy Renewal (intending to go to ESC in June 2026 and CRD Board in July), CleanBC advocacy (update to ESC and Board with CAS renewal), climate adaptation capacity-building (held workshop for elected officials on

February 27, 2026), launched Building Benchmarking program, electric mobility regional charging network (recently completed new chargers in Sooke, Colwood, Metchosin, and SSI), Low Carbon Fuel Standard Reporting service (first sale of LCFS credits, this helps offset maintenance costs of chargers), BCSEA Cool It! Climate Leadership Training program, SustainableCRD community e-newsletter, Spring-Summer environmental outreach (four Environmental Outreach Assistants starting in May).

Members advised that the CRD consider:

- A range of perspectives regarding the CRD's role in advocacy and regulatory authority. On one hand, there was concern about taking a heavy-handed approach or pursuing additional authority to mandate actions. On the other hand, members highlighted the CRD's limited jurisdiction and suggested that advocacy could help enable more effective climate action and implementation.
- Facilitating climate adaptation capacity-building workshops for elected officials again and earlier in the election term with new Board and Councils, e.g., early 2027.
- Approach to outreach and program resourcing for the benchmarking program. One Member requested information on the costs of running this program, staff time, and projected GHG emissions reductions and energy savings. Staff will follow up.

Actions:

- a) CRD staff to share full details of draft Climate Action Strategy renewal actions with the meeting minutes. Task Force members may provide feedback to Patrick Enright, Manager Climate Action Programs.
- b) CRD staff to include a recommendation on a CleanBC advocacy letter to ESC and CRD Board, along with CAS renewal. Staff will then share the letter with municipalities.
- c) CRD staff to follow up with details on benchmarking program costs, and projected GHG emissions reductions, and energy savings targets.
- d) CRD staff to share materials from the Climate Adaptation Fundamentals workshop with meeting minutes.

5. Task Force Terms of Reference

- P. Enright provided a review of the Task Force Terms of Reference.
 - Some overlap in memberships between Task Force, ESC, and Board. Members can bring items forward through these members.
 - Alternatively, items can be brought forward to ESC if the majority of Task Force members vote in favour of it.
 - Value of the Task Force is in sharing community priorities with both CRD staff and between member municipalities.

Action:

- e) CRD staff to re-share Terms of Reference with meeting minutes.

6. Municipal Roundtable – Open Discussion

- Attendees provided brief updates regarding current projects and areas of interest in their respective municipalities and electoral areas. Discussion related to perceived service gaps in regional waste management (textiles, large items, aerosol cans), Parks Master Plan equity tools, transportation and active transportation (planning and feasibility studies, and infrastructure upgrades), budget cutbacks on environmental and social

services, parks stewardship programs, community gardens, fleet electrification and charging infrastructure, community building and resilience initiatives, demolition and deconstruction bylaws, Urban Forest Strategies, Saanich Peninsula Environmental Coalition workshop (Bioregional Framework for the Peninsula), Westshore Bioregional Summit planning (aiming for 2027), biodiversity and natural asset plan, and an upcoming biodiversity open house.

Action:

- f) CRD staff to provide an update on upcoming outreach event attendance.

7. Other Items? Future Topics?

- Court cases and legalities - Natural Asset Management, balancing land development with protection of forests, wetlands, tree canopy, etc.
- Coordination and advocacy to other levels of government
- Food policy, opportunity for a regional council? Foodlands Access Service
- Transportation Governance

8. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

New Actions	Responsibility	Timeline
CRD staff to share full details of draft Climate Action Strategy renewal actions with the meeting minutes. Task Force members may provide feedback to Patrick Enright, Manager Climate Action Programs.	Both	ASAP
CRD staff to include a recommendation on a CleanBC advocacy letter to ESC and CRD Board, along with CAS renewal. Staff will then share the letter with municipalities.	Staff	June-July
CRD staff to follow up with details on benchmarking program costs, and projected GHG emissions reductions, and energy savings targets.	Staff	Before next meeting
CRD staff to share materials from the Climate Adaptation Fundamentals workshop with meeting minutes.	Staff	ASAP
CRD staff to share Terms of Reference with meeting minutes.	Staff	ASAP
CRD staff to provide an update on upcoming outreach event attendance.	Staff	Next meeting
Past Actions	Responsibility	Timeline
Members to provide future meeting topic requests to Manager, Climate Action Programs.	Task Force	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