

**From:** [Minister, ENV ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Nelson Chan](#)  
**Cc:** [Nikki Elliott](#); [Ruth Midgley](#)  
**Subject:** Local Government Climate Action Program Funding  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2024 2:34:52 PM

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Reference: 409000

*March 20, 2024*

Nelson Chan  
Capital Regional District  
Sent via email: [nchan@crd.bc.ca](mailto:nchan@crd.bc.ca)

Dear Nelson Chan:

In Budget 2022, the Province provided \$76 million over three years for the [Local Government Climate Action Program](#) (LGCAP). Through ongoing engagement with LGCAP participants, the Province heard the need for predictable and increased funding to support local climate action, as well as the need for enhanced guidance and technical resources. As a result, I'm pleased to announce the Province is allocating the equivalent of three years of program funding to all participants (2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27). By providing this funding, local governments and Modern Treaty Nations can plan and fund their climate action projects with more certainty. This allocation comes with flexibility as it can be utilized until March 31, 2028. Please note this is an up front payment, meaning there will be no LGCAP disbursements in fiscal years 24/25, 25/26, and 26/27.

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (the "Province") will provide \$369,429 this March to Capital Regional District to support local climate initiatives aligned with the [CleanBC Roadmap](#) and the [Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy](#). To ensure transparency regarding the use of these funds, local governments and Modern Treaty Nations will be required to report annually on their actions to reduce emissions and prepare for climate impacts.

Mandatory reporting is required for each of the next three years:

1. Complete the online LGCAP survey (by July 31 of 2024, 2025, and 2026).
2. Have a Chief Financial Officer (or equivalent) sign the attestation form.
3. Complete an annual corporate greenhouse gas inventory if your local

government has a population larger than 10,000 residents (based on 2020 BC Census figures). To be completed by July 31 of 2024, 2025, and 2026).

4. Publicly post your LGCAP survey and attestation (by September 30 of 2024, 2025, and 2026).

Required annual reporting is a valuable tool for monitoring local government and Modern Treaty Nation leadership on climate action. Reporting helps track LGCAP results and enables the Province to report on key performance indicators for the legislated Climate Change Accountability Report.

Based on LGCAP reporting to date, the majority of LGCAP investments have been used for:

- Staffing.
- Buildings initiatives (efficiency upgrades, energy efficiency programs and net zero buildings commitments).
- Transportation initiatives (EV charging plans and infrastructure, active transportation, EV fleet adoption).
- Investment in resilient municipal infrastructure, buildings, energy systems and transportation.
- Investments in reserve funds preparing for higher value infrastructure work.

In addition to actions that you are already taking to meet your climate action objectives the Province requests that you also consider:

- Preparing for the *Emergency Disaster Management Act* and the requirements for local authorities to complete risk assessments and associated Emergency Management Plans beginning in 2026.
- Applying a climate lens to infrastructure investments and policies.
- Using Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) reporting for Municipal Financing Authority (MFA) investments.
- Continuing to explore/implement natural asset infrastructure inventories and/or natural asset infrastructure solutions.
- Continuing to support clean/alternate modes of transportation and consider your role in the upcoming Clean Transportation Action Plan.

There will be several program supports available on the [LGCAP website](#) including guidance on applying a climate lens, ESG reporting, natural assets, preparing for risk assessments and recommended resources on best investments to reduce emissions

and prepare for a changing climate. Webinars will be held in April 2024 (registration details can be found [here](#)). In addition, the [Community Energy and Emissions Inventory](#) data for 2021 has been published with new transportation data to support energy and emissions planning and monitoring. If you have any questions, please contact LGCAP staff at [LGCAP@gov.bc.ca](mailto:LGCAP@gov.bc.ca).

In May, you will receive an email with instructions on how to access the online LGCAP survey reporting tool.

In recognition of the critical role communities play in reducing greenhouse gas and increasing climate resilience, the Province has provided over \$600 million to local government through the CleanBC Communities Fund, the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund, the Organic Infrastructure Program and LGCAP. These investments support local climate action in the built environment, transportation, water, waste and land use. I've been impressed by your work and look forward to our continued collaboration.

Finally, the Province requests that you hold off on any planned announcements related to LGCAP until a public announcement is made by the Province.

Sincerely,

George Heyman  
Minister

cc: [nelliott@crd.bc.ca](mailto:nelliott@crd.bc.ca); [rmidgley@crd.bc.ca](mailto:rmidgley@crd.bc.ca)