

## Proposed Vision, Principles, Goals and Targets for Renewed CRD Climate Action Strategy

### Vision

The purpose of the climate action vision statement is to define the Capital Regional District's (CRD) long-term aspirations and desired future state with regards to climate change. It serves as a guiding principle, inspiring interest holders and aligning efforts toward a common goal. By articulating a clear and compelling climate action vision statement, the CRD can foster motivation, strategic direction, and a shared sense of purpose. Through engagement with the CRD Climate Action Inter-Municipal Working Group (IMWG) and elected official members of the CRD Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force (Task Force), it was determined that the vision statement defined in the CRD Regional Growth Strategy fulfilled these parameters and lent itself to an effective vision for the CRD Climate Action Strategy. Therefore, it is proposed to adopt the vision statement from the Regional Growth Strategy.

VISION STATEMENT	
2021 CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY	PROPOSED UPDATE
Through collective action, we eliminate emissions and foster healthy and resilient communities and natural areas now and in the future.	In 2038, Capital Regional District residents enjoy a healthy and rewarding quality of life. We have a vital economy, livable communities and steward our environment and natural resources with care. Our choices reflect our commitment to collective action on climate change.

## Principles

The 2021 Climate Action Strategy has six principles that were identified and crafted with input from multiple levels of interest holders during the development of the strategy. These principles are intended to guide the selection of actions within the strategy and to guide the implementation of actions under each goal area. Through engagement with internal subject matter experts and participants in the IMWG and Task Force, use of plain language to improve accessibility of each guiding principle was recommended. Updates to the guiding principles were made to reduce use of jargon and emphasize active language.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES	
2021 CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY	PROPOSED UPDATE
<b>LEADERSHIP</b> The CRD takes bold action to rapidly eliminate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from corporate operations, prepares CRD assets for the changing climate, and integrates climate action across the CRD's local and regional services.	<b>LEAD</b> Act boldly as an organization and lead by example.
<b>COLLABORATION</b> Collaborative and collective action among municipal, provincial, federal and First Nations governments, businesses, organizations and residents is critical to advance climate action.	<b>COLLABORATE AND LISTEN</b> Work together across the region and seek to understand what the community needs.
<b>URGENCY</b> Actions to mitigate the impacts of climate change are swift and substantial to respond to the climate emergency.	<b>EVIDENCE BASED DECISIONS</b> Base decisions on the best available evidence to ensure they work well, are responsible, and can be adjusted as needed.
<b>FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS</b> Actions support indigenous-led climate solutions that are grounded in indigenous self-determination, shared prosperity and respect indigenous relationships with the land, water and all beings.	<b>WORK TOWARDS RECONCILIATION</b> Further CRD's work towards reconciliation by supporting Indigenous-led climate solutions that are grounded in Indigenous self-determination and shared prosperity, and respecting Indigenous relationships with the land, water, and all beings.

## EQUITY

Actions are inclusive and accessible to residents across the region, and particularly support those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

## STRIVE FOR CLIMATE EQUITY

Apply an equity, diversity and inclusion lens to climate action so that actions are inclusive and accessible to residents across the region, and particularly support those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

## CO-BENEFITS

Actions maximize co-benefits, including reducing ghg emissions, increasing resilience, improving affordability, expanding economic opportunities, improving health and well-being, advancing reconciliation, and more.

## CO-BENEFITS

Maximize win-wins, including energy efficiency, resilience, affordability, health and well-being, and biodiversity.

## Goal Areas

The CRD's 2021 Climate Action Strategy identified six primary goal areas as focal points for its initiatives. Actions are grouped within each goal area accordingly. Updates have been made to the goal area titles and description, based on feedback during engagement with the IMWG and Task Force, resulting in the following recommended language for inclusion in the updated Climate Action Strategy. The updated strategy will also include long-form descriptions of each goal area, expanding on the themes, activities, and responsibilities of the CRD.

## GOAL AREAS

### 2021 CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY

#### CLIMATE-FOCUSED DECISION MAKING

Climate action priorities are integrated at all levels of decision making across the organization.

#### SUSTAINABLE LAND USE, PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS

Support the region on its pathway to livable, affordable and low-carbon communities that are prepared for climate change.

### PROPOSED UPDATE

#### CLIMATE-FOCUSED DECISIONS

Climate action is integrated at all levels of decision making across the organization.

#### SUSTAINABLE AND PREPARED COMMUNITIES

Support the region's transition to low-carbon, affordable, and climate-ready communities.

#### LOW CARBON MOBILITY

Rapidly reduce corporate fleet emissions. Support, and encourage active, public and zero-emission transportation options across the region.

#### LOW-CARBON AND RESILIENT BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Accelerate energy efficiency, emission reductions and enhanced resilience in CRD buildings and infrastructure. Support and encourage the same for all buildings and infrastructure across the region.

#### RESILIENT AND ABUNDANT NATURE, ECOSYSTEMS AND FOOD SYSTEMS

Protect, conserve and manage ecosystem health and nature's capacity to store carbon and adapt to climate change. Support the ongoing ability of natural systems to sustain life.

#### WASTE REDUCTION

Waste generation and the resulting emissions are minimized, and remaining waste is transformed into a resource. Follow the 5R pollution prevention hierarchy.

#### LOW CARBON MOBILITY

Rapidly reduce vehicle emissions and support more options for active and public transportation across the region.

#### LOW-CARBON AND RESILIENT BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Accelerate energy efficiency, electrification, and prepare buildings and infrastructure for climate impacts.

#### RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS AND FOODLANDS

Enhance natural spaces to sustain life, improve water quality, and support climate adaptation.

#### WASTE REDUCTION

Reduce waste and landfill emissions. Transform remaining waste into a resource.

## Emission Reduction Targets

The emission reduction targets included in the 2021 Climate Action Strategy are divided by scope into two targets: one for regional emissions and another for corporate emissions. The regional emissions target is 61% by 2038, as defined by the 2018 Regional Growth Strategy (RGS). This target may be reviewed as part of revisions to the RGS in coming years, but in the meantime will remain as is within the updated Climate Action Strategy.

The corporate target of 45% by 2030 and net-zero by 2050 is guided by the principles of the strategy and is based on global best practices as advised by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

As part of the Climate Action Strategy update, staff will consider developing sub-targets for corporate emissions to account for growing service impacts. The proposed targets for the renewed Climate Action Strategy (2025-2030) are:

