

# Capital Regional District

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## What We Heard Summary Report: Climate/Carbon Budgeting Workshop

Capital Regional District | December 2023

The following provides a summary “What We Heard” report from the CRD’s Carbon and Climate Budgeting Workshop held on Monday, June 26, 2023, and follow-up sessions with the CRD’s inter-municipal climate committees in September 2023.

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## Introduction

The Capital Regional District's (CRD) Climate/Carbon Budgeting Workshop held on June 26, 2023, brought together municipal staff and council members to explore the opportunity to implement a Climate or Carbon Budget among local governments in the capital region.

Whereas a *Carbon Budget* sets limits for how much total carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions may be permitted by human activities within a geographical or political boundary, a *Climate Budget* is a governance system that integrates climate considerations into local government decision-making, creating transparency and accountability for climate action.

<b>CARBON Budgeting</b>	<b>CLIMATE Budgeting</b>
A carbon budget is the cumulative amount of carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ) emissions that is permitted to limit global warming to within a specified temperature threshold (i.e., 1.5°C or 2°C above pre-industrial levels). Most often, this refers to the total net amount of CO <sub>2</sub> that can be emitted by human activities within a geographical or political boundary.	A climate budget is a governance system that integrates climate considerations into the financial budget and creates transparency and accountability for climate action. To the extent possible, actions are linked to an estimated emissions reduction and funding approach to illustrate the costs required to achieve the targeted emissions reductions.

(Adapted from C40 Cities, 2022)

In practice, the terms Carbon Budget and Climate Budget have been used to describe overlapping bodies of work. We use the term "Climate/Carbon Budget" throughout this document to refer to a process or governance system used to reduce regional CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

The Carbon/Climate Budgeting Workshop aimed to meet the following goals:

- Goal 1** Share information: Hear from practitioners developing and implementing Carbon and Climate budgets.
- Goal 2** Build staff and elected official capacity on regional climate action communication and implementation.
- Goal 3** Gather participant input to better understand the potential costs and benefits of Carbon and Climate budgets for the region.

To establish a Climate/Carbon Budget, local governments must consider a variety of budget parameters, including its scope (i.e., corporate versus community emissions), what can be sufficiently quantified to support decision-making, staff capacity and the target audience.

After hearing from 11 climate action practitioners from nine different communities on the development and implementation of Carbon and Climate Budgets (Appendix A), almost 30 local government staff and council members gathered to discuss the parameters around a Climate/Carbon Budget, as well as the potential costs and benefits of implementing this practice in the capital region.

This report highlights seven themes that emerged from the workshop on June 26, 2023, and follow-up discussions with the CRD Climate Action Inter-Municipal Working Group and CRD Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force in fall 2023. Opportunities and challenges associated with implementing a Climate/Carbon Budget in the region are articulated to inform staff recommendations for next steps.

## Overarching Themes

### Theme 1: Mainstreaming

The first theme from the workshop discussion highlights the need to mainstream climate action across organizations. While Climate/Carbon Budgeting was seen as an opportunity to mainstream climate action, feedback suggested that creating this consistency across organizations is necessary regardless of a specified emissions target or budget. Ideas to mainstream climate action included embedding sustainability staff in other departments, providing training for staff on climate topics, developing/adjusting decision-making frameworks, and building governance processes for more effective climate action.

“How does sustainability best get integrated into our local government processes? How do we all (staff across departments) get aligned?”

“Need to be able to build upon existing tools to be relevant to municipalities.”

“Climate budgeting seems like a good way to integrate climate action into Budget/Strategic Planning.”

### Theme 2: More & Faster!

Much of the feedback highlighted an urgency to act now and do more. This feedback suggested adopting a paradigm shift where we increase budgets and spend what it takes to reduce emissions

effectively. Others urged for earlier investment in climate action, and that granting bodies should act faster and provide more money to support these efforts.

“Our budgets are decided based on what we are used to spending on a normal day, we need to change that paradigm and increase budgets.”

“More action means less reaction.”

### Theme 3: Cross/Extra Jurisdictional Work

The third theme suggests a need for increased collaboration across jurisdictions, both regionally and beyond. Some feedback highlighted the critical role of the provincial and federal governments in phasing out oil and gas production by developing a more progressive tax system and providing more funding. Others emphasized the role of the CRD in supporting a regional Climate/Carbon budget by providing capacity building and tools to integrate climate-focused decision-making.

“The benefit of doing this together [is] to be able to compare regionally. We need time during roundtables at committee [to discuss this].”

“CRD a source of capacity building.”

“We may see increased GHG emissions in Victoria if all the densification happens at the core. How does per capita fit in?”

### Theme 4: Transparency

The fourth theme centered on a need to be open and honest with the public (and with ourselves). In general, many attendees noted the importance of being transparent on emissions reductions progress or being transparent on the implications of local government decisions on climate goals, either through climate/carbon budgeting or other decision-making processes. They also noted that through simple and direct messaging, this transparency could empower the public and increase political will for climate action. To do so, we must also increase our awareness of the conflicting messages that are visible to the public (i.e., those that are provided by fossil fuel providers).

“We need to regularly show the public where we are failing to hit targets.”

“Budgeting is a way of telling the truth to ourselves and to the public.”

### Theme 5: Public Communication

Reflecting on Cara Pike from Re.Climate's presentation on 'Climate Change Public Opinion and Engagement', many comments noted the importance of using plain language for communications and highlighting positive and hopeful messaging through real-world success stories. Climate/Carbon budgeting was seen as a tool to engage with the public and highlight the urgency of climate change; however, some noted that the language around carbon budgets is often too technical for the public and there is risk of getting caught up in the details.

"Carbon budgets are often too technical for the public. [There is] risk of getting lost in the weeds."

"[It is] leadership's responsibility to push transformation using easy to understand language."

### Theme 6: Unintended Consequences

The discussion highlighted various unintended consequences of implementing Climate/Carbon Budgeting. For instance, some showed concern for the financial barriers to reducing carbon emissions, which could cause individuals with lower financial means to bear the brunt of the impacts. Others saw risk in the big picture benefits getting lost in the budgeting process, and that this would be highly resource intensive.

"The speakers noted that current work has not influenced decision-making (GHG-lagging indicator)."

"There are real immediate financial barriers and there is a danger of leaving those people behind. The poor bear the brunt of the impacts."

### Theme 7: Staff Capacity / Opportunity Costs

The final theme that emerged during the workshop discussion was a concern that there would not be enough staff capacity available to complete this work or that it would take away from implementation of actions. Feedback noted that there is varying staff capacity across the region (i.e., based on rural versus urban regionality and budget size) and that this may impact the effectiveness of a regional Climate/Carbon Budget. We heard from other practitioners already engaging in this work that the process was resource intensive, especially because it was a new area of work.

“Carbon budgeting consumes staff resources through lost action and reporting opportunities. Is there a net benefit?”

“There is different capacity of staff across the region. It’s important to have staff understand these concepts to present policy options.”

“Concerned that the cost of the plan and the time to make it may ‘eat into’ time we have left.”

## Additional Engagement – September 2023

At the September meetings, the CRD Climate Action Inter-Municipal Working Group (IMWG) (i.e., staff) and CRD Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force (Task Force) (i.e., elected officials) were presented with the summary themes from this report and implications were further discussed.

At the IMWG meeting on September 20, 2023, staff reiterated concerns around capacity and the potential for this work to detract from other workplan priorities. The City of Victoria has been directed by Council to consider Climate/Carbon budgeting and intends to report back shortly. Some members noted that Climate/Carbon budgeting is much more appropriate for corporate-focused decision making versus community-wide. Some staff indicated that they may be interested in utilizing certain elements of the climate budgeting framework in the near term, and others noted that they are not prepared to embed this in municipal processes at this time but may consider it in the future. Regarding greenhouse gas accounting, some members noted that it is important to focus on the big moves rather than become stuck in the minutia. Further, some members noted if additional resources are available, they should be directed at adaptation programming, as this remains a gap in many local/regional programs.

At the Task Force Meeting on September 29, 2023, members of the Task Force who attended the workshop shared their perspectives and expressed concern about the utility of Climate/Carbon Budgeting, especially when considering the current state of global emissions. The use of Climate/Carbon Budgeting frameworks as a public engagement tool was contrasted with existing tools, such as the forthcoming Extreme Heat Vulnerability dashboard, Saanich Carbon Calculator, the Oak Bay Coolkit program, the Climate Action to-go Kits and outreach specific to the Home Energy Navigator and its home decarbonization focus.

## Opportunities and Challenges

There is a clear desire among workshop attendees for local governments to continue to take accelerated action to reduce carbon pollution. We heard from workshop participants that Climate/Carbon Budgeting offers a unique opportunity to support a low carbon future by focusing attention on a calculated pathway to reduce regional CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. It also focuses attention on important areas, such as spheres of influence and inter-jurisdictional governance. However, the pathway to implementing a Carbon/Climate Budget is difficult and the resulting governance system is somewhat unclear. Below we outline the opportunities and challenges associated with engaging in this work.

### **Projects that are difficult to quantify**

One of the challenges relates to projects that are difficult to quantify, including those pertaining to resilience in the face of changing climate. The CRD has successfully created several tools (e.g., regional/local government greenhouse gas inventories, 2017 Climate Projections for the Capital Region report, 2020 Coastal Flood Inundation Report, etc.) that have been utilized by local governments in the region as a launching point to leverage further work. In some cases, the scale or scope of this type of work is difficult to quantify and is challenging to fit into a Climate Budgeting framework. In other cases, results do not always directly correlate to emission reductions *per se*. Consequently, the methodology would need to build in difficult-to-quantify projects.

### **Qualification versus quantification**

While mainstreaming climate action is a major outcome of Climate/Carbon Budgeting, qualitative evaluation was observed by some Canadian practitioners as the primary means for achieving mainstream impacts on project decisions. At the same time, the C40 Cities expert in Climate Budgeting reminded the audience that quantitative evaluations of projects are crucial to the Climate/Carbon Budgeting process as they inform further decisions about the number and scale of projects needed to meet emissions targets, yet many quantitative evaluations are time-consuming and may not be timely enough to impact annual budget decisions.

### **Transparency that people understand**

There is a need to balance transparency and plain language communications. The climate communications research described by Cara Pike from Re.Climate, and participants' reflections, indicate that local governments need to communicate their efforts in plain language. The more technical and jargon-filled our work becomes, the more challenging the issue of communicating the relevance of climate action is. Local governments would need to more thoroughly consider how we communicate this work.



## **Inter-jurisdictional buy-in and harmonization**

Inter-jurisdictionally, local governments need to agree to implement a Climate Budget, or an analogous project. The CRD has no jurisdictional authority to mandate the internal processes of individual municipalities. Individual local governments would need to commit internal resources and potentially create a mandate to implement this work.

Local Climate Budgets would need to be balanced against the granting requirements of higher levels of government. Because so much of municipal infrastructure funding is obtained through grants, or other cooperative funding processes, effort would need to be made to align the project with the direction of senior levels of government. Process development would need to balance individual municipal needs and inter-jurisdictional harmonization.

## Appendix A – Agenda and Speakers

### Agenda:

- Carbon and Climate Budget user experience fishbowl with...
  - Marc-Oliver Pepin: *Villa De Montréal*
  - Amber Weckworth: *City of Saskatoon*
  - Nancy Chow: *City of Edmonton*
  - Catrin Robertsen: *C40 Cities*
  - Mercedes Broda: *City of Calgary*
  - Claire Beckstead: *City of Calgary*
  - Brad Badelt: *City of Vancouver*
- Local Government Context with...
  - Rebecca Newlove: *District of Saanich*
  - Kira Gill-Maher: *Town of Sidney*
  - Nikki Elliott: *Capital Regional District*
- Climate Change Public Opinion and Engagement with Cara Pike: *Climate Access* and *RE: Climate*
- Workshop: Putting the Pieces Together with all attendees!

## Appendix B – June 26, 2023 Meeting Notes

## Graphic Meeting Notes (Fishbowl and Local Government Context)

**THE FISHBOWL**

■ CARBON/CLIMATE BUDGETING

- ↳ EVOLVING PROCESS
- ↳ TRAJECTORY TO REACH NET ZERO \* by 2050
- ↳ INTEGRATE INTO SERVICE PLANNING
- ↳ IDENTIFY GAPS
- ↳ INCORPORATE ADAPTATION
- ↳ ARE THERE GENERIC STEPS TO CARBON/CLIMATE BUDGETING?

COUNCIL  
DIRECTION

□ GETS DIFFERENT AREAS TALKING

↳ BREAK INVISIBLE BARRIERS

□ CLIMATE BUDGETING MAINSTREAMS CLIMATE INTO DECISION-MAKING ★

CITY-WIDE vs. CORPORATE

□ PROGRAMS/POLICIES/PROJECTS (COMMUNITY-LEVEL)

□ CITY WIDE EMISSIONS → WE HAVE IMPACT.  
"BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME"

□ APPLES and ORANGES in terms of financing

? HOW CAN WE SHARE BEST PRACTICES ACROSS THE COUNTRY?

↳ INFORMATION DIGESTIBLE FORM → DECISION-MAKING

? WHAT ARE THE ADMIN COSTS?

↳ pulling back from other projects  
↳ climate

? WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENT?

□ LESS EMPHASIS ON HOW TO QUANTIFY, \*  
MORE ON HOW IT FITS INTO GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

□ FOCUS ON IMPLEMENTATION

REQUIRES MORE TIME + PATIENCE

## THE GOOD

- ❑ BREAKS INVISIBLE BARRIERS
- ❑ FACILITATES CONVERSATION / LITERACY
- ❑ ACCOUNTABILITY ⇒ TOOL TO SHOW LEADERSHIP
- ❑ USE INFORMATION TO LEVERAGE ACTION
- ❑ HIGHLIGHTS HOW FAR WE ARE

## THE BAD

- ❑ NEED CONSISTENT TAXONOMY
- ❑ PRIORITIZATION
- ❑ DISTRACTING ⇒ ADDITION PIECE
- ❑ FUNDING \* RESOURCE INTENSIVE \*
- ❑ NOT A SILVER BULLET
  - ↳ FOLLOW-UP WITH COST EFFECTIVE ACTIONS
- ❑ NEW AREA OF WORK

PUBLIC AWARENESS  
WE RELY ON  
COLLECTIVE ACTION  
TO REACH GOALS

## MORE GOOD

- ❑ OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD CAPACITY
- ❑ OVERTIME WILL IMPROVE CLIMATE LITERACY & PROMOTE PROJECTS THAT ↓ CHG EMISSIONS
- ❑ QUANTIFICATION USEFUL FOR PROJECT PLANNING

## MORE BAD

- ❑ LABOUR INTENSIVE
- ❑ NOT ENOUGH DETAILS TO PLAN AHEAD
- ❑ QUANTIFICATION PIECE NOT THAT INFORMATIVE TO DECISION-MAKING

## ? FISHBOWL - QUESTIONS ?

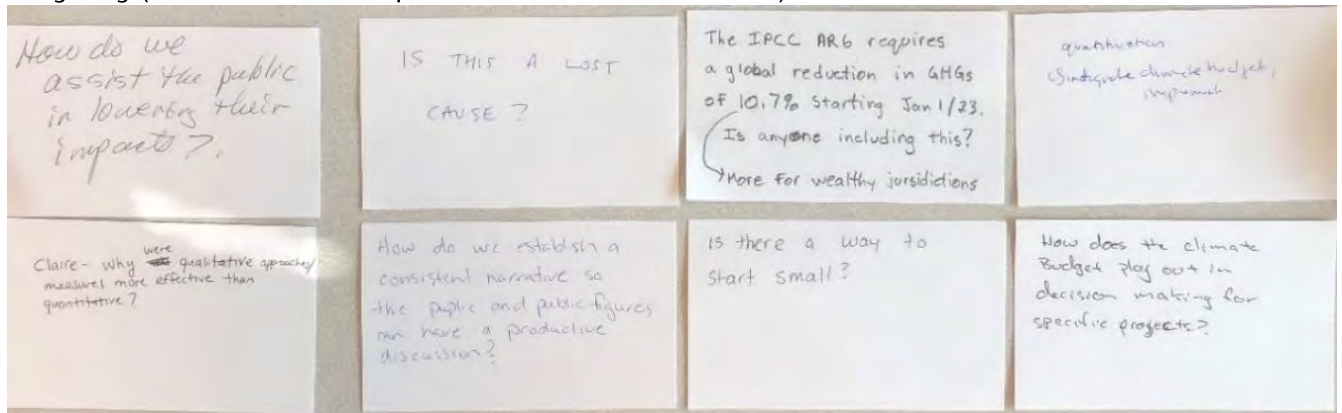
- DO YOU HAVE EXAMPLES OF SMALLER JURISDICTIONS DOING THIS WORK? YES!
  - ↳ ALL MUNICIPALITIES IN NORWAY ← SOME very small!
  - ↳ START WITH WHAT YOU CAN CONTROL
- HOW DID YOU SET YOUR TARGETS?
  - ↳ LOOKING @ SCIENCE-BASED METHODOLOGY TO LIMIT TO 1.5°C OF WARMING
  - ↳ BASED ON CLIMATE ACTION PLAN, USED GLOBAL FAIR SHARE CONSIDERATIONS \* #'S WERE ANNOUNCE THE CONTRAVERSIAL \*
    - ↳ SCALE of the PROBLEM.
- CAN YOU CLARIFY THE SCOPE OF YOUR EMISSIONS?
  - ↳ COMPLETING CONSUMPTION-BASED INVENTORY

- ? HOW DOES RURAL HOUSING DENSITY PLAY IN?
- SPECIFIC FUNDING ASPECTS CHALLENGING

- ? WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES OF GOING OVER TARGETS?
- COST OF INACTION → MITIGATION + ADAPTATION

- ? DID THIS INFLUENCE DECISIONS AT COUNCIL?
- NOT YET; INFLUENCED AWARENESS/ATTENTION TO CLIMATE

**Unanswered questions:** To be noted as part of the ongoing conversation about carbon/climate budgeting (at least two online questions were lost in the ether).




# LOCAL CONTEXT

DISTRICT of SAANICH  
TOWN of SIDNEY  
CRD


❑ CORPORATE ACCOUNT FOR ~1% OF TOTAL EMISSIONS  
↳ IMPORTANCE OF CLIMATE LEADERSHIP


❑ LAND-USE DECISIONS → COMMUNICATION, ADVOCACY, PROVINCIAL POLICY  
↳ CLIMATE ADAPTATION STILL IN EMERGENCE

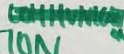
❑ ↓ 50% by 2030 ↓ 100% by 2050 

❑ TARGETS SET ON "CHANCE" THAT WE MAY NOT REACH THEM ⇒ WHY? allowing uncertainties  
↳ EMISSIONS MUST REACH **ZERO** AS SOON AS POSSIBLE


❑ CONSUMPTIONS-BASED INVENTORY  
\* FOOD \* ← high-carbon food types


❑ IMPLEMENTATION REQUIRES PARTNERSHIP 

❑ REPORTING ANNUALLY for ACCOUNTABILITY   
↳ WORKING AT GETTING BETTER DATA THROUGH COLLABORATION



❑ SMALLER GOVERNMENT SIZE = GOOD FOR CROSS-COMMUNICATION 


❑ CLIMATE INTERACTS w OTHER PLANNING

❑ GLOBAL FAIR SHARE TARGET → **EQUITY** 

❑ SIDNEY'S UNIQUE VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE IMPACTS 

❑ TARGET BARRIERS THAT THE COMMUNITY FACE  
↳ PRAGMATIC APPROACH, ↑ AWARENESS

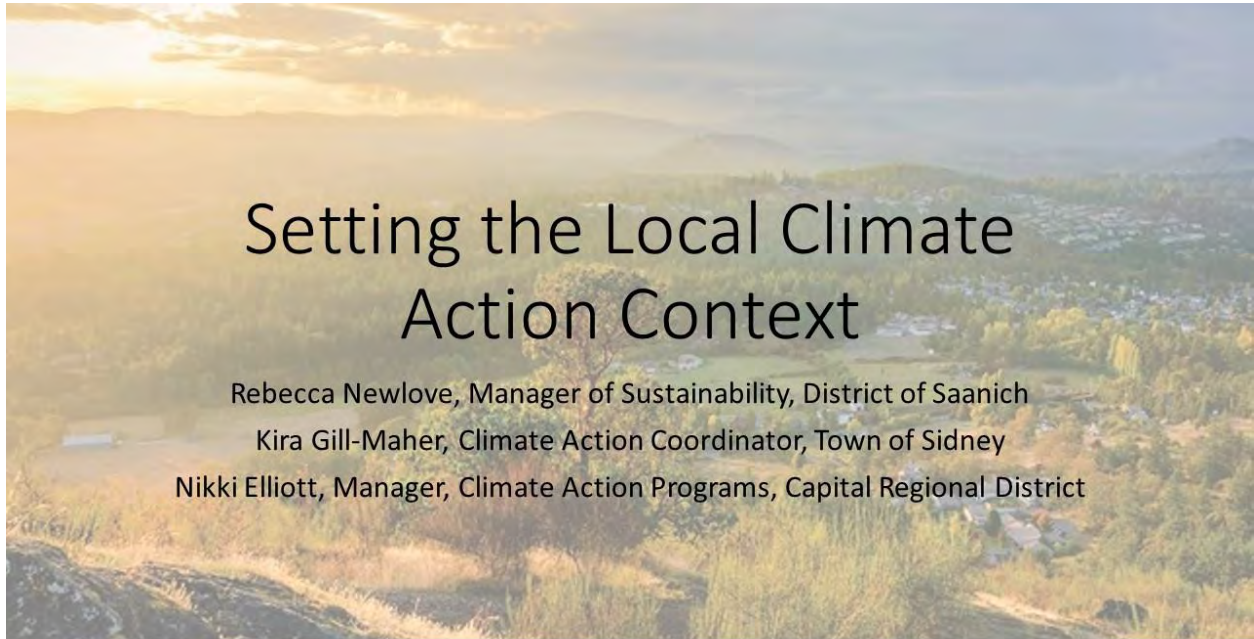
❑ CORPORATE TRANSPORTATION & BUILDINGS   
↳ GOT THE LOW-HANGING FRUIT   
↳ WHAT'S NEXT? \$\$

❑ MORE TIME/RESOURCES TO DO THE BUDGET & THE PROJECTS 

❑ CRD CORPORATE POLICIES  
① green fleet ② green building  
③ carbon price

↑  
WHO SHOULD DO THE BUDGETTING?

Presentation Slides: Setting the Local Context



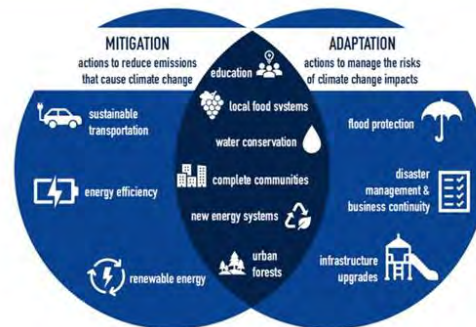
# Setting the Local Climate Action Context

Rebecca Newlove, Manager of Sustainability, District of Saanich  
 Kira Gill-Maher, Climate Action Coordinator, Town of Sidney  
 Nikki Elliott, Manager, Climate Action Programs, Capital Regional District



## Considerations

2020 Capital Region Community Energy Emissions



High ← Local Government Relative Influence of GHG Emissions → Low

Municipal infrastructure, buildings and fleet.	Transportation network Land use patterns Solid waste Building efficiency standards	Transportation mode share Residential and business energy efficiency Food security	Air travel Industrial energy efficiency Vehicle standards Energy utilities
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# Climate Action Implementation



Infrastructure Investments



Policy and Regulation

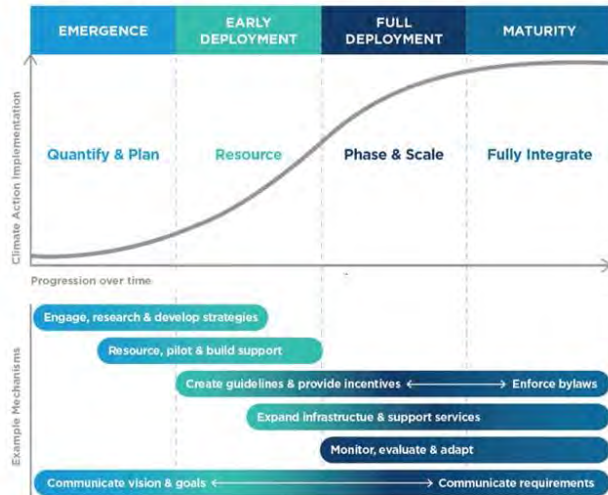
Advocacy and input to Provincial & Federal policy, regulations & programs



Outreach

Community Programs & Incentives

## STAGES OF CLIMATE ACTION MATURITY



City of Victoria, 2022

District of  
Saanich –  
Implementing  
our Big Climate  
Plan Moves



## District of Saanich Climate Goals/Targets

### Community-wide Targets



### Corporate Targets



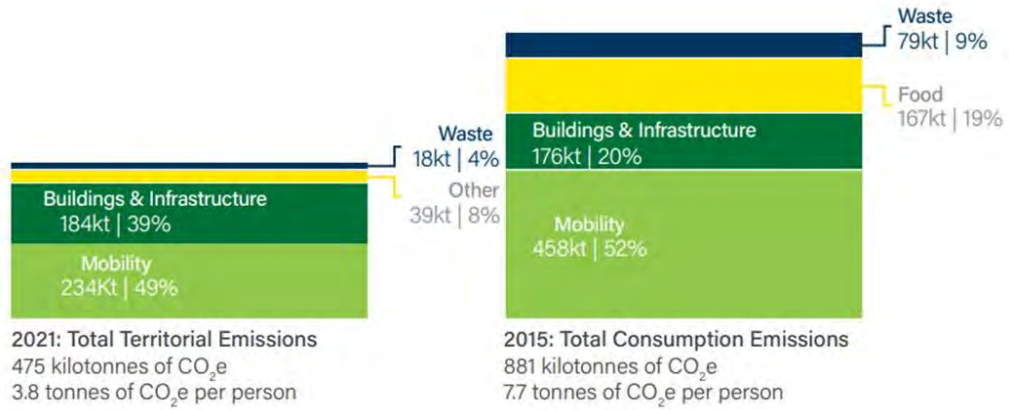
## Establishing Climate Goals/Targets

- A carbon budget is distinct but related to setting GHG targets
- 2018 IPCC Special Report (SR15) - provided multiple estimates for the remaining global carbon budget
- Dependent upon different scenarios for limiting global warming to 1.5°C
  - 66.6% chance = 420 GtCO<sub>2</sub> remaining (as of 2018)
  - 50% chance = 580 GtCO<sub>2</sub> remaining (as of 2018)
- Basis for our climate targets
  - Estimated a 45% reduction in global emissions needed by 2030 (from 2010 levels); and
  - Zero carbon by 2050

### Assumptions & Uncertainties

- Permafrost thawing, methane release from wetlands = 100 GtCO<sub>2</sub>
- Transient Climate Response to Cumulative Carbon Emissions = ±400 GtCO<sub>2</sub>
- Uncertainties in levels of historic warming = ±250 GtCO<sub>2</sub>
- Non-CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation strategies = ±250 GtCO<sub>2</sub>

## Saanich GHG Emissions Inventory



## Saanich Climate Plan Focus Areas



### Focus Area Content

- Vision
- Metrics (Objectives) – indicators and targets
- Overarching Strategies
- Actions (total of 131 actions)

# Saanich Climate Plan - Implementation

### 2022 Highlights

#### Mobility

- Over 360 people received e-bike incentives as part of the E-Bike Incentive Pilot Program, including larger incentives for lower income households
- 9 km of protected bike lanes installed
- A Vision Zero policy was adopted for transportation safety

- 350 parking stalls were retrofitted with EV Ready infrastructure in multi-family buildings
- The first 10 Battery Electric Buses have been ordered by BC Transit and will be operating in the Victoria Region in the latter half of 2023. A trial electric bus was in operation in the system in December 2022
- Saanich-owned public EV chargers were used for a total of 25,851 hours

#### Buildings and Infrastructure

- 402 Saanich residents received top-up incentives for switching from fossil fuels (oil and natural gas) to heat pumps
- Home Energy Navigator Service launched with the CRD and member local governments

- Adopted zero carbon standards for new construction by 2025
- Oil to Heat Pump Financing pilot launched and fully subscribed with over 50 participants
- 73% of new homes built in Saanich in 2022 installed heat pumps for space heating and cooling

#### Food and Materials

- Love Food Hate Waste contest on social media had 109 participants and over 5,200 views!

- Saanich initiated a Food Hub Feasibility Study with funding support from the Ministry of Agriculture

#### Ecosystems

- 193 volunteers provided more than 16,300 hours in Pulling Together program, engaged in invasive species removal and ecosystem restoration work on 45 sites
- Tree Appreciation Day site at Mahon Brook saw planting of dozens of native trees, hundreds of shrubs and more than 500 herbaceous plants
- 2,398 trees planted in 2022 in the Urban Forest and Natural Areas
- 0.75 hectares of new park land acquired
- Saanich declared a Bird Friendly City

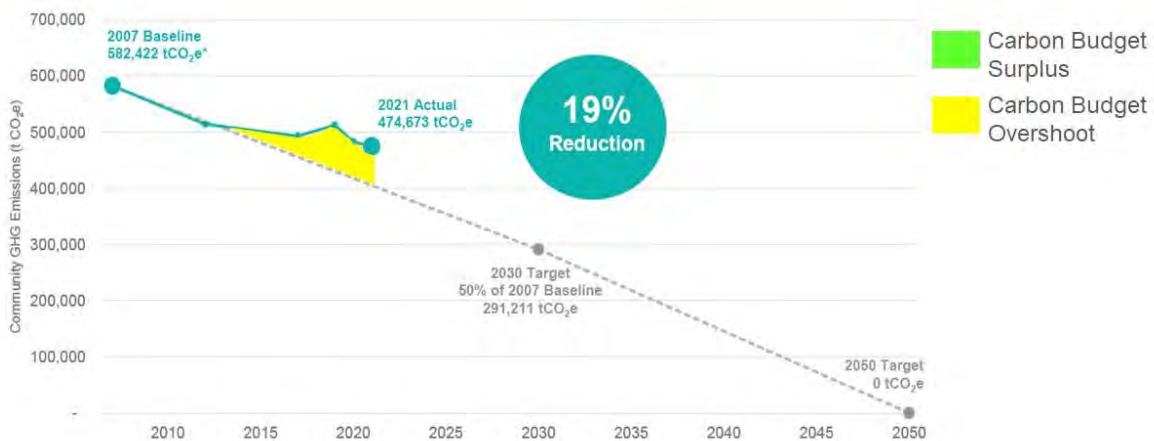
#### Community Well-being

- Neighbour to Neighbour (N2N) Resilience Initiative launched
- Over 80 students participated in the One Planet Student challenge
- Online Climate Action Workshop Series offered to over 80 registrants
- Saanich Emergency Program's Community Risk Assessment completed and 35 presentations on preparedness provided to 652 residents
- One Planet Saanich grew to 21 organizations, who collectively committed to over 550 sustainable actions
- 127 students in 20 classes in Saanich participated in BCSEA Cool It! program and reported a total of 79.9 tonnes of GHGs saved through the program

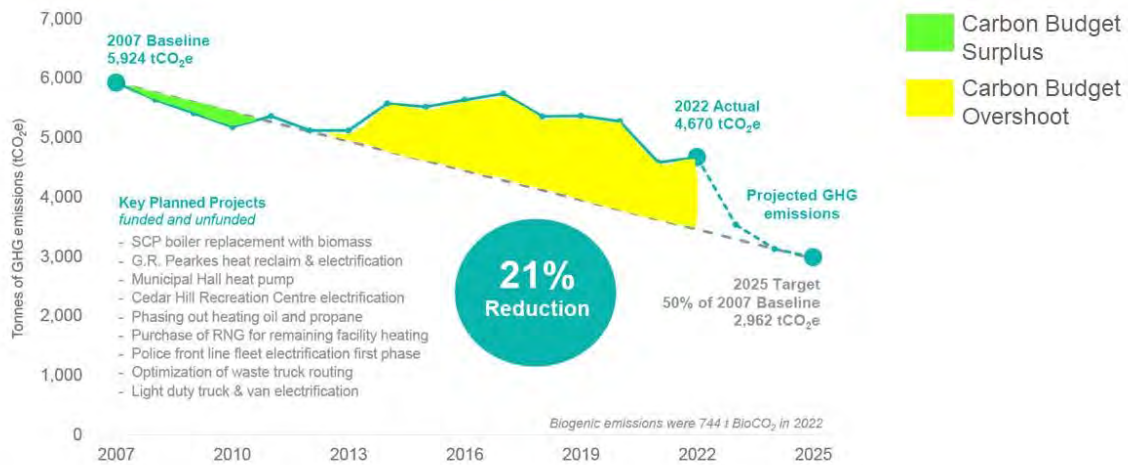
#### Leadership in District Operations

- 2 new all-electric pickup trucks added to the Saanich municipal fleet
- Installed 5 Level 2 EV charging stations for fleet at the Saanich Operations Centre
- Completed LED lighting upgrade in the Public Safety Building
- Saanich declared an A-List City by the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) for the third year in a row
- The District of Saanich and the City of Victoria have received the Community Energy Association's 2022 Climate and Energy Action Award
- New heat pump replaced an oil heating system at Hampton Park Lawn Bowling Clubhouse

## Progress on 2021 Community Emissions



## Progress on 2022 Corporate Emissions



## Reporting, Transparency & Accountability

- Annual GHG Inventories & sub-metric measurement and monitoring
- Annual Climate Plan Report Card
  - Climate Action Working Group
  - Climate Plan Monitoring & Reporting Framework
  - Clearly assigned responsibilities
- Globally
  - CDP (Carbon Disclosure Project) & Global Covenant of Mayors
- Provincially
  - LGCAP (Local Government Climate Action Program)
- Financial – Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures



## Climate Budgeting & Decision Making

- Carbon Budget - distinct from Climate Budgeting
- Key Budget Focus Areas – aligned with Climate & Sustainability

**Key 2023 projects**

- Shelbourne Street Improvement Project Phase 2 – \$22.8M
- Sidewalk and cycling Installation Program – \$3.6M
- Fleet, IT & other capital replacement for protective services – \$1.6M
- Lochside/Fowler Park Renewal Phase 2 – \$850K
- Pearkes HVAC upgrades – \$3.1M
- Tree and Trails Programs – \$1.3M

For detail on more capital projects go to the [Capital Projects Guide 2023](#)

Lochside Park  
Protected bike lane  
Cedar Hill Recreation Centre



## Climate Budgeting & Decision Making

- Saanich Financial Plan & Budget
  - Provides funding for planned and ongoing activities that deliver on the Strategic Plan
- Strategic Plan
  - Aligns with OCP ‘Sustainable Saanich’
  - Informed by Strategic Plans & Policies e.g. ATP, Climate Plan, Housing Strategy, Facilities Masterplan



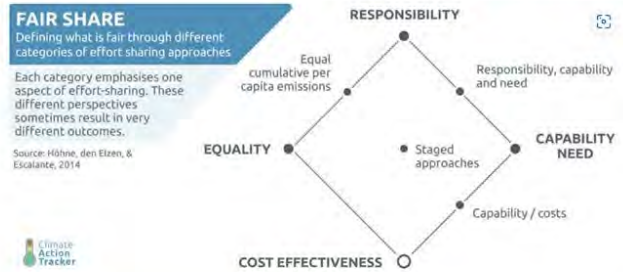
### Examples of Evaluating GHG Emissions to support Budget

- Building Retrofit Strategy actions e.g. Oil to Heat Pump Financing Program, Revitalization Tax Exemption
- E-Mobility Strategy actions e.g. EV Ready Plan and E-Bike incentives
- Corporate facility upgrade projects e.g. Pearkes, Cedar Hill Rec Centre
- Grant applications - Rutledge Park Splash Park and Shelbourne Street Improvements Project Phase 2

# Saanich Climate Plan Next Steps



- Updated Climate Plan – 2025
- CDP A-List City & Race to Zero Cities commitment - Global Fair Share Target
- Global Fair Share Target
  - Allocates remaining budget to different regions based on historic responsibility, financial capacity to respond etc.
  - Several methodologies available
- Reach net zero as soon as possible
- While also addressing Climate Adaptation and Sustainability Values
  - Cost of Doing Nothing
  - Innovative and new funding opportunities



**CANADA'S FAIR SHARE** (at least 140% or 1,039 Mt) =

<p><b>60%</b> (445 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>e) domestic emissions reduction</p>	<p><b>AT HOME</b> Our domestic GHG emissions need to be cut by <b>at least 60% below 2005 levels by 2030</b>, with a view of fully decarbonizing the Canadian economy to achieve <b>net zero domestic GHG emissions as early as possible before 2050</b>.</p>	+	<p><b>80%</b> (594 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions reductions abroad</p>	<p><b>INTERNATIONAL</b> Canada's fair share also means helping developing countries to reduce GHGs. This includes Canada providing <b>at least \$4bn USD annually by 2020</b>.</p>
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Source: ClimateActionNetwork.ca

Town of Sidney—  
Implementing  
our Big  
Moves - a  
Small(er)  
Community  
Perspective



## Sidney and Climate Change

What are the biggest GHG emissions sources?



What are the community's Climate Risks?



Less Predictable Precipitation



Increasing Temperatures



Sea Level Rise

## Sidney and Climate Action

How is Sidney advancing climate action?

Following the updated Climate Action Plan (2022)  
Interdepartmental and intergovernmental collaboration

Prioritizing actions in high emissions sources categories

- **Community:** Transportation (44%), buildings (39%)
- **Corporate:** Transportation (59%), buildings (31%)

Prioritizing actions that respond to Sidney's local climate risks

- **Ongoing:** Integrating climate change risk information into decision-making
- **Project-based:** Sea level rise adaptation project
- Emergency management planning

How does Sidney track and report?

Tracking internally

- Action tracking spreadsheet

Reporting externally

- Town Annual Report (starting 2023)
- Provincial reporting: LGCAP (previously CARIP)

Leveraging regional tracking & reporting

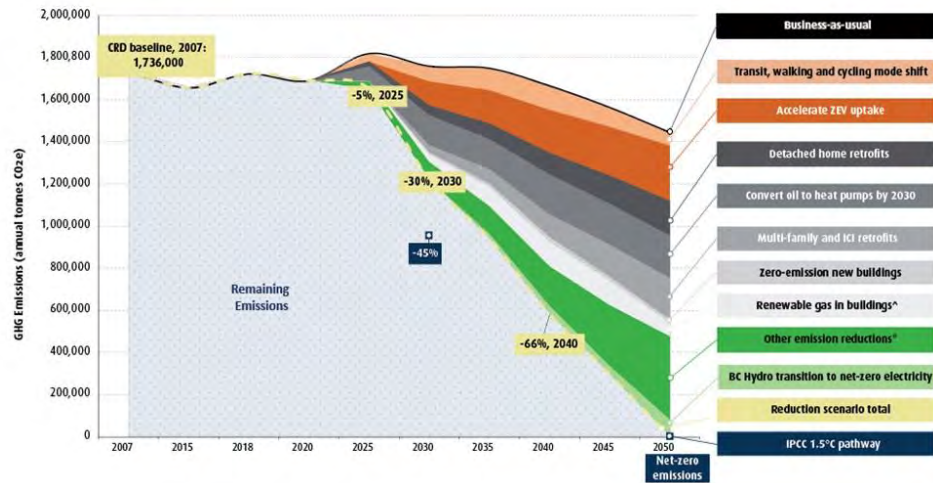
- Community emissions inventory (Released biannually by CRD)
- Regional climate risks assessed by CRD & Province



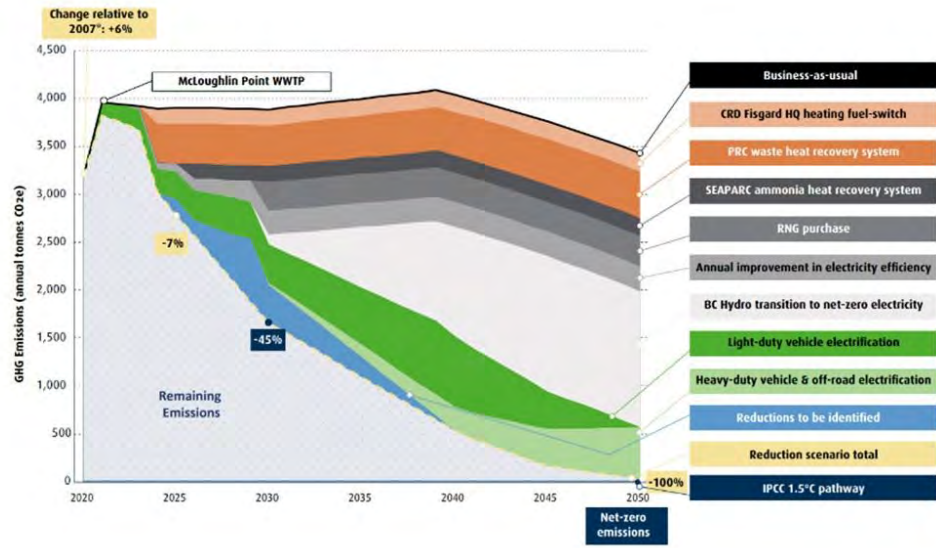
# Capital Regional District— Implementing our Big Moves



## Community Emissions Reduction Plan



# CRD Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan



# Climate Action Strategy



Climate Focused Decision Making



Sustainable land use, planning and preparedness



Low-carbon mobility



Low-carbon and resilient buildings and infrastructure



Resilient and abundant nature, ecosystems and food systems



Minimized waste

## Climate Focused Decision Making



- Data and research
  - Corporate and community GHG tracking
  - Climate impacts
- Corporate policies and procedures
  - Service planning
  - Procurement (various)
  - Asset management
  - Risk
  - Etc.
- Capacity building and education
- Staff report implications
- Annual progress reporting



## Remaining Goal Areas



- Monitoring of various regional indicators (land use, transportation, GHGs)
- Administer various inter-municipal/inter-agency committees (climate, planning, transportation, emergency management, invasive species, etc.)
- Emergency management in EAs



- Managing and expanding regional trail system
- EV infrastructure planning and investments
- Board transportation priorities (active transportation) and governance discussion



- Retrofit programming
- Step Code policy support
- Climate impact data procurement and training



- Regional parks management and acquisition
- Drinking water supply
- Watershed protection and invasive species programming



- Solid Waste Management Plan implementation
- Landfill gas capture and use

Presentation Slides: Cara Pike, Re.Climate Communicating for Change



Re.Climate is Canada's new centre for training, research and strategy on climate change communication and engagement at Carleton University.

*Re.Climate*



Welcome!

# **WHAT DO CANADIANS REALLY THINK ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE?**

A Summary of Public Opinion Research and Tips for Communicators  
2023

## Concern about climate change

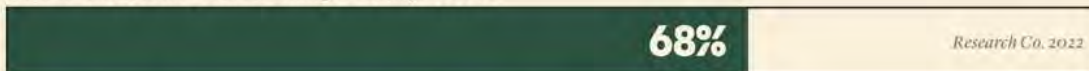
Canadians feel we are experiencing a climate emergency



Canadians are very worried or worried about climate change



Canadians feel that climate change is a major crisis



Climate change is an emergency that must be stopped no matter the cost



“Canadians have a view about where ‘the puck is going’ and believe that the investments will flow to lower carbon innovations wherever possible. They both have confidence that we can succeed in this evolving global economy and want policy that helps Canada adapt and benefit from these trends, rather than avoid or ignore the trends.”

BRUCE ANDERSON  
Chairman, Abacus Data

## Extreme weather

Climate change is making extreme weather events worse



Report experiencing extreme weather-related events in the past year



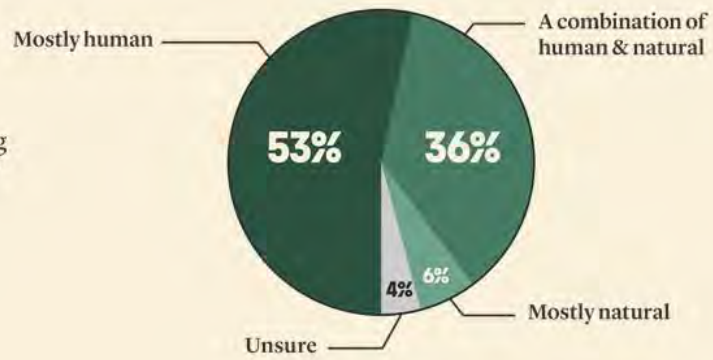
Think extreme weather events will occur more often



## Is it us?

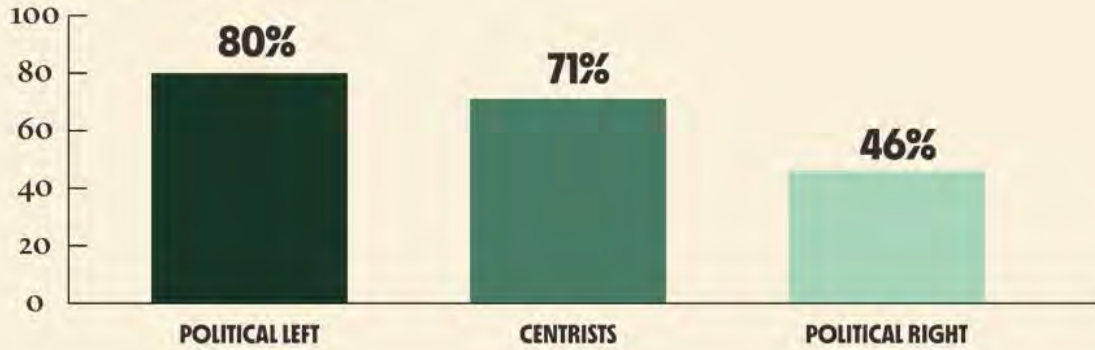
“Is the Earth getting warming because of human activity?”

Source: Lachapelle & EcoAnalytics Research Initiative 2022



### A political divide

“Climate change is a major threat.”



Source: Pew 2022

### Demand for action

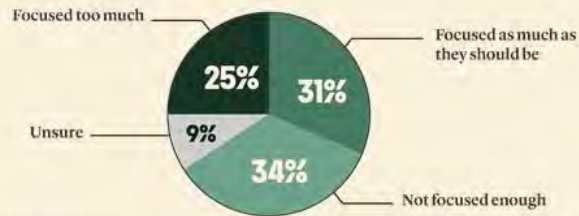


“The government should be doing a lot more or somewhat more to address climate change”

Source: Latchupelle & EcoAnalytics Research Initiative 2022

### Satisfaction

Q: “To what extent are Justin Trudeau and the federal government genuinely focused and working hard to deal with climate change?”



Due to rounding, total may not add up to 100%

Source: Abacus 2022





**INCREASE IN "SUPPORT FOR GROWTH IN THE OIL AND GAS SECTOR IN CANADA"**



**INCREASE IN BELIEF THAT "OIL AND GAS IS IMPORTANT TO CANADA'S FUTURE ECONOMY"**



**INCREASE IN BELIEF THAT "CLEAN ENERGY WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT TO CANADA'S FUTURE ECONOMY"**



**DECREASE IN "VERY CONCERNED ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE"**



**INCREASE IN BELIEF THAT "GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BE DOING MORE TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE"**



**STEADY, OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FOR THE GROWTH OF RENEWABLE POWER AND CLEAN ENERGY**

# **ENERGY TRANSITION**

Charge in all directions

## Clean energy and fossil fuels

Oil and gas will be important to Canada's future economy



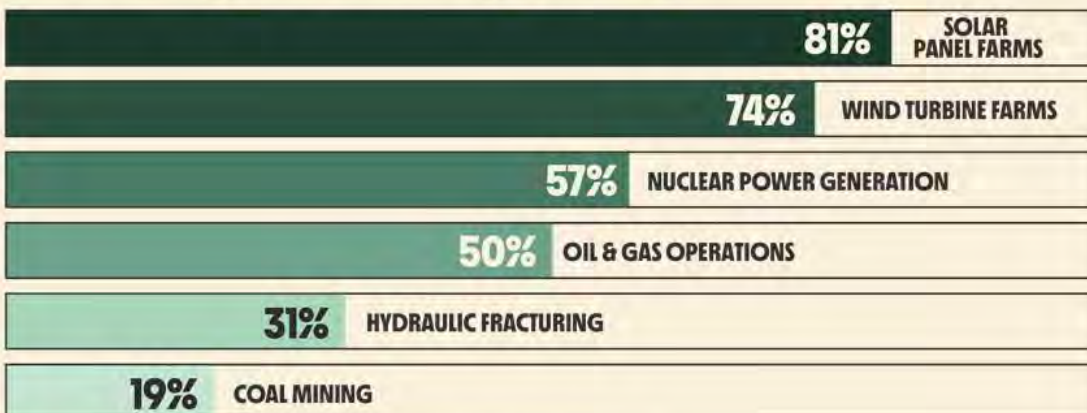
Source: Nanos 2023

Clean energy will be very important to Canada's future economy



Source: Abacus 2022

## Canadians' support for different types of energy

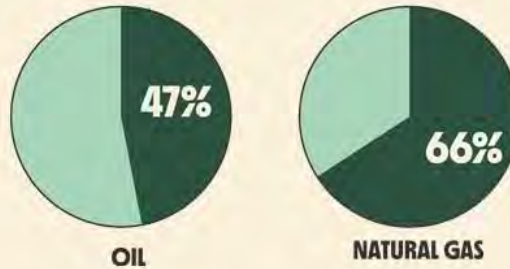


Source: Angus Reid 2023

### Gas vs. oil

“Canadian public policy should put a priority on making sure we are highly competitive in this sector.”

Source: Abacus 2022



### Can exports from oil and gas combat climate change?

Do you agree, somewhat disagree or disagree that exports from Canada's Oil and Gas sector can contribute to combatting global climate change if our exports displace energy sources in other countries that are more damaging to climate?

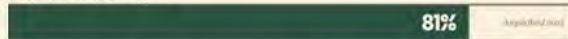


Due to rounding, total may not add up to 100%

Source: Nanos 2022

### Support for clean energy

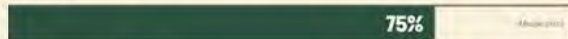
Support expanding solar power



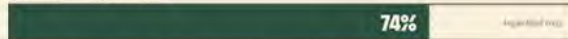
Believe electric vehicles will become the majority of vehicles at some point in the future



Support governments using policy measures to encourage more people to choose electric vehicles instead of ICE vehicles



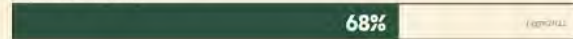
Support expanding wind power



Support the goal of Canada achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050



Support a requirement that electricity generation in Canada should be from only sources that don't emit greenhouse gases by 2035



Support investing heavily in electricity technologies like wind, solar and hydro with storage options ensuring a reliable transition to a 100% renewable electricity system by 2035



Support the federal government stepping in and imposing penalties on vehicle manufacturers who do not produce and sell more zero-emission vehicles



### Misinformation & confusion

"Oil companies have hidden evidence of human-caused climate change since the 1970s."



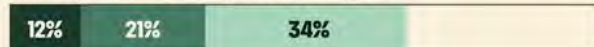
"Canadian doctors believe climate change is a public health emergency."



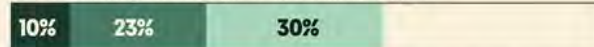
"Renewable energy prices are more stable and predictable than prices for oil and gas."



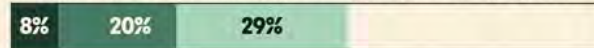
"You cannot power an industrial economy with renewable energy alone."



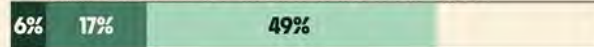
"We can continue to expand oil and gas production and reach our net zero goals."



"If we protect more land through conservation programs, the affordability crisis in housing will get worse."



"Solar panels emit more greenhouse gases during manufacturing than they end up saving."



completely true    mostly true    not sure

Source: Laidlaw & Co. Analytics Research & Intelligence

“This kind of confusion, and the misinformation that feeds it, is a vulnerability for the social acceptability of a clean energy transition.”

ERICK LACHAPELLE  
Professor of Political Science, Université de Montréal

**CHALLENGE**

What are the problems we're facing and the context they're happening in?

*Example: Climate impacts are already causing harm and are on pace to continue.*

**CHOICE**

What action must be taken and why now?

*Example: Motivate support for policies that emphasize safety and protection.*

**OPPORTUNITY**

What are the benefits of taking action?

*Example: Investment at community scale means less damage and quicker recovery.*



# NARRATIVE STRUCTURE

## CHALLENGE

What are the problems we're facing and the context they're happening in?

*Example: Rising energy poverty*

## CHOICE

What action must be taken and why now?

*Example: Small-scale community energy projects affordable through cooperative or subsidies*

## OPPORTUNITY

What are the benefits of taking action?

*Example: Lower energy bills, community pride, jobs*



## Entry Points for Centre and Centre-Right

<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Preparation, protection, safety to deal with wildfires, flooding, heat-stress, infection disease.</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Health and air pollution - indoor and outdoor.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Nature protection, restoration.</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Affordability and clean energy.</p> <p>Less waste and retrofits.</p> <p>Economy and jobs.</p> <p>Mental health.</p> <p>Food and water security.</p>
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## Powerful (Plain) Language

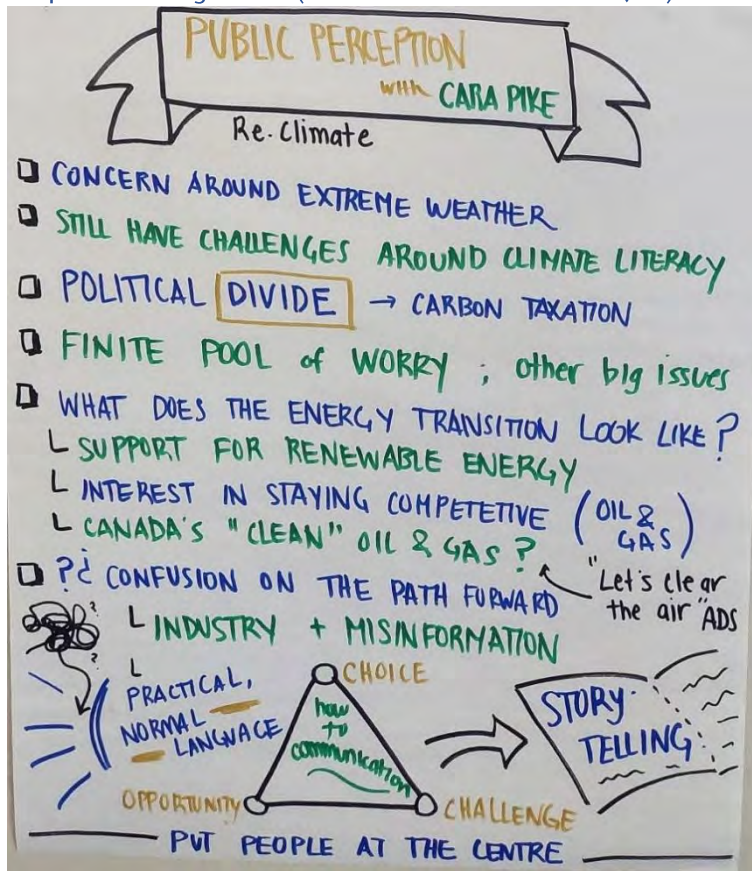
**INSTEAD OF...**

Economic benefits  
Just transition, equity + inclusion  
Social  
Environment  
Low-carbon  
Mitigation + emissions  
Adaptation

**CONSIDER...**

- ➡ Good, stable jobs, new businesses
- ➡ Putting people at the heart, fairness, accessible for all
- ➡ Communities, neighborhoods, families
- ➡ Nature, forests, animals, rivers, oceans, food, clean water
- ➡ Pollution-free, modern, clean
- ➡ Pollution, heat-trapping blanket
- ➡ Actions to reduce risk and vulnerability of damage

## Graphic Meeting Notes (Cara Pike Presentation &amp; Q&amp;A)





## QUESTIONS for CARA

- ? HOW MUCH DID IT MATTER WHAT PUBLIC PERCEPTION IS BEFORE WE ACT? *gamification*
- AS GOVERNMENTS IT'S YOUR JOB TO LEAD, BUT WHERE ARE THE BARRIERS? — *polarization*
    - ↳ lack of social norms
    - ↳ addressing misinformation
    - ↳ fatalism
    - ↳ opportunity for collective action
  - BEING PROACTIVE vs. REACTIVE

- ? AGREE ABOUT CLIMATE EMERGENCY, BUT NOT THE STEPS TO GET THERE? WHAT IS PURPOSE of THIS MEETING?
- SCIENTISTS AGREE ABOUT CLIMATE ONLY
  - PROBLEM IS OIL & GAS. LET'S START TALKING ABOUT IT
  - BRING PEOPLE ALONG → HOW TO HAVE HONEST CONVERSATIONS THAT COUNT
  -

- ? HOW DO WE OVERCOME COST ON FAMILIES TO CREATE MORE BUY-IN?
- LOTS of EXISTING COMPASSION
  - BE REAL ABOUT CHALLENGES
- PEOPLE ARE RESPONDING EMOTIONALLY
- HOW IS THIS IMPACTING YOU?

BUILD ON LOCAL MINDSET. HOW TO ASSIST RESIDENTS IN ACHIEVING GOALS. COMMENT?

- COMMUNITY CLIMATE LEADERS → go through what local government has to address climate change
- local government role to show that this problem is not far away.
- ↑ SIGNAGE ✓ TO HIGHLIGHT CLIMATE WORK

IT'S HARD TO SEE A TRANSITION WHEN YOU ARE IN THE THICK OF IT.



# Table Workshop Notes and Transcriptions

**JUST THE FACTS**

**WHAT HAPPENED TODAY!**

**"THE WHAT"**

**STAFF TABLE**

**SO WHAT?**

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE COSTS AND BENEFITS OF CARBON/CLIMATE BUDGETING IN OUR REGION?**

1. Climate budget = cost of climate projects  
 2. Carbon budget = costs of climate + other projects + expenditure - fund  
 3. Cost of climate change - cost of inaction

Public is often political + financial on climate change  
 Public is divided on renewables oil and gas - poses huge barriers  
 Carbon budgets + not the same!  
 Climate budgets are commensurate scale of use - qualitatively in other areas

Climate budgeting doesn't support decision - shows where you were

Climate investment following similar pattern to evolution of asset management

Language used around this topic and public can only take in so many facts. Need to absorb through stories.  
 Climate budget has been useful in getting the organization on the same page.

Can be Resource intensive

Speakers noted current work has not influenced decision making. (COP - lagging indicator)

Risk of big picture benefits getting lost in the budgets.

Need to be plain language for the public to follow.

Seasonal/variability means annual measures have uncertainty - rolling measures.

Encourages early investment in climate action - more action = less reaction

Helps identify gaps in climate plan - scale of investment makes target ambitious.

Tough for smaller communities to engage - not a lot of experience and resource intensive

Carbon budgets are often too technical for many in the public. Risk of getting caught up in the details (words) - resources

Not sure how you factor in actions from other levels of government

Carbon budgeting consumes staff resources - lost action + reporting opportunities. Is there a net benefit?

Can skew project benefits - must build retrofit High & low carbon vs. More building req - low cost to meet but high carbon benefit.

General information was shared today, bit step by step for each municipality. How can we implement?

Edmonton points out that people "pollution" used in the room since being elected - good to have simpler language.

Cost was communicated. Lionel when the first time having out that people "pollution" used in the room since being elected - good to have simpler language.

Gap during the day - the public not in attendance - public drivers political will - radically transparency is needed.

**JUST THE FACTS.**

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**Updating latest IPCC budgets ...**

	"Business as Usual" (BAU)	"Net Zero 2050"
Starting Jan 2023	100% (100%)	100% (100%)
Remaining global budget	100 GtCO <sub>2e</sub>	70 GtCO <sub>2e</sub>
Remaining portion of global CO <sub>2e</sub> emissions	0.4	0.3
Equivalent global % annual reduction req.	10.7%	1.3%
% budget being used per region	0.2%	0.2%

**ELECTED OFFICE**

Our budgets are decided based on what we are used to spending on a normal day, we need to change that paradigm and increase budgets.

There we need immediate financial levers and there's a danger of leaving those people behind. The poor bear the brunt of impacts.

Looking behind is not as useful as looking toward a goal. Still a reduction of GHG but also all other goals.

getting into the weeds and creating more complexity is not as important as honest and open communication w/ public a political thread.

Leadership responsibility to push transformation - easy to understand language.

It's the right thing to do in absence of target does work in principal, but making it more consistent is necessary.

parallel process similar to community plans feeding into regional plans.

CRD can help guiding regionally while still asking hard questions specific to each municipality.

Can we keep every municipality to meet the same budget given capacity & finance limits?

Stories help us to not underestimate kids, the public.

Simplified language = stronger language.

We need to embrace changes naturally.

SO WHAT?

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE INVESTMENT IN THE CLEAN FUTURE COSTS AND BENEFITS CARBON / CLIMATE BUDGETING IN OUR REGION?

concern that \$ of plan and time to make plans may "eat into" time we have left. At the same time, benefits may allow deeper understanding of results of actions taken.

Competition helps create reflection and action. Does the CRD have a role in a doing it together sense or does competition come w/ better?

Be honest of improvements as well as failure.

CRD should embrace a carbon budget for all municipalities.

Political will needs public energy + push...

Play what it takes to win (WOW!!) Seth Klein

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**"THE WHAT"**

**WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?**

**JUST THE FACTS.**

IT'S OKAY TO HAVE TEAM DISPARACHY  
" " " TO FAIL  
CHANGE IS FAST & EVOLVING  
DIFFERENT COMMUNICATION BEHAVIOUR  
OKAY TO SHARE TEXTS - PROMOTES OPENLY BUILDING  
1-4% OF BUDGETS CLIMATE GHG vs COMMUNITY

Education  
→ Empower residents  
→ what climate actions  
→ what is the best  
→ what is the best  
→ what is the best

COMMUNITY  
→ what is the best  
→ what is the best  
→ what is the best

what work of action  
→ what is the best  
→ what is the best  
→ what is the best

in place to get system  
= both imp. but starting  
us qualifications  
- quantitative focus initially

Trailing need to connect  
→ search examples in 9th level to  
→ search explain what we are at

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**SO WHAT?**

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE COSTS AND BENEFITS OF CARBON/CLIMATE BUDGETING IN OUR REGION?**

Imp. If they drive the policy we need to see.  
- process of learning, going to Δ

Other diths (rural/urban, budget size, transport, mass types of policies that would cut CO2 emissions)  
need to be able to build upon tools to be relevant to municipalities

buy-in in community  
→ best approach for residents  
→ how to empower?

diff. capacity of staff across the region.  
- imp. to have staff understand concepts to present policy options  
- CRD source of capacity building?  
- support multi-criteria decision making - template? qual/quant? that can be enhanced.

big picture into good to have  
→ help make focus on C.A.P. 1200.  
→ staff level apps is political?

Scenario building  
→ what does it mean to have  
→ what does it mean to have  
→ what does it mean to have

Regional vs mini  
→ what does it mean to have  
→ what does it mean to have  
→ what does it mean to have

ing the  
ousness of  
the commitment

does not have to be  
as big as other  
regions

JUST THE FACTS.  
WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?  
"THE WHAT"

GAPS

THINK LOCAL  
ACT LOCAL

too much time on  
quantification,  
qualitative helpful.

Stay on  
budget

Especially  
not repeat  
colours

SELECTED OFFICIALS

Information  
vs  
action

ACKNOWLEDGE  
WHAT'S  
VISIBLE

CLIMATE  
BUDGETING  
IS ABOUT  
TELLING  
STORIES

no more  
rehashing

data can lag  
↳ ADAPTATION  
STRATEGY

where are the  
GAPS?

lead the 70%.  
who are on  
board

other language  
who is it  
for?

value natural  
assets

WHO IS IT FOR?  
QUALITY OF LIFE LENS.  
MAKE IT EASY FOR  
THE PUBLIC AND  
EMPOWER.

HEALTH &  
WELLNESS  
↑  
EQUITY

health impacts  
minimized.

AVOIDING  
MINIMIZING  
LANGUAGE

POSITIVE  
HOPEFUL

CONFLICTING  
MESSAGES

EFFICIENT  
ACTIONS

ACKNOWLEDGING  
WHAT IS VISIBLE TO  
THE PUBLIC  
(e.g. Fortis)  
highlighting (real)  
SUCCESS STORIES

real.

too abstract.

better for  
decision-making

need a  
Yes/No  
(not calculatory)

need to  
act  
now

re of a story  
to tell

GET  
AVAILABLE

TOOLS from  
CRD  
to help  
climate  
decision-making

for  
meaningful  
change  
you need to  
bring people  
along.

CRD serve  
failures

ACTIONS >>> BUDGET.

WHAT DOES THIS  
MEAN FOR THE  
COSTS AND BENEFITS  
OF CLIMATE/CARBON  
BUDGETING IN OUR  
REGION?

need a  
Yes/No  
(not calculatory)

to do in each of faratt

and using it together sense  
Or don't communicate data

**“What” section transcription:**

So much misinformation driven by fossil fuel companies.

Climate action is already embedded in local CRD municipal processes (OCP, Strategic Plans, Etc.).

In other provinces big municipalities did climate budgeting but it didn't impact decisions made by council.

We need to normalize solutions.

Get to near zero ASAP.

People are worried about climate change but confused about solutions.

Make it easy for people to adopt climate solutions.

We need more money!!!

Carbon budgeting account needs more staff to help lead this work.

Plain language is important to use when communicating to the public.

Quantification of GHGs might not be the first thing to do or focus on.

Ensure a climate lens is applied to projects to bring climate into day-to-day work—spend time ensuring this rather than doing a climate budget + GHG accounting.

Limited capacity – Financial, Staff capacity/time.

Cara suggested we use stories to communicate.

Efficiency of spend \$.

Remember the children.

Leave no one behind.

Edmonton points out that people blanched when the cost was communicated.

First time hearing “pollutions” used in the room since being elected – good to hear similar language.

Gap during the day: The public was not in attendance, public drive political will, radically transparency is needed.

General information shared today but step by step for each municipality how can we implement?

It's OK to have transparency to fail.

Change is fast and evolving.

Different communication environment – It's OK to share the TRUTH – promotes capacity building.

1-4% of GHGs are corporate versus community.

Tracking indicators is hard to connect to what you need to do (Saanich example, high level to explain where we are at)

Quantification focus initially versus qualification. Both are important but starting seems to be that qualitative aspects are more useful to get systems in a place to build capacity.

What works versus didn't work to influence decisions: qualitative, project level work vs. broader not attached to action?

Need to understand focus to know what's needed to change municipality policy.

Education → Empower residents, help educate on how to do attainable actions – what is the best alternative.

Language used around this topic and public can only take in so many facts. Need to absorb through stories.

Climate budget has been useful in getting the organization on the same page.

Can be resource intensive.

Public is often fatalistic and numbed to climate change.

Climate budget = cost of climate action projects.

Carbon budget = GHGs of climate + other projects + operations → Hard.

Cost of climate change → cost of inaction.

Public is divided on renewables and oil/gas; polarization is manufactured and poses huge barriers.

Communicate the scale of the issue → qualitatively is often enough.

Carbon budgets and climate budgets are not the same!

Quantifying GHGs doesn't support decision-making. It shows where you were.

GHG inventories are following similar pathway to evolution of asset management.

Does not have to be as big as other regions.

Think local act local | help residents instead of lecturing/shaming.

Pushing the seriousness of the commitment.

Too much time on quantification; qualification helpful.

Stay in boundaries.

Expense/resource not valuable.

Highly complex and costly exercise.

Dependent on scale of community.

30% not a problem (national figure from surveys).

### **“So What” section transcription**

Focus on building governance processes/systems and effective actions.

Granting bodies need to be faster and give more money to more people to help with climate action.

How does sustainability best get integrated into our local government processes? How do we all (staff across all departments) get aligned?

We have less carbon budget left than I originally thought. Have to get to net zero faster!

Embed sustainability staff in other departments.

Need a BC MURB heat pump rebate program.

Provide training for staff on climate topics (solar PV for electricians, etc.)

Need more jurisdictional powers or aligned BC +Fed action to phase out gas+oil productions.

Need more progressive tax system.

Get \$\$ from provincial + federal governments—they can raise taxes in a less flat way.

Radical transparency is key- tell truth! How are we doing this to ensure public is push us to improve?

Can we keep every municipality to the same budget given capacity v financial limits→CRD can help equalize regionally while still asking hard questions specific to each municipality?



Parallel process similar to community plans feeding into regional plans.

Be honest of improvements as well as failure.

Our budgets are decided based on what we are used to spending on a normal day, we need to change that paradigm and increase budgets → yes but...

Stories help us to not underestimate kids, the public.

Let's adopt a simplified carbon budget showing our failure in context with carbon in atmosphere.  
Bottom line.

Simplified language=stronger language.

It is not enough to have us list actions we are taking ... we need to show results with a budget→Competition to race to the top not the bottom.

Benefit to doing this together to be able to compare regionally is important.--> need time during roundtables at committee.

Spending what it takes to win and letting the public decide (Seth Klein) → is a budget what it takes?-  
-> is it a question of either/or both? Can we do it all?

There are real immediate financial barriers and there's a danger of leaving those people behind. The poor bear the brunt of the impacts.

Looking behind is not as useful as looking toward a goal. Stull a reduction of GHG but also all other goals.

WE need to regularly show the public where we are failing to hit targets so they push us.

CRD should embrace a carbon budget for all municipalities.

Concern that \$ of plan and time to make plan may "eat into" time we have left. At the same time, benefits may allow deeper understanding of results of actions taken.

Getting into the weeds and creating more complexity is not as important as honest and open communication with the public and political officials.

Political will needs public energy & push.

Leadership responsibility to push transformation-easy to understand language.

It's the right thing to do in absence of target does work in principle but making it more consistent is necessary.

Competition helps create reflection and action.

Does the CRD have a role in a doing it together sense or does competition serve use better?

Regional vs. municipal. For example, may see increased GHG emissions in Victoria if all the densification happens at the core. How does per capita fit in?

Scenario building for carbon budgeting? What does the region have to look like to meet our goals? (density, transit, drive, asset, etc.).

Big picture "carbon budget" information good to have to re-focus and help municipalities focus on Climate Action Plans.

RGS opposition? Staff level opposition versus political?

There is different capacity of staff across the region. Important to have staff understand concepts to present policy options.

Different capacities across municipalities based on rural/urban, budget size, types of policies that would increase/decrease emissions.

Need to be able to build upon existing tools to be relevant to municipalities.

CRD a source of capacity building?

Support multi-criteria decision-making template? Qual/quant? Tool? That can be enhanced.

Buy-in with community. Best approach for residents – how to empower?

Process of learning, going to change.

Carbon/climate budgeting is important if they drive the policy we need to see.

Benefits need to be short term to be tangible to the public.

Risk of big picture benefits getting lost in the budgets

Need to be plain language for the public to follow.

Speakers noted current work has not influenced decision-making (GHG-lagging indicator)

Seasonal/variability means annual measures have uncertainty – rolling measures.

Encourages early investment in climate action – more action = less reaction.

Helps identify gaps in climate plan – scale of investment matches target ambitions.

Tough for smaller communities to engage – not a lot of experience and resource intensive.

Can skew project benefits: municipal hall retrofit is high \$\$\$, low carbon VS. municipal building regulations is low \$ to municipality and high carbon benefit.

Carbon budgeting consumes staff resources through lost action and reporting opportunities. Is there a net benefit?

Not sure how you factor in actions from other levels of government.

Carbon budgets are often too technical for public risk of getting lost in the weeds.

Risk of getting caught up in the details (weeds).

Track actions in Climate plan

More input at making a budget.

Fairness- we don't have a budget "we need to keep it in the ground" it's almost over.

Lead the 70% who are on board.

Data can lag → adaptation strategy ← value natural assets → cash in on value.

Annual report includes climate action plan achievements fairer → failures.

Who is it for?

Quality of life lens ← health and liveness ← equity health impacts minimized → avoid minimizing language → efficient actions positive and hopeful.

Climate budgeting seems like a good way to integrate climate action into Budget/Strategic Planning.

Climate Budgeting is a way of telling the truth to (ourselves and the public).

Tools from the CRD to help integrate climate decision making.

Acknowledge what is visible.

Information vs action.

Need to act now.

No budget available → more of a story to tell to abstract better decision making.

Acknowledge what is visible to the public (e.g., Fortis) → conflicting messages.

Highlighting success stories (real).

Make it easy for the public and empower.

Need a yes/no (not calculation).

**Feedback Stickies:**

Every CRD meeting I have attended is behind schedule. Pls allow adequate time. It was a good agenda.

Kara's presentation was excellent and spoke to me as a climate lay person.

Thought provoking! Lots to learn, lots of thoughts and great presentations.

This was great! Lessons learned was great.