



Making a difference...together

**OPEN CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT BOARD  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2020**

**APPENDIX D  
CORPORATE CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVES**

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Staff hosted a CRD Climate Action Inter-Municipal Working Group meeting to review current projects and initiatives, discuss priorities and share learnings related to regional climate action. In addition, staff facilitated an inter-municipal staff meeting to share information related to implementing the BC Energy Step Code across the region to date.

Staff presented the results of two key information reports to the Board:

- Capital Region Coastal Flood Inundation Mapping Project. Results are being shared directly with local government staff and municipal councils, First Nations, senior levels of government and other key emergency management agencies. Results and FAQs are also available on the CRD website at [www.crd.bc.ca/coastalflood](http://www.crd.bc.ca/coastalflood).
- Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory Study and associated Local Government Summary. The relevant reports are being shared directly with local government staff and municipal councils and First Nations. The reports and FAQs are also available on the CRD website at <https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/data/climate-change>.

The Bring it Home for Climate pilot program to support climate home retrofits launched on August 11. This pilot program, supported by the CRD and Federation of Canadian Municipalities, has been created to engage and support homeowners who are interested in being 'agents of change' by improving the energy efficiency and reducing the carbon footprint of their homes and motivating other homeowners to do the same. Qualifying participants will receive subsidized virtual home energy audits, supplies to reduce home air leakage, access to home energy coaching and peer learning opportunities.

The CRD secured a grant worth \$36,000 toward the creation of an Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure Road Map. The goals of the roadmap are to understand future charging station user needs and designs, and to find the opportunities for collaboration between regional fleet owners and other key stakeholders. The project, to be completed in early 2021, will be used as an input for the CRD Climate Action Strategy update.

In conjunction with a grant-funded UBC student scholar, staff completed a project that assessed the opportunity for energy and emission benchmarking for complex building (e.g., apartments, commercial) in the capital region. The report will be used as an input for the forthcoming CRD Climate Action Strategy update.

Staff participated in the BC Climate-Aligned Stimulus Working Group formed in early July to identify the potential impacts of economic stimulus that address both COVID-19 and the pressing urgency of responding to the climate crisis. The Working Group engaged BC local governments, economic developers, businesses, government entities, non-profits, and other relevant factors to identify climate-aligned COVID-19 economic recovery and stimulus projects from across BC, including the CRD renewable natural gas initiative. 323 potential projects worth more than \$11 billion were identified in four weeks from across BC.

The CRD continued to support promotion of the provincial CleanBC Better Homes Rebates to regional homeowners and, together with Victoria, Saanich, Central Saanich, North Saanich and Esquimalt, to provide top-up incentives to encourage residents to switch to electric heat pumps from fossil fuel heating systems. Between September 2018 and June 2020, 297 incentives (242 from oil, 48 from natural gas and seven from propane heating) have been accessed.

Using the CRD Headquarters Building as a pilot, the CRD recently joined the Greater Victoria 2030 Resiliency District, led by Building Owners and Managers Association of British Columbia, with support from the City of Victoria and District of Saanich. This commits the CRD to work with a cohort of representatives from Victoria, Saanich and the commercial real estate industry to explore the potential of achieving aggressive energy and emissions reductions targets, while also enhancing the resilience of our buildings.