

GOAL 11 Take Action on Climate Change

Strategic Directions:

11.1 The SLRD will:

a) Adopt targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45% below 2010 levels by the year 2030 and to achieve a carbon neutral region, reach a 'net zero' region by 2050.

This will be pursued by incorporating targets into SLRD OCPs.

b) Prepare and implement a regional climate action strategy.

This will be pursued by prioritizing SLRD Regional Growth Strategy strategic directions, with implementation actions taken in collaboration with member municipalities, federal and provincial agencies, community organizations and subject to funding.

11.2 The member municipalities will:

a) Adopt Regional Context Statements that identify how local land use, transportation and solid waste policies will contribute to meeting the regional greenhouse gas emission reduction target of 45% below 2010 levels by the year 2030 and achieving a carbon neutral region, reaching a net zero region by the year 2050.

This will be pursued by submitting regional context statements as required and working to implement local plans, policies and programs that contribute to regional greenhouse gas emission reduction targets.

b) Explore the development and implementation of climate action plans.

This will be pursued at a community level with implementation actions taken in collaboration with member municipalities, federal and provincial agencies, community organizations and subject to funding.

11.3 The SLRD and member municipalities agree to:

a) Maintain status as BC Climate Action Charter signatories.

The SLRD and member municipalities are signatories to the BC Climate Action Charter. Signatory Local Governments agree to develop strategies and take actions to achieve the following goals: (i) being carbon neutral in respect of their operations by 2012; (ii) measuring and reporting on their community's GHG emissions profile; and (iii) creating complete, compact, more energy efficient rural and urban communities.

This will be pursued by maintaining climate action monitoring and reporting programs, and by advocating to the province to continue the Community Energy and Emissions (CEEI) Inventory in support of community-level monitoring and meeting Climate Action Charter commitments.

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b) Monitor energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions related to land use, buildings, industry, agriculture, waste, transportation, and other emission sources, and consider lifecycle energy and emissions.

This will be pursued by working with the Federal Government, the Province, First Nations, BC Transit, non-governmental organizations, energy utilities, the private sector, and other stakeholders, as appropriate.

c) Monitor and pursue opportunities to increase carbon storage in natural areas.

This will be pursued by working with the Federal Government, the Province, First Nations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and other stakeholders, as appropriate.

d) Substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions:

i. from mobile sources

This will be pursued by limiting growth outside of established urban areas and prioritizing infrastructure development and policies that support preferred modes of transportation for inter and intra community travel.

ii. from stationary sources

This will be pursued through collective prioritization of energy efficient development and may include establishing Green Building Policies, creating incentive structures, encouraging retrofit programs, exploring development controls, and [exploring incentives or requirements for smaller-scale residential buildings](#). Additionally, the SLRD and member municipalities agree to explore the BC Energy Step Code and [Zero Carbon Step Code](#).

iii. associated with solid waste management

This will be pursued by continuing to develop and implement policies, practices and targets toward achieving Zero Waste Goals.

e) Increase integration of lower-impact technologies for community, institutional and commercial mobility.

This will be pursued by including targets and strategies/actions in Official Community Plans to reduce 'vehicle-kilometres-travelled' within communities, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions per kilometre travelled. This will also be pursued by expanding and enhancing the electric vehicle infrastructure network across the region for residents and visitors as well as commercial and institutional fleets.

f) Work with the Provincial Government to deliver, support and encourage preferred modes of transportation in the Highway 99 corridor, with an emphasis on regional transit and connecting to regional hubs/destinations beyond the SLRD boundaries.

This will be pursued by engaging with the Provincial Government and continuing to collaborate with neighbouring communities on regional transit.

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g) Promote active transportation options including e-bikes and other zero-emission options.

This will be pursued by Official Community Plans and Active Transportation Plans identifying gaps in the active transportation network, minimizing the distance people must travel to access essential needs and services, building safe routes and including end-of-trip facilities in at community and regional nodes/hubs.

h) Ensure regional/municipal decision-making is structured to achieve greenhouse gas reduction targets and energy goals.

This will be pursued by supporting compact, complete, efficient land use patterns and using an integrated asset management approach in which consideration is given to the full costs throughout an asset's life cycle (lifecycle costs), prioritizing opportunities for greenhouse gas and energy reduction. This may also involve expanding/updating corporate purchasing policies.

i) Utilize local third party accredited carbon offset programs and explore the creation of locally and/or regionally planned and managed third party accredited carbon credit/trading systems, with potential offsets going towards tangible local projects.

This will be pursued by working with community organizations, local governments and provincial agencies/authorities.

j) Protect the carbon sequestration value of natural systems, including forested lands and wetlands, and explore opportunities to strategically acquire protected areas that contribute to climate change mitigation.

This will be pursued by protecting forested lands and wetlands under local government jurisdiction, expanding protected areas where possible, and considering carbon sequestration values in provincial referral responses.

k) Consider impacts to local community greenhouse gas emissions in decision-making around greenhouse gas-intensive industries and utilities, Liquified Natural Gas, and commercial recreation and leisure operators.

This will be pursued through development approval and environmental assessment processes and advocacy efforts with provincial and federal government.

l) Encourage the development and use of renewable energy across the region.

This will be pursued through partnerships and in consultation with communities, exploring options at both the building-level and grid or system level. It may include advancing opportunities to incent small-scale, renewable energy production and use, exploring new technologies through pilot projects, and other tools to facilitate renewable energy systems in local development and construction.

m) Build climate resilience.

This will be pursued through efforts to adapt to current and future climate impacts by expanding the capacity of citizens, institutions and infrastructure to respond to a changing climate. Special consideration must be made for those in our communities who are most vulnerable.

n) Plan for climate change.

This will be pursued by ensuring new land use, buildings and infrastructure are planned and designed with tomorrow's climate in mind.

o) Prepare for extreme weather events, natural hazards and other large-scale emergencies that may increase in frequency and intensity as a result of climate change.

This will be pursued by expanding on emergency preparedness and management plans/strategies and enhancing community resiliency and self sufficiency – both human and physical infrastructure.

p) Pursue community engagement and consultation opportunities around climate change – with a focus on mitigation and adaptation [and prioritizing younger generations.](#)

This will be pursued by collaborating with local organizations, agencies, and stakeholders to build awareness, empowerment and commitment to take local action on climate change.

q) [Support climate equity by considering the needs of vulnerable populations who may be unduly affected by climate policies and actions.](#)

[This will be pursued by ensuring local government decision-making processes consider climate equity and by working with community organizations, local governments and provincial agencies/authorities.](#)

r) Ensure Climate Action is evidence-based.

This will be pursued by using data and modeling to inform climate action planning and decision-making.

GOAL 3 Generate a Range of Quality Affordable Housing

Strategic Directions:

3.1 The SLRD and member municipalities agree to:

a) Establish collaborative and consistent affordable housing policies, targets and tools to generate an adequate supply of quality affordable housing and a diversity of housing types for employees, seniors and people in need in the region.

This will be pursued by requiring a description of affordable housing policies, targets and tools within member municipality Regional Context Statements and SLRD Official Community Plans. Specifically, statements/descriptions should include the following:

- Inclusionary zoning requirements with aggressive targets, preferably at a minimum of 15 % affordable housing in perpetuity (e.g. purpose built rental, cooperative housing, etc.);
- Tools to secure affordable housing in perpetuity through deed/title restrictions and price controls;
- Strategies for the acquisition of community land banks for housing;
- Incentives and/or targets for affordable rental housing.

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b) Adopt policies and regulations that support live-work studio space, mixed-use neighbourhoods, and a variety of residential intensification strategies such as allowing secondary suites, providing for 'flexhousing' encouraging infill housing and small lot development, density bonusing and other tools that will support housing affordability.

This will be pursued in the review and updating of Official Community Plans and the overall development of collaborative approaches on affordable housing within the region.

c) Encourage **community-led** affordable housing initiatives to maintain and/or increase the supply of affordable housing (e.g., community housing land trusts, non-profit, locally controlled entities that acquire and hold land in perpetuity so that it can be used for affordable housing).

This will be pursued in discussions with these organizations and in the review and updating of Official Community Plans to identify affordable housing land supply options, and by maximizing the use of existing provincial and federal government housing programs and advocating for increased funding for affordable housing.

d) Adopt financial tools that will assist in the delivery of accessible family housing and seniors housing, such as cash-in-lieu of social housing contributions, waiving development cost charges, property tax exemptions, and lands grants.

This will be pursued as part of decision making by the Regional Board and Member Municipality Councils in regard to social housing proposals.

e) Adopt, as appropriate, deed-restricted price, resale control, rent geared to income and other options to increase the supply of affordable housing and create housing that remains affordable in perpetuity.

This will be pursued as a region through the implementation of Official Community Plans and the collaborative, consistent affordable housing approaches committed to therein, and through the sharing of best practices learned by the Whistler Housing Authority and the affordable housing experiences in Squamish and Pemberton.

f) Encourage cooperation with community service groups and private developers to supply low-cost housing options for seniors with the aim of maximizing independence and self-reliance and promoting continued socialization and the ability to age in place.

This will be pursued in the review of residential and commercial development proposals and in the review and updating of Official Community Plans in regard to congregate care and independent living developments for seniors.

g) Encourage housing models that provide security of tenure and support infill priorities, such as cooperative housing, cohousing, pocket neighbourhoods, etc.

This will be pursued in the review of residential and commercial development proposals, in the review and updating of Official Community Plans, and through sub-area/neighbourhood level planning.

h) Work collaboratively to address impacts of short-term nightly rentals and home "sharing" on housing supply.

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This will be pursued through bylaw enforcement, business licences, exploring the use of property rental programs matching business owners with property owners for workforce housing and targeted communications and outreach efforts.

i) Work together as a region on initiatives with the Province to deliver affordable resident housing, such as: acquisition of community land banks for housing; authority to levy employee housing works and services charges; and project funding and financing.

This will be pursued through collaborative lobbying efforts with the Province.

j) Seek to coordinate Housing Needs Reports as a region/Seek regional coordination on Housing Needs Reports.

This will be pursued by coordinating on RFPs, timing and findings...

k) Explore the establishment of a Regional Housing Authority and other opportunities to share resources across jurisdictions and organizations.

This will be pursued by working with existing housing authorities, societies and member municipalities...

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