



Local Government Climate Action Program Survey Submission Report

Abbotsford

Report generated on Monday, June 27, 2022 15:14 PST

| Question | Answer |
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| 1. Does your local government or Modern Treaty Nation have a climate action plan or strategy? | No, but we are intending to undertake one in the next two years |
| 2. For the calendar year 2021, did your local government or Modern Treaty Nation measure and publicly disclose corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions? | Yes |
| 2.a. Include a link to the document (URL) or webpage where it is disclosed. | https://abbotsford.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/?preview=56969 |
| 2.b. Report emissions based on Services Delivered Directly (in tCO ₂ e). | 4497 |
| 2.c. Report emissions based on Contracted Services (in tCO ₂ e). | 143 |
| 2.d. Report emissions based on Total Corporate Emissions (in tCO ₂ e). | 4640 |

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| 3. For calendar year 2021, did your local government or Modern Treaty Nation measure and publicly disclose a community-wide emissions inventory? | Community GHG emissions are measured, but the inventory is not publicly disclosed |
| 4. Is your local government or Modern Treaty Nation tracking progress on its community-wide GHG reduction target? | Yes |
| 4.a. Please provide your reduction target(s). | Reduce city-wide GHG by 20% per capita by 2025 and 40% by per capita by 2040, compared to the baseline year of 2007 |
| 4.b. Please provide the target year. | 2040 |
| 4.c. Please provide the baseline year. | 2007 |
| 4.d. Please provide the link(s) to the document(s) or website if available. | https://municipal.qp.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/coa/coabylaws/ocp16 |

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| <p>5. Describe up to four climate initiatives, and their outcomes, your local government or Modern Treaty Nation is currently undertaking for Buildings</p> | <p>Initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopted the City’s first Green Buildings Policy – i.e., a corporate green buildings policy that requires all new construction to be net-zero emissions in operations by reducing load demand, incorporating low emissions systems, and balancing remaining emissions by renewable energy or offsets. • Developed EV-ready requirements for new multi-family residential buildings and incorporated them into the Zoning Bylaw update. • Developed and delivered a custom Energy Step Code education series in partnership with BCIT. • Continued use of rainwater harvesting tanks at civic locations including Abbotsford Centre, Tradex, and the Operations Yard Native Plant Nursery. • Continued use of rainwater for ice making, flushing toilets, and watering trees and boulevards. <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize emissions from any new City buildings that are to be constructed in the future, and establish a low emission culture around any new City construction. The outcomes are aligned to meet the CleanBC 2030 Roadmap to be net-zero carbon in new construction. • New multi-family building EV charging requirements are critical to supporting zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) infrastructure and providing residents with the ability to charge their ZEV at home. • Training to support the implementation of the Energy Step Code requirements is essential so that the local building sector better understands the requirements around energy-efficient buildings. • Using rainwater for various uses at civic facilities helps decrease facility water consumption, while inadvertently decreasing the demand to supply and distribute traditional drinking water. |
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6. Describe up to four climate initiatives, and their outcomes, your local government or Modern Treaty Nation is currently undertaking for Transportation

Initiative:

- Completed six signalized intersections and upgraded three pedestrian crossings.
- Completed year 2 of 4 of the LED streetlight replacement program where approximately 1,400 streetlights were converted to LED.
- Reintroduced 10,000 hours of transit service into Abbotsford.
- Continued implementation of the Green Fleet Strategy by installing an additional 13 EV charging stations for fleet use, adding 21 EVs and plug-in hybrid vehicles to the City's fleet, and upgrading the Operations Yard electrical service to enable the EV transition over the next 10 years.

Outcomes:

- The six signalized intersections will improve traffic efficiency and safety.
- The three upgraded pedestrian crossings will support the 'Safe Route to School' and other active transportation modes that use City roadways.
- Improved lighting from LED streetlights dramatically impacts the overall safety for all modes of travel.
- Reduced electricity consumption will be achieved by the conversion to LED streetlights.
- Reintroduced transit hours provided an increased frequency of buses on major routes and provided improved reliability, both contributing towards increasing transit use in the community.
- The continued implementation of the Green Fleet Strategy and increased use of EVs and plug-in hybrid vehicles in the City's fleet contributes to a reduction in GHG emissions.

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| <p>7. Describe up to four climate initiatives, and their outcomes, your local government or Modern Treaty Nation is currently undertaking for Community</p> | <p>Initiative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided curbside collection services to 26,400 single-family homes and duplexes where over 14,600 tonnes of comingled food and yard waste were collected, and over 4,800 tonnes of recycling, achieving an overall program diversion rate of 66%. • Implemented a fully automated cart-based collection program where the use of single-use plastic blue bags was eliminated, removing the use of over 2 million blue bags annually from the recycling stream. • Continued the Abbotsford Mission Water & Sewer Commission (AMWSC) water conservation program which includes outdoor water use restrictions, rebates for efficient fixtures and appliances, irrigation and landscape assessments and rebates, subsidized rain barrels, and an extensive public and school education program. • Initiated project to convert biogas from JAMES Wastewater Treatment Plant to Renewable Natural Gas (RNG). The RNG will be injected into the provincial gas grid under a sales contract with FortisBC. <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverting waste by recycling and composting helps reduce the impact of solid waste on the environment. Recycling can reduce GHG emissions by both lowering the demand for new materials and products, and by minimizing downstream impacts such as transportation of waste over long distances and disposing of it in landfills. Diversion of food and yard waste from landfill and processing it at anaerobic digestion facilities avoid the generation of landfill methane and assists in extending the lifespan of the landfill. • The use of reusable carts to collect curbside recycling is more environmentally friendly. It creates less waste, reducing the amount of material that needs to go to landfill or be recycled. • Converting the biogas to RNG and supplying it to the gas grid will help decarbonize the existing gas grid. The expected RNG production will reduce emissions by 63,878 tCO₂e, equivalent to heating 580 BC homes each year. |
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| <p>8. Describe up to four climate initiatives, and their outcomes, your local government or Modern Treaty Nation is currently undertaking for Climate Resilience</p> | <p>Initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued work with the Province and Sumas First Nation on the Fraser River bank stabilization and flood mitigation. • Initiated design work for a backup power generated for the Barrowtown Pump Station that when complete, will provide resilience to the community should a power failure occur. • Continued work on the Fishtrap Creek Integrated Stormwater Management Plan that will include climate change factors as part of the assessment. • Completed the AMWSC Water Efficiency Plan that reviewed existing programs and recommended new programs based on the updated Water Master Plan. • Issued an RFP to update the AMWSC Water Shortage Response Plan and water use restrictions to address extreme heat and drought scenarios, and to include stewardship approaches to the way water restrictions are triggered. The updated plan is anticipated to be completed in 2022. • Continued the Cannell Lake limnology program that monitors for changes in raw water quality that could be impacted by climate change. <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Barrowtown Pump Station Backup Power Generator will help reduce the flood risks to major transportation corridors and infrastructure within the Sumas Prairie, such as Highway 1, Highway 11, BC Hydro powerlines, and railway lines, and underground gas/oil transmission lines. In addition, this will help protect agricultural farmland where flooding would significantly impact 1,700 properties in Abbotsford. |
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| <p>9. Which elements of your community's current official community plan (OCP) (or other relevant strategies, policies and/or plans) support the creation of more complete, compact communities?</p> | <p>The overall vision for Abbotsford, as outlined in the OCP, is to have distinct and complete neighborhoods with a compact urban area. The OCP outlines seven big ideas that contribute toward creating a more complete, compact community. Each idea is supported by a number of policies, development permit guidelines, and tangible strategies to implement the vision.</p> <p>Policies The policies that support the creation of a complete, compact community include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land-use policies that encourage densification of key areas through infill and mixed-use options - The creation of a compact city center - The establishment of distinct and complete neighborhoods - Making walking, biking, and transit delightful - Recognizing employment and supporting lands to enhance job retention for Abbotsford residents <p>Development Permit Guidelines Development permit guidelines for mixed-use centers and multifamily development are intended to facilitate high-quality development in clusters that take into consideration public spaces, streets, and adjacent uses. These guidelines ensure the thoughtful integration and design of higher-density development in distinct neighborhoods.</p> <p>Implementation The OCP outlines a number of strategies to make the plan work. A complete and compact community will be facilitated through the introduction of new neighborhood plans and programs for Community Amenity Contributions (CACs) and density bonusing.</p> |
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| <p>10. What actions has your local government or Modern Treaty Nation taken to increase community completeness and compactness since 2020 (e.g. urban containment boundary, increasing density by allowing secondary suites and laneway or carriage housing options)?</p> | <p>The City of Abbotsford has made efforts to increase community completeness and compactness since 2020 through the completion of neighborhood plans, a comprehensive zoning bylaw update, and the introduction of a community amenity contribution and density bonus program.</p> <p>City Centre & Historic Downtown Neighbourhood Plan While these plans were completed in 2019, the goals and policies are being applied through subsequent initiatives. Both neighborhood plans provide a framework for higher-density development that is well connected and complete.</p> <p>Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw Update The strategic Zoning Bylaw update includes a comprehensive review and refinement of regulations applicable to residential uses and parking. As part of the update, a number of new uses and regulations were introduced that increase housing options and incentivize development in close proximity to the primary transit corridor and Historic Downtown.</p> <p>CAC & Density Bonus Program The City has begun a review and update of the Density Bonusing and Community Amenity Contributions programs. The work is being done to help achieve goals outlined in City plans and strategies. This program will help enhance connections and public amenity areas. In the interim, the City's Community Benefit Contribution is being amended in order to allocate funds towards affordable housing, park improvements, and cycling, transit, and pedestrian connections.</p> <p>Affordable Housing Strategy The Affordable Housing Strategy was completed in 2020 and it identifies a number of opportunities to increase the affordable housing stock as well as diversify it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete community with greater access to housing for all - Encourages mixed housing types with community amenity spaces |
| <p>11. What data would be most valuable to your local government or Modern Treaty Nation in decision-making related to the creation of complete, compact communities?</p> | <p>The data that would be most valuable to the City of Abbotsford is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An inventory of rental housing - Greenhouse gas intensities for all building types - Trip survey data that outlines daily trips and typical modes of transportation used - Inventory of off-road transportation for construction and manufacturing sectors - Electricity Grid decarbonization roadmap |

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| <p>12. From 2021 to now, has your local government or Modern Treaty Nation taken any action(s) to address climate impacts?</p> | <p>Actions include the development of the Long-Term Flood Mitigation Plan to address future climate impacts. The City of Abbotsford is working with engineering consulting firm Kerr Wood Leidal, to develop a long-term flood mitigation plan for Sumas Prairie. Through the plan, the City considered four different options designed to enhance the City's existing flood-related infrastructure and reduce flooding impacts on residents and the community. These options were presented to Council on April 4. In April and May, Abbotsford residents, businesses, and neighboring governments had the opportunity to learn more about each option and share their feedback on what matters most to them through information sessions and surveys. Based on the feedback received through the engagement period, as well as additional technical analysis, a new hybrid preferred option was developed. This preferred option was presented to Council on June 13, 2022, for their consideration and was unanimously approved in principle, along with a recommended multi-phase phasing program for its implementation. Details can be found on the City's website, link: https://letstalkabbotsford.ca/abbotsfordfloodresponse</p> |
| <p>13. Has a climate risk and vulnerability assessment (or similar assessment) been undertaken for your local government or Modern Treaty Nation?</p> | <p>No, and we are not intending to undertake due to lack of expertise/technical capacity</p> |
| <p>14. What are the three most significant climate hazards faced by your jurisdiction</p> | <p>"Overland flooding", "Extreme heat and heat stress", "Ecological, cultural and/or human health impacts (examples of cultural impacts include threats to identities, languages, and livelihoods; examples of ecological impacts include biodiversity loss, erosion, invasive species, ecosystem changes)", "Water shortage", "Extreme cold, snow and ice", "Wildfire", "Coastal flooding, storm surge events and/or other coastal hazards", "Wind, rain, and other storm events"</p> |
| <p>15. Are you responding to this survey on behalf of a Modern Treaty Nation?</p> | <p>No</p> |
| <p>16. Based on the hazard you indicated as most significant in question 14, as a local government, which groups are most exposed/vulnerable to the impacts of that climate hazard?</p> | <p>"Newcomers to Canada (immigrants and refugees)", "People experiencing homelessness", "Seniors"</p> |
| <p>17. Based on the hazard you indicated as second most significant in question 14, as a local government, which groups are most exposed/vulnerable to the impacts of that climate hazard?</p> | <p>"Low-income households", "Newcomers to Canada (immigrants and refugees)", "People experiencing homelessness", "Seniors"</p> |

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| 18. Based on the hazard you indicated as third most significant in question 14, as a local government, which groups are most exposed/vulnerable to the impacts of that climate hazard? | "Low-income households", "Indigenous peoples", "Racialized communities", "Newcomers to Canada (immigrants and refugees)", "People experiencing homelessness" |
| 19. Select the top three factors your local government or Modern Treaty Nation needs most to increase the capacity to adapt to climate impacts and build community resilience. | "More partnerships and collaboration across levels of government", "Increased staff knowledge, expertise and data specific to climate adaptation", "Increased staff capacity" |
| 20. How does your local government or Modern Treaty Nation ensure equitable access to, and distribution of, climate action opportunities and benefits? | "By collecting and analyzing disaggregated and/or spatial data on the impact of climate actions" |
| 21. Do the climate action plan(s) and priorities of your local government or Modern Treaty Nation align with the climate action plans and priorities of senior levels of government? | "No, there is no process currently for multilevel government collaboration and alignment of climate plans and implementation" |
| 22. Is your local government a signatory to the B.C. Climate Action Charter or a Modern Treaty Nation? | Yes |
| 23. To demonstrate commitment to climate action, climate investments (i.e., matching funding or in-kind contributions) equivalent to 20% of the provincial funding received are required of local governments and Modern Treaty Nations. The intent is to show past, current, and future investments in climate action and create awareness and education. | "Staff time", "Climate or energy studies and/or assessments", "Climate or energy plans, policies and/or strategy development", "Climate resilient infrastructure and/or capital project(s)" |
| 24. Please provide your (or survey primary contact's) first and last name. | Wasel Rahman |

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| 25. Please indicate your (or survey primary contact's) position with your local government or Modern Treaty Nation. | Senior Technical Advisor - Building Systems |
| 26. Please provide your (or survey primary contact's) business email address. | wrahman@abbotsford.ca |
| 27. Please provide your (or survey primary contact's) business phone number. | 7789087204 |



Local Government Climate Action Program Attestation Form

Instructions for the Attestor:

1. Complete and sign this form by filling in the fields below.
2. Email the completed and signed form to LGCAP@gov.bc.ca.

I, the Chief Financial Officer, or equivalent position, of City of Abbotsford (name of local government) confirm the following:

1. That Local Government Climate Action Program funding has been, or will be, allocated to climate action.
2. That if funds are held in reserve, they will be spent by March 31, 2025.
3. That a completed and signed version of this form will be submitted by email to the Climate Action Secretariat, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy by July 29, 2022.
 - a. If council approval is required, it will be submitted no later than September 30, 2022.
4. That a completed and signed version of this form will be publicly posted by September 30, 2022.
5. That a completed and exported version of the program survey (submitted online) will be publicly posted by September 30, 2022.

Attested to by me at (name of local government) City of Abbotsford
on (date) June 20, 2022

Signature of Attestor:

Printed Name of Attestor:

Komal Basatia

Title or Profession of Attestor (i.e. Chief Financial Officer or equivalent position):

General Manager, Finance and Procurement Services

Telephone Number of Attestor:

604-864-5634

Email Address of Attestor:

kbasatia@abbotsford.ca

Ministry of Environment and
Climate Change Strategy

Climate Partnerships and
Engagement Branch
Climate Action Secretariat

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Website: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change>