

Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities: November 6th Resilience Summit Outcomes



Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Climate
Leadership Plan (VICC-CLP) Steering Committee
viccclp.com

We respectfully acknowledge that the Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Region is located upon the traditional unceded territories of many different Indigenous peoples.

Our climate change challenge

Climate change is a complex and ongoing challenge facing communities across the Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Region (VICC). By 2050, it is anticipated that British Columbia will experience:

- Temperature increases of 1.3 to 2.7 °C;
- Increases in average annual rainfall from 2% to 12%, with summers being increasingly drier;
- Loss of glaciers resulting in changes to fish habitat, declining quality and storage of drinking water; and
- Continued rising sea levels along most of B.C.'s coast, more frequent wildfires and rainfalls.

Climate change will impact all sectors of society and the economy now and in the future. Communities large and small, rural and urban have adopted a range of initiatives and there are a growing number of regional plans that aim to scale up these efforts to promote co-ordinated actions. Climate change impacts are experienced at a local level, yet existing municipal and regional district governance structures can constrain climate action plans, making planning at a broader regional scale essential. This is why we need to plan at a Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities wide scale.

Our communities are connected in tackling this challenge. Our overarching goal is for all our climate actions to increase community resilience across the Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities region, which in turn will better prepare our communities to navigate climate challenges.



The plan

The **Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Climate Leadership Plan Steering Committee** (VICC CLP SC) was convened by three Vancouver Island Mayors—Lisa Helps (Victoria), Josie Osborne (Tofino), Michelle Staples (Duncan)—to catalyze climate mitigation and adaptation throughout the region. The VICC CLP SC includes representatives from each of the regional districts on the island and the Sunshine Coast (urban and rural), working together to produce a regional plan that will catalyze climate mitigation and adaptation projects and activities throughout the coastal region.

This shares the outcomes and a preliminary set of goals and actions that were jointly developed with participants in the VICC's Community Resilience Summit which took place on November 6th 2020. Over 150 elected officials and members of staff from across the VICC region engaged in a series of workshops to begin the first steps of developing a Climate Action and Resilience Plan to 2030 for the island and coastal communities. Two additional engagement opportunities will contribute to the development of the plan: a youth climate summit and an opportunity for Indigenous-informed Indigenous engagement.

Equity and Social Justice

Equity and social justice principles strive for a fair and equal society in which each individual matters, their rights are recognized and protected, and decisions are made in ways that are fair. This includes: Accessibility (what programs or services are truly accessible, particularly to those without financial means) and Choice (who has agency to choose and what impacts the ability to choose?).

GOAL 1:

A social justice and equity lens must be placed on all climate change decision making

- Develop a social justice charter in order to ensure that the VICC's work is grounded in a vision of climate justice and equity.
- Establish an enabling a space for those with lived experience to contribute, creating an accountability structure to inform what is meant by 'equity & social justice', developing a clear picture of the impacts, etc.
- Ensure that actions/policies/etc. distribute the benefits of climate mitigation and adaptation. This may include reducing energy poverty and rent/demovictions with retrofit policies, designing sliding scales for financial incentives, defining and supporting food security, access to housing, expansion of public transit, and eliminating the unequal burdens caused by climate change.

GOAL 2:

By 2021 there is a framework established to ensure that the voices at the planning and decision making tables that develop this Island and Coastal Community Climate Strategy are diverse and inclusive

- **Diversify voices and facilitate equal participation:** de-stigmatize those in the community needing support, encourage youth voices and participation, remove barriers for youth, BIPOC, LGBTQ, and women to have a say at the table and get into leadership positions, and design policy for all working and/or planning tables that clearly identifies who has to be represented.
- **Identify and invite diverse groups/voices to participate:** measure equity and set goals (who is involved, are our systems changing to be representative of and responsive to diversity in community?), exploring language and engagement practices.

- **Improve engagement and diversity:** Set expectations for participation, identify facilitators, educate students, develop training in intersectional equality and accessibility, provide education about climate justice, increase opportunities for public engagement, remove financial barriers to participation and secure funding to support participation.

GOAL 3

Indigenous priorities must be centered within the planning and implementation process

- Recognize and acknowledge reconciliation and Indigenous knowledge in planning and decision-making from the beginning. Reconciliation involves recognition of history and centering Indigenous priorities within the planning process.
- Meaningfully include Indigenous Peoples in decision-making and consultation, including fair compensation for their involvement. Incorporate UNDRIP/DRIPPA/Truth & Reconciliation into the work. First Nations must have a say in decisions about their land.
- Recognise colonization and actively work towards decolonizing practices of government.
- Protect ecosystems and lands, particularly with regards to First Nations food systems.

It is important that a diversity of voices inform decision making.

The unique opportunities and barriers facing First Nations communities, as well as the ongoing traditional relationship with the land, mean that First Nations must be participants in the process. It is also important to understand the unique circumstances and needs of different populations, including children, youth, families living on lower incomes, renters, and those living on the edge, recognising that there are differences in how people can manage when a crisis occurs.

Healthy Communities and Social Resilience

Resilience is the ability to *persist, adapt, and transform*, and is a characteristic of healthy communities. We need to work together to prioritize and foreground this to senior levels of government as part of Climate Mitigation and Adaptation planning. In everything we do we must support the health and well-being of our most vulnerable populations; this will increase overall community resilience and a community's ability to better withstand the shocks and disruption that climate change will bring.

GOAL 1:

By 2030 everyone across the VICC has access to adequate health and wellbeing supports as per the social and ecological determinants of health

- Establish a VICC housing corporation to achieve economies of scale in building new zero emissions affordable housing.
- Set up opportunities for health professionals, elected officials and municipal staff to work together and share best practices; enhance information sharing through community health networks.
- Facilitate development of health and wellness hubs (e.g. recreation centres, food banks) where community groups collaborate with health professionals.
- Support all communities to incorporate the social determinants of health into local decision-making.
- Take a Health in All Policies approach to municipal (land use) planning.
- Island Health, BC Housing and the First Nations Health Authority develop a VICC wide partnership to address unmet needs.

GOAL 2:

By 2030 all communities on VICC use a common measurement of wellbeing and there is a 50% improvement from when we started measuring in 2022

- Determine the most suitable and EASIEST way to measure that is also culturally appropriate and incorporates Indigenous ways of knowing.
- Work through Community Health Networks (an existing entity focused on social determinants of health) to implement the wellbeing measurement function.
- VICC communities agree to using a common wellbeing measurement by Dec 31, 2021, to be used going forward.

- VICC communities will start measuring wellbeing (using the agreed-to measurement), and provide an initial report by Dec 31, 2022.
- Following the first set of reports, VICC communities will agree on which metric(s) to focus on collectively.

GOAL 3:

By 2030 we have a VICC wide emergency management plan with actions that achieve 100% resilience and address the needs of priority populations.

- Establish a VICC wide emergency management and resilience planning body/table to develop an Emergency Management Plan for the VICC region.
- Ensure that the VICC emergency management plan explicitly incorporates the needs of vulnerable populations and uses an equity lens.
- Advocate to Emergency Management BC for a broader scope in the emergency planning process that incorporates people who are already homeless or displaced in emergency management plans.
- Engage impacted people through participation in the planning process and in Emergency Response debrief sessions.
- Connect residents VICC wide to share best practices on social resilience and emergency preparedness at the street or neighbourhood level.

All of the actions to achieve these goals require a culture shift and transformation from the way projects are funded to the way we develop policy.

Targets and benchmarks are critical to keep progress on track and hold ourselves accountable to the linkages between the health of people and the health of the environment. Buy-in and involvement from other community stakeholders (fire, police, hospitals, VIHA, etc.) will be critical to the success of these actions.

Food Security

Healthy food systems and ecosystems are the foundations of healthy communities. Food security entails universal access to safe, healthy, culturally-appropriate food all year around and across the region. An overarching goal is the achievement of food sovereignty, in which communities are taking an *active* role in co-managing their food systems to ensure that these systems express their values.

GOAL 1:

By 2022, all communities have access to resources to support embedding food policy into their policies and practices, and region-wide forums exist to support and scale up these actions

- Support every community to incorporate food (sovereignty/security) into their planning and policies.
- Develop resources to inform leadership and staff about how this can be done.
- Establish forums for sharing community knowledge, advice, successes, and templates, and for identifying and lobbying for policy changes at other levels of government that would support this work.



GOAL 2:

We have complete local food systems that include infrastructure for production (growing, harvesting and processing), distribution and access by 2030, including the local knowledge and capacity to support them

- Support local growing and harvesting capacity, including access to lands and waters (develop land registries; innovative land-sharing programs; lobby for local access to and benefit from marine resources; develop research, training and knowledge transfer resources, etc.).
- Support local and regional processing and distribution capacity, at both household and regional scale (develop and support community kitchens; processing, storage, and distribution facilities; farmers markets, etc.).

- Enhance capacity by increasing learning and knowledge transfer about food systems, both to increase food literacy and to support those seeking to build careers, companies or organizations in sustainable food systems (reinvigorate farmers' institutes; develop new and expand existing educational programs to support food entrepreneurship and to braid local and Indigenous knowledge of food systems into courses and degrees).

GOAL 3:

Land and water-based ecosystems essential to food production are protected and restored region-wide by 2030

- Ensure ALR land is protected, and this is embedded in OCP and RGS language.
- Ensure that food systems are part of all land use planning and management.
- Advance the creation of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas and co-management agreements for important growing and harvesting areas, for marine as well as terrestrial species.
- Support and expand Indigenous Guardian Programs and other regional, place-based monitoring and stewardship initiatives that inform adaptation and serve as early warning systems for food safety.
- Develop systems for integrated community-based monitoring of productive ecosystems, and use this to shape adaptive management; ensure these processes consider connections and cumulative effects.
- Embed shoreline protection and restoration in OCPs to enhance "common" harvesting areas (with adequate monitoring for safety and to prevent overharvesting).

To be resilient, food systems need to be supported and organized across a variety of scales (household, neighborhood, community, regions) and they both require and support healthy lands and waters.

They also have the potential to help mitigate climate change and increase the resilience of communities to adapt to it. Prioritizing healthy lands and waters in all actions is essential. We need to recognize, respect, and develop synergistic relationships across First Nations' and Settler approaches to food systems. We can build upon the extraordinary variety of work that is already underway towards enhancing local, sustainable and resilient food systems.

Building resilient economies

A resilient economy is diverse, inclusive, and has the capacity to adapt and innovate.

We need to think regionally as we build economies that transition from unsustainable resource extraction and carbon dependant industries to resilient regional economies that support responsible energy use and can generate *more* employment and deliver *higher* returns.

GOAL 1:

By 2030 all municipalities in the VICC will invest in clean, renewable energy industry to diversify the economy and create jobs in the region

- Grand plan for municipalities and regional districts to electrify fleets:
 - Senior government commit to eliminate fossil fuels;
 - Support clean industry and tech, and research and development; and
 - Incentivize energy retrofits.
- Determine barriers to such investments:
 - Incentivize rural/urban/indigenous partnerships;
 - Incentivize revisions of OCPs to align with this goal; and
 - Work with provincial government to incentivize funding approaches.

GOAL 2:

By 2030 incentivize small businesses and rural communities through investing in tourism, innovation, and internet access

- Incentivize and support for cottage/small business industry start ups.
- Support Island Coast Economic Trust to start climate-related economic investment.
- Ensure funding is not administratively onerous.
- Invest in sustainable tourism (e.g. Forest Bathing).
- Invest in First Nation-led and owned tourism.
- Facilitate regional networking and regional project.

GOAL 3:

Develop policy framework for measuring success of resilient economies (emphasis on triple bottom line)

- Coordinate all local governments to use common framework to measure prosperity and economic resilience:
 - Monitor support in various programs;
 - Be sure communities have resources to do this work;
 - Create platform to share results;
 - Adopt triple bottom line framework; and
 - Train local governments to apply framework.

We have a vision for a greener, smarter, and more inclusive economy.

Environmentally sustainable businesses that use clean and renewable energy are fundamental to building resilient economies that can regenerate rapidly after stress, and will often improve their situation compared to the pre-shock world.



Circular Economy

A circular economy aims to eliminate waste and pollution, keep products and materials in use, and regenerate natural systems. In order to minimise the use of resource inputs and the creation of waste, pollution and carbon emissions, products of non-biological “technical materials” such as metals, plastics and synthetic chemicals are kept cycling in the economy through the design of systems that facilitate reuse, sharing, repair, refurbishment, remanufacturing and recycling. Organic based biological materials are managed to ensure that at end-of-life they are properly decomposed to return nutrients to the environment to support the regeneration of natural systems.

GOAL 1:

Reduce 50% of food waste and divert 100% of organic material from landfill and incineration and by 2030

- Increase food waste reduction education for residential and commercial.
- Coordinate with forestry, restaurants and grocery stores to create new collection streams
- Ban organics from co-mingled waste streams.
- Establish organics processing infrastructure at all scales – rural, small and large municipalities.
- Capture forestry and industrial waste in the accounting of waste organic material.
- Refine regulations to improve quality of composted materials and their distribution.
- Develop local food production and supply chains.



GOAL 2:

Reduce per-capita disposal of material and consumer good waste to 150kg (85% Diversion) by 2030

- Increase and highlight re-use, repair, rental and sharing skills and services.
- Advocacy for right to repair.
- Regulations to decrease packaging waste/ban single-use items.
- Expand and reform extended producer responsibility (EPR) programs - recovery standards and percentage of recycled materials, incentives for redesign to support circularity.
- Increase access to recycling for rural communities through strengthening EPR programs and service levels.
- Address Industrial, Commercial & Institutional and Construction & Demolition waste streams.

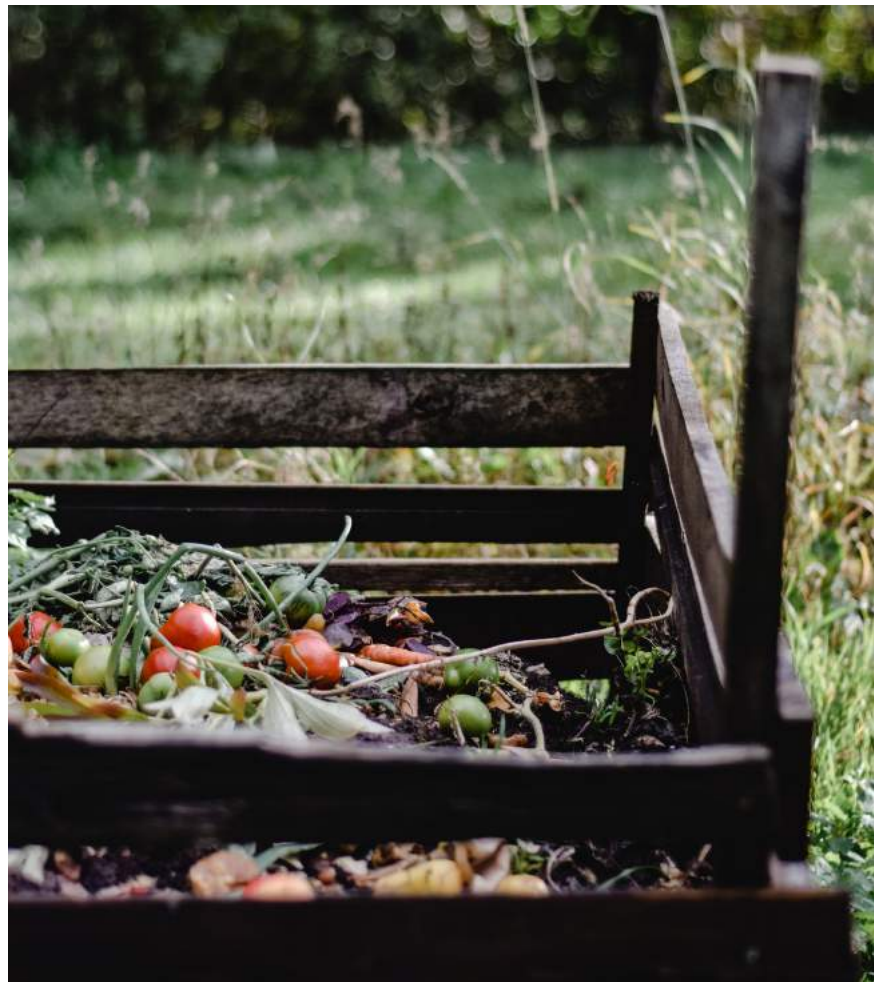
GOAL 3:

Re-localize supply chains and increase local circular business

- Establish VICC circular procurement policy and systems.
- Increase skills training for trades and local resource manufacturing and food production.
- Establish hubs for re-use, sharing and repairing.
- Maximize local food chain capacity and remove regulatory and capacity barriers, such as over-restrictions of FoodSafe meant for large industrial food processing but penalizing small, local suppliers.
- Develop educational campaign promoting local services and products.
- Examine supply management.
- Incentivize and support circular business development.

There is great potential for impact.

According to a 2009 US EPA study, 50% of total Green House Gas emissions result from the provision of food and goods (products and packaging). These emissions are accrued at each step of the item's value chain from material extraction, production, transportation, consumption and disposal. By systemically addressing how we manage materials by reducing extraction of raw materials, re-localizing supply chains, designing materials for re-use, repair and recycle, and reducing waste, large reductions in GHG emissions across sectors can be achieved – by some estimates, up to 2/3rds of the emissions in the provision of food and goods.



Resilient Infrastructure

Infrastructure is the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities (e.g. buildings, roads, power supplies) needed for the operation of a society or enterprise; infrastructure resilience is the ability to reduce the magnitude and/or duration of disruptive events. The effectiveness of a resilient infrastructure or enterprise depends upon its ability to anticipate, absorb, adapt to, and/or rapidly recover from a shock.

GOAL 1:

Resilient Water Management

- Develop plans to assess capacity, durability and redundancy of water management systems regarding runoff, drinking water and non-potable water under potential climate change scenarios.
- Collaborate to identify capacity, jurisdiction, treatment, existing water uses, etc.
- Develop a common model of risk assessment.
- Integrate an understanding of systems, both natural and built, into water management.
- Ensure preparedness of existing systems.
- Develop integrated watershed management.

GOAL 2:

Resilient transportation Infrastructure for all modes of transportation

- Identify modes of transport, hubs, corridors, safety nets.
- Institute broad collaborative planning.
- Develop a united front to lobby province.
- Free electrified transit.
- Shared roads for all modes.
- Lobby to change MOTI's operating principles, road definitions.
- Lobby TC public transportation infrastructure.
- Improve data sharing.

GOAL 3:

Identify Infrastructure needs (both new and replacement) and funding

- Develop plans to assess risks and redundancy of infrastructure for transport of people, goods, resources, etc. under potential climate change scenarios.
- New building planning should be multifunction.
- Increase capacity to deal with as much waste processing locally as possible, including recycling, salvage, etc.
- Identify and upgrade existing infrastructure.
- Develop integrated plans on how to recover / rebuild after major events.
- Develop new funding models (new taxation tools), criteria that support the development of resilient infrastructure.
- Planning for collapse.

We need new ways of working to support infrastructure resilience.

We need flexible and scaleable projects. We need to support and celebrate the leaders and champions and to develop community education and consultation. We need better resources and information sharing. We need to collaborate with industry, trades, communities, volunteer groups (e.g. streamkeepers), First Nations, labour unions and youth.

Green Infrastructure

Green infrastructure incorporates both the natural environment and engineered systems to provide clean water, conserve ecosystem values and functions and provide a wide array of benefits to people's health and wellbeing. Green infrastructure solutions can be applied at the scale of a building through to the broad landscape. Examples of green infrastructure practices at a local level are permeable pavements, green roofs, and rainwater harvesting systems while across a landscape the preservation and restoration of an interconnected network of natural and semi-natural areas is key.

GOAL 1:

By 2030, embed the use of sustainable, renewable materials and permeable living surfaces into all new and retrofit built infrastructure to achieve 100% increase from 2020 levels

- Think of roads as pathways for the whole community and design for mixed-use active transport, reduced impermeability, and protection and restoration of natural assets.
- Expand the use of green roofs, carbon sequestering materials in building supplies, rain gardens, bioswales etc. in new builds and retrofits.

GOAL 2:

By 2030 ecosystem-based management underpins all land use in VICC to maintain and restore healthy aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems and to optimize the rebuilding of carbon stores

- Expand the protection and restoration of natural areas and ecological features.
- Develop water sustainability plans for all watersheds.
- Ensure local communities and First Nations are part of forest management decision making.
- Design and manage for ecological connectivity on the local and regional scale.

GOAL 3:

By 2030, VICC local governments will have integrated natural amenity accounting

- Develop VICC-wide data inventory of natural assets and amenities.
- Ensure that natural amenity accounting is developed with key stakeholders--including First Nations--and the data is shared in order to improve decision making and track progress.

Green infrastructure is a cost-effective, resilient approach to reducing flood risk and the impacts of heat and drought while providing many community benefits such as carbon storage, clean drinking water, fish and wildlife, and spaces to recreate.

Meeting these goals will take strong advocacy to communicate and coordinate across jurisdictions and First Nations. Key stakeholders include the ministries of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Environment and Climate Strategy, Finance, Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Municipal Affairs, and Transportation and Infrastructure, the AVICC, UBCM, First Nations communities, the BC Products Stewardship Council and the CRD interprovincial working group.



Buildings: getting to net zero through retrofits and new builds

Resilient and zero-emissions buildings can help achieve climate goals, reduce home-heating costs, and enable new skills-building for construction workers. Both emissions reductions and adaptation to changing climate conditions need to be accounted for when planning new builds and upgrading existing infrastructure. This is critical for mitigation.

GOAL 1:

By 2030, existing buildings will reduce energy usage and GHGs by 40%. All new retrofits must consider resiliency and adaptation.

- Develop retrofit financing tools (like PACE - Property Assessed Clean Energy) that work for everyone and cover all types of buildings (residential, commercial, industrial, institutional).
- Generate research-based metrics and targets that can be used to track progress, improved access and quality of data, and enhance capacity of energy advisors to support these targets.
- Create an advocacy, education and action plan for all local governments through AVICC, including hazard mapping to support appropriate land use and resilience planning.
- Lobby provincial government to pass legislation to ban oil heating, mandate point of sale building energy labelling and a building benchmarking program for large buildings.
- Work with communities to develop official retrofit programs plans, including a retrofit builders training program, one stop retrofit program for homeowners, and regional teams to facilitate, educate and support public uptake of rebate programs.

GOAL 2:

By 2030, all new buildings will be net-zero and resilient to the localized impacts of climate change.

- Alter the step code to include GHG emissions.
- All VICC Communities adopt step code by 2025.
- Local governments require low carbon heating and cooling systems through building bylaws (Greenhouse Gas Inventory, GHGi).
- Advise and offer training to local developers and builders to meet this goal.
- Adopt hazard lands development permit areas (sea level rise, wildfire interface, steep slope).
- Adopt development permit area guidelines for energy efficiency.

GOAL 3:

By 2025 (at the latest) we have the capacity across the island to support net zero and resilient buildings.

- Develop enough expertise to achieve goals 1 and 2 through increased training programs and green qualifications and licensing of trade.
- Ensure that a broad cross section of community is recruited (better representation of women and other equity seeking groups), including potentially workers from the fossil fuel sector.
- Ensure that funding and capacity for retrofits is in place and that building owners are aware of who can do the work in their communities.
- Develop programs and networks to support net-zero and climate resilient buildings, including energy auditor programs available remote communities, and net-zero and climate resilient building awards.

Switching to low-carbon technologies and increasing energy efficiency of buildings can move us forward to a future where buildings produce no emissions at all.

Regulatory changes, advocacy initiatives, and financing tools can help communities save money on heating, create new 'green' jobs, and be prepared to resist upcoming climate-related natural hazards.

Decarbonised transport

Transportation is one of the biggest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions in the region. In line with the provincial CleanBC strategy, the region needs to move to a zero-emission vehicle future with widely available charging infrastructure. We also need to connect all communities via transit, railway, and biking to allow for decreased reliance on driving and complete streets development of communities across the region.

GOAL 1:

By 2025, have accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure for personal & commercial transport in all VICC communities in all sectors

- Build EV infrastructure including acquiring land that can be used for Level 3 charging.
- Collaborate with the private sector including partnering with car share and ride sharing companies to electrify their fleets.
- Develop a secure written agreement with all regional districts (RDs) to build and coordinate the charging system with support from BC Hydro and the provincial government.
- Increase broad education on the benefits of electrification, existing policy and costs of installing stations—use data and technology to increase support for EVs.
- Prioritize areas with greater density of apartments to have more access to public charging infrastructure—this infrastructure placement should be informed by good transportation data and projections.
- Provide rebates for charging infrastructure to home owners and developers.
- Use provincial post-COVID and other funding (e.g., CleanBC) to invest into EV charging stations in existing attached buildings.
- Develop regulations/bylaws for new developments requiring installation of EV charging stations.



GOAL 2:

By 2030, connect communities via biking, transit, and railway corridors and EV rentals in VICC

- Create an intergovernmental task force to model interconnectivity infrastructure.
- Develop public-private partnerships to enable collaborations between BC Transit, BC Ferries and the private sector (i.e., car share, e-mobility, rental companies).
- Enable full cost accounting/economic analysis of different transportation options and communication to public (i.e., account for co-benefits including safety, benefits for tourism and environmental benefits).
- Develop zoning requirements to enable EV rentals in appropriate places.
- Lobby BC and federal governments to develop a regional transportation plan and to receive their support/buy-in.
- Learn from leading jurisdictions on how such interconnectivity can be achieved and what policies and governance institutions need to be developed.

GOAL 3:

By 2025, allow for only complete streets design approach including transit-oriented development, densification and access to services

- Provide education to governments (i.e., elected representatives and staff) and developers about the benefits of this design approach and how it can be implemented.
- Write these principles into Official Community Plans (OCPs).
- Offer tax incentives or benefits to projects/developments that use this approach.
- Enable municipalities to buy land next to future transit/railway corridors to build housing, and then use money and profits to fund sustainable transportation projects.
- Lobby the provincial government for legislation mandating the implementation of these approaches by every level of government across the province—BC's Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure can be used an active partner.

Electrifying vehicles and connecting communities via zero-emission transportation modes will lead to substantial environmental and socio-economic benefits.

To accelerate the transition, the region needs to have an integrated regional transportation plan. The plan will enable conversations with the provincial government to seek funding for EV charging infrastructure in all types of buildings, implementing new infrastructure to connect communities by rail and biking, and developing communities in a transit-oriented manner.

Active Transportation

Active transportation is central to health and wellbeing. Active transportation is any human-powered transportation like walking and cycling; it can be combined with other modes like transit. Investing in infrastructure to support active transportation protects the safety and wellbeing of friends and family and creates liveable spaces. Increasing active transportation can reduce trips made by vehicles and help us to meet our climate goals. Presently around 80% of GHG emissions in the province are from energy of which half are from transportation.

GOAL 1:

Two-thirds of trips to be made by active transport by 2030

- Mandate Vision Zero: No traffic fatalities.
- Update provincial road construction guidelines using Vision Zero, System Safety approach to road design, AAA (all ages and abilities) lens, prioritizing vulnerable road users and active transportation.
- Support cultural shift to active transportation in education and training.
- Reallocate street space for active transportation.
- Secure reliable, stable multi-year funding to implement Active Transport planning.
- Ensure that there is a rural lens on Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) road guidance. Rural communities face different constraints and needs.
- Establish a VICC platform for shared policy learning.

GOAL 2:

Implement integrated regional transportation planning (inclusive of active transport) by 2030

- Jointly address Interregional planning gaps and identify priorities.
- Develop regional Memorandum of Understanding to convene municipalities and Electoral Areas at the Regional District Level to conduct regional transportation planning.
- Advocate for the Province to invest in inter-community connections for active transportation and transit. Ensure Province and BC Transit prioritize active transportation and inter-jurisdictional connections.
- Advocate for dedicated funding for integrated transportation planning across functionally connected areas. Establish fiscal incentives for joint planning and transportation infrastructure delivery.

GOAL 3:

Ensure dedicated, stable, long-term funding for active transport by 2025

- Advocate for safe pathway maintenance to be covered in maintenance agreements and contracts to reduce barriers for small communities.
- Adopt fiscal incentives for employees who commute by active transport.
- Advocate for 1% of sales tax to municipalities.
- Advocate for a usage-based insurance system for vehicles in order to incentivise a reduction in vehicle use.
- Advocate for an increase in Federal Gas Tax funding.
- Advocate for green infrastructure stimulus for active transport from the federal government.



We have the vision and the will. We know what to do. We need the capacity and agency to pull it off!

Upper level governments, in particular the Provincial government, set the incentives for investment in active transportation. This includes regulatory and implementation guidance that is often out of date or contradictory when it comes to active transportation. Too often incentives are set against active transportation. We need solutions that work for communities of all sizes—rural and urban.