

Next Steps

Climate change is the challenge of our generation, and meeting that challenge is a long-term commitment. As we move forward, the government will update and advance this Climate Action Plan, building on the firm foundation laid during Phase One. Key initiatives now in development will continue taking shape and, in the coming months, British Columbians can expect to see:

▣ LiveSmart BC

More support for individuals, families and businesses to reduce their carbon footprints will be announced in the coming months. These programs will assist British Columbians to make lifestyle choices that will save them money and help the environment.

▣ Additional GHG Reduction Strategies

The Climate Action Team will make recommendations to the government for greenhouse gas reduction policies that will assist the province to meet its 2020 target in the summer, 2008.

These recommendations will be publicly reviewed and the government will take these recommendations under advisement in determining future greenhouse gas reduction initiatives as required.

▣ Interim Targets

As part of its mandate, the Climate Action Team will advise government on appropriate greenhouse gas reduction targets for 2012 and 2016. Targets for these years will be set into law by the end of 2008 as required by the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act.

▣ The Western Climate Initiative

The beginnings of a new cap and trade system for industry will be formulated by British Columbia and its partners in the Western Climate Initiative. Broad parameters of the system's design are expected by September 2008.





Public Education and Information

The Cabinet Committee on Climate Action, chaired by the Premier, brings together key ministries to make policy related to greenhouse gas reduction and climate change adaptation. The CCCA includes the Ministries of Environment, Finance, Energy Mines and Petroleum Resources, Small Business and Revenue, Transportation, Forests and Range, Labour and Citizens' Services, and Community Services.

A Climate Action Secretariat has also been established and is co-ordinating climate action across government and in partnership with citizens, communities, industries and businesses. The Secretariat has ongoing dialogue with British Columbians from all over the province.

For details, go to www.climateactionsecretariat.gov.bc.ca/

Together, the Cabinet Committee on Climate Action and the Climate Action Secretariat have engaged with over 450 groups, individuals and businesses on the topic of climate action since May 2007. For details, see Appendix H.

Western Climate Initiative Stakeholder Engagement

The WCI is committed to including stakeholders in the development of the cap and trade program. Many opportunities have been provided to facilitate the collection of stakeholder feedback to subcommittee design work over the past several months, in the form of workshops, teleconferences and webinars.

Stakeholders have also provided written comments to subcommittees' Major Design Options released in January 2008. See appendix C for more details.

Citizens' Conservation Councils

Citizens' Conservation Councils (CCC) will be established in the coming months to help build a network for grassroots climate action across British Columbia. The regional councils will advise government and their local community public on the best ways for individuals to help reduce GHG emissions and contribute to climate action initiatives.

Climate Action Team

The Climate Action Team is a "blue ribbon" panel of leaders from environmental organisations, private enterprise, the scientific community, First Nations, and academia. Formed in November 2007, it consists of 22 members and is chaired by Cheryl Slusarchuk, president of the Premier's Technology Council.

The Climate Action Team's role is to make expert recommendations on credible, aggressive, and economically viable interim targets for 2012 and 2016. This will bridge the gap between policy measures that have already been announced and the 33 percent emissions reduction target. The group will also provide advice on the government's commitment to become carbon neutral by 2010. CAT will release its recommendations in a report due in the Summer 2008. This report will then be publicly reviewed via the Ministry of Environment's website.

■ Engaging British Columbians

The government is also moving forward to broaden the dialogue and better engage with British Columbians provincewide through the following forums:

- **Sectoral Consultations:** The Province has continued to engage in dialogue with industries to help identify the most practical greenhouse gas emissions strategies.

Symposiums have been held across the province involving the participation of the forest industry, mining, oil and gas producers, waste and landfill management, agriculture, labour, and transportation. The sessions are solution-oriented as government and key economic groups come together to explore options and determine next steps.

- **Youth Dialogue:** Youth representatives from across the Province gathered in Vancouver in April to discuss how youth and government could work together to inspire the Province's young people to take action on climate change issues and encourage more British Columbians to live lower-carbon lifestyles. At the same time, a Youth Climate Action Leadership Alliance was announced to provide a forum for youth to engage on climate action projects including public engagement activities, and projects related to mitigation and adaptation in the Province. This engagement with our province's youth will continue.
- **Faith Dialogue:** B.C. faith leaders came together in April to discuss climate change. The summit provided an opportunity for various religious communities to work together to support a low-carbon future. It is expected that Faith leaders will continue to engage positively on climate action in the future.



■ LiveSmart Education and Training

To support and accelerate B.C.'s move to a new low-carbon economy, the government's LiveSmart initiative will include a significant education and training component. The goal will be to foster awareness of climate change and respond to emerging business opportunities with job creation and skills development in new demand areas. LiveSmart education and training will include the following:

- School curriculum: Climate change education components will be further developed and integrated into the K-12 public education system. This will ensure that all our children learn about the science of climate change, as well as strategies for mitigation and adaptation.
- Green work site campaign: The government will provide funding for small business workplace energy audits and initiate work site GHG reduction programs. Recognition awards for leading green businesses will also be developed.
- LiveSmart small business and skills training: To help ensure that British Columbians have the skills they need to compete in the new low-carbon economy, training will be initiated in new service sectors, including carbon auditing and verification, carbon trading and carbon brokering.
- Public information campaign: The Province will invest \$5 million per year to support education initiatives, including those recommended by the Citizens' Conservation Councils.

