

carbon neutral corner

BC Climate Action Secretariat, Ministry of Environment, contact: climateactionsecretariat@gov.bc.ca

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

The 2016 Public Sector Climate Action Leadership Symposium

(Formerly Carbon Neutral Government Symposium)

The Climate Action Secretariat is pleased to invite all public sector organizations (PSOs) to this year's <u>Public Sector Climate</u> <u>Action Leadership Symposium</u> at the Radisson Hotel Vancouver on November 21 and 22, 2016.

This year's 2 day event highlights the following:

- ⇒ Setting targets and moving to greater GHG reductions
- ⇒ Adapting to climate change in the public sector through innovative approaches and technology
- ⇒ Policy updates, including the Climate Leadership Plan
- ⇒ Learning from green building experts and discover leadingedge technologies and approaches for emission reductions in public sector buildings

Special group hotel accommodations rates are also available for your overnight stay!

For more information, as well as to reserve your spot and book hotel reservations, please <u>register here</u>.

SMARTTool Refresh

As reported previously, we're still negotiating with our short-listed vendor. Negotiations are taking longer than anticipated due in part to the additional contractual complexities associated with Software as a Service. We are now anticipating an October sign off.

CNG Team Update

As of October 1, 2016, it will have been one year since the Carbon Measurement and Reporting team merged with the Carbon Neutral Government team within the Climate Action Secretariat. Over the last year, there's been a fair amount of change in team membership as we've gone through typical things like retirement and staff leaving for new opportunities. So we've been busy hiring and backfilling and are hoping to be fully staffed in October. We'll provide you with more details on the new team members in next month's edition.

PREMIER'S AWARD FINALIST!

Congratulations! BC's 127 public sector organizations – including yours – are collectively finalists for the 2016 Premier's Award. The Carbon Neutral Government Program was nominated and selected as a finalist in the Partnerships category for catalyzing public sector climate action. The Premier's Award for Partnership recognizes joint-ventures or multi-party initiatives between BC Public Service organizations and organizations in the broader public sector, other levels of government, First Nations communities, or in the private or not-for-profit sectors.

Public sector leadership in climate action is something we can all be proud of. We are proving, day by day, that our actions are making a difference.

The winner will be announced at the Premier's Awards ceremony on October 18, 2016. Stay tuned!

Climate Leadership Plan

In August 2016, the Province released a new <u>Climate Leadership Plan</u>, defining 21 actions to help meet our 2050 emissions reduction target of 80 per cent below 2007 levels. Two apply directly to the public sector:

- 1. Promoting use of low carbon and renewable materials in infrastructure.
 - Policies are being developed to increase the use of low carbon and renewable materials in all public sector infrastructure.
- 2. Reducing emissions and planning for adaptation in the public sector.

The Province is committing to develop guidelines for public sector operations to reduce emissions and plan for climate change adaptation, and mandate the creation of 10-year emissions reduction and adaptation plans for provincial public sector operations.

Stay tuned for upcoming engagement opportunities as we work with you to fulfill these policy commitments.

