

The Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP): Summary Report on Local Government Actions 2012



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Ministry of
Community, Sport and
Cultural Development

The Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP): Summary Report on Local Government Climate Action 2012

Summary of Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Public Reports – Corporate and Community-Wide Actions

Background

The Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) provides a grant equal to one hundred percent of the carbon tax paid directly by local governments, who have signed onto the BC Climate Action Charter. It is one of a number of actions and initiatives aimed at supporting B.C. local governments to take action on climate change.

To be eligible for the CARIP grant, local governments are required to report publicly on their plans and progress toward meeting their corporate and community-wide climate action goals. For the 2012 reporting year, 168 final CARIP public reports were completed and submitted by local governments.

2012 was the third CARIP reporting year. As in previous years the questions related to actions taken were broad in scope, enabling the development of a high level 'snapshot' of local government trends. This year (2013), local governments were also required to report on their progress toward carbon neutrality.

This report provides a synopsis of where communities are at with respect to corporate carbon neutrality, highlights some of the actions and reflects on trends in both, the corporate and community sphere.

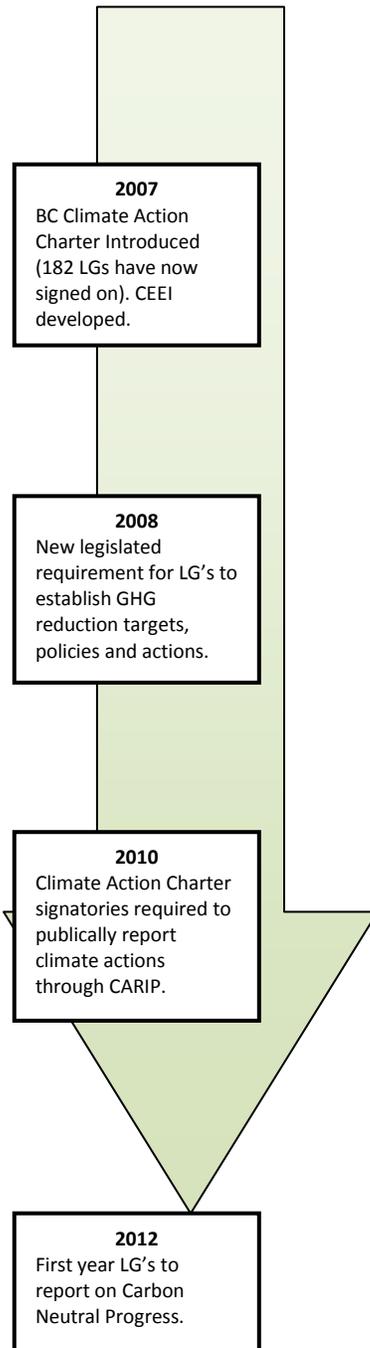
As identified in the side bar to the left, there are a number of actions and initiatives that have contributed to building local government climate action momentum. It is clear, based on the actions summarized in this report; B.C. local governments are serious about meeting their Climate Action Charter commitments and are demonstrating leadership in addressing climate change and thereby contributing to the long-term livability and viability of their communities.

Summary of Climate Action Progress for 2012

Under the BC Climate Action Charter, local government signatories commit to take actions to become carbon neutral in their corporate operations as well as to reduce community-wide emissions by creating more complete, compact and energy efficient rural and urban communities.

Since 2010, as part of the CARIP public reporting process, local governments have reported annually on their actions to reduce corporate and community-wide emissions. 2013 was the first year that local governments were also required to report on their 2012 progress toward becoming carbon neutral in their corporate operations.

This report summarizes local government progress on carbon neutrality and corporate and community-wide actions reported. Also, it identifies emerging trends based on a review of local government corporate and community-wide actions reported annually from 2010 to 2012.



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31 local governments achieved carbon neutrality in 2012

Capital RD
Clearwater
Coldstream
Columbia Shuswap RD
Comox (Town)
Comox Valley RD
Dawson Creek
Delta
Duncan
Fort St James
Harrison Hot Springs
Invermere
Islands Trust
Ladysmith
Langley (City)
Lantzville
Logan Lake
Midway
Mount Waddington RD
Nanaimo RD
New Denver
Oliver
Parksville
Port Clements
Port Hardy
Qualicum Beach
Sidney
Spallumcheen
Ucluelet
Vancouver
Whistler

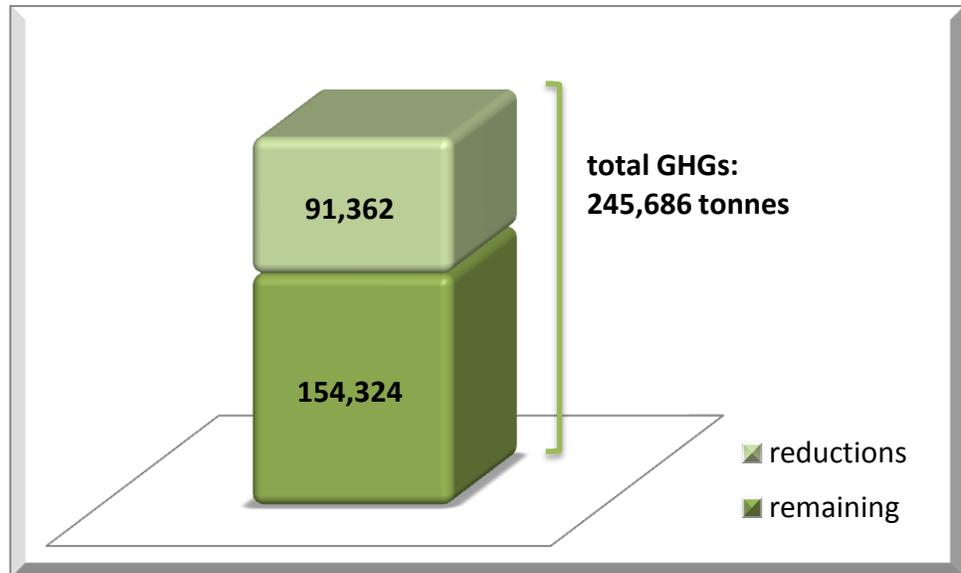
Carbon Neutral Local Government

As identified in CARIP carbon neutral reports, B.C. local governments are demonstrating significant climate leadership and making substantial progress on their carbon neutral commitments. See Appendix A for the carbon neutral status of each reporting B.C. local government.

To date, 86% of all reporting local governments are measuring their corporate emissions, accounting for 245,686 tonnes of corporate GHGs across B.C.

Over 16,000 tonnes of offsets were purchased by local governments for the 2012 reporting year. An additional 75,121 tonnes of GHGs were reduced through the implementation of measurable emission reduction projects.

Overall, through the purchase of offsets and / or by undertaking measurable emission reduction projects, in 2012 B.C. local governments reduced their reported corporate greenhouse gas emissions by over 91,000 tonnes. This equals about 37% of B.C. local government's total reported corporate footprint.



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Corporate and Community-wide Actions

Summary of Direct and Supportive Actions

Through CARIP, local governments are required to report actions that are both “direct” and “supportive”. Direct actions are those that can be directly implemented and the impacts directly measured (e.g. the installation of an energy efficient heating system, development of bike lanes, establishment of recycling programs). Supportive actions provide the framework to support implementation of direct actions (e.g. development of policies, education programs, hiring of staff and creation of committees and feasibility exploration).

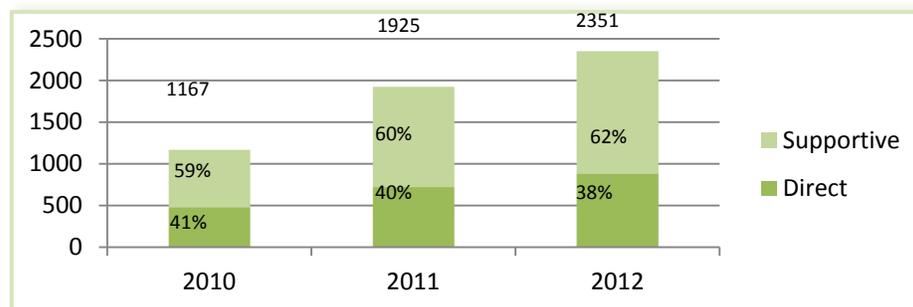
Reflecting on the past three years, it is clear that local governments are making significant advances toward reaching their climate action goals in the corporate and community spheres. As illustrated in the graphs below, the total number of actions reported in both corporate and community spheres have almost doubled since 2010.

Number of Corporate Actions Reported 2010 - 2012



It is interesting to note the difference in distribution of supportive and direct actions in the corporate and community spheres over the past three years. In the corporate sphere, where it is generally easier to implement action because it is more within local government control, the proportion of direct actions is greater than supportive actions. In the community sphere, where implementation requires the support of the greater community, supportive actions exceed the number of direct actions.

Number of Community-Wide Actions Reported



As seen in the graph above, there has been a gradual increase in the proportion of supportive action over direct actions in the community sphere. Overtime, it is anticipated that this trend will shift as the frameworks put in place to support community-wide action (e.g. policies education, staff, committees, research, etc.) enable communities to move to implementation and undertake more direct community-wide actions.

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Emerging Trends

The following analysis of trends in corporate and community-wide actions is based on the compilation of data reported in CARIP reports over the 2010, 2011 and 2012 reporting years. This compiled data is summarized and displayed in graphs in Appendices B and C.

Based on a review of the corporate and community-wide actions reported over the last three years (2010 - 2012 inclusive), a number of overall trends regarding local governments' corporate and community-wide reduction efforts have emerged. A number of the key trends are described below.

Key Trends: Corporate Action

Continued Focus on Building and Lighting, and Fleet

Building and Lighting has encompassed over one third of total direct actions throughout the three reporting years. These actions have ranged from programs designed to change the energy use habits of local government staff to upgrading buildings to LEED and other energy efficient building standards.

Building and Lighting

Kamloops found that by turning off lights, heaters and computers at night they were saving \$500 a month.

Fleet

William's Lake has been working on [greening their fleet](#) and is experiencing about 20% fuel savings each year.



Waste

Penticton has incorporated end of life disposal / recycle into their green procurement plan.

Fleet encompassed a quarter of the total direct actions throughout the three reporting years. Actions taken in this category included corporate anti-idling programs, the purchase of more energy efficient fleet vehicles (e.g. hybrid and electric vehicles) and the introduction of improved bicycle amenities for staff (e.g. covered bike racks, showers etc.).

Increased Focus on Waste

Waste in the corporate sphere is related to projects initiated by local governments to reduce the greenhouse gas footprint of waste generated on their own property. This includes projects like introducing recycling and composting and banning the sale of bottled water in public buildings and at special events.

Decreased Focus on Policy Development and Increased Focus on Feasibility Exploration

"Policy development" and "feasibility exploration" are two supportive action areas. Looking at supportive action areas allows us to gain insight into how local governments are developing a framework to support implementing direct actions. "Policy development" includes the development of broad climate action plans and energy and emissions

plans as well as more focused plans such as transportation plans, waste reduction plans, and district energy plans.

In 2010, policy development represented half of the total reported supportive actions. Over the three reporting years, this number was reduced to about one third while the actions reported in the "feasibility exploration" category increased from about one fifth in 2010 to just over one third in 2011 and 2012. This suggests a shift in focus from planning "what to do" to "figuring out how to do it".

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Feasibility exploration has focused on a number of things from exploring transportation infrastructure alternatives to district energy. There has been a notable increase in feasibility exploration in the area of energy generation.

Key Trends: Community-Wide Actions

Continued Focus on Transportation

Transportation is the area of highest emissions as identified in the Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI). As a result it is encouraging to see that this is the area of greatest focus for community-wide actions. Actions in transportation have encompassed about one third of the total actions reported in all three reporting years. Actions in transportation have included the implementation of anti-idling policies and programs to the design of sustainable transportation plans and the implementation of innovative approaches to encouraging more walking and cycling.

Transportation

Sparwood's new overpass [bridge](#) has shortened the walking distance between the downtown and another section of the City from 5 to 1.6 kilometres.

The City of Vancouver's introduction of [separated bike lanes](#) has increased cycling by 40% since 2008.



Waste

The Powell River Regional District has created an impressive website "[Let's Talk Trash](#)" as part of their waste reduction implementation process.

Increased Focus on Waste

The amount of reported actions related to waste doubled from just over 10% in 2010 to just over 20% in 2011 and 2012. Actions have included the implementation of waste management plans and continuation and improvement of recycling programs. The implementation of curb side organics programs has been increasing as well as feasibility exploration of landfill gas capture systems.

Increased Focus on Programs and Partnerships

Increasingly, local governments are reporting using a range of funding and /or capacity building programs and partnerships to assist them in taking climate action. In 2010 only 5% of supportive actions involved programs and partnerships. By 2011 this number doubled and by 2012 it was over 20%. This may be due to an

increase in the number of climate action related programs available to local governments as well as an increase in local government staff awareness of programs available.

There also appears to be an increase in collaboration between municipalities and regional districts on joint climate action projects such as landfill gas capture, regional climate action plans and regional scale plans for electric vehicle infrastructure.

Organizations Assisting Local Government with Climate Action (as Identified in CARIP reports):

Community-Wide

[LiveSmart BC Small Business Program](#)
[BC Hydro Sustainable Communities](#)
[BC Hydro Power Smart](#)
[Climate Smart Business](#)
[Pembina Institute \(Green Building Leaders\)](#)
[Fortis BC](#)
[SolarBC](#)
[Bike to Work BC](#)
[Idle Free BC](#)
[Carpool.ca](#)
[Plug in BC](#)
[WWF Earth Hour City Challenge](#)
[Smart Planning for Communities](#)
[Community Energy Association](#)
[E3 Fleets](#)

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Conclusion

Over the past three years (2010 - 2012), the information provided through the CARIP reports has enabled local governments to share their progress on climate action with the Province, their own communities as well as with other communities across the province. Based on the information reported, it is clear that local governments across B.C. are committed to addressing climate change in both the corporate and community spheres.

Lists of local government climate actions and other information related to the CARIP program can be found online at: <http://www.cscd.gov.bc.ca/lgd/greencommunities/carip.htm>.

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Appendix A

2012 Carbon Neutral Status of Reporting B.C. Local Governments

Carbon Neutral

Capital RD	Invermere	Parksville
Clearwater	Islands Trust	Port Clements
Coldstream	Ladysmith	Port Hardy
Columbia Shuswap RD	Langley, City	Qualicum Beach
Comox, Town	Lantzville	Sidney
Comox Valley RD	Logan Lake	Spalumcheen
Dawson Creek	Midway	Ucluelet
Delta	Mount Waddington RD	Vancouver
Duncan	Nanaimo RD	Whistler
Fort St James	New Denver	
Harrison Hot Springs	Oliver	

Making Progress (Measuring)

100 Mile House	Fraser Fort George RD	North Cowichan
Abbotsford	Fraser Valley RD	North Okanagan RD
Alert Bay	Fruitvale	North Saanich
Armstrong	Gold River	North Vancouver (City)
Ashcroft	Golden	North Vancouver (District)
Barriere	Grand Forks	Northern Rockies RM
Belcarra	Highlands	Oak Bay
Bulkely Nechako RD	Houston	Okanagan Similkameen RD
Burns Lake	Kamloops	Peace River RD
Campbell River	Kaslo	Peachland
Canal Flats	Kelowna	Pemberton
Cariboo RD	Kimberley	Penticton
Castlegar	Kitimat	Pitt Meadows
Central Kootenay RD	Kootenay Boundary RD	Port Alberni
Central Saanich	Lake Country	Port Coquitlam
Chetwynd	Lake Cowichan	Port McNeill
Chilliwack	Langley, Township	Powell River RD
Colwood	Lillooet	Prince George
Coquitlam	Lumby	Queen Charlotte Village
Courtenay	Mackenzie	Quesnel
Cowichan Valley RD	Maple Ridge	Radium Hot Springs
Cranbrook	McBride	Revelstoke
Creston	Metchosin	Richmond
Cumberland	Metro Vancouver RD	Rossland
East Kootenay RD	Mission	Saanich
Elkford	Montrose	Salmon Arm
Enderby	Nakusp	Sayward
Esquimalt	Nanaimo (City)	Sechelt
Fernie	Nelson	Sicamous
Fort Saint John	New Westminster	Smithers

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Sooke
Sparwood
Squamish
Squamish-Lillooet RD
Strathcona RD
Summerland
Sunshine Coast RD
Surrey

Tahsis
Taylor
Telkwa
Terrace
Tofino
Trail
Valemount
Vanderhoof

Vernon
Victoria
View Royal
Wells
West Kelowna
West Vancouver
Williams Lake

Making Progress

Anmore
Cache Creek
Central Coast RD
Central Okanagan RD
Chase
Clinton
Fraser Lake
Gibsons

Granisle
Hope
Kent
Keremeos
Kitimat Stikine RD
Langford
Merritt
Osoyoos

Port Alice
Port Moody
Pouce Coupe
Prince Rupert
Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD
Slocan
Warfield
White Rock

Incomplete Reports

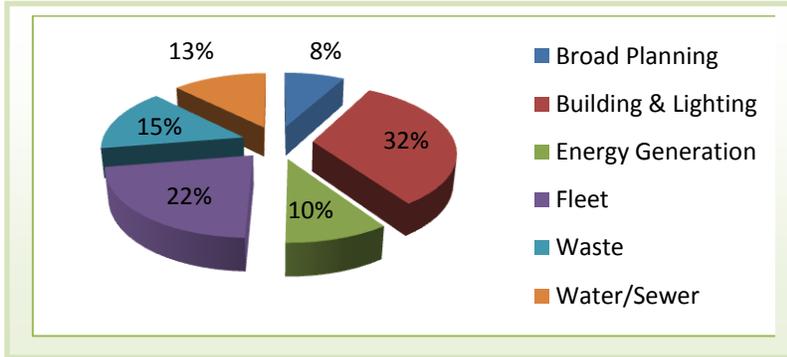
Greenwood
Port Edward
Salmo
Thompson-Nicola RD
Tumbler Ridge

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Appendix B

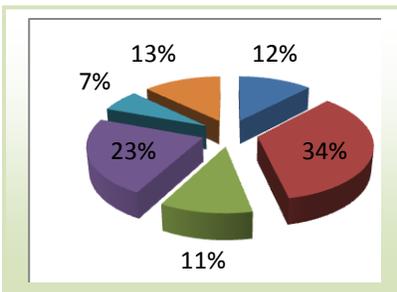
Trends in Corporate Direct and Supportive Actions

Supportive Corporate Actions 2012

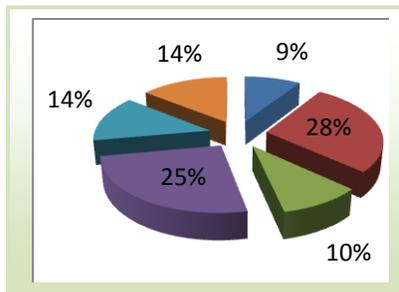


Direct Actions are those that are directly implemented such as the introduction of more energy efficient fleet vehicles or heating systems. Supportive actions include those which support implementation such as the education of staff or development of policy.

2010

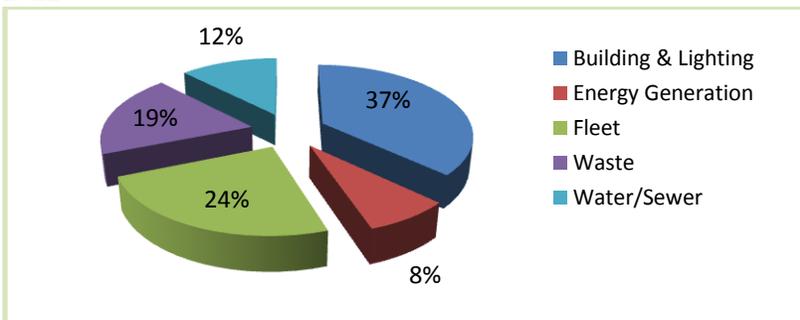


2011



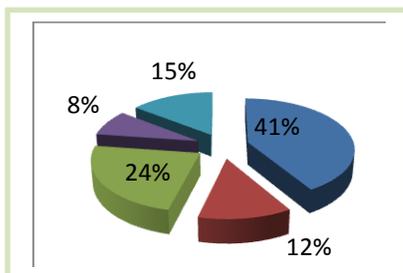
While most categories are self-explanatory, “broad planning” refers to the development of higher level plans such as corporate climate action plans. This is why “broad planning” is only referred in relationships to supportive actions.

Direct Corporate Actions 2012

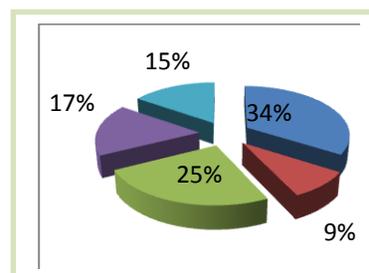


The breakdown of types of actions has been similar in the three reporting years. One interesting observation is the increase in focus on waste in 2011 and 2012.

2010



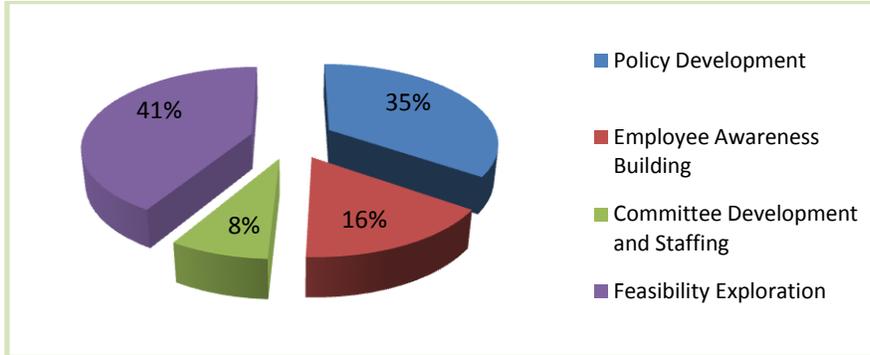
2011



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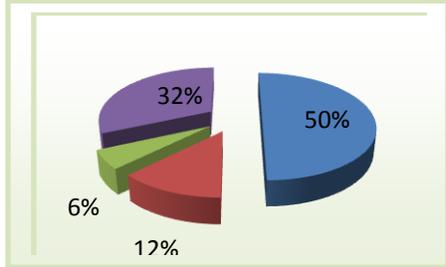
Supportive Corporate Actions

2012

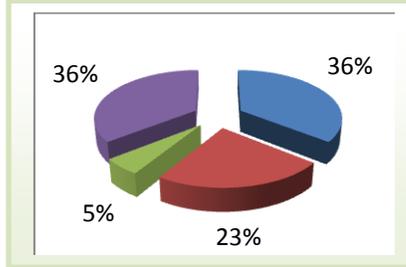


“Policy development” and “feasibility exploration” are the two main focuses of supportive corporate actions. In 2010 “policy development” represented half the total reported supportive actions. Over the three reporting years, this number was reduced while the actions reported related to “feasibility exploration” increased.

2010



2011

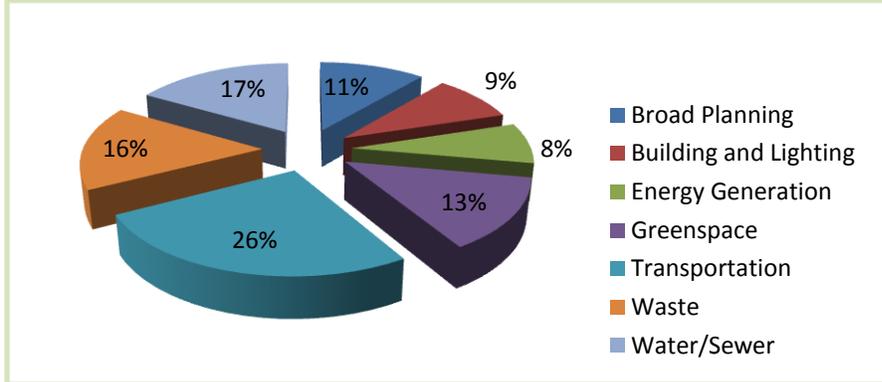


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Appendix C

Trends in Community Wide Direct and Supportive Actions

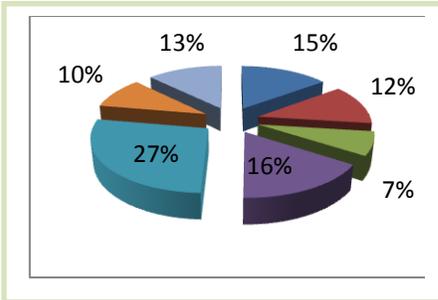
Supportive Actions 2012



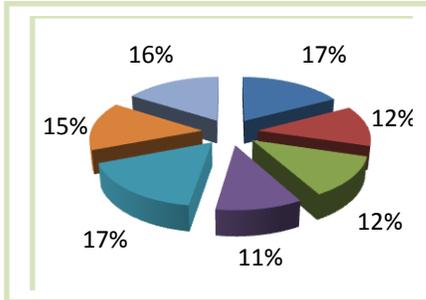
As seen in these graphs, “transportation” has been a key focus of community-wide actions, particularly in 2010 and 2012.

In relation to community wide actions “broad planning” refers to the development of higher level plan such as community energy plans and community wide climate action plans.

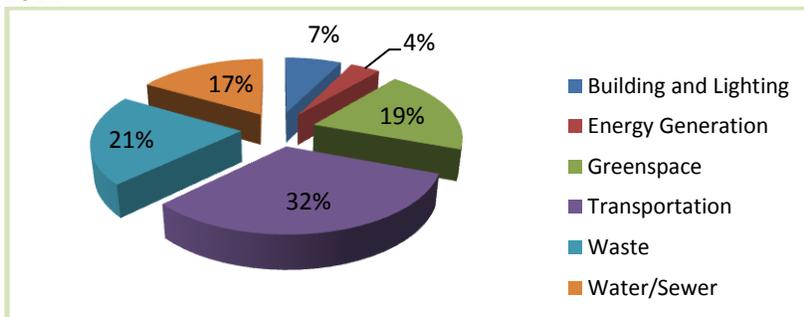
2010



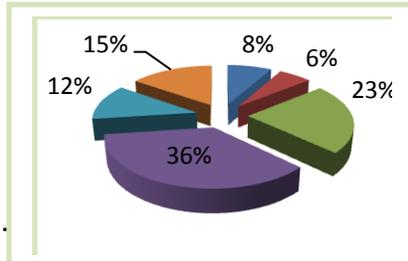
2011



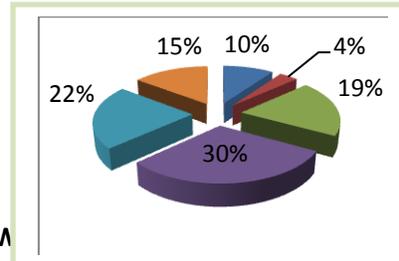
Trends in Community Direct Actions 2012



2010

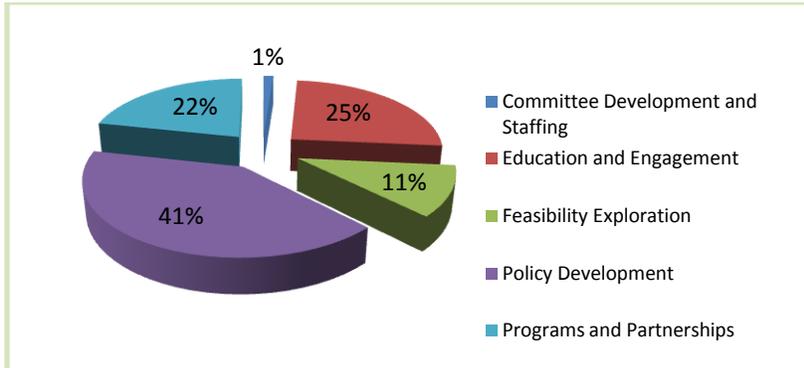


2011



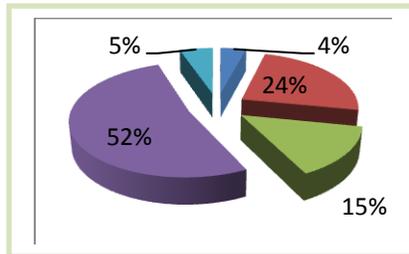
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2012

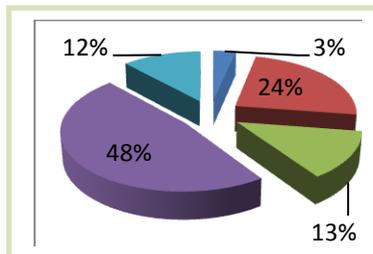


Over the three reporting years (2010 to 2012), there has been an increase in focus on “programs and partnerships”. This increase could be seen as a reflection of increase of awareness and existence of opportunities for partnerships.

2010



2011



The Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP): Summary Report on Local Government Climate Action 2012

Appendix D

Examples of Direct and Supportive Actions Reported in Corporate and Community-wide Spheres

Corporate

Direct Action Category	Types of Actions Reported
Building and Lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>more efficient use of lighting (e.g. Implementing motion sensors)</i> • <i>conversion to LED lighting for street lights, traffic lights</i> • <i>building retrofits to improve heating efficiency</i>
Energy Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>solar</i> • <i>geothermal</i> • <i>wind</i> • <i>micro hydro waste heat recovery</i>
Fleet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>introduction of more efficient vehicles</i> • <i>introduction of bicycles to fleet</i> • <i>more efficient use of fleet vehicles</i> • <i>corporate anti-idling policies</i>
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>recycling on local government owned properties</i> • <i>composting on local government owned properties</i>
Water/Sewer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>water conservation/reduction measures</i>
Green Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>tree planting</i> • <i>park creation/designation</i>

Supportive Action Category	Types of Actions Reported
Policy Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>corporate climate action plans</i> • <i>corporate building policies</i> • <i>corporate fleet, energy use policies</i> • <i>corporate action plans connected to community sustainability plans, OCPs, community energy and emissions plans</i>
Employee Awareness Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>programs to engage staff in efforts to reduce waste and choose alternative forms or transportation</i>
Committee Development and Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>creation of new staff positions that will support carbon neutral and other Charter commitments</i> • <i>creation of committees and teams (e.g. 'green teams') to assist with moving the carbon neutral agenda forward</i>
Feasibility Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>studies on done on implementing energy efficiency measures in publically owned buildings</i> • <i>energy audits</i>
Programs and Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>E3 Fleets</i>

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Community

Direct Action Category	Types of Actions Reported
Energy Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District energy • Geothermal • Solar • Energy Exchange Systems
Building and Lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of sustainability checklists for new buildings • Grants for improved residential energy efficiency
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New/upgraded bike lanes • New/upgraded pedestrian paths and sidewalks • Upgraded transit infrastructure and increased service • Improved road connections • Introduction of parking fees
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of composting and recycling programs and education
Greenspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation/management of parks, planning of trees and plants
Water/Sewer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water flow reduction • Water Conservation • More efficient removal of contaminants

Supportive Action Category	Types of Actions Reported
Education and Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public education initiatives related to general GHG reduction themes as well as specific topic areas such as transportation, building and waste • Public engagement in the development of OCPs, community energy and emissions plans, and sustainability plans
Policy Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised OCPs to include GHG reduction targets, policies and actions • Development of Climate Action Plans, Community Energy and Emissions Plans • Development of policies related to buildings, transportation and waste (e.g. green building strategies, strategic transportation plans)
Feasibility Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Related to energy generation, greenspace acquisition, public transportation, composting and recycling
Programs and Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement in programs and partnership with other organizations such as the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, BC Hydro, local NGOs
Committee Development and Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of new staff positions to facilitate the implementation of GHG and energy reduction measures • Creation of committee to oversee the development and implementation of GHG and energy reduction measures

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