

The Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP): Summary Report on Local Government Actions 2013



November, 2014



Ministry of
Community, Sport and
Cultural Development

THE CLIMATE ACTION REVENUE INCENTIVE PROGRAM (CARIP): SUMMARY REPORT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLIMATE ACTION 2013

INTRODUCTION

The Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) is a conditional grant program that provides funding to local governments who have signed onto the B.C. Climate Action Charter. Under the B.C. Climate Action Charter, local government signatories commit to take actions to become carbon neutral in their corporate operations and reduce community-wide emissions by creating more complete, compact and energy efficient rural and urban communities.

The CARIP grant available to each local government is equal to one hundred percent of the carbon tax they have directly paid. 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 and submit a copy of their final public report to the Province. For the 2013 reporting year, 171 CARIP final reports were submitted by local governments.

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. The 2013 reporting year was the second year that local governments were also required to report on their progress toward becoming carbon neutral in their corporate operations.

The 2013 CARIP Summary Report provides an overview of trends in corporate and community-wide actions taken by local governments between 2010 and 2013 to meet their climate action goals, and a summary of local government progress towards carbon neutrality.

This year's report confirms that local governments in B.C. continue to be committed to meeting their Climate Action Charter commitments and are demonstrating leadership in addressing climate change, thereby contributing to the resilience and long-term livability of their communities.



Images: Courtesy of Don Erhardt, The Climate Action Secretariat, The Climate Action Toolkit (from left to right)

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CARBON NEUTRAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT

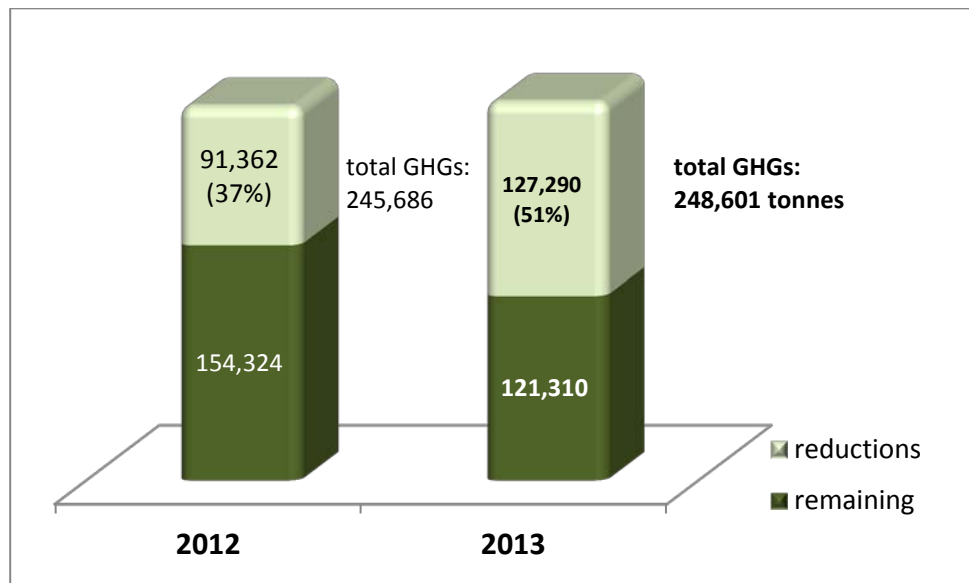
- 36 local governments achieved carbon neutrality in 2013, five more than in 2012**
- Ashcroft
 - Capital RD
 - Clearwater
 - Coldstream
 - Columbia Shuswap RD
 - Comox Valley RD
 - Comox, Town
 - Cowichan Valley RD
 - Cumberland
 - Dawson Creek
 - Delta
 - Duncan
 - Fort St. James
 - Granisle
 - Highlands
 - Invermere
 - Islands Trust
 - Ladysmith
 - Langley, City
 - Lantzville
 - Logan Lake
 - Mount Waddington RD
 - New Denver
 - Oliver
 - Parksville
 - Pemberton
 - Port Clements
 - Port Moody
 - Richmond
 - Sidney
 - Spallumcheen
 - Thompson-Nicola RD
 - Vancouver
 - View Royal
 - Whistler
 - White Rock

As detailed in their 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.

In total, 92% of all reporting local governments measured their corporate emissions in 2013, accounting for 248,601 tonnes of corporate GHGs across B.C. This represents a 1.2% increase in reported corporate GHG emissions compared to 2012, which can be explained in large part by the increase in the number of local governments submitting CARIP reports (171 compared to 169), and measuring corporate GHG emissions (92% compared to 86%).

The modest increase in reported GHG emissions is more than offset by the increase in the GHG emissions reductions achieved by local governments undertaking Green Communities Committee (GCC)-supported GHG Reduction Projects. Approximately 115,530 tonnes of GHGs were reduced, which means that local governments reduced 54% more GHG emissions through GHG Reduction Projects in 2013 than in 2012.

Overall, through the purchase of offsets and/or by undertaking GHG Reduction Projects, local governments reduced their reported corporate GHG emissions by approximately 127,290 tonnes in 2013. This represents 51% of B.C. local governments' total reported corporate footprint, up from 37% in 2012.



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CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY-WIDE ACTIONS

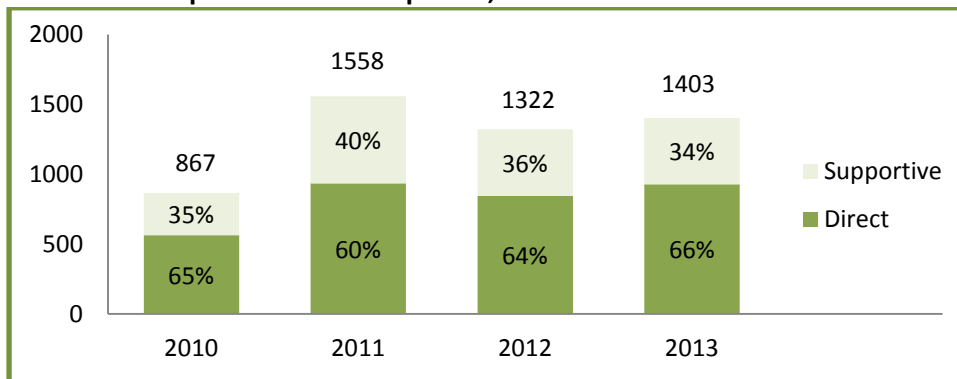
Summary of Direct and Supportive Actions

Through their CARIP reports, 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). In contrast, 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, feasibility studies).

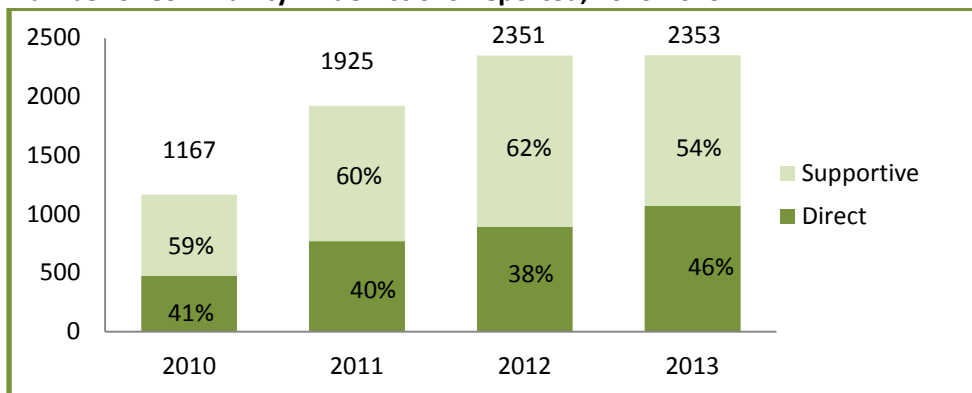
Since 2010, local governments have demonstrated significant progress toward reaching their climate action goals in the corporate and community spheres. As illustrated in the graphs below, total corporate actions have increased 62% and community-wide actions more than doubled since local governments’ first 2010 CARIP reports.

There is a consistent pattern in the relative proportion of direct and supportive actions between the corporate and community spheres. In the corporate sphere, the proportion of direct actions is greater than supportive actions. In the community sphere, the reverse is true. This may be because it is likely easier to implement actions within the local government’s own corporate operations than within the broader community setting where implementation relies on the support of the greater community.

Number of Corporate Actions Reported, 2010-2013



Number of Community-Wide Actions Reported, 2010-2013



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As seen in the community-wide graph above, the proportion of direct actions undertaken in 2013 increased compared to the previous reporting years, rising to nearly half of the total actions reported. This may indicate that the supportive actions (e.g. policies, education, staff, committees, research etc.) undertaken by local governments over the last four years are beginning to enable increased community-wide direct action.

EMERGING TRENDS

The following analysis of trends in corporate and community-wide actions is based on a review of data reported in CARIP reports in 2010 through 2013 (summarized and displayed in greater detail in Appendices B and C). Actions reported have been categorized based on the broad sector in which they aim to effect change and then trends in each sector have been identified, as briefly outlined below.

Fleet

Over 70 communities in B.C. are 'idle free'. Williams Lake estimates fuel cost savings of 20% annually as a result of becoming 'idle free'.

The City of Port Moody has purchased two electric vehicles this year and anticipates savings of \$2,500 per car annually.

Buildings-Solar

The City of Kelowna solar initiatives include: solar lights in parks, paths, parking lots and transit shelters.



Key Trends: Corporate Action

Continued Focus on Building and Lighting, and Fleet

As with past years, the “building and lighting” and “fleet” sectors have been key areas of focus for both supportive and direct corporate actions. Within the “building and lighting” sector, there appears to be an increasing focus on solar heating for municipally owned buildings and other lighting features.

Within the “fleet” sector, anti-idling programs continue to demonstrate successful reductions in energy use. As well, the increased installation of electric charging stations, encouraged by the Provincial Community Charging Infrastructure Fund (CCIP), appears to have encouraged a number of local governments to introduce electric vehicles to their fleet with the aim of reducing emissions and saving money.

Focus on Waste

The “waste” sector relates to projects initiated by local governments to reduce the GHG emissions from waste generated on their own property and through their own operations. Many local governments now have corporate waste reduction programs in place and are beginning to focus on initiatives such as paperless meetings and composting.

Decreased Focus on Policy Development and Increase in Building Employee Awareness

In previous years many local governments reported on the development of Corporate Climate Actions Plans and Emissions Reductions Plans. The steady decrease in reported actions over the past four years related to “plan and policy development” may suggest progress towards an increased focus on implementation.

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Feasibility Exploration Remains a Key Focus

Local governments in B.C. are exploring new areas of innovation and implementation. As a result, “feasibility exploration”, which includes identifying possible climate action measures (e.g. research, feasibility studies) continues to be a key area of focus demonstrated by the increasing number of reported actions over the past four years.

Key Trends: Community-Wide Actions

Transportation

The City of Langford installed 30km of bike lanes and 57km of sidewalk in 2013.

Waste

Surrey estimates that during the first three months of their curbside organics waste collection program they reduced landfill contribution by 43%.

Solar

Through their Solar CRD program the CRD offers solar hot water incentives for homes and businesses.



Continued Focus on Transportation

Transportation continues to be an area of focus for direct and supportive community-wide actions. However, there has been a slight decrease in actions reported this year as compared to other years. Bike To Work Week continues to be the most popular alternative transportation engagement program with a majority of communities reporting support for it. Carpool.ca is another popular program.

Increased Focus on Organic Waste

Focus on waste has remained consistent through the past four years. A review of actions reported reveals an increased focus on organic waste diversion, including composting education, provision of composters, and curb-side organics waste collection programs.

Increased Focus on Solar Energy

Solar hot water readiness represents many of the actions reported in the energy generation category. Forty-eight BC communities have implemented solar ready policies by opting in to the Province’s Solar Hot Water Ready Regulation.

Decrease in Programs and Partnerships and Policy Development/Increase in Education and Engagement and Feasibility Exploration

There has been a notable decrease (-11%) in reported actions related to “programs and partnerships”. As with corporate actions, there has also been a gradual decrease in reported actions related to policy development. The focus has shifted towards public education and engagement. Reported actions in the area of “feasibility exploration” have increased, suggesting that the exploration of different types of emission reduction options is moving local governments toward implementation.

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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](#)

[Idle Free BC](#)

[Carpool.ca](#)

[Plug in BC](#)

[WWF Earth Hour City Challenge](#)

[Smart Planning for Communities](#)

[Community Energy Association](#)

[E3 Fleets](#)

[Solar Hot Water Ready Regulation \(BC Gov\)](#)

CONCLUSION

As with past years, the information provided through the 2013 CARIP report enables BC local governments to share their progress on climate action with the Province, their own communities as well as with other communities across B.C. Consistently high numbers of actions in both the community-wide and corporate spheres over the past four reporting years, and notable increases in emission reductions from GHG reduction projects, demonstrate that local governments in B.C. continue to make significant progress on their Climate Action Charter commitments.

Lists of local government climate actions and other information related to the CARIP program can be found on the Local Government page of the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development's [website](#).

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APPENDIX A

2013 Carbon Neutral Status of Reporting BC Local Governments

CARBON NEUTRAL

Ashcroft	Granisle	Port Clements
Capital RD	Highlands	Port Moody
Clearwater	Invermere	Richmond
Coldstream	Islands Trust	Sidney
Columbia Shuswap RD	Ladysmith	Spallumcheen
Comox Valley RD	Langley, City	Thompson-Nicola RD
Comox	Lantzville	Vancouver
Cowichan Valley RD	Logan Lake	View Royal
Cumberland	Mount Waddington RD	Whistler
Dawson Creek	New Denver	White Rock
Delta	Oliver	
Duncan	Parksville	
Fort St. James	Pemberton	

MAKING PROGRESS (MEASURING)

100 Mile House	East Kootenay RD	Lake Country
Abbotsford	Elkford	Lake Cowichan
Alert Bay	Enderby	Langford
Armstrong	Esquimalt	Langley, Township
Barriere	Fernie	Lumby
Bulkley Nechako RD	Fort St. John	Mackenzie
Burns Lake	Fraser Fort George RD	Maple Ridge
Cache Creek	Fraser Valley RD	Masset
Campbell River	Fruitvale	McBride
Canal Flats	Gibsons	Merritt
Cariboo RD	Gold River	Metchosin
Castlegar	Golden	Metro Vancouver (GVRD)
Central Kootenay RD	Grand Forks	Midway
Central Okanagan RD	Greenwood	Mission
Central Saanich	Harrison Hot Springs	Montrose
Chetwynd	Houston	Nakusp
Chilliwack	Kamloops	Nanaimo, City
Clinton	Kaslo	Nanaimo RD
Colwood	Kelowna	Nelson
Coquitlam	Kimberley	New Westminster
Courtenay	Kitimat, District	North Cowichan
Cranbrook	Kitimat Stikine RD	North Okanagan RD
Creston	Kootenay Boundary RD	North Saanich

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North Vancouver, City	Queen Charlotte	Sunshine Coast RD
North Vancouver, District	Quesnel	Surrey
Northern Rockies Regional Municipality	Radium Hot Springs	Tahsis
Oak Bay	Revelstoke	Taylor
Okanagan Similkameen RD	Rossland	Telkwa
Peace River RD	Saanich	Terrace
Peachland	Salmon Arm	Tofino
Penticton	Sayward	Trail
Pitt Meadows	Sechelt	Valemount
Port Alberni	Sicamous	Vanderhoof
Port Alice	Slocan	Vernon
Port Coquitlam	Smithers	Victoria
Port Hardy	Sooke	Warfield
Port McNeill	Sparwood	Wells
Powell River RD	Squamish	West Kelowna
Prince George	Squamish - Lillooet RD	West Vancouver
Qualicum Beach	Strathcona RD	Williams Lake
	Summerland	

MAKING PROGRESS

Anmore	Keremeos	Salmo
Central Coast RD	Osoyoos	Skeena-QC RD
Chase	Port Edward	Tumbler Ridge
Fraser Lake	Powell River	Ucluelet
Kent	Prince Rupert	

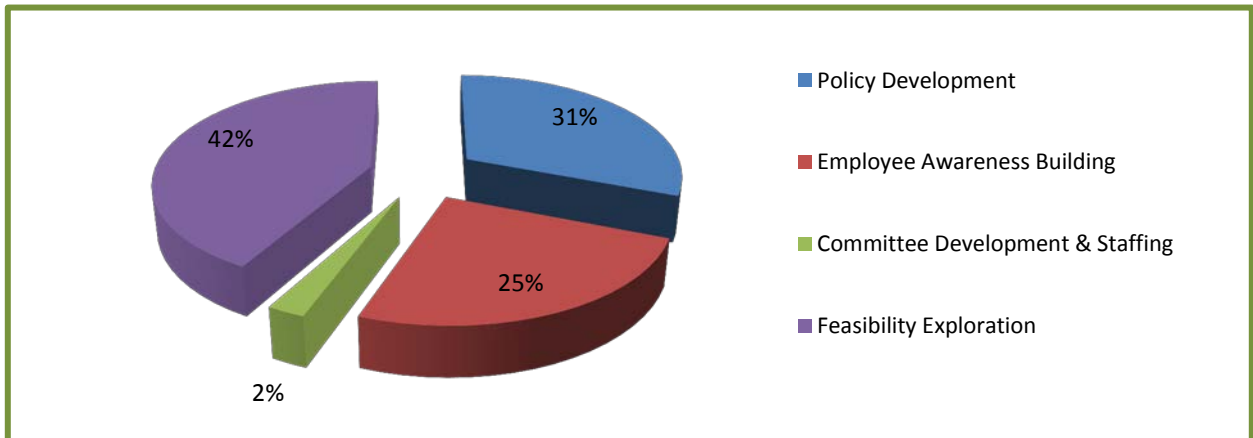
Appendix B Trends in Corporate Direct and Supportive Actions

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 policy development. For more specific examples of the types of actions reported in these areas see the tables in Appendix D.

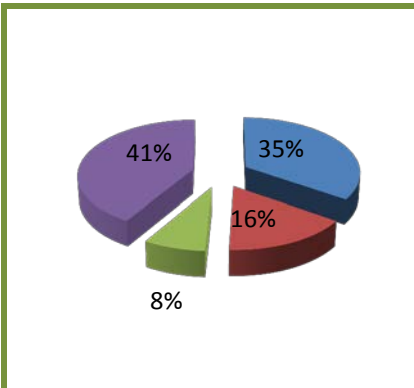
Corporate Supportive Actions, by Type

“Policy development” and “feasibility exploration” are the two main focuses of supportive corporate actions. Over the past four reporting years, “policy development” has decreased while “feasibility exploration” increased. This can be seen as a shift from planning to increased exploration of the implementation potential of different policy options.

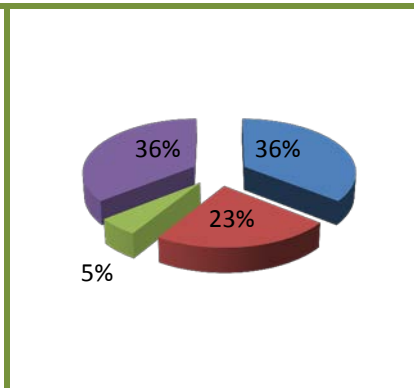
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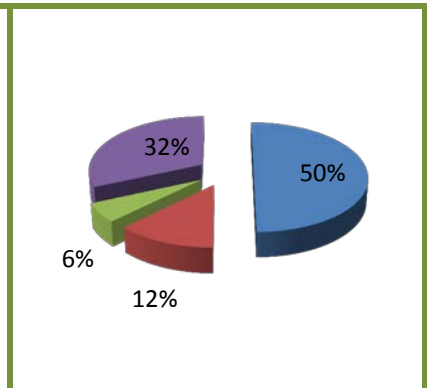
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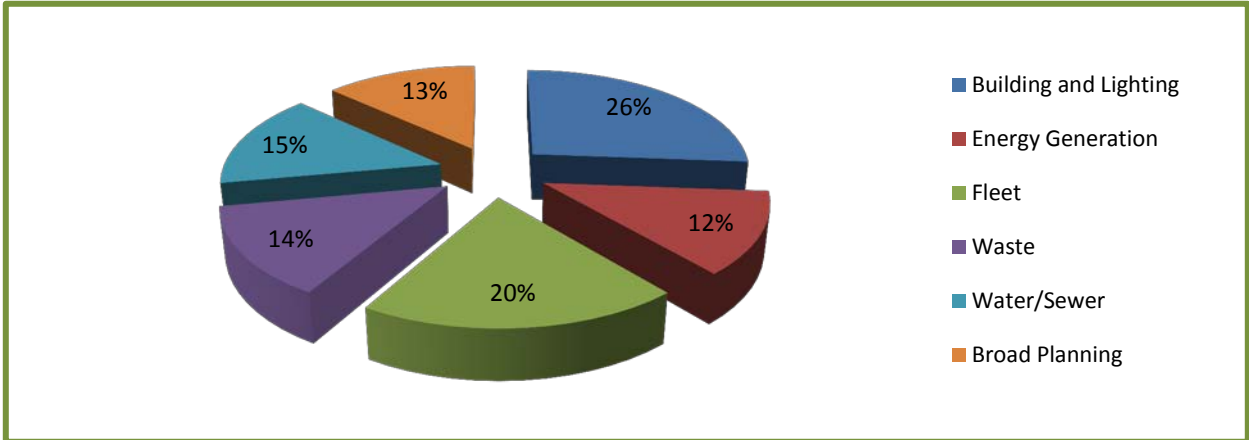


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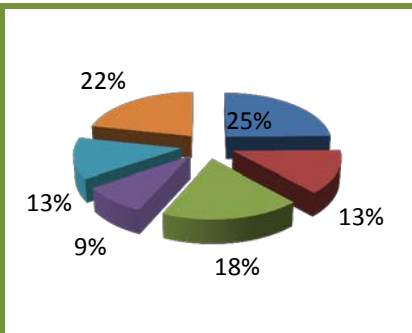
Corporate Supportive Actions, by Sector

As identified below, the breakdown of sector actions has been similar in the four reporting years. There has been a notable shift in “broad planning” from 2012 to 2013. “Broad planning” refers to the development of higher level plans, such as corporate climate action plans, that influence a number of sectors. “Broad planning” has decreased by 9% since 2012 which appeared to be a peak year for actions in this category.

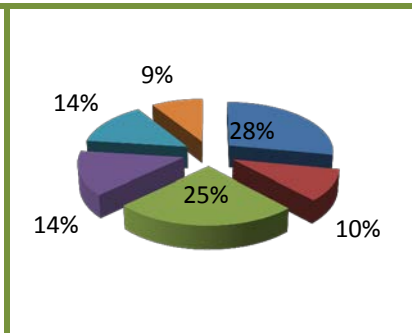
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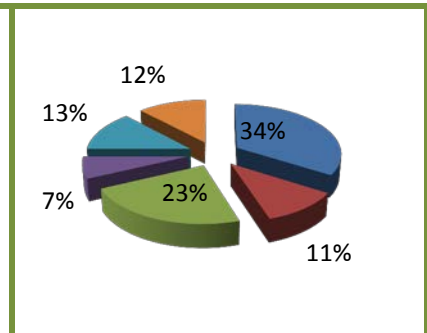
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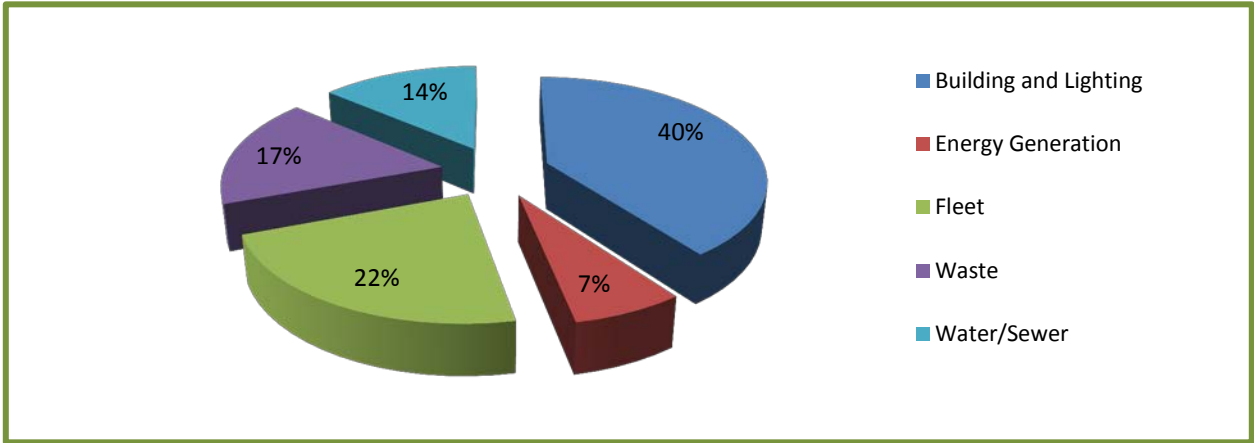


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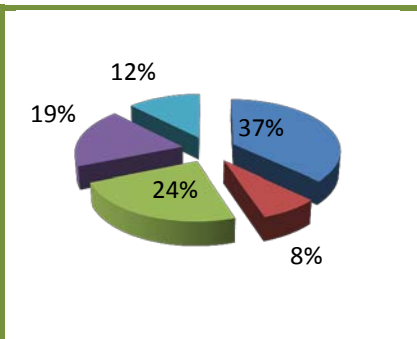
Corporate Direct Actions, by Sector

As indicated below, “building and lighting” and “fleet” have consistently been the areas of highest focus over the past four reporting years with regard to corporate direct actions.

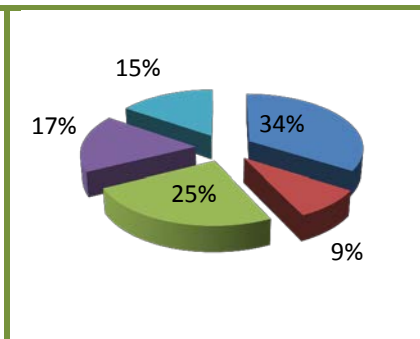
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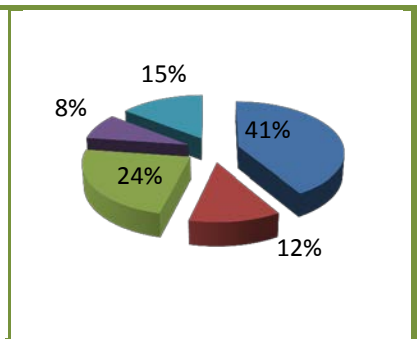
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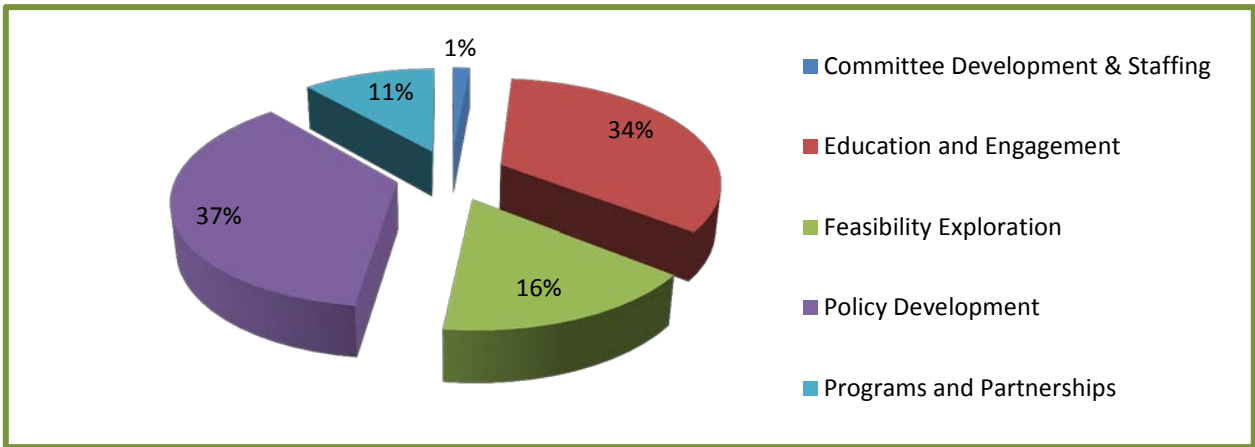


Appendix C Trends in Community-Wide Direct and Supportive Actions

Community-Wide Supportive Actions, by Type

As seen below, there is a notable decrease over time in actions reported related to “policy development” and an increase in actions related to “education and engagement”. This can be interpreted as an indication of increased focus on implementation.

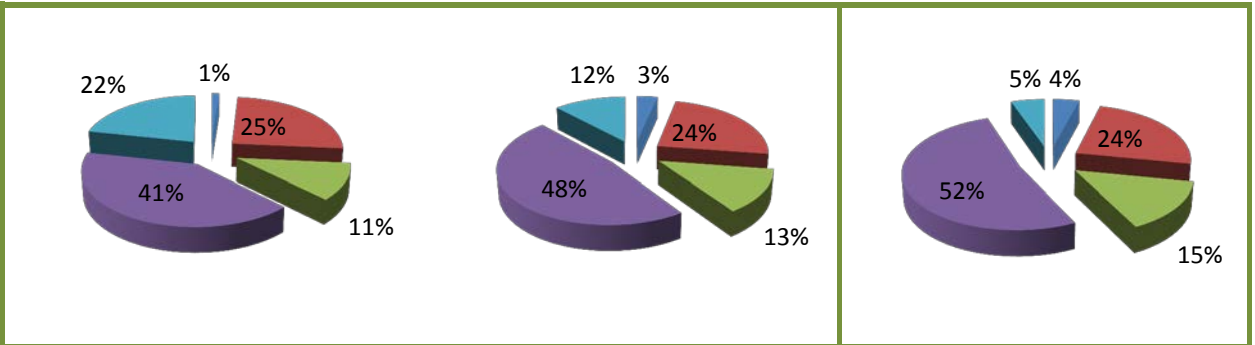
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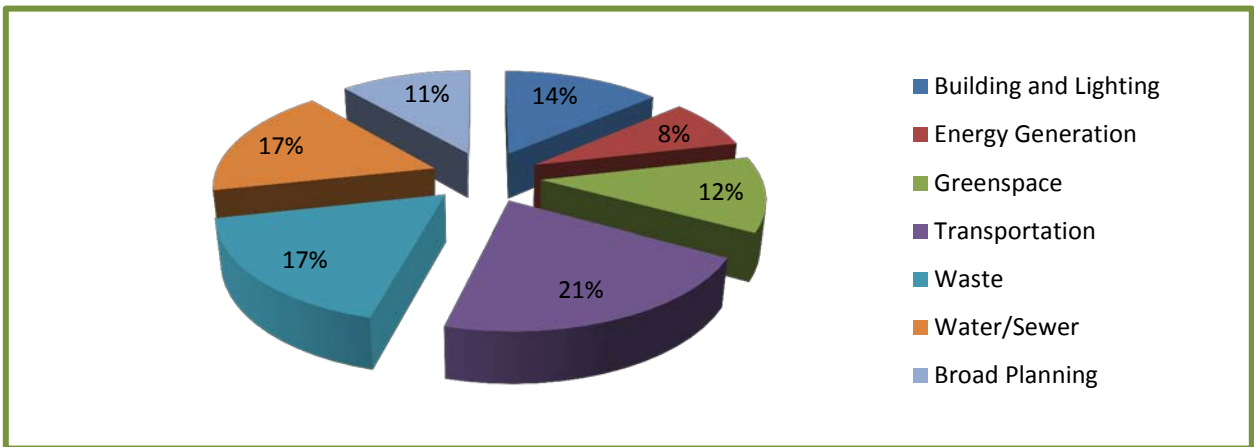


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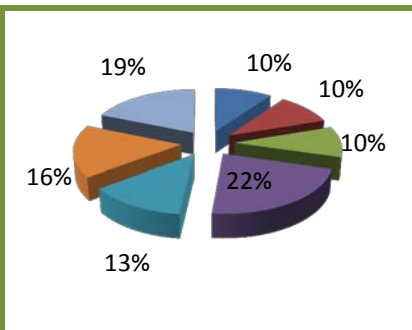
Community-Wide Supportive Actions, by Sector

As seen below, “transportation” continues to be a key focus of community-wide actions. A notable trend is the decrease in actions related to “broad planning”. This could be reflective of the fact that many local governments now have in place higher level plans, such as community energy plans and community wide climate action plans, identifying policies and targets for a number of different sectors.

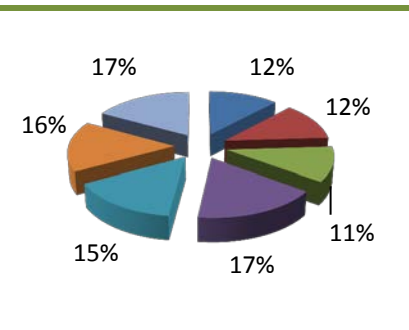
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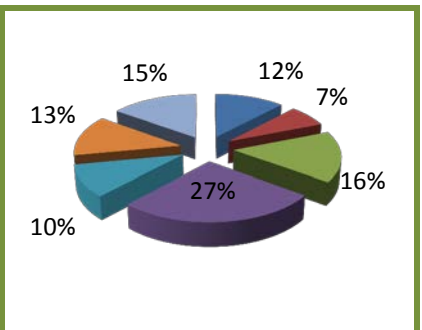
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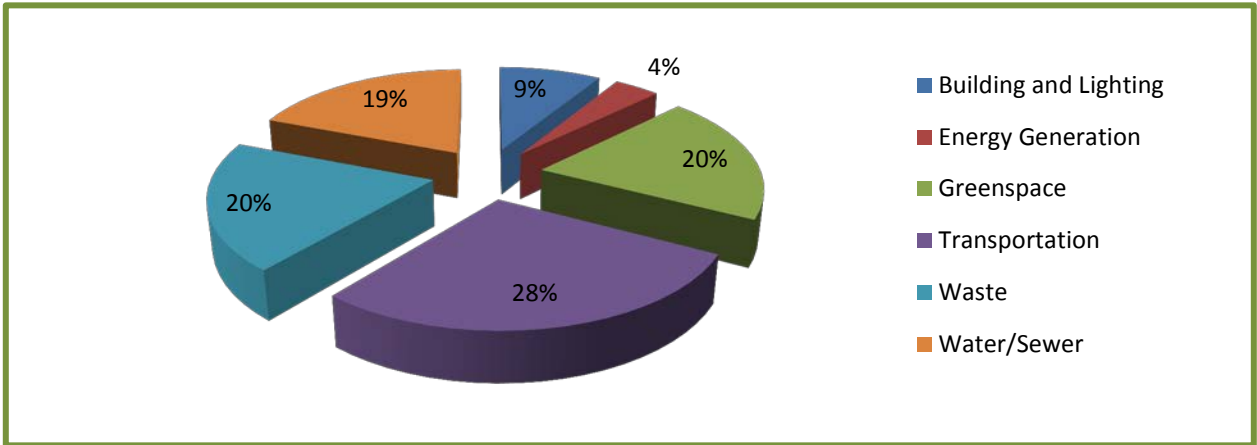


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Community-Wide Direct Actions, by Sector

As seen below, “transportation” continues to be an area of key focus. A consistently high number of actions have also been reported in the “waste”, “water and sewer” and “greenspace” sectors.

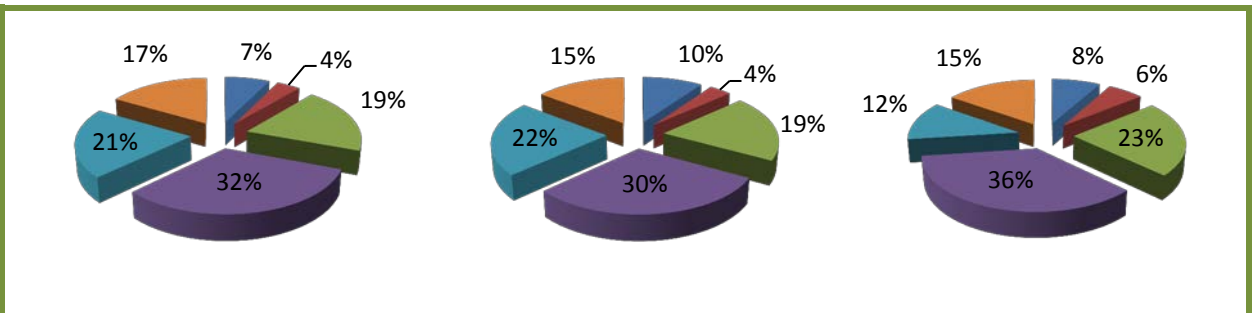
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**THE CLIMATE ACTION REVENUE INCENTIVE PROGRAM (CARIP):
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**Appendix D
Examples of Direct and Supportive Actions Reported in Corporate
and Community-Wide Spheres**

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</i> • <i>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 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>

THE CLIMATE ACTION REVENUE INCENTIVE PROGRAM (CARIP): SUMMARY REPORT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLIMATE ACTION 2013

Community

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

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