

Climate Ready BC: Preparing Together for Local Governments

BC'S CLIMATE IS ALREADY CHANGING



Less snow and receding glaciers



Fewer frost days



Hottest days getting hotter



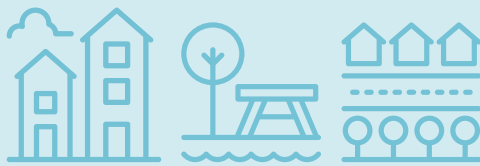
Less summer rain



More extreme precipitation events



Sea level rise



MANAGING CLIMATE RISKS PAYS OFF FOR COMMUNITIES

- ✓ Research shows that the **benefits of investing** in climate preparedness outweigh the costs by a ratio of 6:1
- ✓ It **costs less** to invest in asset management and adaptation measures than to restore infrastructure damaged by changing climate conditions
- ✓ Inaction carries financial **risks** and threatens the wellbeing of our communities, natural spaces and economy
- ✓ Taking action to prepare for a changing climate has **additional benefits** like generating employment, improving air and water quality, reducing energy costs, and enhancing community wellbeing and equity

WHAT CAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS DO?

INCLUDE FUTURE CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS AND NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS in existing projects and plans for issues like rainwater management, flooding and water supply

IDENTIFY KEY CLIMATE RISKS for your community, and integrate these into OCPs and other community plans

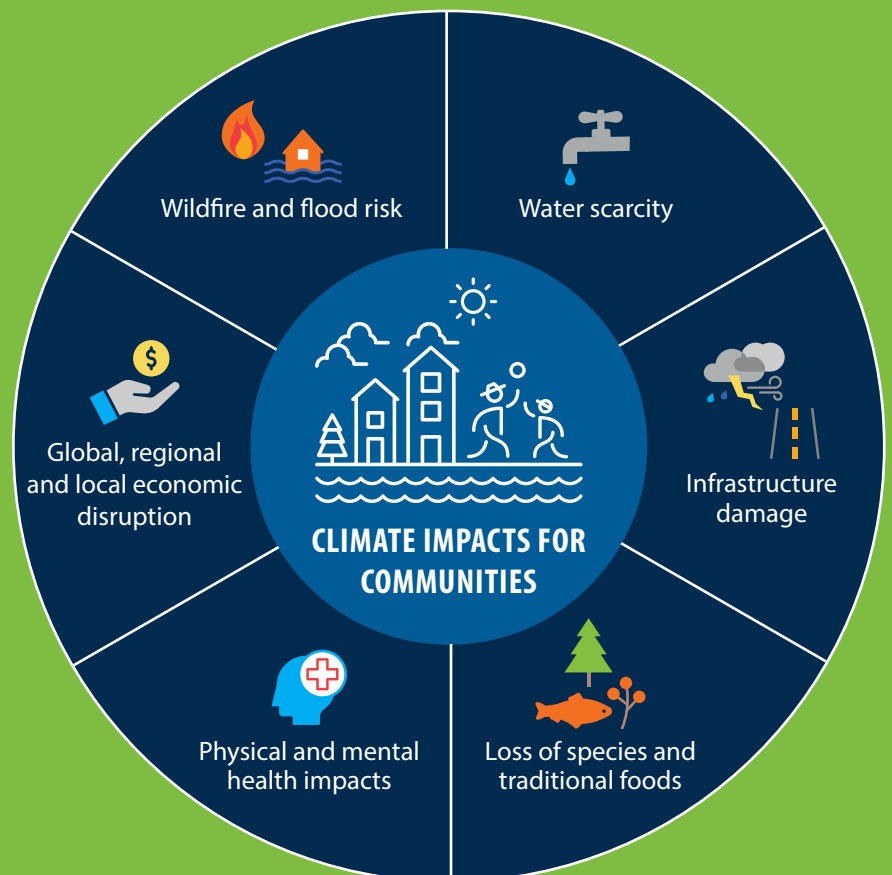
IDENTIFY SHOVEL-READY PROJECTS to be prepared for when funding comes available

BUILD COMMUNITY-WIDE RESILIENCE by including those who will be disproportionately impacted in the planning process

ACT decisively based on the best information we have, **LEARN** continually and **PLAN** for uncertainty

ENGAGE and **EDUCATE** the public and interest groups to better understand the value and benefits of investing in preparedness

BRING A CLIMATE LENS TO ASSET MANAGEMENT to ensure that future climate risk is being mitigated



B.C. COMMUNITIES LEADING THE WAY IN PREPARING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Prince George has been planning for the impacts of climate change since 2009. Climate change adaptation was integrated into the City's OCP in 2012. Since then they have implemented actions, including an updated set of adaptation strategies, to address key vulnerabilities such as flood, forest management, transportation, freeze-thaw cycles and ecosystems.

Squamish has taken big steps to integrate climate adaptation into its hazard planning and OCP. Council passed a Climate Emergency Resolution in 2019, directing staff to develop municipal budgets and 5-year financial plans that reflect the urgency of climate change and prioritize taking action, and create a climate action plan.

Campbell River is facing rising sea levels during a time where population and development are growing. In 2018 they initiated the Rising Seas project to meet this challenge. Their award-winning Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan was passed by Council in 2020.



DID YOU KNOW...

Healthy wetlands can reduce flood damage costs to buildings by 40%

Severe weather caused \$1.3 billion in insured damage across Canada in 2019, with 8 of the top 10 highest loss years on record taking place since 2010

Every dollar invested in reducing natural hazard risk saves \$3 to \$5 in recovery costs

B.C.'S CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS AND ADAPTATION STRATEGY

is working to help local governments build climate resilient communities



WONDERING WHERE TO START?

REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE DATA AND IMPACTS

[Climate Atlas of Canada](#)

[Plan2Adapt.ca](#)

CLIMATE PREPAREDNESS TOOLS AND RESOURCES

[Retooling Website](#)

[Climate Action Toolkit](#)

PRACTICAL IDEAS FOR OCP AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

[Columbia Basin Trust's Official Community Plan Policies Supporting Climate Resilience](#)

[Asset Management BC's Climate Change Primer](#)

For more information visit:
www.gov.bc.ca/BC-Adapts

