Landscape of BC’s Public Sector Climate Action Commitments

2017 Public Sector Climate Leadership Symposium

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Purpose

• Reaffirm the purpose of the public sector climate leadership

• Understand the political and policy landscape today
In a nutshell

• Reduce emissions & increase energy efficiency in all our public buildings

• Manage climate risks to public sector infrastructure and services
Imperative

• The climate is changing.

• BC’s public sector must be resilient in order to deliver our services in a changing climate.

• BC has committed its public sector to lead by example.
Political & policy drivers

- BC Public Sector
  - Acts & regulations
  - OAG findings & gov’t response
  - Political commitments
  - National commitments
Political & policy drivers

Governing legislation
- Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets Act
- Carbon Neutral Government Regulation
- Requirement to minimize emissions

Reduction targets
- 33% by 2020
- 80% by 2050
- NDP commitment 40% by 2030
Political & policy drivers

2013 Auditor General’s Report: An Audit of Carbon Neutral Government

- Ensure each public sector organization is pursuing reasonable actions to reduce emissions
- Government should consider establishing public sector emission reduction targets

2015 Auditor General’s Report: Monitoring Fiscal Sustainability

- There are risks to B.C.’s long-term fiscal sustainability: an aging population, rising health care costs, climate change, the cost of maintaining and renewing infrastructure, and more.
Political & policy drivers

(Pending) 2017 Auditor General’s Report

Expected –

• Consider climate change adaptation in government’s formal policies and approvals

• Improved disclosure of risks
Confidence & Supply Agreement

• Build needed hospitals, schools and other infrastructure that reduce emissions and increase energy efficiency throughout BC
Political & policy drivers

NDP Platform – Power BC

- Create jobs with a bold new program of energy efficiency retrofits to public buildings
- A serious long-term commitment to energy efficiency in all our public buildings
- Combine energy-efficiency upgrades to our schools and hospitals with much needed seismic upgrades

NDP Platform – Wood Utilization

- Where possible, we will build new schools with made-in-BC manufactured wood products.
- We will maximize the use of innovative BC wood products in infrastructure projects, like schools, hospitals
Political & policy drivers

Fall 2017 Throne Speech
- We must do everything we can to reduce emissions and keep global temperature increases below two degrees.
- Together, we will fight climate pollution and create opportunities for people, including thousands of jobs through energy retrofits and public infrastructure.

2007 Throne Speech
- LEED Gold or equivalent policy
Political & policy drivers

2017 Mandate Letters

Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy

• Implement a comprehensive climate-action strategy that provides a pathway for B.C. to prosper economically while meeting carbon pollution reduction targets, including setting a new legislated 2030 reduction target and establishing separate sectoral reduction targets and plans.

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

• Work with ministries to ensure public projects prioritize the use of wood.
Political & policy drivers

Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change

GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP

- Setting ambitious targets
- Cutting emissions from government buildings and fleets
- Scaling up clean procurement
- Develop action plans to green government operations and encourage adoption of clean technologies
WHAT’S NEXT?
Climate Solutions & Clean Growth Advisory Council
What success looks like

✓ BC’s public sector is meeting or exceeding provincial targets

✓ Public sector’s infrastructure and service delivery is resilient in the changing climate
Opportunities

• $4M saved for every 1% improvement in energy efficiency

• Protect our infrastructure investments in a changing climate
In a nutshell

• Reduce emissions & increase energy efficiency in all our public buildings

• Manage climate risks to public sector infrastructure and services