

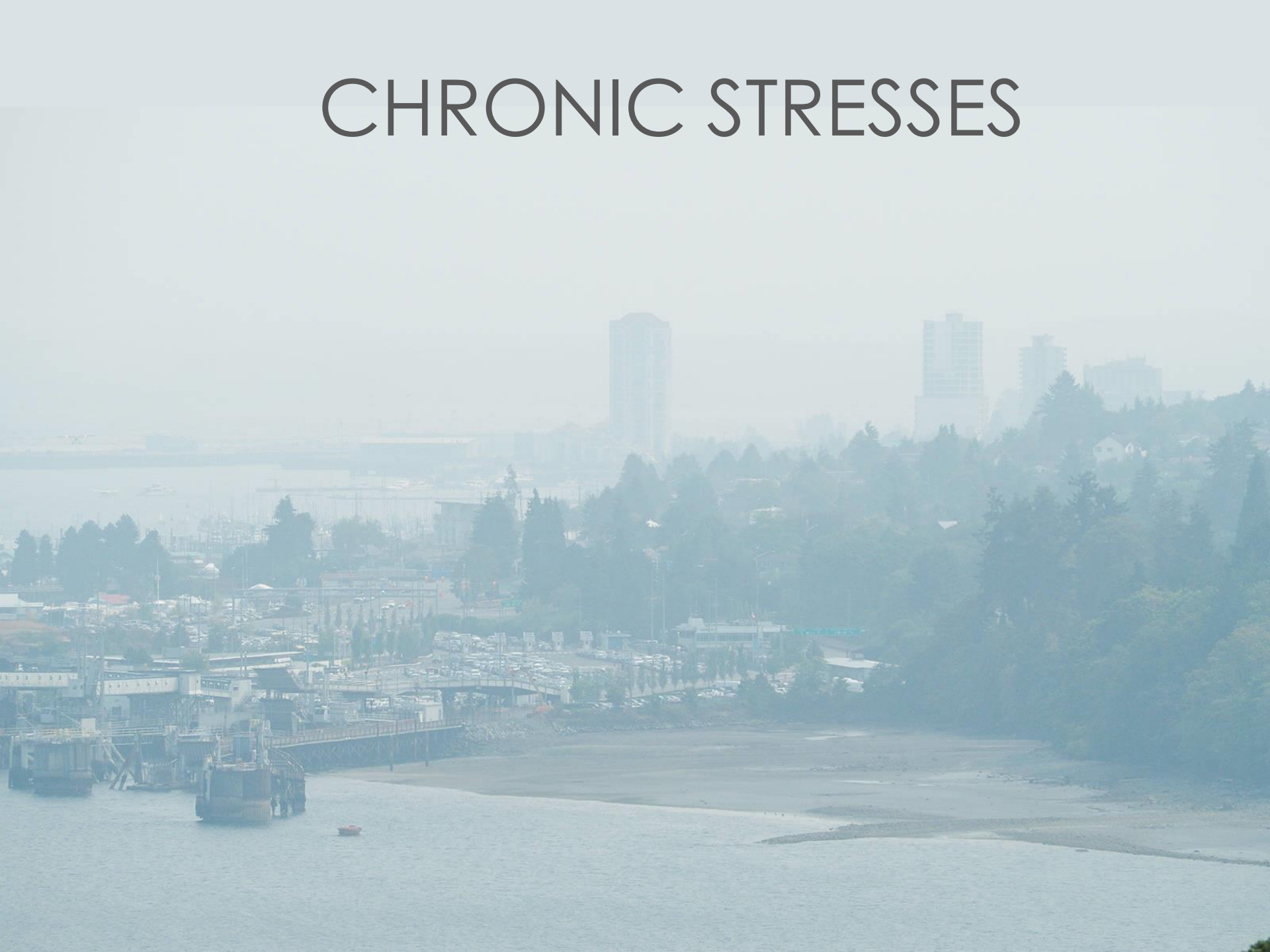
Presentation to Public Sector Organizations
February 28th, 2019

WORKING TOWARD A CLIMATE RESILIENT BC

EXTREME EVENTS



CHRONIC STRESSES





Presentation Overview

1. Defining Climate Adaptation and Resilience
2. Commitment for Managing Climate Risks
3. Elements of Climate Resilience
4. Developing a Provincial Adaptation Strategy
5. Role of the Public Sector



Defining Climate Adaptation & Resilience

Climate Adaptation

- Adjustments in social, economic, or ecological systems in response to actual or expected climate change and its effects.
- Adaptation aims to enhance social, economic and environmental resilience to climate-related hazards.

Climate Resilience

- Ability to anticipate, withstand, accommodate, and recover from the effects of a climate-related hazard in a timely and efficient manner.
- Characteristics of resilience include responsiveness, resourcefulness, flexibility.



Commitment – Responding to External Reports

MANAGING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS: AN INDEPENDENT AUDIT B.C.'s Office of the Auditor General (Feb 2018)



- Independent audit by B.C.'s Auditor General found government not adequately managing the risks posed by climate change
- Submitted to the Legislative Assembly in February 2018
- Outlines 17 recommendations, 15 of which specifically target adaptation

ADDRESSING THE NEW NORMAL: 21st CENTURY DISASTER MANAGEMENT IN B.C. Abbott and Chapman Report



- Commissioned by government and submitted to the Premier in April 2018
- Outlines 108 recommendations; scoped to flood and wildfire
- Government released an action plan October 31, 2018 to address the report's recommendations; progress updates will be released every six months for the next two years. The next scheduled update is April 30, 2019



BC Auditor General's Top Recommendations

Recommendations to build the overall framework for managing climate risks

1. Undertake a province-wide risk assessment that integrates existing risk assessment work and provides the public with an overview of key risks and priorities
2. Create an adaptation plan for B.C. that:
 - clearly outlines government's priorities, roles and responsibilities, and timelines
 - identifies the necessary resources for implementation
 - integrates with existing adaptation planning at the ministry level
 - includes solutions for obstacles identified through the audit
 - clearly outlines how government will work with local governments and include them in its development
 - clearly outlines how government will work with First Nations, and include them in its development
 - includes a requirement to refresh every five years
7. Improve public reporting, including providing detailed public reporting on adaptation when completing legislated reporting on mitigation.



BC Auditor General's Top Recommendations

Government Response:

- *We wholeheartedly accept the recommendations in the report and will establish a process to ensure their intent is achieved (OAG Report, pg 17)*



Commitment in CleanBC

CleanBC Commitment:

- **By 2020, the Province will develop an Adaptation Strategy based on a province-wide climate risk assessment**

“The B.C. Climate Action Secretariat is conducting a Strategic Climate Risk Assessment to identify and assess provincially significant climate-related risks to B.C. The results of the assessment are expected in spring 2019 and will inform a new provincial adaptation strategy.”

CleanBC, pg57



Elements of Climate Resilience



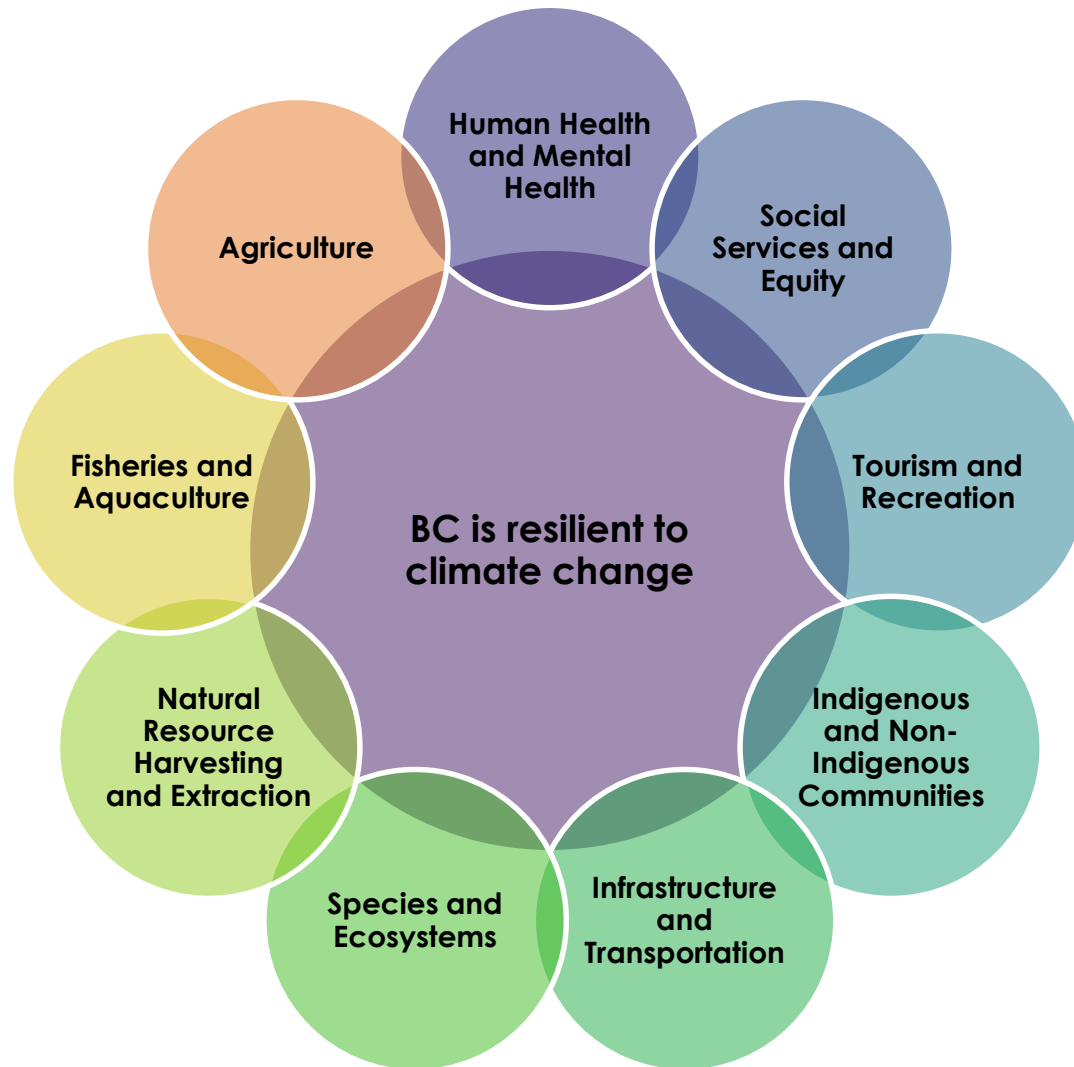


Build Capacity: Addressing Climate Risk

- **Need to increase capacity to understand, plan and deliver climate resilience on all levels across BC:**
 - Communities and regions, governments, business and industry, professional associations, academia, youth
- **Wide range of methods and approaches to capacity building:**
 - Investments in education, skills and training
 - Peer sharing and learning, networks, mentoring, internships
 - Increase knowledge and expertise among practitioners and professionals
 - Support development of leaders and champions
- **Indigenous capacity building:**
 - Strong need for capacity building designed in partnership with Indigenous communities, building on Indigenous knowledge.
- **Government and PSO Capacity:**
 - Develop tools, guidance, and training for climate resilience for provincial government, public sector organizations and local governments.



Plan for a Resilient Future: Building Climate Resilience – A Holistic Approach





Report on Climate Related Risks

Climate Change Accountability Act – New Reporting Requirements

2020

- Ministries will report on climate risks, actions taken to reduce climate risks, and progress made towards growing climate resilience.
 - Climate Action Secretariat will compile the results for government to publicly release, beginning in 2020 and continuing every subsequent even-numbered year.
 - New authority to require public sector organizations to provide information for the purposes of preparing the report.
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2022

- PSOs may be asked to contribute to the 2022 report.
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New Public Sector Reporting Requirements under the Climate Change Accountability Act (amended in 2018 to add s. 4.1)

Future policy development proposals:

Require public reporting on categories of information

1. Risks to the organization's assets and service delivery
2. Actions to reduce climate related risks
3. Plans to continue managing risks from a changing climate
4. Progress since the last report
5. Financial implication of climate change
6. Organizational awareness

Require consideration of future climate and extreme weather events in the design of Priority Capital Projects

Questions?

