LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAM

SCOPE SUMMARY FOR TRADITIONAL SERVICES GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

APRIL 2026

Introduction

The new Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP), launched in the spring of 2022, supports local climate action to help B.C. reach its legislated climate targets and achieve provincial climate goals outlined in the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 and the Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy.

All signatories of the Climate Action Charter (the framework for local government-Provincial cooperation on climate action) and B.C. Modern Treaty Nations are eligible to receive funding. To ensure LGCAP reporting requirements are achievable, a population threshold for reporting traditional services emissions has been established for the 2025 reporting year. Local governments with populations exceeding 5000 residents will be required to measure and report their traditional services emissions inventories to be eligible for funding. Local governments below the threshold and Modern Treaty Nations are encouraged but not required to measure and report their traditional services emissions for the 2025 reporting year. Please note that populations are based on 2020 BC Stats estimates and regional districts should refer to their unincorporated areas populations, with the exception of Metro Vancouver Regional District.

Local governments and Nations can continue to use the LGCAP scope and boundaries for traditional services reporting or report under another established reporting framework, such as the CDP (formerly Carbon Disclosures Project) or Global Protocol for Cities. Contracted services must be included in inventories regardless of the protocol chosen.

There is no requirement to achieve carbon neutrality in local government nor Modern Treaty Nation traditional services under LGCAP. This means that offsets and reduction credits are not accounted for under the Program and therefore all in-scope emission sources must still be included.

For more information on measuring and reporting traditional services emissions under LGCAP, please contact LGCAP@gov.bc.ca or see Program resources and guides on the LGCAP reporting webpage.

Scope Summary

This Scope Summary represents a synthesis of the more detailed scope document for LGCAP, the LGCAP Traditional Services Boundaries and Scope Guidance.

The tables in this document provide a summary for local governments and Modern Treaty Nations about what is in-scope and out-of-scope for the purpose of measuring and reporting traditional services greenhouse gas emissions.

Table 1: Scope – Greenhouse Gases

IN-SCOPE	OUT-OF-SCOPE
Three Gases: • Carbon dioxide – CO_2 • Methane – CH_4 • Nitrous oxide – N_2O	• All other gases (including Sulphur Hexafluoride– SF_6, Perfluorocarbons – PFCs, Hydrofluorocarbons - HFCs, HCFCs and Halons). A complete list of PFCs and HFCs is available in the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation.

Table 2: Scope – Geographic Boundaries

IN-SCOPE	OUT-OF-SCOPE
a. Emissions from local government and Modern Treaty Nation operations located in B.C.	a. Emissions from operations outside of B.C.

Table 3: Scope – Organizational Boundaries

IN-SCOPE	OUT-OF-SCOPE

a. Traditional Services
 	
Emissions from:
• parties to the Climate Action Charter and Modern Treaty Nations; and
• provide any of the following traditional services:
  ○ Administration and Governance
  ○ Drinking, Storm and Waste Water
  ○ Solid Waste Collection, Transportation and Diversion
  ○ Roads and Traffic Operations/Maintenance
  ○ Arts, Recreation and Cultural Services
  ○ Fire Protection
	a. Other Local Government Services
	
	Emissions from:
	• the following services:
	  ○ Landfill
	  ○ Transit services
	  ○ Police Services
	  ○ New construction (facilities, roads, etc.)
	  ○ Primary power generation
	  ○ Social housing
	  ○ Tree farms
	  ○ Community Sources (e.g., residential sources)

Table 4: Scope – Operational Boundaries

IN-SCOPE	OUT-OF-SCOPE
GENERAL – Applies to All Emission Sources	
a. Subsidiary Organizations and Shared Services: • Emissions related to a traditional service provided by a subsidiary organization or through a shared service agreement that is either fully consolidated or consolidated on a modified equity basis. • For those organizations that are included in the financial statements on a proportional consolidation basis, the local government or Modern Treaty Nation can include a proportionate share of the emissions related to a traditional service operated by the organization, using the same proportion for emissions as are used for financial statement purposes, or as otherwise agreed to by the parties who share a proportional responsibility for the service.	a. Small Emission Sources: • An emission source projected to total less than 1% of a local government's or Modern Treaty Nation's overall emissions may be deemed out-of- scope if the effort to collect or estimate emissions is disproportionately onerous. The projected cumulative sum of emissions exempted under this rule should not be greater than 1% of that local government's or Modern Treaty Nation's total emissions. If in your estimations the cumulative sum is greater than 1%, please raise the issue with Climate Action Secretariat staff at LGCAP@gov.bc.ca.

IN-SCOPE	OUT-OF-SCOPE
STATIONARY Emission Sources	
a. Direct or indirect energy emissions from buildings owned or leased by the local government or Modern Treaty Nation to deliver traditional services* and: • Direct emissions include those from the use of fossil fuels (e.g., natural gas, heating oil, propane) for heating space and water or producing steam. • Indirect energy emissions include those from electricity, hot water, steam etc. purchased from a third party (e.g., BC Hydro).	a. Direct or indirect energy emissions from stationary sources owned by the Province of BC or a public sector organization who would be required to include the building's emissions as part of its carbon neutral requirement under the Carbon Neutral Government Regulation. For example, if the Province is responsible for the emissions from a civic building, such as an art gallery, then a local government or Modern Treaty Nation should not include those emissions in their traditional services footprint. b. Direct emissions released unintentionally (fugitive emissions) from stationary sources used to provide traditional services. For example: HFCs from cooling units in arenas. c. Fugitive emissions from transmission lines.

IN-SCOPE	OUT-OF-SCOPE
MOBILE Emission Sources	
a. Direct emissions from: • fleet vehicles and other mobile combustion sources used to provide traditional services; and • employee use of personal vehicles in the provision of traditional services (e.g., building inspection). These emissions generally involve the mobile combustion of gasoline, diesel, propane, biofuel blends, etc. Note on Electric vehicles – emissions from electricity use will be captured assigned to buildings where vehicle is being charged, not the vehicle.	a. Emissions from: • transit buses • vehicle air conditioning (i.e., fugitive HFC emissions) • employee use of commercial transport (e.g., intercity air/train/bus; vehicle rentals; taxi).

*If the service being provided is not a traditional service, then it does not need to be reported. For example, some local governments own buildings which are used for subsidized housing. The local government owns the space, but it is being used for a non-traditional service and therefore is excluded.

Table 5: Scope – Contracted Services

IN-SCOPE	OUT-OF-SCOPE
a. Direct emissions from **mobile sources** which are used by contractors to provide traditional services. b. Included contracts are: • over $25,000 in value in any calendar year; AND • "in scope" based on the traditional services boundaries described in the LGCAP Traditional Services Boundaries and Scope Guidance EXCEPT FOR administration and governance services.	a. Emissions associated with: • a contractor's corporate offices or other buildings • travel to and from the contractor's offices/buildings b. Emissions associated with administrative and governance.

Table 6: Scope – Procurement

IN-SCOPE	OUT-OF-SCOPE
	a. Indirect emissions associated with purchased office paper. b. Other scope 3 emissions.