



CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN OUTLINE

VISION: Build a strategic and diverse coalition of Centre Region community partners to voluntarily participate in developing a comprehensive climate action and adaptation plan that identifies pragmatic, fiscally responsible actions for local municipalities to consider in order to:

- mitigate the region's contribution to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and
- adapt to changing climate conditions

To achieve significant overall reductions, the Centre Region strives to have a bold vision, equitable process, effective implementation, and excellent communication with the public. The following actions have been identified to accomplish this.

1. GHG EMISSIONS TARGETS – Complete a greenhouse gas inventory for government operations and the community as a whole to identify baseline emissions levels and the sources and activities generating emissions in the community. Establish reduction targets leading the region towards a carbon neutral state.

2. QUANTIFY LOCAL IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE – With a team of local experts, perform a vulnerability assessment for the Centre Region to identify local shocks and stressors (e.g., economic, environmental, social), vulnerable populations and critical infrastructure. The assessment will facilitate the development of adaptation strategies using a risk management approach.

3. COMMUNICATION STRATEGY – Effective climate mitigation and adaptation plans are not possible without active support of key stakeholders and inclusive community engagement. With stakeholder and resident feedback, design a community-wide communication framework for ongoing planning, implementation and progress reporting. Public meetings, town halls, collaborative decision-making technologies, social media... the more transparent, open, and two-way the conversation, the better.

4. IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS – Identify short-term and long-term implementation projects through expert knowledge and community engagement. Implementation projects should be consistent with reduction targets to provide significant, quantifiable reductions to carbon emissions and deliver quality of life benefits to our region. The following categories should be addressed: buildings, transit, land use, community design, energy, water, agriculture and solid waste.

5. FINANCIAL RESOURCES – Implementation involves complex change that requires not only an action plan, but vision, skills, incentives and resources. Financial resources for adaptation actions may come from traditional financing sources or from innovations in finance. The Centre Region is committed to exploring the choices needed to repurpose, leverage, and obtain public and private funds to invest in infrastructure development and adaptation actions that protect and preserve community assets.