



## Notice of Meeting and Meeting Agenda Environmental Services Committee

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Wednesday, April 16, 2025

9:30 AM

6th Floor Boardroom  
625 Fisgard St.  
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

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B. Desjardins (Chair), S. Tobias (Vice Chair), J. Brownoff, J. Caradonna, G. Holman,  
D. Kobayashi, C. Plant, M. Tait, D. Thompson, A. Wickheim, C. McNeil-Smith (Board Chair, ex-officio)

The Capital Regional District strives to be a place where inclusion is paramount and all people are treated with dignity. We pledge to make our meetings a place where all feel welcome and respected.

### 1. Territorial Acknowledgement

### 2. Approval of Agenda

### 3. Adoption of Minutes

#### 3.1. [25-0452](#) Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee Meeting of March 19, 2025

**Recommendation:** That the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting of March 19, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

**Attachments:** [Minutes - March 19, 2025](#)

### 4. Chair's Remarks

### 5. Presentations/Delegations

#### 5.1. Presentations

##### 5.1.1. [25-0462](#) Presentation: Martin Segger; Urban Biosphere Region Project, Re: Biosphere Proposal Presentation

**Attachments:** [Presentation: Biosphere Proposal Presentation](#)

#### 5.2. Delegations

*The public are welcome to attend CRD meetings in-person.*

*Delegations will have the option to participate electronically. Please complete the online application at [www.crd.ca/address](http://www.crd.ca/address) no later than 4:30 pm two days before the meeting and staff will respond with details.*

*Alternatively, you may email your comments on an agenda item to the CRD Board at [crdboard@crd.bc.ca](mailto:crdboard@crd.bc.ca).*

## 6. Committee Business

### 6.1. [25-0442](#) Hartland Public Drop-off - Extension of Expanded Hours Pilot

**Recommendation:** The Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:  
That the Hartland Landfill and Public Drop-off Depot expanded hours pilot be extended until October 31, 2025.

**Attachments:** [Staff Report: Hartland Public Drop-off Extension of Expanded Hours Pilot](#)

### 6.2. [25-0441](#) Solid Waste Management Plan - 2024 Progress Report

**Recommendation:** There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

**Attachments:** [Staff Report: Solid Waste Management Plan - 2024 Progress Report](#)  
[Appendix A: Solid Waste Management Plan - 2024 Progress Report](#)  
[Presentation: Solid Waste Management Plan - 2024 Progress Report](#)

### 6.3. [25-0440](#) Climate Action Strategy – 2024 Progress Report

**Recommendation:** There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

**Attachments:** [Staff Report: Climate Action Strategy – 2024 Progress Report](#)  
[Appendix A: Climate Action Strategy – 2024 Progress Report](#)  
[Presentation: Climate Action Strategy – 2024 Progress Report](#)

### 6.4. [25-0445](#) Climate Action Strategy Renewal - Vision, Principles, Goals and Targets

**Recommendation:** The Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:  
That the CRD adopt the guiding framework for the CRD's renewed Climate Action Strategy, as stated in Appendix A.

**Attachments:** [Staff Report: Climate Action Strategy Renewal: Vision, Principles, Goals, etc.](#)  
[Appendix A: Proposed Vision, Principles, Goals & Targets for Renewed Strat.](#)  
[Presentation: Climate Action Strategy - Guiding Framework Update](#)

### 6.5. [25-0444](#) Previous Minutes of Other CRD Committees and Commissions for Information

**Recommendation:** There is no recommendation. The following minutes are for information only:  
Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force - March 14, 2025

**Attachments:** [Minutes: Climate Action Task Force - March 14, 2025](#)

## 7. Notice(s) of Motion

## 8. New Business

## 9. Adjournment

The next meeting is June 18, 2025.

To ensure quorum, please advise Jessica Dorman ([jdorman@crd.bc.ca](mailto:jdorman@crd.bc.ca)) if you or your alternate cannot attend.

## Meeting Minutes

### Environmental Services Committee

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Wednesday, March 19, 2025

9:30 AM

6th Floor Boardroom  
625 Fisgard St.  
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

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#### PRESENT

Directors: B. Desjardins (Chair), S. Tobias (Vice Chair) (EP), J. Bateman (for M. Tait) (EP), J. Brownoff (EP), G. Holman (9:40 am)(EP), S. Kim (for J. Caradonna) (9:33 am)(EP), D. Kobayashi (EP), C. Plant (EP), D. Thompson, A. Wickheim, C. McNeil-Smith (Board Chair, ex-officio)

Staff: T. Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer; L. Jones, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Environmental Services; K. Morley, General Manager, Corporate Services; S. Carey, Senior Manager, Legal & Risk Management; R. Smith, Senior Manager, Environmental Resource Management; R. Tooke, Senior Manager, Environmental Innovation; P. Kickham, Manager, Environmental Regulations; M. Lagoa, Deputy Corporate Officer; J. Dorman, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

Regrets: J. Caradonna, M. Tait

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

#### 1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Chair Desjardins provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

#### 2. Approval of Agenda

**MOVED** by Director McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by Director Thompson,  
That the agenda for the March 19, 2025 Environmental Services Committee  
meeting be approved.  
**CARRIED**

#### 3. Adoption of Minutes

- 3.1. [25-0315](#) Minutes of the February 19, 2025 Environmental Services Committee Meeting
- MOVED** by Director McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by Director Wickheim,  
That the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting for February  
19, 2024 be adopted as circulated.  
**CARRIED**



#### 4. Chair's Remarks

There were no Chair's remarks.

#### 5. Presentations/Delegations

##### 5.1. Presentations

There were no presentations.

**Alternate Director Kim joined the meeting electronically at 9:33 am.**

##### 5.2. Delegations

- 5.2.1. [25-0358](#) Delegation - Jeff Miller; Resident of View Royal: Re: Agenda Item 6.1. Wildlife Attractants in the Capital Region

J. Miller spoke to Item 6.1.

- 5.2.2. [25-0364](#) Delegation - Mollie Cameron; Representing Wild Wise Society: Re: Agenda Item 6.1. Wildlife Attractants in the Capital Region

M. Cameron spoke to item 6.1.

**Director Holman joined the meeting electronically at 9:40 am.**

#### 6. Committee Business

- 6.1. [25-0236](#) Wildlife Attractants in the Capital Region

R. Smith presented Item 6.1. for information.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- municipal deadlines and invitations for inclusion
- working group appointments and representation
- informational campaign and collaboration with local organizations
- measures of success

**Motion Arising:**

**MOVED by Director Plant, SECONDED by Director Thompson,**

**The Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Board:**

**That staff direct to explore creating a public awareness campaign regarding reducing Wildlife Attractants and interactions in the Capital Region. And this work be done in coordination with other organizations involved in this work.**

**CARRIED**

#### 7. Notice(s) of Motion

There were no notice(s) of motion.

## 8. New Business

There was no new business.

## 9. Motion to Close the Meeting

### 9.1. [25-0314](#) Motion to Close the Meeting

**MOVED** by Director McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by Director Thompson,  
That the meeting be closed for Legal Advise in accordance with Section (90)(1)(i)  
of the Community Charter.

**CARRIED**

The Environmental Services Committee went into closed session at 10:06 am.

The Environmental Services Committee rose from closed session at 11:17 am  
without report.

## 10. Adjournment

**MOVED** by Director Thompson, **SECONDED** by Director Wickheim,  
That the March 19, 2025 Environmental Services Committee meeting be  
adjourned at 11:17 am.

**CARRIED**

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CHAIR

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RECORDER



# UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Proposal to the CRD

Environmental Services Committee

| April 16, 2024



Camossung q'emásənj  
Urban Biosphere Region Project





## The Greater Victoria UNESCO Urban Biosphere Project

- In August 2024 ~100 people, from a cross-section of organizations in the Capital Region, passed a resolution to nominate the Victoria Region as an Urban Biosphere Region. and requested the Capital Region District (CRD) to compile the nomination documents and forward them to the Canadian Commission for UNESCO.
- A smaller planning group has brought us to where we are today.



## RESOLUTION CARRIED AT THE BIOSPHERE RESERVE FORUM

The Greater Victoria NatureHood and the UNESCO Victoria World Heritage Project in collaboration with those organizations who steward the diverse natural and cultural environment of Greater Victoria, meeting at Government House under the patronage of Her Honour Janet Austin OBC, the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, on Thursday, August 29, 2024, do resolve:

*The Greater Victoria NatureHood forward a request from this Forum to the Capital Regional District (CRD) that - in consultation with appropriate local Indigenous, political, academic and civil organizations - the CRD compile a set of supporting documents, as required, and forward same to the Canadian Commission for UNESCO for the International Coordinating Council, to nominate the Victoria Region as an Urban Biosphere Region. (Carried unanimously)*

*Proposed by Martin Segger representing the UVWHP and Bob Peart on behalf of the GVNH*





## What are Biosphere Reserves/Regions?

A UNESCO Biosphere is ‘a designation only’ recognition; however, it provides an international moral force for habitat conservation and an organizational framework to coordinate the social and economic initiatives of the several hundred local institutional, civil and corporate actors in the CRD.

1971

# UNESCO Conference Paris, France



1971







**759** biosphere reserves in 136 countries

**19** in Canada

**3** in British Columbia



**BRIGHTON-HOVE ENGLAND**  
**THE FIRST URBAN BIOSPHERE RESERVE**  
**2014**



# Strategic Objectives

## *Four for all, Five for Canada*



Conserve Biodiversity

Conserving and enhancing biological diversity



Science & Education

Support for research, education, monitoring, and information exchange



Sustainable Development

Balancing social, economic & environmental interconnections (SDGs)



Climate Change

Support mitigation and adaptation to climate change

**Lead and support First Nations reconciliation efforts**

Reconciliation





# 3 zones of biosphere reserves

*Each biosphere reserve is organized into 3 interrelated zones, from lowest to highest human influence on nature*

Core Zone

Buffer Zone

Transition Zone





United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

# Why is the BR designation appropriate for the CRD?







**Work to best practices**



**Part of a world-wide network**



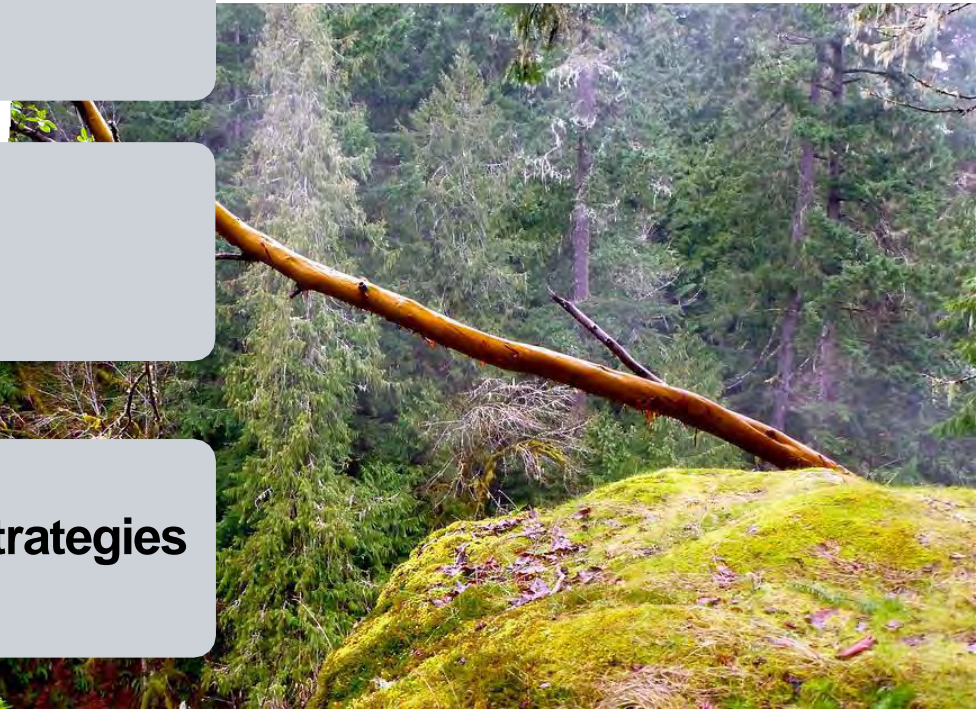
**Emergence of Urban Biosphere Regions**



**Community Engagement**



**Enhanced climate change strategies for our Island home**







**Support the aims of the  
new CRD Bylaw #4575**



**Engage in Research  
(university/college partnerships)**



**Membership in global sub-groups  
(Urban or Coastal/Island)**



**Create a new framework for  
regional cooperation  
especially with First Nations**



**Balance with Nature**







## Examples of Natural Resources:

### Urban:

- Migratory Bird Sanctuaries: Gorge Waterway, Victoria Harbour
- Government House Garry Oak Woodlands
- Uplands & Pkols Parks
- Coastal Douglas Fir, Garry Oak/Camus and Arbutus ecosystems

### Other:

- **300** Watersheds
- Gulf Island National Marine Park
- Trial Islands Ecological Reserve

### Rural:

- Sea to Sea Green/Blue Belt
- CRD Parks
- Swan Lake, Rithet's Bog







## Examples of Cultural & Economic Resources:

- **63** Indigenous archaeological sites
- **57** Federal/Provincial Heritage Sites
- **400+** (est.) community habitat conservation groups
- Robust habitat and heritage protection law
- Multi-level funding
- Tourism: **60,000** jobs
- "Natural Environment" voted best feature in *Vital Signs* survey.







## Timeline

### **Declare nomination**

- August 2026

*At the Canadian Association of Biosphere Reserves  
(called “Regions” in Canada) hosted by the  
Nanaimo Malahat Biosphere Region group*

### **File Nomination**

- December 2028

### **Declare Designation**

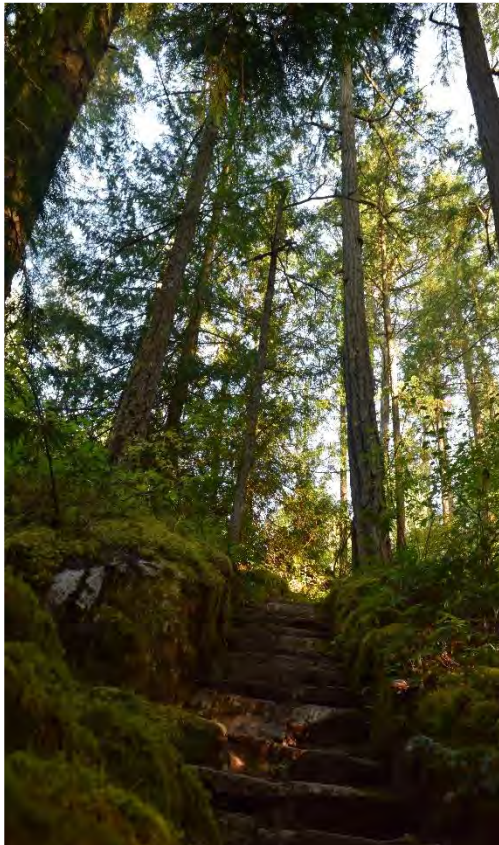
- December 2029





## Next Steps

- Form a local roundtable governance structure of 15-18 people and organizations to represent the community.
- Establish a university/college base as the centre for research, supported by students and their projects.
- Assist the CRD in a 2-3 year consultation process with appropriate local indigenous, political, academic and civil organizations and compile the necessary supporting documents for the Canadian Commission for UNESCO.





## Our Ask:

That the following motion be forwarded to the CRD Board for consideration:

*“In consultation with appropriate local Indigenous, political, academic and civil organizations the CRD compile a set of supporting documents, as required, and forward same to the Canadian Commission for UNESCO for the International Coordinating Council, to nominate the Victoria Region as an Urban Biosphere Region”.*

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Thank you!



Camossung q'emásənj  
Urban Biosphere Region Project

**REPORT TO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025**

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**SUBJECT**     **Hartland Public Drop-off – Extension of Expanded Hours Pilot**

**ISSUE SUMMARY**

To seek approval to extend the Hartland Landfill and Public Drop-off Depot expanded hours pilot.

**BACKGROUND**

In June 2024, the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board approved a one-year pilot project to trial increasing access to Hartland Landfill and Public Drop-off Depot. The objectives of the pilot project include:

- increasing diversion rates for materials accepted at Hartland's public drop-off depot, which will help decrease the amount of recyclable material ending up in the garbage and assist the region in reducing waste by one-third (a target of the CRD's Solid Waste Management Plan).
- decreasing the amount of traffic at the Hartland public drop-off depot during peak depot hours.
- receiving feedback from the public to inform whether the pilot should be a permanent service.

Starting Saturday, June 15, 2024, the hours at Hartland Landfill and Public Drop-off Depot were extended on Saturdays by three hours. Below is a table showing the changes to the Hartland hours.

<b>Regular Hartland Hours</b>	<b>Pilot Hours (June 15, 2024)</b>
Weekdays: 9 am to 5 pm	unchanged
Saturdays: 7 am to 2 pm	Saturdays: 7 am to 5 pm
Sundays and statutory holidays: closed	unchanged

The hours for commercial customers accessing the auto scales and active face were also extended to 5 pm on Saturdays. The site remains closed for all customers on Sundays and statutory holidays.

Staff have been collecting public feedback on the pilot project from Hartland customers and neighbours via a Checkbox Survey and the CRD's Infoline at [infoline@crd.bc.ca](mailto:infoline@crd.bc.ca). Scale data will be evaluated to determine if customers are utilizing the depot during the expanded hours.

Staff believe there is value to extending the pilot period to October 31, 2025 to ensure a full year's worth of data can be collected and analyzed before presenting results and recommendations. Resources to extend the pilot have been accounted for in the budget and will not impact other services. Extending the pilot period will allow time for results to be examined, recommendations to be presented and a decision to be made without impacting current service levels.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Extending service on Saturdays for an additional three hours incurs approximately \$1,000 in staff costs and an estimated \$3,000 in equipment contract costs. The approximate total annual cost of extending service on Saturdays is an estimated \$208,000. Funding for this extended hour pilot project will be drawn from the Environmental Resource Management annual solid waste operating budgets. The main rationale for the pilot project is to respond to customer long-time demand for better hours, particularly on weekends and not to generate additional revenue.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

### *Alternative 1*

The Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the Hartland Landfill and Public Drop-off Depot expanded hours pilot be extended until October 31, 2025.

### *Alternative 2*

The Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the Hartland Landfill and Public Drop-off Depot expanded hours pilot conclude on June 15, 2025, without an extension.

### *Alternative 3*

That this report be referred back to staff for additional information.

## **CONCLUSION**

In June 2024, the Capital Regional District began piloting expanded hours at the Hartland public drop-off depot. The pilot is being conducted in response to increased demand at the public drop-off depot and new material bans coming into effect in 2024. During the one-year pilot, Hartland's opening hours were extended to 5 pm on Saturdays. If the pilot is extended through October 2025, it will ensure a full year's worth of data can be analyzed and will inform whether staff recommend the extended pilot hours become a permanent service.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the Hartland Landfill and Public Drop-off Depot expanded hours pilot be extended until October 31, 2025.

Submitted by:	Russ Smith, Senior Manager, Environmental Resource Management
Concurrence:	Luisa Jones, MBA, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Nelson Chan, MBA, FCPA, FCMA, Chief Financial Officer, GM Finance & IT
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer



**REPORT TO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025**

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**SUBJECT**     **Solid Waste Management Plan – 2024 Progress Report**

**ISSUE SUMMARY**

To present the Capital Regional District's (CRD) 2024 Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) Progress Report (Appendix A), which identifies progress towards implementing the CRD's SWMP.

**BACKGROUND**

In BC, it is a requirement under the *Environmental Management Act* for all regional districts to develop solid waste management plans, which are high-level, long-term visions of how a regional district would like solid waste managed within its community, in accordance with the 5R hierarchy of reduce, reuse, recycle, resource recovery and residuals management. The CRD's most recent SWMP was endorsed by the CRD Board in May 2021, and was approved by the Ministry of Environment & Parks (ENV) in July 2023.

The goals of a SWMP may be achieved within the timeframe of the plan or a goal may also be aspirational, something for the CRD to strive for beyond the timeframe of the plan. The 2021 SWMP goals are:

1. To surpass the provincial per capita waste disposal target
2. To extend the life of Hartland Landfill to the year 2100 and beyond
3. To have informed citizens that participate effectively in proper waste management practices
4. To ensure the CRD's solid waste services are financially sustainable

**Progress Summary**

Along with the overarching SWMP goals, the Plan defines three focus areas – Reduce/Reuse, Recycling and Recovery/Residuals Management, and fifteen strategies as guiding principles for achieving the goals. The focus areas and strategies form the basis of service and work plans designed to achieve Plan goals. Annual progress is measured by tracking achievements within the three focus areas with each area assigned a status of 'on track', 'opportunity for improvement' or 'attention required' based on the year's activities. For 2024, the status and key indicators of each focus area are:

Reduce and Reuse (On track – achieved 75% or greater of yearly target):

- The 2024 Solid Waste Market Research and Engagement Study reported 74% of residents show positive attitudes across five waste management behaviours.
- Connected with over 4,631 residents through education and outreach programs.
- The Rethink Waste Community grant funded 24 projects.

Recycling (On track – achieved 75% or greater of yearly target):

- General refuse material bans at Hartland Landfill on wood (clean and treated) and asphalt shingles resulted in 9,600 tonnes of materials diverted.

- Introduced reduced tipping fees at Hartland Landfill for treated wood, clean wood and asphalt shingles to incent diversion from general refuse stream.
- Enacted the Waste Stream Collector Incentive Program to promote multi-stream collection services.
- New contractor began services for the CRD blue box program.

Recovery and Residuals Management (Opportunity for improvement – achieved 50%-75% of yearly target progress):

- Increased the general refuse tipping fee from \$110 to \$150 tonne.
- Achieved a per capita disposal rate of 338 kg/capita, a decrease of 44 kg/capita from 2023.
- Built the Material Diversion Transfer Station at Hartland Landfill.
- Five-year average Airspace Utilization Factor was 0.68 tonnes per cubic metre, missing the target of 0.76 tonnes per cubic metre, creating an opportunity for improvement to extend the life of the landfill beyond 2100.
- Calculated a landfill gas collection efficiency of 43% based on the ENV model, and 50% based on the UBCi model.

The overall progress of the SWMP for 2024 is on track. A complete update on the progress towards implementation of SWMP goals, focus areas and strategies can be found in the attached Progress Report.

### Challenges and Opportunities

Implementation of the goals, focus areas and strategies in the SWMP require collaboration and participation from the entire community. Challenges can arise from the distribution of responsibilities and competing priorities.

Challenges that arose in 2024 include:

- Decline in landfill gas collection due to delays in expanding the reach of the existing gas collection system. This is expected to be resolved in 2025 when the gas wells will be connected, leading to improved landfill gas collection efficiency.
- Landfilling of blended biosolids. In June 2024, the CRD Board approved a Long-term Biosolids Management Strategy, leading to biosolids not having to be landfilled in future years.
- Adjustments and delay to implementation of Hartland Landfill policy changes, including a delay on banning on carpet and underlay, as well as delaying a \$300/tonne tipping fee for general refuse containing unsorted renovation and demolition materials. These policies will be introduced in the future, once end markets are available, industry has had time to adjust operations and consultation on policies to restrict flow of general refuse outside the region have been completed.

### CONCLUSION

The Capital Regional District's (CRD) Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) includes four goals, and three focus areas comprised of 15 strategies. An update on the progress towards implementation of the SWMP can be found in the CRD's 2024 SWMP Progress Report. In 2024, the CRD has made progress on many SWMP strategies and action contributing to reduction in the region's per capita disposal rate and an overall status of 'on track'. The CRD's 2024 SWMP Progress Report will be reviewed by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for monitoring and evaluating purposes.



**RECOMMENDATION**

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Submitted by:	Russ Smith, Senior Manager, Environmental Resource Management
Concurrence:	Luisa Jones, MBA, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENT**

Appendix A: Solid Waste Management Plan – 2024 Progress Report



# 2024 Solid Waste Management Plan Progress Report



Making a difference...together

April 2025



**TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The CRD conducts its business within the Territories of many First Nations, including but not limited to BOŶEĆEN (Pauquachin), MÁLEXEĒ (Malahat), paaʔčiidʔatx (Pacheedaht), Spuneʼluxutth (Penelekut), Scʼianew (Beecher Bay), Songhees, STÁUTW (Tsawout), TʼSou-ke, WJOLĒĒP (Tsartlip), WSIŶEM (Tseycum), and xʷsepsum (Esquimalt) Nations, all of whom have a long-standing relationship with the land and waters from time immemorial that continues to this day.



**Terms and Abbreviations**

- 3Rs** - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- 5Rs** - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recovery and Residual Management
- C&D** - Construction and Demolition
- CEC** - Compost Education Centre
- CRD** - Capital Regional District
- EPR** - Extended Producer Responsibility
- ENV** - Ministry of Environment and Parks
- GHG** - Greenhouse Gas
- ICI** - Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Sector
- MFD** - Multi-family Dwelling
- MSW** - Municipal Solid Waste
- PPP** - Packaging and Paper Products
- RNG** - Renewable Natural Gas
- SWAC** - Solid Waste Advisory Committee
- SWMP** - Solid Waste Management Plan

**Organizational Overview**

The Capital Regional District (CRD) delivers regional, sub-regional and local services to 13 municipalities and three electoral areas on southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Governed by a 24-member Board of Directors, the CRD works collaboratively with First Nations and all levels of government to enable sustainable growth, foster community well-being, and develop cost-effective infrastructure, while continuing to provide core services to residents throughout the region.

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Cover image: In 2024, clean wood was banned from general refuse at Hartland Landfill. These residents are dropping off a pallet at Hartland’s Public Drop-off Depot in the clean wood bin, which will then be recycled or used in energy recovery.



Aerial view of the new Material Diversion Transfer Station at Hartland Landfill.

# Overview

This SWMP Progress Report highlights activities undertaken by the CRD in 2024 and satisfies the regular reporting requirements associated with the CRD’s SWMP. The SWMP has a target of reducing waste in the region by more than one-third by 2031. Through zero waste and circular economy principles, the plan includes strategies for reducing all streams of solid waste to extend the life of Hartland Landfill to 2100 and beyond.

All costs associated with the CRD’s solid waste service are funded through tipping and user fee revenues at Hartland Landfill, collection agreements with product producers, the sale of landfill gas and the sale of recyclables.

## Regulations and Commitments

The CRD became responsible for solid waste disposal for the region in 1973 when, at the request of the CRD Board, the Province of BC established solid waste disposal as a regional function of the CRD. In 1975, the CRD acquired Hartland Landfill and subsequently assumed direct operation of the site in 1985.

The site currently operates under a Design, Operations and Closure Plan, in accordance with an Operational Certificate issued by the ENV, as well as the BC Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste. There is also a provincial authorization in place for asbestos management.

Any solid waste originating from outside of Canada is managed at Hartland Landfill, in accordance with the International Waste Directive under the authority of the Canada Border Service Agency and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

## Solid Waste Management Planning

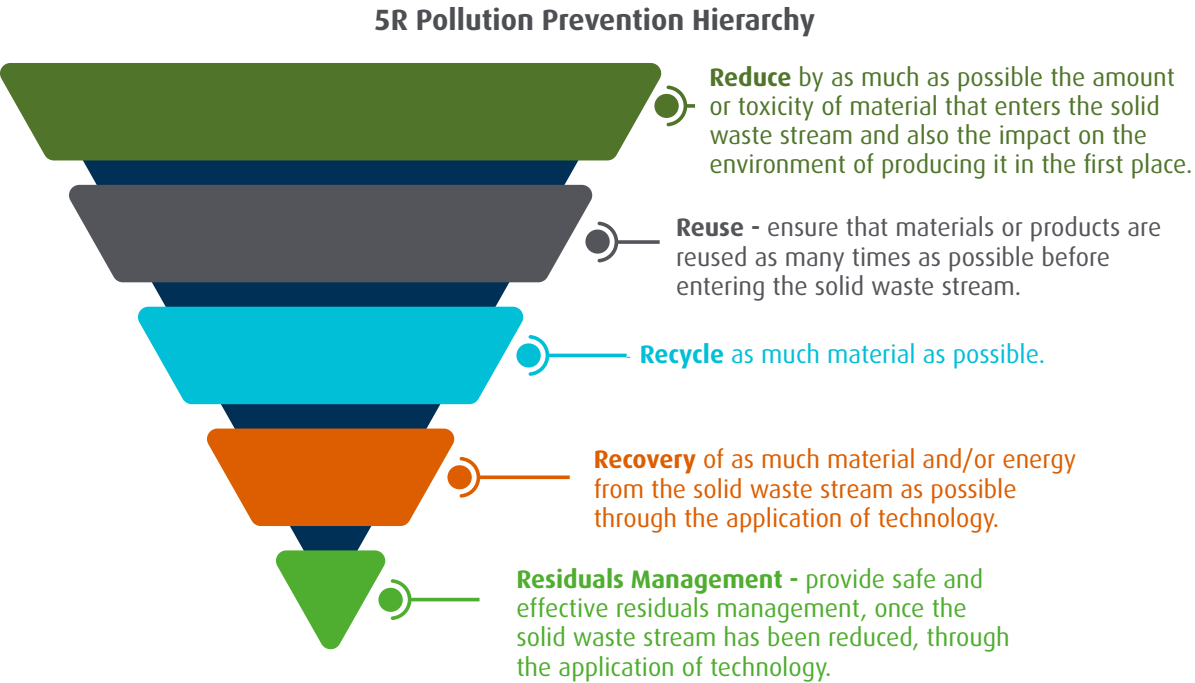
The *Environmental Management Act* requires all regional districts in BC to develop plans for the management of MSW and recyclable materials. Solid waste management planning is a proven way to reduce the amount of solid waste requiring disposal in a region, contributing to the protection of the environment.

## Landfill Operating and Monitoring Requirements

Hartland Landfill is authorized through an Operational Certificate under the *Environmental Management Act*. The Operational Certificate specifies the relevant environmental legislation applicable to the site and sets out requirements for environmental monitoring and annual reporting. Under this regulatory framework, the CRD has established a comprehensive environmental monitoring program to ensure Hartland is not impacting the surrounding environment. More details can be found in the *Hartland Landfill Operating & Environmental Monitoring 2023/2024 Report*.

# Solid Waste Management Plan

In BC, regional districts develop SWMPs under the provincial *Environmental Management Act* that are high-level, long-term visions of how the regional district would like to manage its solid waste in accordance with the 5R Pollution Prevention Hierarchy.





The SWMP for the region was endorsed by the CRD Board in May 2021, and was approved by the ENV in July 2023. The final Plan includes strategies and actions for reducing and managing all streams of solid waste—including recyclables, compostable material and garbage—with an eye to extend the life of Hartland Landfill to 2100 and beyond.

Waste reduction, reuse and recycling can reduce GHG emissions both by lowering the demand for new materials and products (reducing upstream environmental impacts), and by minimizing downstream environmental impacts, such as transporting waste over long distances and disposing of it in landfills.

The SWMP’s progress is monitored by the SWAC, an advisory committee established by the CRD’s Environmental Services Committee to provide input on solid waste management matters and to meet the requirements of the ENV’s *Guide to Solid Waste Management Planning*. Members of the SWAC represent a diversity of backgrounds, interests and geographical location, representing a balance between technical and non-technical members and industry and public members.

Goals

The Province’s guidelines for solid waste management planning require SWMPs to have goals—the long-term aims to be achieved as an outcome of the plan. A goal may be achieved within the timeframe of this plan, but a goal may also be aspirational, something for the CRD to strive for beyond the timeframe of this plan. The CRD’s SWMP goals are:

- To surpass the provincial per capita waste disposal target (350 kg/capita/year) and aspire to achieve a disposal rate of 125 kg/capita/year
- To extend the life of Hartland Landfill to the year 2100 and beyond
- To have informed citizens that participate effectively in proper waste management practices
- To ensure that the CRD’s solid waste services are financially sustainable.

Focus Areas

The SWMP identifies three focus areas consisting of 15 strategies with 72 actions. Over the lifetime of the SWMP, the strategies and actions contained within form the basis of service plans and work plans that are approved by the Board annually as part of the financial planning process. Collaboration with First Nations Governments, municipalities, other solid waste services, CRD divisions and stakeholders will be integral to this process.

The 15 strategies with 72 actions and associated timelines are divided into the following focus areas:

- Reduce and Reuse
- Recycling
- Recovery and Residuals Management

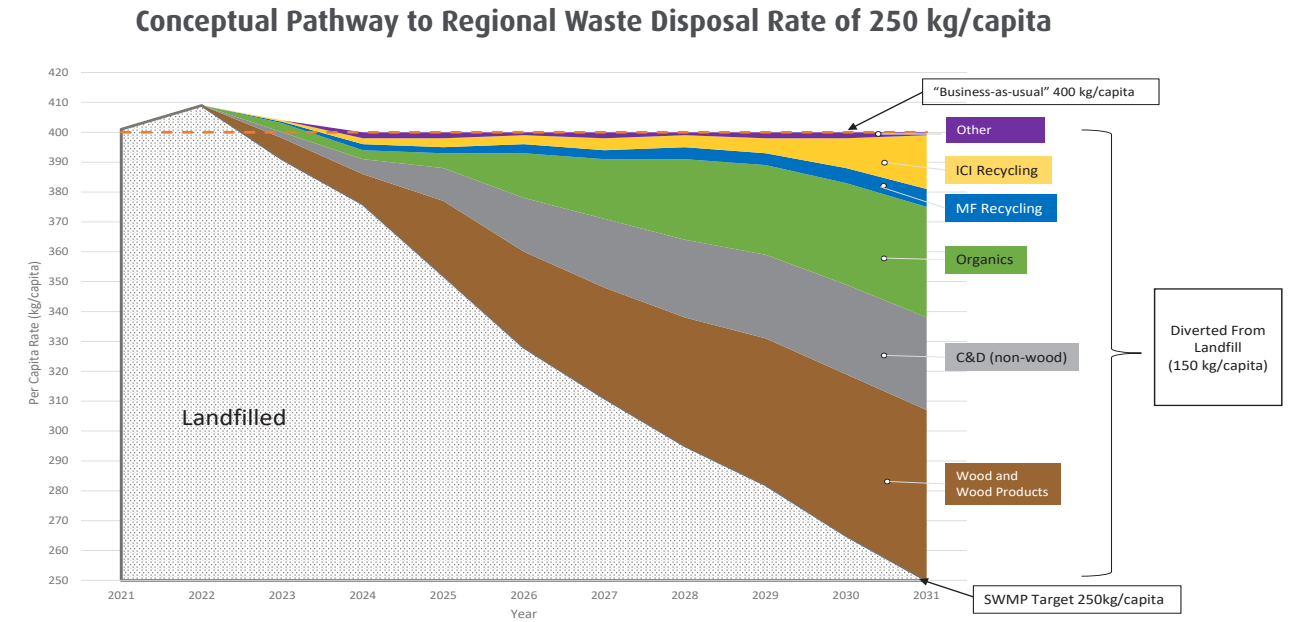
For more details on the SWMP’s 15 strategies, consult *Appendix A: SWMP Report Card*.



Targets and Tracking

The targets established for this plan are focused on reducing the amount of waste landfilled on a per capita basis. By the end of the 10<sup>th</sup> year of this plan, the capital region’s per capita disposal rate target is 250 kg or less, surpassing the Province’s long-term target of 350 kg per capita.

Below is a chart plotting one conceptual pathway to reducing the regional per capita disposal rate from 2021 levels to 250 kg per capita. The actual path taken to achieve waste reduction targets will depend on the actions the community takes to reduce waste, and the work the CRD does to support diversion activity and redirect waste material back into the economy. The chart represents an aggressive timeline to divert materials from the landfill in accordance with the strategies and actions in *Appendix A: SWMP Report Card*.



The metrics used to track and monitor progress for SWMP targets in 2024 are the regional per capita disposal rates, results from studies including the Solid Waste Market Research and Engagement Study and the most recent Solid Waste Stream Composition Study. In 2025, a waste generator study will provide additional data to track and monitor progress for SWMP targets.

Per Capita Disposal

In the SWMP, the per capita waste disposal rate is used to help the CRD, and residents of the region understand progress towards reaching the plan’s waste reduction goals and targets. The per capita disposal rate reported in 2024 is 338 kg per capita.

This year saw significant progress in reducing the region’s per capita disposal rate. The reduction can, in part, be attributed to the introduction of new material bans from the general refuse stream, an increase in materials used for on-site beneficial use at Hartland Landfill, an increase in food scraps moving through the kitchen scraps transfer station and the implementation of the Waste Stream Collector Incentive Program.

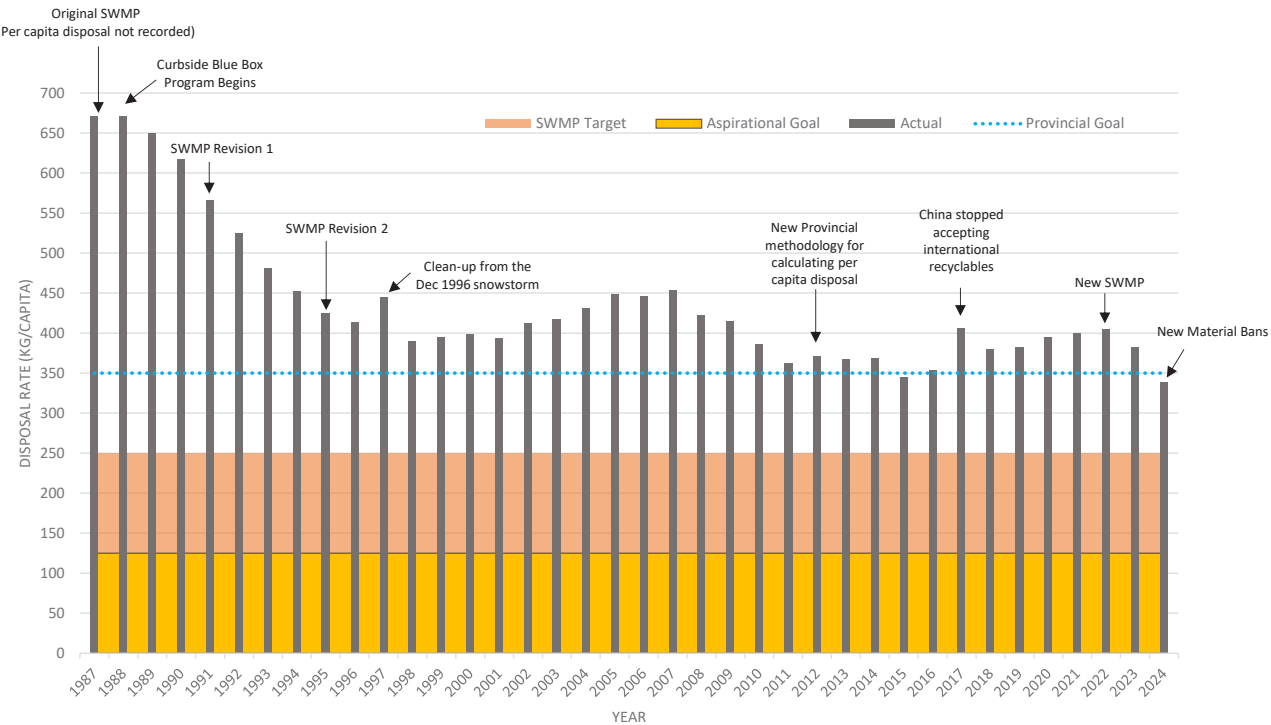
In 2012, the Province of BC began using per capita disposal rates as the standard solid waste metric. Regional disposal rates reported to the ENV include general refuse from the residential sector and ICI sources, as well as waste from construction, demolition and renovation activities. Disposal rates do not include controlled waste like asbestos, biomedical, agricultural waste, heavy industry or contaminated soil. In 2022, the most recent year with provincial data, BC’s per capita disposal rate was 479 kg, while the capital region’s rate was 409 kg—the fourth lowest in the province. The ENV requires the CRD to report this 409 kg rate, which includes blended biosolids. However, for SWMP reporting, the CRD excludes blended biosolids, reflected in the chart below, as beneficial use strategies for diverting biosolids are not part of the SWMP’s strategies or actions.

General Refuse Disposal - Per Capita Disposal Rate for the Capital Region

Year	Population <sup>2</sup>	Hartland Landfill <sup>1</sup>			Disposal Rate kg/ person	Percentage Change from 2021
		Received	Beneficial Use <sup>3</sup>	Landfilled <sup>4</sup>		
2021	432,062	173,899	-1,013	172,886	400	N/A
2022	439,950	183,397	-5,107	178,290	405	+1.3%
2023	455,092	179,075	-5,100	173,975	382	-4.5%
2024	464,934	168,055	-10,866	157,189	338	-15.5%

1 Excluding blended biosolids; see pg. 11 for more information  
2 BC Stats  
3 Onsite beneficial use of material based on ENV guidelines  
4 The figure for 2021 includes 6,730 tonnes landfilled at Tervita Highwest Landfill

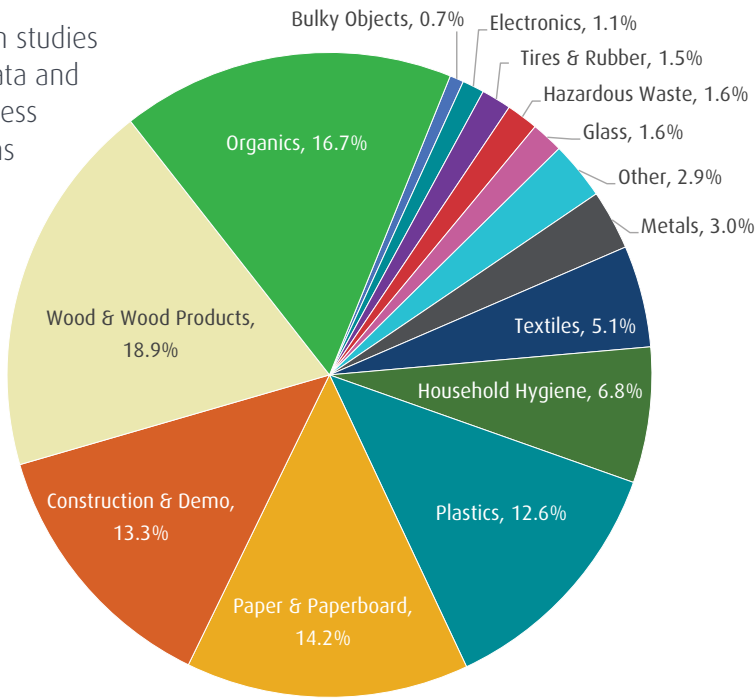
CRD Historic Per Capita Disposal Rate



Solid Waste Stream Composition Study

Solid waste stream composition studies provide valuable benchmark data and analysis for evaluating the success of existing solid waste programs and SWMP initiatives.

Since 1990, the CRD has commissioned seven studies to assess the composition of waste being landfilled at Hartland. The most recent analysis took place in 2022; the next study will take place in 2026.



2022 Solid Waste Stream Composition Study Results

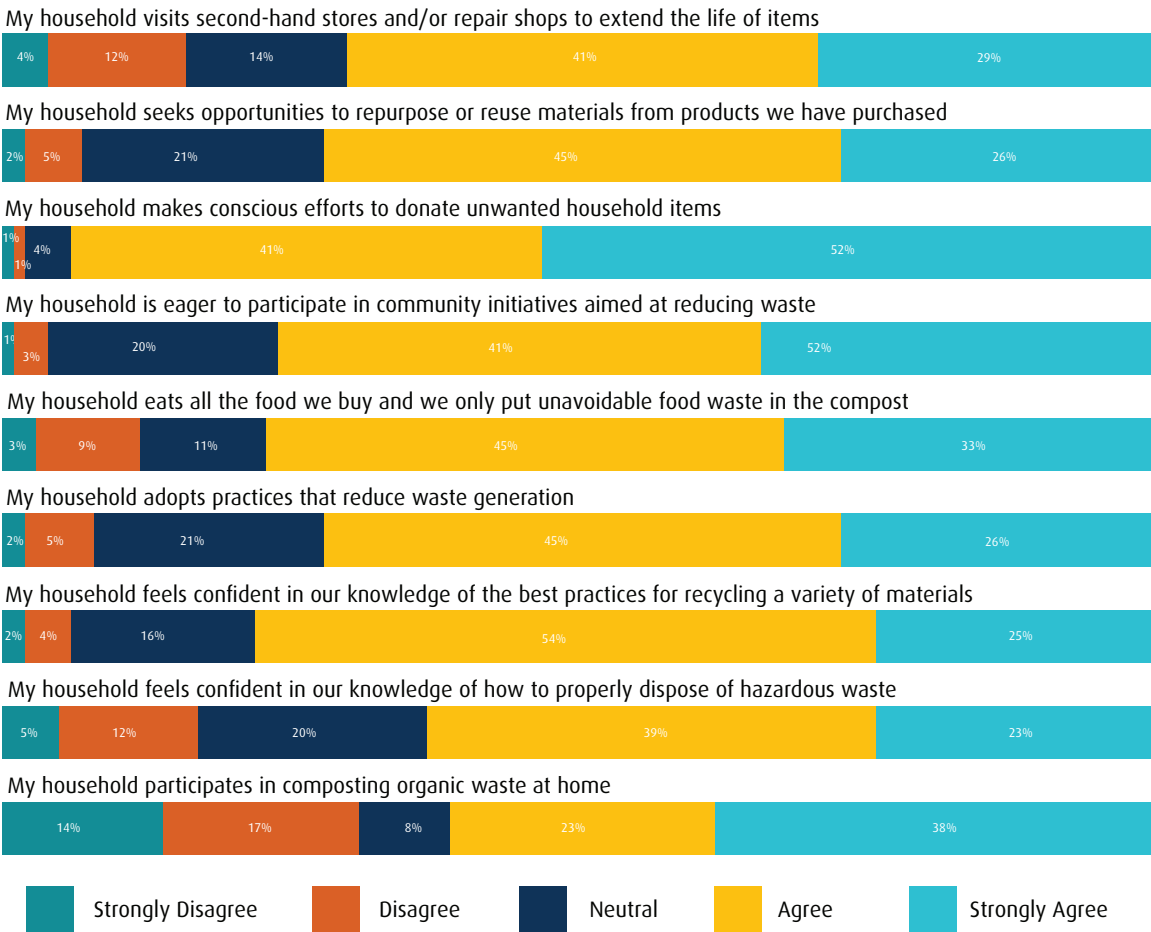


Solid Waste Market Research and Engagement Study

The first study was conducted from May to October 2024 using three surveys targeting residents, Hartland Public Drop-Off Depot users and businesses. Surveys were developed to assess behaviours, attitudes, programs, resources and communication strategies related to solid waste within the capital region. Key highlights of the study are as follows:

**Residential:** Over 1,000 residents were surveyed to assess behaviours and attitudes towards solid waste management themes such as reducing waste, knowledge of best practices and disposal habits. Of residents surveyed, 74% reported positive attitudes (i.e., agree or strongly agree) across five waste management behaviours, including reducing waste, supporting circular economy, composting, confidence in their waste disposal knowledge and supporting community initiatives. Barriers identified by residents included lack of knowledge on where and how to dispose of materials such as foam and flexible plastic packaging.

2024 Solid Waste Market Research and Engagement Study: Residential Waste Reduction Behaviours and Attitudes



**Hartland Public Drop-off Depot:** Over 100 surveys were completed by Hartland Public Drop-Off Depot users. Results provide a snapshot of the types of materials being brought to the depot. The most common materials included metals (63%), plastic products (59%) and foam packaging (55%).

Scale data revealed visits to Hartland to dispose of general refuse have increased by about 5% annually, slightly higher than population growth, while visits related to recyclables have increased by an average of 20% annually.

**Business:** Over 200 business representatives were surveyed and asked about the types of waste their businesses produce, their disposal methods and ability to comply with local regulations. Most businesses produce paper (92%), plastic (75%) and organic waste (62%). Challenges identified by businesses included difficulty complying with local waste management regulations, citing limited disposal options and high costs.

Results from this study identified areas for improvement, and gauged the effectiveness of existing engagement activities.

Waste Generator Study

The waste generator study will help the CRD gather data on where waste is generated, such as a household, business, industry or community. The purpose of such a study is to gain insights into the patterns of waste generation, understand the composition of the waste stream and identify opportunities for waste reduction, recycling or proper disposal.

Currently, the CRD’s diversion data is limited to the recyclable and reusable items accepted at the Hartland Landfill and through administering PPP contracts on behalf of Recycle BC for the curbside blue box program and the Electoral Area depots. Along with identifying where waste is generated and the composition of waste streams, the waste generator study will help offer a complete picture of diversion activities happening across a variety of sectors. This study will provide valuable data and analysis for evaluating the success of existing solid waste management programs and for planning future initiatives.

The waste generator study will be the first of its kind for the CRD. The first study will take place in 2025, and results will be included in the 2025 SWMP Progress Report.

Diversion Programs Funded or Administered by the CRD

CRD Program Diversion (tonnes)	2021	2022	2023	2024
Hartland Diversion	17,525	16,642	18,924	31,135
Curbside Blue Box	18,613	17,293	17,438	16,716
Electoral Area Depots	915	929	907	978
Total tonnes diverted	37,053	34,864	37,269	48,829

# Challenges and Opportunities

As the management of unwanted materials is a shared responsibility, successful implementation of the SWMP will require involvement from the entire community, including residents, businesses, institutions, First Nations, municipalities and non-profit associations, as well as the local waste management industry. Each of the stakeholders involved in solid waste management has a unique role to play, but there are many competing priorities.



The main policy levers the CRD has control of are limited to what is accepted at Hartland Landfill. In 2023, the CRD Board approved bylaw changes at Hartland Landfill, including new material bans, adjusted tipping fee structure and increased bylaw fines. In early 2024, after consultation with stakeholders, the introduction of new material bans and tipping fee changes were divided into 3 phases. Phase 1 began January 1, 2024 and included a ban on clean wood from the general refuse stream, an increase in the general refuse and high-risk international waste tipping fees, and an increase in fine rates. Phase 2 began on July 2, 2024 and included a ban on treated wood and asphalt shingles from the general refuse stream. Phase 3, which includes a ban on carpet and underlay, as well as a \$300/tonne tipping fee for general refuse containing unsorted renovation and demolition materials, will be introduced in the future, once end markets are available and industry has had time to adjust their operations. Staff recommended the CRD begin

consultation on policies to restrict the flow of general refuse outside the capital regional ahead of Phase 3 implementation.

Along with policy changes in 2024, the CRD introduced the Waste Stream Collector Incentive Program. The program seeks to promote multi-stream waste collection (i.e., source-separated organics, recyclables and general refuse) and incent voluntary self-reported collection data sharing. For the first year of the program (2024), 20 Hartland commercial customers, representing approximately 85% of Hartland’s total general refuse tonnages, participated.

## Blended Biosolids Disposal at Hartland Landfill

In 2024, the CRD landfilled 918 tonnes of Class A biosolids as 4,352 tonnes of blended biosolids (biosolids and sand) as general refuse at Hartland Landfill. Factoring this material into the 338 kg per capita disposal rate for 2024, it increases 2.8% to 347 kgs per capita. The ENV requires the CRD to report the 347 kg per capita disposal rate for the region, even though beneficial use strategies for biosolids are not included within the SWMP.

In June 2024, the CRD Board approved a Long-Term Biosolids Management Strategy that outlines the beneficial uses for Class A Biosolids as required by the provincial government. Under this strategy, options will be utilized under a prioritization structure. Tier 1 of the strategy is the development of an advanced thermal demonstration plant, while Tier 2 is the development of additional combustion and non-agricultural, out-of-region, land application options. Landfilling blended biosolids has been used as an emergency measure and was not considered as a long-term management option.

## Beneficial Use

Through shredding activities, approximately 10,867 tonnes of material was beneficially used on-site in place of virgin materials, as per the ENV guidelines. This year saw an increase in resources dedicated to shredding of specific material streams at Hartland Landfill in an effort to further densify incoming waste materials and extend the life of the active landfilling area (Phase 2, Cell 3) while the new landfilling area (Phase 2, Cell 4) was being prepared to accept general refuse at the north end of the site. Construction of the new landfilling area continued throughout 2024 in preparation to receive general refuse in January 2025.

## Landfill Gas Collection

In 2024, landfill gas collection efficiency was calculated at 43% using the ENV model and 50% using the UBCi model, down from 64% (ENV) and 78% (UBCi) in 2023. This decline is due to challenges in expanding the reach of the existing gas collection system, which includes the design, procurement and construction required to connect new gas wells. Once the expanded system is complete in early 2025, the gas wells will be connected, leading to improved landfill gas collection efficiency.





Eagle View Elementary used funding from the Rethink Waste Community Grant to build a lending library to inspire reading while reducing waste through reuse.

## Progress Summary

The following sections are intended to provide a high-level, easy-to-understand overview of the CRD's progress related to implementing the SWMP and to summarize progress made in 2024 as it relates to the plan's goals and focus areas.

### Goals

The four goals of the SWMP may be achieved within the timeframe of this plan, but a goal may also be aspirational, something for the CRD to strive for beyond the timeframe of this plan. Measures of success and progress status definitions for the goals were developed with the SWAC in 2023.

### Focus Areas

The focus areas form the basis of service plans and work plans that are approved by the Board annually as part of the financial planning process. Collaboration with First Nations governments, municipalities, other solid waste services, CRD divisions and stakeholders will be integral to this process. The 15 strategies and 72 actions contained within the SWMP are divided into three focus areas:

- Reduce and Reuse
- Recycling
- Recovery and Residuals Management

For more details on the SWMP's 15 strategies, consult *Appendix A: SWMP Report Card*.



## 2024 Overall SWMP Progress

On track

### Goal Areas



**Goal 1:** To surpass the provincial per capita waste disposal target (350kg/capita/year) and aspire to achieve a disposal rate of 125 kg/capita/year.



**Goal 2:** To extend the life of Hartland Landfill to the year 2100 and beyond.



**Goal 3:** To have informed citizens that participate effectively in proper waste management practices.



**Goal 4:** To ensure that the CRD's solid waste services are financially sustainable.

### Focus Areas



**Reduce and Reuse**



**Recycling**



**Recovery and Residuals Management**

### Focus Area Icon Legend



**On Track:** 75% or greater of yearly target progress



**Opportunity for Improvement:** 50%-75% of yearly target progress



**Attention Required:** less than 50% of yearly target progress



**Future Action**

### Goal Area Icon Legend



**On Track**



**Opportunity for Improvement**




**Attention Required**

Developed in collaboration with the SWAC, each goal has a unique definition for "On Track", "Opportunity for Improvement" and "Attention Required." Review the following section for definitions.



Goal Area Progress Summary



On Track


**Goal 1**

To surpass the provincial per capita waste disposal target (350kg/capita/year) and aspire to achieve a disposal rate of 125 kg/capita/year.


**Indicators and Inputs Summary:**

- Calculated a disposal rate of 338 kg/capita, a decrease of 15.48% or 62 kg/capita from when the plan began in 2021.
- 2022 Solid Waste Stream Composition study indicated 47% of the garbage sent to Hartland Landfill could have been diverted through reuse, recycling or energy recovery.
- In 2025, the CRD will complete a waste generator study to further analyze where and how waste is generated.


Icon Definitions



Community is trending towards a per capita disposal rate to be **less than 350 kg/capita** over the life of the plan.



Community is trending towards a per capita disposal rate of **350 kg/capita** over the life of the plan



Community is trending towards a per capita disposal rate **above 350 kg/capita** over the life of the plan.



Opportunity for Improvement

**Goal 2**

To extend the life of Hartland Landfill to the year 2100 and beyond.

**Indicators and Inputs Summary:**

- Calculated a 2024 compaction density rate of 0.98 tonnes of general refuse per cubic metre, surpassing the landfill guideline target of 0.85 tonnes per cubic metre by 15.29%.
- Calculated a 5-year average (2020-2024) Airspace Utilization Factor (AUF) of 0.68 tonnes of material per cubic metre of airspace, missing the target of 0.76 tonnes of material per cubic metre by 11.76%. AUF is the total volume of general refuse, controlled waste and cover material landfilled.
- Landfilled 157,188 tonnes of general refuse at Hartland Landfill, a decrease of 15,698 tonnes (15.48%) from when the plan began in 2021.

Icon Definitions



Air space utilization is on track to extend the life of Hartland Landfill to the year **2100 and beyond**.



Air space utilization is only trending to extend the life of Hartland Landfill to the year **2100**.



Air space utilization will not extend the life of Hartland Landfill to the year **2100**.



On Track

**Goal 3**

To have informed citizens that participate effectively in proper waste management practices.

**Indicators and Inputs Summary:**

- The 2024 Solid Waste Market Research and Engagement Study reported 74% of residents show positive attitudes across five waste management behaviours, including reducing waste, supporting circular economy, composting, confidence in their waste disposal knowledge and supporting community initiatives.
- Provided \$312,152 in funding for non-profit waste reduction organizations, organics diversion education and the Rethink Waste Grant, a 54% increase from when the plan began in 2021.
- Delivered 273 waste reduction workshops and tours (landfill tours, 3Rs, composting) to 6,014 children and adults in the capital region, a 70.63% increase from when the plan began in 2021.

Icon Definitions



Engagement and participation in proper waste management practices is **higher** than previous years.



Engagement and participation in proper waste management practices is **equivalent** to previous years.



Engagement and participation in proper waste management practices is **less** than previous years.



On Track

**Goal 4**

To ensure that the CRD's solid waste services are financially sustainable.

**Indicators and Inputs Summary:**

- Solid waste service continues to be a self-funded and achieve a surplus.

Icon Definitions



Solid waste service self-funding model is **financially sustainable** for the remainder of the plan.



Solid waste service self-funding model is **trending in the wrong direction**, adjustments may be necessary.



Solid waste service self-funding model is trending in the wrong direction and is currently **not sustainable** for the remainder of the plan.





## Reduce and Reuse

Governments, residents, non-profits and businesses all have an important role to play in reducing and diverting waste from the landfill. Reducing the amount of waste created, and finding ways to repurpose and reuse waste, eliminates the need to dispose of items later.



**Overall Status**  
On Track

### CRD Roles

Municipal collaboration

Provincial and Federal  
Government advocacy

Funding and supporting  
non-profits

Education and outreach

This focus  
area includes

6

SWMP strategies

### Progress Summary

- The 2024 Solid Waste Market Research and Engagement Study reported 74% of residents show positive attitudes across five waste management behaviours, including reducing waste, supporting circular economy, composting, confidence in their waste disposal knowledge and supporting community initiatives.
- Between the Hartland Landfill Public Tours, Hartland Landfill Technical Tours, 3Rs K-12 program, and attending community events, the CRD connected with 4,631 residents. New this year, the CRD introduced a downtown Victoria pickup option for public landfill tours to improve accessibility for those without cars and partnered with the CEC to host two Composting Basics Workshops in conjunction with landfill tours.
- The CRD provided funding to 24 community-based projects, totalling \$70,300, under the Rethink Waste Community Grant.
- Continued to provide support (\$86,974) for 9 local non-profit reuse organizations to assist them in managing unusable donations and partnered with five non-profit reuse organizations for the redistribution of 38 tonnes of usable textiles, bicycles and large appliances collected at the Hartland Depot.
- Supported Light House with their building material exchange program (BMex), which connects construction and manufacturing businesses with surplus materials or ones looking for materials to reuse.



Galiano Island Recycling  
Resources Society



CEC Composting Basics  
Workshop at the Hartland  
Learning Centre.





Recycling

By participating in recycling programs, residents and businesses take responsibility for the products they’ve purchased, and support a system where these materials can be used repeatedly.



Overall Status  
On Track

CRD Roles

Hartland Depot

Landfill bans

Provincial and Federal  
Government advocacy

Curbside recycling contract

Recycling in Electoral Areas

Education and outreach

This focus  
area includes

7

SWMP strategies

Progress Summary

- New bylaw changes at Hartland Landfill, including material bans, adjusted tipping fee structure and increased bylaw fines, came into effect in 2024. Material bans on wood (clean and treated) and asphalt shingles resulted in approximately 9,600 tonnes of material diverted from the general refuse stream for reuse, recycling or energy recovery.
- Continued the MFD Waste Diversion Project by hiring two outreach assistants to conduct site visits and offer advice, signage and resources on best practices and setup for the waste collection area. In the end, 40 buildings totalling 2,730 units across seven municipalities participated and the project will continue in 2025.
- Registered 20 Hartland commercial customers, representing approximately 85% of Hartland’s total general refuse tonnages, for the Waste Stream Collector Incentive Program, which offers a \$25/tonne rebate on general refuse for commercial customers who provide multi-stream collection services (source-separated organics, general refuse and recyclables, including glass) and voluntarily report waste collection data.
- Continued administration of the solid waste local service for the Port Renfrew community, including completing site upgrades and efficiencies, as well as hiring staff to implement updated operations.
- Launched an expanded hours pilot at Hartland, extending Saturday hours by three to enhance accessibility to the Hartland Depot and reduce site access wait times.
- New contractor began service for the CRD blue box program.



Hartland Depot



Celebrating the launch of the new curbside recycling collection contractor for single family homes in the capital region.





## Recovery and Residuals Management

Once material has been reduced and technology has been applied to recover as much energy as possible, residuals management provides a safe and effective way to manage materials that don't have a next and best use.



**Overall Status**  
Opportunity for Improvement

### CRD Roles

Landfill bans and enforcement

Hartland Landfill

Technology research

Landfill Gas Management

This focus area includes

2

SWMP strategies

### Progress Summary

- Calculated a disposal rate of 338 kg/capita, a decrease of 11.6% or 44 kg/capita from 2023.
- On January 2, 2024, increased Hartland Landfill's general refuse tipping fee from \$110 to \$150/tonne.
- Constructed the Material Diversion Transfer Station (MDTS) at Hartland Landfill. The MDTS processes wood (clean and treated) and asphalt shingles for reuse, recycling or energy recovery.
- Conducted additional shredding trials with specific material streams in an effort to manage incoming volumes and further densify material and extend the life of the landfill.
- Continued with onsite beneficial use opportunities with 10,867 tonnes of select waste material streams processed and utilized onsite in place of virgin material, as per the ENV guidelines.
- Issued 476 tickets and 84 warnings, primarily related to banned materials in general refuse.
- Completed construction of the new landfilling area (Cell 4) and began construction of the future landfilling area (Cell 5) in December 2024.
- Calculated a landfill gas collection efficiency of 43% based on the ENV model, and a 50% gas collection efficiency based on the UBCi model.



Active Face



The Material Diversion Transfer Station at Hartland Landfill.



## Looking Ahead

The CRD will continue to show a leadership role by supporting local, municipal and federal waste diversion efforts, and will continue to move waste up the 5R Pollution Prevention Hierarchy to its next and best use.

Some activities planned for 2025 include:

- **Monitor New Policies and Continue to Divert Waste from Hartland Landfill:** Changes to the Hartland Landfill Tipping Fee and Regulation Bylaw No. 3881 and Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw No. 1857 came into effect in two phases in 2024. Staff will monitor the impact of changes and investigate additional policies to promote continued diversion.
- **Expanded Hours at Hartland Landfill:** Evaluate expanded Hartland Landfill hours pilot. Analyze whether additional hours on Saturdays supported waste reduction and diversion activities. This project will continue into 2025 and recommendations on next steps will be provided at the end of 2025.
- **Analyze Waste Stream Collector Incentive Program Data and Investigate Waste Flow Management:** A full-time staff member will be hired to analyze waste stream collector incentive data and explore how the capital region can feasibly implement waste flow management to increase the diversion of recyclable materials, as well as prevent disposal of out-of-region MSW at Hartland Landfill.
- **MFD/ICI Sector Strategy:** Develop and launch waste and recycling area guidelines to streamline waste area storage design requirements and criteria targeting MFD and ICI buildings across the capital region. Staff will explore beginning a business waste reduction coaching program to help businesses reduce waste by incorporating circular economy and zero waste principles where possible.
- **Waste Generator Study:** This study will gain insight into the patterns of waste generation at the source; provide a deeper understanding of the waste stream composition; and identify opportunities for waste reduction, recycling and/or proper disposal across the capital region.
- **Rethink Waste Community Grant Program:** Increase per project funding from \$3,000 to \$5,000 per application; this program will be expanded in 2025 to include several different funding streams to meet the needs of the community, while supporting the goals of the SWMP.
- **Disaster Debris Management Planning:** The CRD, in partnership with the City of Victoria, will draft a Request for Proposal to develop a Regional Disaster Debris Framework, as well as City-specific and common-use disaster debris management plans.
- **Options for Residential Flexible Plastics Collection:** CRD staff will investigate and report on options for flexible plastic packaging collection from single-family and from multi-family buildings (apartments and condos) in the capital region.
- **Hartland Landfill Operations:** Open the new landfilling area at the north end of the site, including the north entrance and scales for commercial traffic and open the new kitchen scraps transfer station at the north.
- **Completion and Commissioning of the Hartland Landfill Biogas Upgrading Facility:** landfill gas will be upgraded in the new facility and sold to FortisBC as RNG to displace use of fossil fuels.



Electronics recycling at the Hartland Public Drop off Depot.

## Appendix A: Solid Waste Management Plan Report Card

The SWMP Report Card is intended to provide a high-level, easy-to-understand overview of the CRD's progress related to implementing the SWMP and to summarize progress made in 2023.

### Methodology

The SWMP identifies specific strategies and actions to guide the CRD's efforts over the lifespan of the Plan. Over the lifetime of the SWMP, the strategies and actions contained within will form the basis of service plans and work plans that are approved by the Board annually as part of the financial planning process. Collaboration with First Nations governments, municipalities, other solid waste services, CRD divisions and stakeholders will be integral to this process.

These include 15 strategies with 72 actions and associated timelines divided into the following three focus areas:

- Reduce and Reuse
- Recycling
- Recovery and Residuals Management





# 2024 Overall SWMP Progress

On track

The 15 strategies with 72 actions contained within the SWMP are divided into three focus areas. Scores are based on the current status of each strategy with their focus area.



## Focus Areas

**Reduce and Reuse**



**Recycling**



**Recovery and Residuals Management**

## Focus Area Icon Legend



**On Track:** 75% or greater of yearly target progress



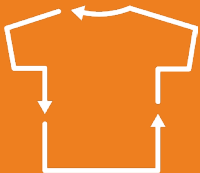
**Opportunity for Improvement:** 50%-75% of yearly target progress



**Attention Required:** less than 50% of yearly target progress



**Future Action**



## Reduce and Reuse

Reducing the amount of waste created and finding ways to repurpose and reuse waste, eliminates the need to dispose of items later.



**Overall Focus Area Status**  
On track

Status

Strategy

Update

### Progress on Strategies



**1 Continue and enhance education programs**

- Sent 4 issues of the CRD Rethink Waste Newsletters to 423 residents and businesses; and sent 3 CRD Educators Newsletters to 582 teachers
- Delivered 79 3R programs to 2,053 students and held professional development workshop for 20 teachers who will continue 3R education with their 400 students
- Created new circular economy lesson plan for schools
- Delivered 6 public landfill tours to 189 residents, 17 community group tours/workshops to 376 residents, and 18 technical landfill tours to 450 industry partners
- Offered a downtown Victoria pickup for a public landfill tour to increase accessibility and partnered with the CEC to deliver 2 Composting Basics Workshops (55 residents) in combination with landfill tours
- CEC delivered 135 composting workshops to 2,742 K-12 students and 17 composting workshops to 184 adults on behalf of the CRD
- CRD staff attended 20 community events with solid waste messaging, including Love Food Hate Waste, household hazardous waste and Rethink Waste/3Rs
- Incorporated new engagement tools and surveys at community events booths to increase accessibility and provide immediate assistance using online waste management resources
- CEC staff attended 37 community events on behalf of the CRD to promote at-home composting and organics diversion
- Conducted 5 solid waste public education campaigns, including advertorials, movie theatre pre-roll, digital advertising, print advertising and bus advertising
- Partnered with Saanich Fire to produce educational videos raising awareness on how residents can help prevent landfill fires by safely recycling their batteries
- Hired a communications officer, increasing engagement for solid waste public education campaigns and reaching 621,856 people across all CRD social media platforms—including a viral Instagram post
- Responded to 23,365 Infoline inquiries via phone and email and received 215,195 visits to myrecyclopedica.ca
- Received 8,584 new RecycleCRD app installs, received 6,827 Ready, Set, Sort! game plays by residents
- Added 13,015 residents to receive reminders and alerts via RecycleCRD app, email, voicemail and mobile calendar for the Curbside Recycling Program
- Continued participation in Coast Waste Management Association communications/educators working group
- Continued sponsorship of Ecostar awards
- Procured a new platform to host myrecyclopedica.ca, which will launch in 2025
- Conducted a Solid Waste Market Research and Engagement Study to evaluate the effectiveness of the CRD's waste reduction programming and behaviour change initiatives annual outreach campaigns
- The City of Victoria - Implemented a Reuseable Cup Stamp Card Contest and Marketing Campaign from September 2024 to October 2024



## Reduce and Reuse

Status	Strategy	Update
Progress on Strategies		
	<b>2 Encourage waste prevention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continued to provide funding under the Rethink Waste Community Grant and supported 24 projects (\$70,300)</li><li>City of Victoria - Final adoption and Phase 1 implementation of the City of Victoria's Single Use Items Bylaw (September 2024)</li><li>City of Victoria - Zero Waste Event Guide was designed and launched in May 2024</li><li>Provincial Government - Added items to the Single Use and Plastic Waste Prevention Regulations and implemented restrictions on food service accessories, plastic shopping bags, food service ware and oxo-degradable plastics.</li></ul>
	<b>3 Support reduction of avoidable food waste</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conducted a fall Love Food Hate Waste education campaign, which featured movie theatre ads, social media, local print and digital media ads</li><li>Continued partnership investment (\$22,000) with the national Love Food Hate Waste campaign for access to national resources and educational materials</li><li>Provided \$96,160 in funding to the CEC to deliver waste diversion and composting programs to adults and children in the region</li></ul>
	<b>4 Support reuse activities in the region</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continued to provide support (\$86,974) for 9 local non-profit reuse organizations to assist them in managing unusable donations</li><li>Collected 38 tonnes of reusable goods at Hartland Depot for redistribution by local non-profit reuse organizations</li><li>Provided Light House with \$49,000 in funding to support their building material exchange (BMex) program, which connects construction and manufacturing businesses with surplus materials or looking for materials for reuse</li></ul>
	<b>5 Support local governments in working towards zero waste and a circular economy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continued leading the Local Government Waste Reduction Working Group: 12 municipalities participated, 7 meetings held in 2024</li><li>Continued work with W̱SÁNEĆ Leadership Council/CRD Solid Waste Working Group</li><li>Continued discussions with Pacheedaht First Nation on future, mutually beneficial long-term waste management for the broader Port Renfrew community</li><li>CRD's elected representative participated in the Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Committee's meetings.</li><li>Enacted modified tipping fee structure at Hartland Landfill by increasing the general refuse rate and lowering the rate for divertable materials (clean wood, treated wood, asphalt shingles) to incent more diversion (e.g., clean wood, treated wood, asphalt shingles)</li></ul>
	<b>6 Continue and enhance policy development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Amended Hartland Landfill Tipping Fee and Regulation Bylaw No. 3881 and Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw No. 1857 to include new material bans, adjustments to the tipping fee structure and increased bylaw fines</li><li>In January 2024, clean wood was banned from general refuse; the general refuse tipping fee increased from \$110 to \$150/tonne; segregated clean wood is accepted at a reduced tipping fee of \$80/tonne and transferred offsite for recycling or energy recovery; rates for various offences increased (some up to \$500)</li><li>In July 2024, treated wood and asphalt shingles were banned from general refuse; segregated treated wood and asphalt shingles are accepted at a reduced tipping fee of \$110/tonne and transferred offsite for recycling or energy recovery</li><li>Received Board approval to delay the implementation of banning carpet and underlay from general refuse and accepting salvageable wood for free</li><li>Registered 20 Hartland commercial customers, representing approximately 85% of Hartland's total general refuse tonnages, for the Waste Stream Collector Incentive program, which offers a \$25/tonne rebate on general refuse for commercial customers who provide multi-stream collection services (source-separated organics, general refuse, and recyclables including glass) and voluntary report waste collection data</li><li>Deployed a communications plan to educate and inform the public about the 2024 policy and bylaw changes at Hartland Landfill</li><li>Continued administration of the solid waste local service for the Port Renfrew community, including completing site upgrades and efficiencies, as well as hiring staff to implement updated operations</li><li>Reviewed Request for Expressions of Interest for Disaster Debris Management Planning in collaboration with the City of Victoria and initiated the Request For Proposal process</li><li>City of Victoria - Staff continued to attend Canadian Collaboration for Sustainable Procurement event and learning opportunities to improve understanding of sustainable procurement as it relates to waste reduction and climate action</li></ul>



## Recycling

By participating in recycling programs, residents and businesses take responsibility for the products they've purchased and support a system where these materials can be used repeatedly.



Overall Action Status  
On Track

Status	Strategy	Update
Progress on Strategies		
	7 Increase residential diversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Partnered with Recycle BC for local collection of 18,499 tonnes of residential PPP through the Hartland Depot, the curbside single-family home recycling program and depot services for rural/island residents</li><li>New collection contractor began work for the 2024-2029 curbside single-family home recycling program</li><li>Began pilot of expanded Saturday hours at Hartland Landfill to increase accessibility in order to better support residential and commercial waste reduction and recycling</li><li>Received 4,780 tonnes of recyclable material and 67 tonnes of orphan household hazardous waste at the Hartland Depot</li><li>Continued to support the Southern Gulf Islands Recycling Coalition as they deliver waste reduction and diversion services for their communities</li></ul>
	8 Increase multi-family diversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continued the MFD Waste Diversion Project, by hiring 2 term outreach assistants to conduct site visits to offer advice, signage and resources on best practices and setup for the waste collection area; 40 buildings totalling 2,730 units across 7 municipalities participated</li><li>Installed 512 signs in MFDs and provided over 2,700 education materials for residents living in MFDs, including sorting guides, move-in and move-out guides, Hartland Depot sorting guide, and the kitchen scraps guide to promote proper waste disposal; resources available on the CRD website</li><li>Investigated options for soft and flexible plastic collection for MFDs and single-family homes</li><li>Bottle Depot and RecycleBC - Began a pilot project to offer collection of flexible plastics to MFDs</li></ul>
	9 Increase diversion from industrial, commercial and institutional facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hired a waste initiatives coordinator who will focus on increasing diversion from the ICI sector</li><li>Initiated the procurement process to hire an external consultant to develop of space, access and source-separation guidelines/toolkit for the ICI sector</li><li>Surveyed businesses as part of the Solid Waste Market Research and Engagement to gather baseline information on challenges and barriers encountered by the ICI sector</li></ul>
	10 Support existing and new extended producer responsibility programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continued to partner with 12 EPR stewards for local collection of 20,114 tonnes of provincially-regulated recyclables through the Hartland Depot, Gulf Islands and Port Renfrew Depot and the Curbside Blue Box Program</li><li>A CRD staff member is now chairing the Major Appliance Recycling Roundtable's Local Government Advisory Committee</li><li>Continued to engage in opportunities to refine the EPR system in BC by participating on the BC Product Stewardship Council, working with program stewards to support and enhance their services offered in the capital region</li></ul>
	11 Support existing and new extended producer responsibility programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provided consolidation, transfer and processing services for 13,463 tonnes of kitchen scraps collected by municipalities and private service providers at Hartland Landfill</li><li>Awarded contract for hauling and processing of kitchen scraps for 2025-2030 at Hartland Landfill</li><li>Provided transfer and processing services for 2,250 tonnes of yard and garden material received at Hartland Landfill</li><li>Began construction of the new Kitchen Scraps Transfer Station</li><li>Continued to support restoration activities by offering reduced tipping fees for safe disposal of source-separated invasive species material</li><li>Obtained an external legal opinion and reported to CRD Board on pathways to support mandatory separation of curbside collection and diversion of organics</li><li>Staff participated in Environment and Climate Change Canada consultation on single-family home organic waste management in Canada</li><li>Town of View Royal - extended a multi-year agreement with the Township of Esquimalt to drop off yard and garden waste at Esquimalt's depot</li><li>Town of View Royal - completed a Bear Safe Bin pilot program to encourage separation of organics from garbage bins</li></ul>





## Recycling

### Status

### Strategy

### Update

#### Progress on Strategies



#### 12 Increase construction, renovation and demolition material diversion

- In January 2024, clean wood was banned from general refuse; segregated clean wood is accepted at a reduced tipping fee of \$80/tonne and used for recycling or energy recovery;
- Increased fine rates for various offences (some up to \$500)
- In July 2024, treated wood and asphalt shingles were be banned from general refuse; segregated treated wood and asphalt shingles are accepted at a reduced tipping fee of \$110/tonne and used for recycling or energy recovery
- Diverted about 1,250 tonnes of clean wood, 5,800 tonnes treated wood and 2,500 tonnes asphalt shingles for recycling and energy recovery
- Received Board approval to delay the implementation of the \$300/tonne mixed C&D waste rate, banning carpet and underlay from general refuse and accepting salvageable wood for free
- Communication campaigns on new material diversion rules at Hartland, which include reno demo waste like wood (clean and treated) and asphalt shingles
- Hartland staff completed the Asbestos Foundational Awareness Course and the Surveying Safety Course, and an Emergency Response Plan was developed for the Port Renfrew Garbage and Recycling Depot
- Submitted updated operational/contingency plans for hazardous waste and stewardship programs for both Hartland and Port Renfrew Garbage and Recycling Depot to comply with new ENV regulations
- City of Victoria - In 2024, of 9 permits falling under the Demolition Waste and Deconstruction Bylaw, 7 were successful deconstructions and salvaged over 48 tonnes (total) of wood for reuse, in addition to one full structure move



#### 13 Encourage proper public space waste management activities

- Conducted an education campaign on illegal dumping/abandoned waste, highlighting how residents and college students can dispose of unwanted items according to the 5R Pollution Prevention Hierarchy
- Provided \$3,594 in funding for the Community Clean-up Program
- In 2024, staff worked with the Pacheedaht First Nation to decommission a temporary waste and recyclables transfer station that had been in place on the First Nation's lands while working with the Nation on a long-term approach to managing solid waste and recyclables as part of the broader Port Renfrew community.
- Responded to 8 inquiries regarding illegal dumping activity in Electoral Areas
- City of Victoria - installed 4 zero waste stations in 2024, making a total of 39 stations throughout city streets and parks



### Recovery and Residuals Management

Once material has been reduced, and technology has been applied to recover as much energy as possible, residuals management provides safe and effective ways to manage materials that don't have a next and best use.



**Overall Action Status**  
Opportunity for improvement

Status	Strategy	Update
Progress on Actions		
	14 Optimize landfill gas management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Calculated a decreased landfill gas collection efficiency down to 43% (ENV model) and 50% (UBCi model), compared to 64% (ENV) and 78% (UBCi) in 2023</li><li>• Lower landfill gas collection efficiency is due to a delay in the design, procurement and construction of the expanded well system; once the expanded system is complete in early 2025, the gas wells will be connected, leading to improved landfill gas collection efficiency</li><li>• During the commissioning of the new Biogas Upgrading Facility for RNG and the decommissioning of the gas to electricity facility, the old flare system continued to work until a new enclosed flare was installed in 2024 to support the gas destruction</li><li>• Continued to implement strategies to improve gas collection and mitigate fugitive emissions</li><li>• Continued annual installation of landfill gas collection infrastructure</li></ul>
	15 Enhance Hartland disposal capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Calculated a disposal rate of 338 kg/capita, a decrease of 11.6% or 44 kg/capita from 2023</li><li>• Received CRD Board approval to increase Hartland Landfill's general refuse tipping fee from \$150 to \$155/tonne, beginning January 1, 2025</li><li>• Received CRD Board approval to increase tipping fees controlled waste, and asbestos, from \$157/tonne to \$214/tonne, beginning January 2025.</li><li>• Commenced operation of a Material Diversion Transfer Station at Hartland Landfill, effectively diverting of approximately 9,500 tonnes wood (clean and treated) and asphalt shingles from being landfilled</li><li>• Conducted additional shredding trials, with specific material streams, in an effort to manage incoming volumes and further densify material and extend the life of the landfill</li><li>• Continued with onsite beneficial use opportunities, with 10,866 tonnes of select waste material streams processed and utilized onsite in place of virgin material, as per the ENV guidelines</li><li>• Achieved a landfill utilization factor of 0.68 t of refuse/m<sup>3</sup> of airspace</li><li>• Phase 2, Cell 4 construction was completed and prepared to receive garbage in January 2025; Cell 5 construction began in December 2024 and will be completed in 2025</li><li>• Landfilled 4,352 tonnes of blended biosolids at Hartland as general refuse as the Long-Term Biosolids Planning solutions were developed in 2024</li><li>• CRD Board approved the Long-Term Biosolids Management Strategy, defining priorities and options, including advanced thermal demonstration plant, developing additional combustion and non-agricultural, out-of-region, land application</li><li>• Received 22,671 tonnes of controlled waste and 2,314 tonnes of asbestos-containing material</li><li>• Issued 476 tickets and 84 warnings, related to several offences, including recyclable materials being found commingled in the garbage; failure to follow site Regulations, and deposition of hazardous materials, etc.</li><li>• Developed and issued a detailed Request for Proposals for an advanced thermal demonstration plant at Hartland Landfill, which included biosolids, and any other components of the waste stream as feedstock</li></ul>



**Capital Regional District**

625 Fisgard Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 2S6  
250.360.3000

[www.crd.ca](http://www.crd.ca)  
Facebook: Capital Regional District



The background image shows a community cleanup activity. Several people are visible, some wearing gloves, sorting through various types of waste. The waste is being placed into white bins that are labeled with categories such as 'CIGARETTE BUTTS', 'STYROFOAM', 'PLASTIC', 'SOFT PLASTIC', and 'PAPER/CARDBOARD'. The scene is outdoors, and the overall tone is one of environmental stewardship.

# 2024 Solid Waste Management Plan Progress Report

Environmental Services Committee

April 16, 2025

# Agenda

1. Solid Waste Management Plan
2. Progress Summary
3. Looking Ahead
4. Report Card





# Solid Waste Management Plan



In BC, regional districts develop SWMPs under the provincial *Environmental Management Act* that are high-level, long-term visions of how the regional district would like to manage its solid waste, in accordance with the 5R Pollution Prevention Hierarchy.



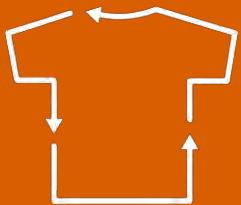
# Solid Waste Management Plan



Goals			
To surpass the provincial per capita waste disposal target	To extend the life of Hartland Landfill to the year 2100 and beyond	To have informed citizens that participate effectively in proper waste management practices	To ensure that the CRD's solid waste services are financially sustainable

Focus Areas		
Reduce and Reuse <i>Strategies 1-6</i>	Recycling <i>Strategies 7-13</i>	Recovery and Residuals Management <i>Strategies 14-15</i>





## Reduce and Reuse

Governments, residents, non-profits, and businesses all have an important role to play in reducing and diverting waste from the landfill. Reducing the amount of waste created, and finding ways to repurpose and reuse waste, eliminates the need to dispose of items later.



**Overall Action Status**  
On Track



## Progress Summary

- The 2024 Solid Waste Market Research and Engagement Study reported 74% of residents show positive attitudes across five waste management behaviours
- The Rethink Waste Community Grant funded 24 projects (\$70,300)
- Connected with over 4,631 residents through education and outreach programs



# Recycling

By participating in recycling programs, residents and businesses take responsibility for the products they have purchased and support a system where these materials can be used repeatedly.



**Overall Action Status**  
On Track

## Progress Summary

- General refuse material bans at Hartland Landfill on wood (clean and treated) and asphalt shingles resulted in 9,600 tonnes of material being diverted for recycling or energy recovery.
- New contractor began service for the CRD blue box program.
- Started the Waste Stream Collector Incentive Program to promote multi-stream collection services.







# Recovery and Residuals Management

Once material has been reduced, and technology has been applied to recover as much energy as possible, residuals management provides a safe and effective way to manage materials that don't have a next and best use.



**Overall Action Status**  
Opportunity for  
Improvement



## Progress Summary

- 2024 disposal rate was 338 kg/capita\*, a decrease of 11.6% or 44 kg/capita from 2023
- Built the Material Diversion Transfer Station at Hartland Landfill
- 5-year average (2020-2024) Airspace Utilization Factor (AUF) was 0.68 tonnes of material per cubic metre of airspace, missing the target of 0.76 tonnes of material per cubic metre by 11.76%

\*This number excludes blended biosolids



# Report Card



## 2024 Overall SWMP Progress On track

The SWMP identifies specific actions to guide the CRD's efforts over the lifespan of the plan. These include 15 strategies with 72 sub-actions and associated timelines divided into three focus areas.

## Focus Areas



**Reduce and Reuse**



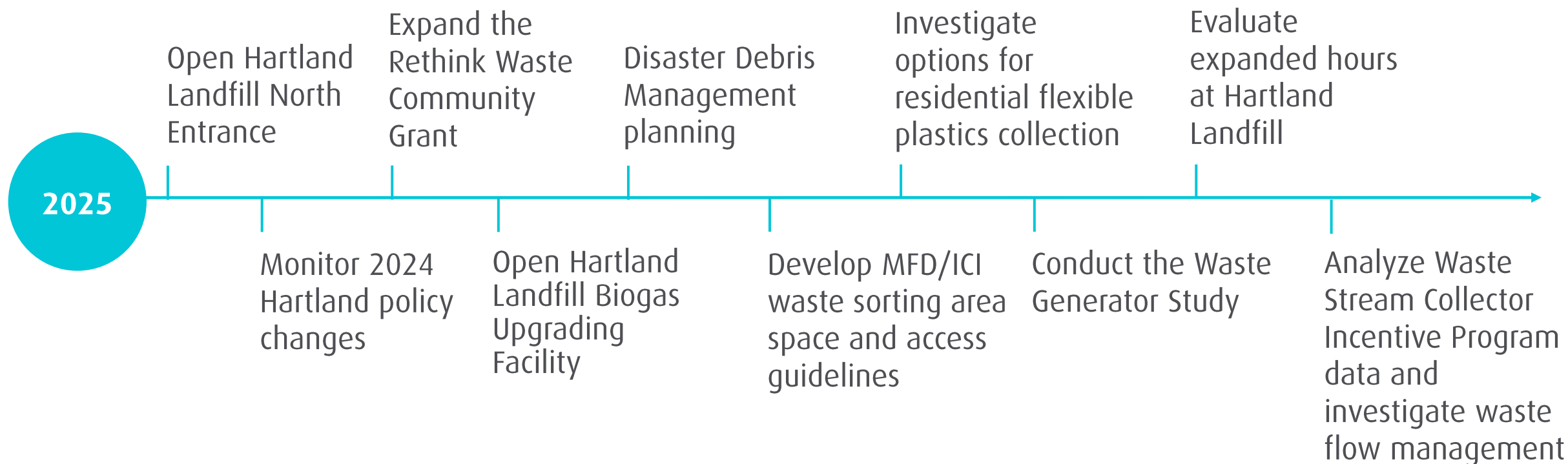
**Recycling**



**Recovery and Residuals  
Management**



# Looking Ahead - 2025





# Thank you

rsmith@crd.bc.ca | 250.360.3080



Capital Regional District



CRDVictoria



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**REPORT TO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025**

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**SUBJECT**     **Climate Action Strategy – 2024 Progress Report**

**ISSUE SUMMARY**

To present the Capital Regional District's (CRD) 2024 Climate Action Progress Report, which identifies progress towards the CRD's Climate Action Strategy.

**BACKGROUND**

The CRD has a long-standing commitment to climate action and continues to prioritize efforts to address climate change both within its own operations and across the region. Since signing the BC Climate Action Charter in 2007, the CRD has taken significant steps, including:

- Establishing a regional climate action service in 2009
- Integrating climate action targets and goals into the Regional Growth Strategy in 2018
- Declaring a climate emergency in 2019

In 2021, the Board approved an updated CRD Climate Action Strategy and a five-year action plan. This Strategy outlines how the CRD, within its service mandates, will demonstrate leadership on climate action. The CRD is committed to reporting on progress annually.

**Methodology**

The 2024 Climate Action Progress Report summarizes corporate and community-focused climate actions undertaken in 2024 by CRD services. Appendix A includes a report card that compiles self-reported progress metrics from divisions responsible for implementing each action. Using these metrics, staff assigned a 'status' to each level of the Strategy. Statuses are determined as follows:

- **On Track:** 75%-100% of the yearly target for the action were progressed as envisioned.
- **Opportunity for Improvement:** 50%-75% of the yearly target for the action(s) were progressed as envisioned.
- **Attention Required:** <50% of the yearly target for the action(s) were progressed as envisioned.

This systematic evaluation helps identify where additional focus or effort is needed to advance targeted actions, achieve intended outcomes and meet climate action goals.

**Results**

The overall status for the 2024 year was calculated as 'on track'. The averaged status for all corporate actions and all community-focused actions were each calculated as 'on track'. Goal area statuses are listed as follows:

- **On Track:**
  - Goal 1: Climate-Focused Decision Making
  - Goal 2: Sustainable Land Use, Planning and Preparedness
  - Goal 3: Low-Carbon Mobility
  - Goal 6: Minimized Waste
- **Opportunities for Improvement:**
  - Goal 4: Low-Carbon and Resilient Buildings and Infrastructure
  - Goal 5: Resilient and Abundant Nature, Ecosystems and Food Systems

Both goal 4 and goal 5 have faced challenges primarily due to funding delays, impacting progress toward their respective targets.

#### Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The CRD completes an annual corporate emissions inventory. Emissions associated with Hartland Landfill and the Capital Region Housing Corporation are not included, as they are excluded from the provincial reporting framework. The results of the 2024 corporate inventory indicate:

- CRD operations generated 2,865 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions, a 3.1% decrease from 2023 and a 4.7% decrease from the baseline level of emissions from 2007.
- Emissions from buildings, facilities and infrastructure increased by 1.1% to 1,711 tonnes.
- Emissions from vehicle travel decreased by 8.7% to 1,154 tonnes.

As the Climate Action Service reported to the Environmental Services Committee on September 25, 2024 ([Update on Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions Targets](#)), significant corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions are expected from 2026 onwards. Planned initiatives that are scheduled for implementation between now and 2030 indicate that the CRD is on track to meet or exceed corporate GHG emissions reduction targets by 2030, assuming new buildings are not added to the portfolio. This includes continued light-duty vehicle electrification, heat recovery projects at multiple recreation centers and more.

#### Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The CRD completes regional and local government GHG inventories every two years, following the internationally recognized Global Protocol Community-Scale GHG Inventories BASIC+ Framework. The Climate Action Service is scheduled to complete a new regional emissions inventory by fall 2025 for inclusion in the renewed Climate Action Strategy. The inventory completed for the 2022 year and presented to the Board in October 2023, indicated:

- The capital region emits approximately 1.86 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e annually.
- This represents a 7% reduction from 2007 levels and a decline in per capita GHG emissions (t CO<sub>2</sub>e/capita) of 25%.
- Emissions increased by 1% compared to the 2020 inventory.

#### Climate Change Impacts

Regardless of GHG emission reductions today, the capital region will continue to experience the



impacts of climate change both now and in the future. Many CRD services already incorporate climate adaptation as a significant part of their work, helping to build resilience across the region. The CRD and regional partners must continue to reduce vulnerabilities in our communities by enhancing our ability to anticipate, respond to, and recover from both extreme weather events and the more gradual shifts brought on by climate change.

### **CRD Climate Action & Adaptation Service**

Under Bylaw No. 3510, the CRD established a Climate Action service in 2009 with a regional collaboration mandate to directly support the organization and local governments in reaching mitigation and adaptation targets, policies and actions. The service hosts two inter-municipal networks and closely works with local government staff, senior governments, utilities and other stakeholders to identify other climate action opportunities and advance initiatives in collaboration. These initiatives are embedded in the Climate Action Strategy.

The service's core budget comes from an annual requisition across all regional municipalities and electoral areas, with additional funding from corporate services and external grants. In 2024, the service:

- Operated on a ~\$1.9M annual budget, supporting five, full-time employees and one four-year, full-time term position.
- Secured an additional ~\$3.2M in external grant funding for projects completed in 2024 or currently in progress.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Capital Regional District's (CRD) Climate Action Strategy guides its leadership on climate action within its service mandates, covering both corporate operations and community-focused services. The 2024 Climate Action Progress Report details actions taken to advance the Strategy, Board priorities, and other commitments. In 2024, the CRD made progress on multiple initiatives and identified areas needing increased focus. The overall status was 'on track' (75-100% of yearly targets met). The CRD remains committed to accelerating key actions, reducing corporate emissions, preparing for climate impacts, and collaborating with partners to achieve regional goals.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Submitted by:	Nikki Elliott, MPA, Manager, Climate Action Programs
Concurrence:	Rory Tooke, PhD, Senior Manager, Environmental Innovation
Concurrence:	Luisa Jones, MBA, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

### **ATTACHMENT**

Appendix A: 2024 Climate Action Progress Report

# 2024 Climate Action Progress Report

Taking Action on the Climate Emergency



## TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The CRD conducts its business within the Territories of many First Nations, including but not limited to BOKÉĆEN (Pauquachin), MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat), paaʔčiidʔatx (Pacheedaht), Spune'luxutth (Penelekut), Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay), Songhees, SṪÁUTW (Tsawout), T'Sou-ke, WJOŁEŁP (Tsartlip), WSIKEM (Tseycum), and xʷsepsum (Esquimalt) Nations, all of whom have a long-standing relationship with the land and waters from time immemorial that continues to this day.



### Cover photos:

Front: Dallas Road Bikeway

Back: Sooke Hills Wilderness Trail

# Organizational Overview

The Capital Regional District (CRD) delivers regional, sub-regional and local services to 13 municipalities and three electoral areas on southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Governed by a 24-member Board of Directors, the CRD works collaboratively with First Nations and all levels of government to enable sustainable growth, foster community well-being, and develop cost-effective infrastructure, while continuing to provide core services to residents throughout the region.

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# Overview

In 2021, the CRD renewed its Climate Action Strategy and committed to annually report on all climate action-related activities undertaken by the organization. This report summarizes all 2024 activities and other annual indicators identified in the CRD's Climate Action Strategy.

## Regulations and Commitments

The CRD is required to take action to reduce corporate and community-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and prepare for the impacts of climate change under the following provincial regulations and commitments:

- **Local Government (Green Communities) Statutes Amendment Act** requires regional districts and local governments to include targets, policies and actions for the reduction of GHG emissions in Regional Growth Strategies and Official Community Plans. The Act also provides powers to local governments to support mitigation and adaptation through development permit areas, development cost charges and parking and building code requirements.
- **Landfill Gas Management Regulation** establishes province-wide criteria for landfill gas capture from municipal solid waste landfills. The regulation focuses on GHG emissions from landfills, with the objective of maximizing reductions of landfill gas emissions and identifying potential opportunities to increase landfill gas recovery. As manager of the Hartland Landfill, the CRD is responsible for adhering to this regulation.
- **Emergency and Disaster Management Act** was established in 2023, replacing the Emergency Program Act, with accompanying regulations still forthcoming. This new legislation aligns with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which includes a priority to better understand disaster risk. Regulations, which will stipulate specific requirements for local authorities, are forthcoming.
- **All local governments in the region, including the CRD, are signatories of the BC Climate Action Charter.** This includes a commitment to:
  - become carbon neutral in corporate operations.
  - measure and report on the community's GHG emissions profile.
  - work to create compact, complete and more energy-efficient communities.

## CRD Climate Action & Adaptation Service

Under Bylaw No. 3510, the CRD established a climate action service in 2009 to act as a resource and facilitator for the CRD, local governments, citizens and organizations in the capital region on energy and climate issues. The service hosts two inter-municipal networks and works closely with local government staff, senior governments, utilities and other stakeholders to identify and advance climate action initiatives in collaboration. The Climate Action Service has five main focus areas:

- Provide support to local governments in developing and implementing climate action plans, programs and policies.
- Catalyze action through partnerships with public and private sectors, non-governmental organizations and community organizations and increase public awareness of climate change issues.
- Liaise with senior levels of government on climate change-related programs, policies and legislation that impact the capital region.
- Provide scientific information, data and indicators related to local and regional GHG emissions and projected climate impacts.
- Support the CRD in fulfilling its corporate climate objectives and support execution of climate-related Board priorities.

In 2024, the Climate Action service operated on a core budget of approximately \$1.8 million, which included five full-time employees, one four-year, full-time term position and one auxiliary position. The program's core budget is provided through an annual requisition from all the region's municipalities and electoral areas (approximately \$1.6 million), with supplemental funding from corporate services (approximately \$200,000). The service successfully secured significant external grant funding to support Climate Action and other CRD services in implementing key climate and energy initiatives. This includes approximately \$3.2 million in confirmed funding for projects completed in 2024 or are currently underway.



*Ogden Point Breakwater*

# Climate Action Strategy

Climate action is a long-standing CRD Board priority. Since 2009, the CRD has been committed to taking action to address climate change within its own operations, and at the regional level, to reduce emissions and prepare for climate impacts. This commitment was underlined by the Board's declaration of a climate emergency in early 2019. In answer to this declaration, the CRD developed an updated five-year Climate Action Strategy in 2021.

The Climate Action Strategy provides direction for how the CRD, under its service mandates, will show leadership on climate action, both for the CRD's corporate operations and for its community-focused services. The strategy coordinates with other CRD plans and strategies and supports the overarching Regional Growth Strategy (RGS).



*CRD Building in Centennial Square*



## Climate Action Vision

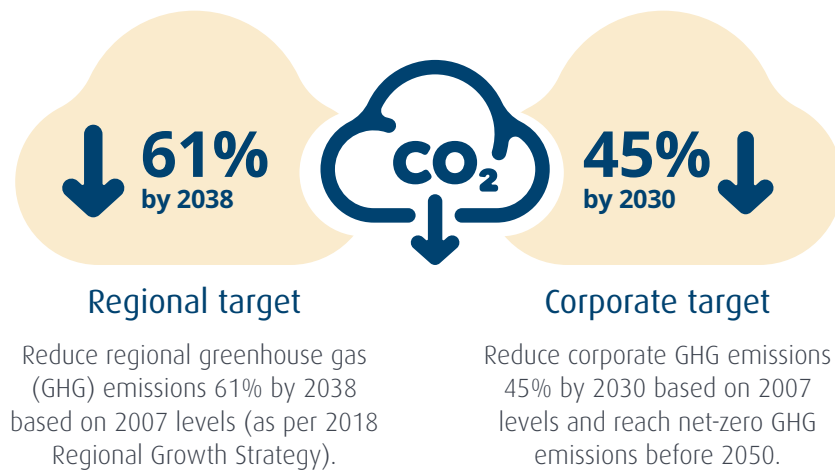
Through collective action, we eliminate emissions and foster healthy and resilient communities and natural areas now and in the future.

This vision recognizes that the CRD must act in concert with many partners to address the climate emergency, ensuring the region is minimizing its contribution to climate change while also preparing for the changes that have already begun. In this context, “we” is inclusive of all governments, First Nations, residents, businesses, institutions, organizations and residents.

**In 2025, the CRD will renew this strategy to reflect current opportunities and priorities.**

### Targets and Goals

The CRD’s Climate Action Strategy outlines a pathway toward net-zero emissions by mid-century, in line with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change modelled pathways to limit warming to a 1.5°C change this century. It also determined six goal areas where the CRD will focus its efforts.



### Climate Action Strategy Goals



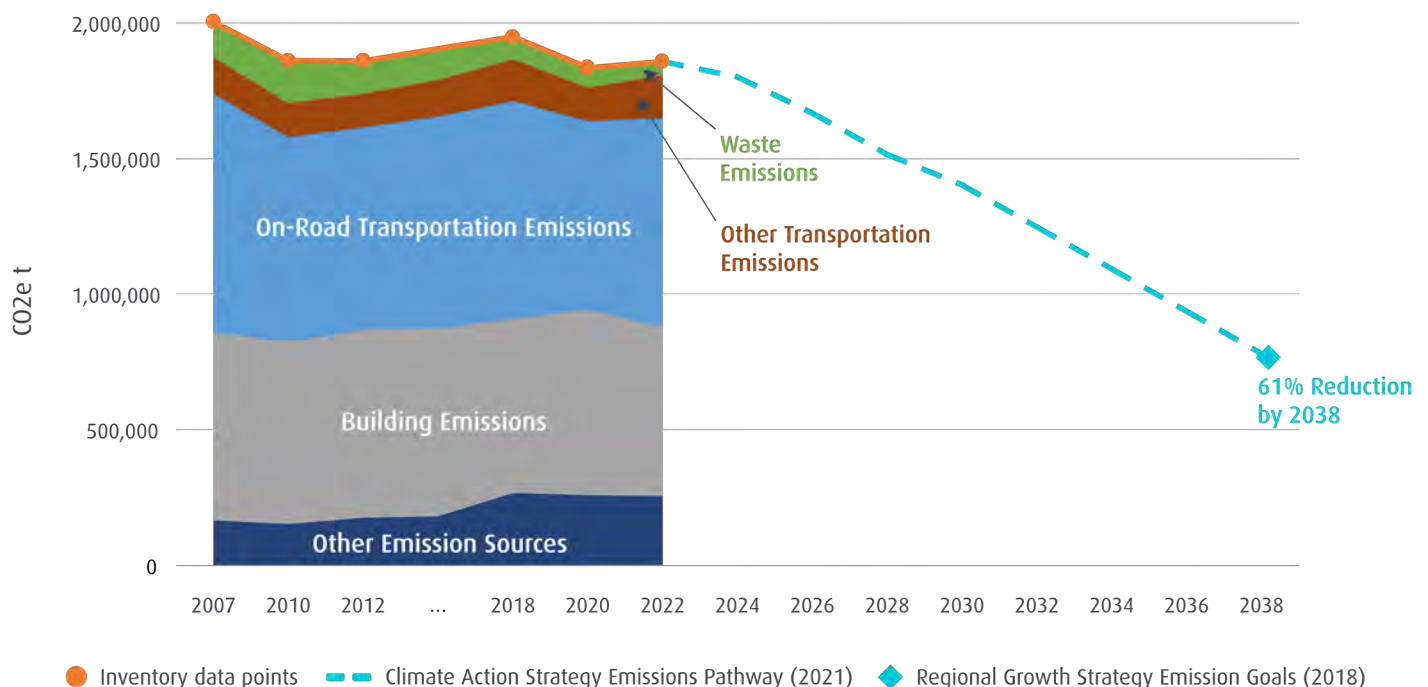
# Tracking Our Emissions

## Community Emissions

The CRD undertakes GHG accounting bi-annually to better understand the sources and trends of emissions within the capital region. The latest emissions inventory was completed for the 2022 calendar year, building on the 2018 and 2020 inventories. This followed the internationally recognized Global Protocol Community-Scale GHG Inventories BASIC+ Framework and included GHG emissions from stationary energy (e.g., buildings), transportation (e.g., commuter vehicles), waste (e.g., landfills), industrial processes and product use (IPPU) (e.g., chemical industry), and agriculture, forestry and other land use (e.g., fertilizer application).

The territorial 2022 inventory indicated the capital region emits approximately 1.86 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e annually. This represents a 7% reduction from 2007 levels and a decline in per capita GHG emissions (t CO<sub>2</sub>e/capita) of 25%. Emissions increased by 1% compared to the 2020 inventory. This slight increase was expected and largely due to increased transportation-related emissions associated with COVID-19 pandemic recovery and the return to in-person activities. On-road transportation and the built environment remain the main sources of regional emissions, together accounting for approximately 75% of all emissions in 2022.

## Capital Region Emissions (2007 to 2022) and 2038 RGS Emissions Goal



To achieve the CRD's regional GHG emission reduction target of 61% reduction by 2038, the region, and all key players, including senior levels of government, local governments, residents, businesses, industry and organizations, must continue to advance key initiatives, including:

- increase uptake of transit, walking, cycling and other modes of active transportation.
- accelerate adoption of zero-emissions vehicles.
- retrofit existing buildings, improving energy efficiency and converting fossil fuel heating systems to electric.
- transition to construction of net-zero energy-ready new buildings.

## Corporate Emissions

In 2024, CRD operations generated 2,865 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e, with 1,154 tonnes associated with vehicle and equipment use and 1,711 tonnes coming from facilities and infrastructure. Emissions associated with Hartland Landfill, Capital Region Housing Corporation and Capital Regional Hospital District are not included in this total, as they are excluded from the provincial reporting framework. This represents a 3.0% decrease from 2023 and a 4.7% decrease from the baseline level of emissions from 2007.

Emissions from fleet use decreased by 8.7% in 2024 compared to 2023. This is a result of the increased use and additional procurement of several electrical vehicles and the use of e-bikes in CRD operations.

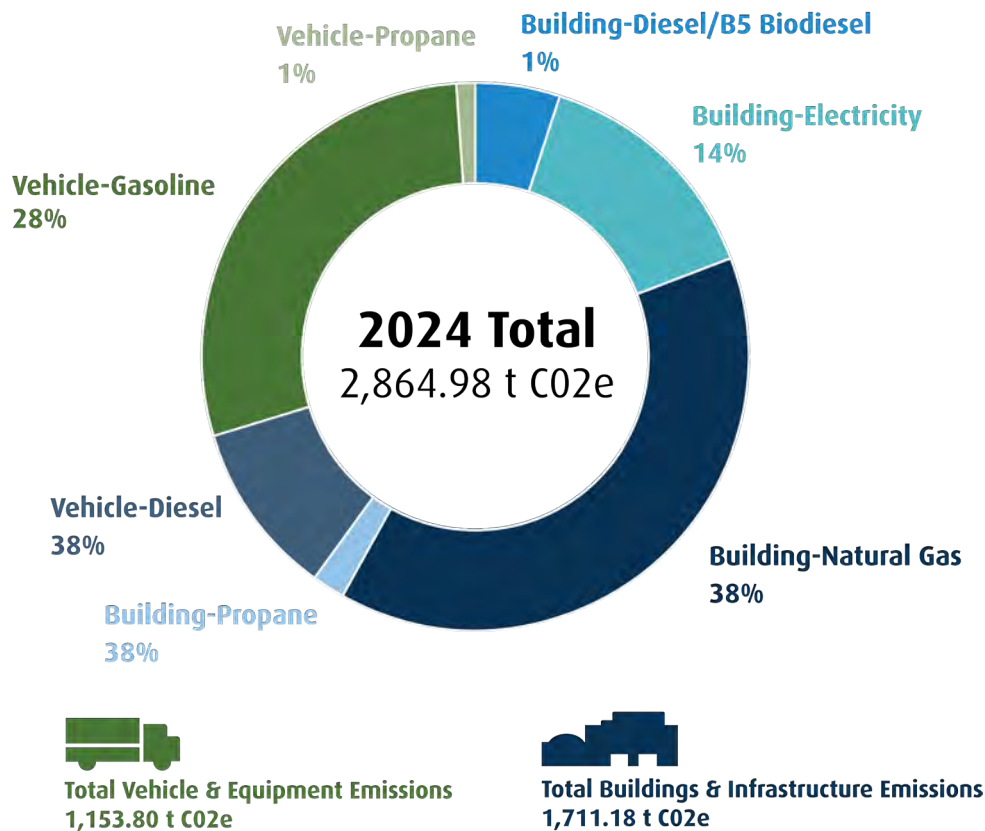
Overall emissions from facilities increased by 1.1% in 2024 compared to 2023. This increase was across numerous facilities, particularly the recreation centres. An increase in fuel for back-up generators for power outages was also observed.



*Capital Regional District Fisgard entrance.*



## Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions in 2024



Expanding infrastructure, increased facility operations and a larger service fleet are necessary to meet the needs of a growing population but have added pressure to CRD's corporate greenhouse gas reduction targets over the years. As such, improvements in energy efficiency, innovative operational strategies, and electrification will continue to be prioritized to achieve climate goals.

## Increasing Service Levels Since 2020

- 
 • Added 237 new employees, a 23% increase\*
- 
 • Added three major facilities†, resulting in an additional 17% in facility emissions in 2023
- 
 • Fleet size grew by 27% and fleet use increased by 17% (365,000 km)

\* 2019 used as baseline year due to impact of COVID-19 on 2020 staffing levels

† McLoughlin Point Wastewater Treatment Plant, Salt Spring Island Multi-Space (SIMS) and McCallum Pump Station

Figure 1: Statistics indicating increasing CRD service levels and greenhouse gas reduction progress.

In fall 2024, staff presented to the Board an updated corporate emissions reduction pathway based on “planned actions” that are scheduled for implementation and meet corporate GHG targets. This scenario has not yet incorporated the EV Fleet Ready Plan scheduled for completion in early 2025. The CRD will prioritize actions addressing the largest GHG emitters in the CRD portfolio and scheduled equipment replacements. To achieve this goal, the CRD will continue to focus on accelerating the following critical actions in upcoming years:

- Light-duty vehicle electrification
- Heat Recovery projects at Panorama Recreation Centre and SEAPARC Leisure Complex
- Electrical efficiency projects at multiple sites
- Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant connection to the district energy shared system
- CRD Fisgard HQ decarbonization

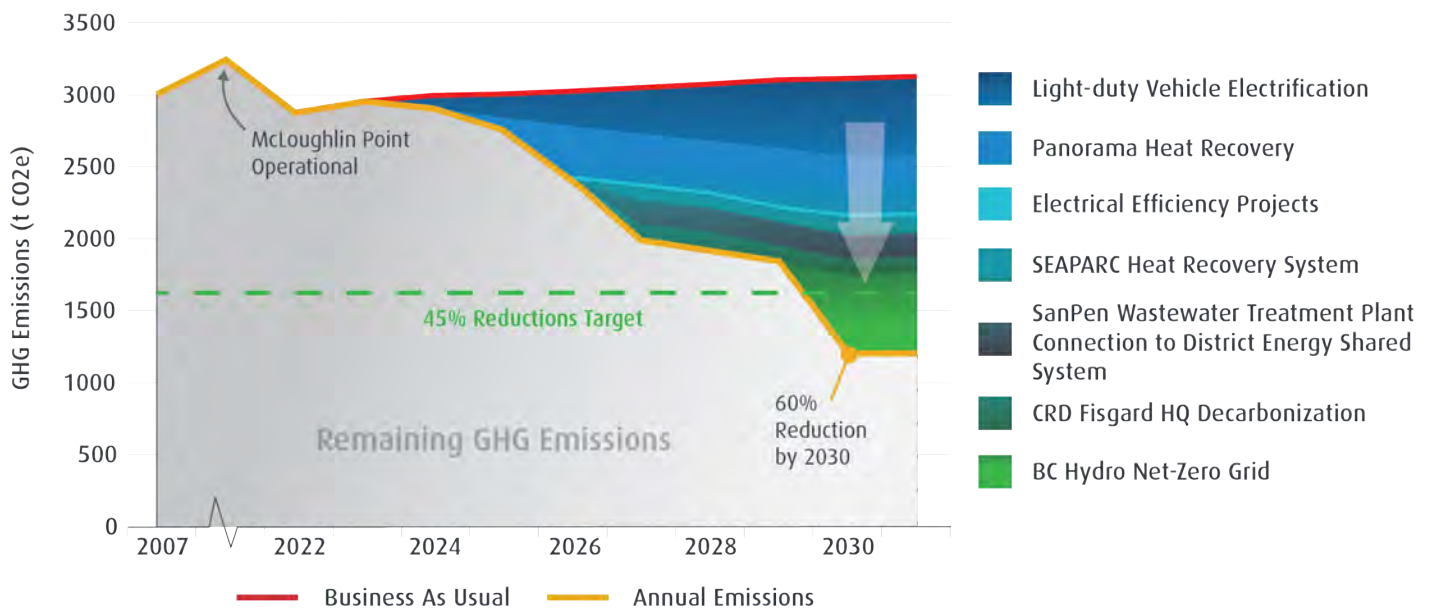


Figure 2: CRD corporate GHG emission reduction pathway based on planned actions by 2030.

# Adapting to Climate Impacts

The global average temperature has increased by over 1°C in the past 150 years and the impacts on weather patterns are already being felt. Climate change is already impacting the capital region, and its effects will intensify in the coming decades. Given the region's geographic diversity, climate change will impact different areas in distinct ways, influencing health, infrastructure, water supply, agriculture, ecosystems and species.

As a result of climate change, modelling indicates that the region will continue to experience:

- Hotter summer temperatures, with more extreme heat days and heatwaves.
- Warmer winter temperatures and less frequent frost, with less snowfall in the colder months.
- Less rain and more dry days in the summer months.
- More precipitation falling in fall, winter and spring, with longer lasting and more frequent extreme rainfall events.
- Increased likelihood of variability of climate within and between years.
- Sea level rise.

Climate adaptation is closely tied to disaster risk reduction, requiring both immediate responses to current extreme weather events and long-term planning to address future warming expected in the mid to late century.

The CRD plays a key leadership role in coordinating adaptation efforts by leveraging data, managing critical infrastructure and services, and supporting municipalities, electoral areas and regional interest holders. The CRD provides essential services that support climate resilience, including maintaining drinking water and wastewater systems, regional planning, regional parks, harbors, watersheds, invasive species programs, and emergency management coordination. To strengthen climate resilience, the CRD is integrating adaptation measures across its operations, as outlined in its Climate Action Strategy and other strategic plans.

Climate adaptation at the CRD must remain flexible and responsive to ongoing legislative changes—such as updates to British Columbia's Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA)—as well as evolving science, increasing regional impacts, and new funding and partnership opportunities.





*CRD Headquarters green second floor courtyard.*

While many adaptation measures are already embedded in CRD operations, there are opportunities to strengthen these efforts in the coming years. The CRD will continue to advance key climate adaptation initiatives to better respond to and prepare for a changing climate:

- Strengthen inclusion of climate adaptation considerations in governance, strategic and service planning.
- Complete infrastructure upgrades to address climate hazards.
- Lead and support the development of quality data, mapping, and monitoring products for the region.
- Undertake and update climate risk assessments, as required.
- Support coordination through inter-municipal and inter-agency working groups.
- Integration of new EDMA regulations into CRD emergency response plans and planning documents.

## Progress on the CRD's Five-Year Action Plan

The CRD's Climate Action Strategy established six key goal areas, 56 actions and 127 sub-actions that will be undertaken by several different services across the organization between 2021 and 2025. The strategy also outlined several indicators to help measure success and to track important trends.

The following sections are intended to provide a high-level, easy-to-understand overview of the CRD's performance and progress related to climate action, and to summarize progress made in the 2024 year for each goal area.

**More information, including details on the scoring methodology and actions within each goal area, is contained in Appendix A: Climate Action Report Card.**



## 2024 Overall Action Plan Progress

### On Track

The Climate Action Strategy identifies 127 actions with specific timelines across the organization. Scores are based on the current status of each action within their goal areas.



### Corporate Actions

Opportunity for Improvement



### Community-Focused Actions

On Track

### Goal Area



**Goal 1:** Climate-Focused Decision Making



**Goal 2:** Sustainable Land Use, Planning and Preparedness



**Goal 3:** Low-Carbon Mobility



**Goal 4:** Low-Carbon and Resilient Buildings and Infrastructure



**Goal 5:** Resilient and Abundant Nature, Ecosystems and Food Systems



**Goal 6:** Minimized Waste

### Legend: Action Status



**On Track:** 75% or greater of yearly target progress



**Opportunity for Improvement:** 50% - 75% of yearly target progress



**Attention Required:** less than 50% of yearly target progress



**Future Action**

### Legend: Indicators\*



Direction of arrow indicates **current trend direction**



Indicator is trending in the **desired direction**



Indicator is trending in the **wrong direction**



Indicator is intended to provide **contextual information**

\*While indicators are not considered in the calculation of the action status, they provide context and track long-term progress.



## Climate-Focused Decision Making

**Goal 1: Climate action priorities are integrated at all levels of decision making across the organization.**



**Overall Action Status**  
On Track

To provide its wide range of services, the CRD maintains and operates vehicles, equipment, buildings, facilities, infrastructure, landfills, trails and parks. Decisions made in each service area can have implications for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions generated or sequestered by CRD assets over time, as well as how prepared these assets are for the changing climate. The CRD has also identified the need to improve the organizational understanding of Indigenous knowledge, laws and perspectives in relation to climate solutions.



The majority of sub-actions in this goal area are well progressed, resulting in an overall action status of *on track*.

### Goal Progress Summary

- Developed an evaluation framework to assess climate action impacts in corporate strategic planning, service planning and annual reporting, reviewing over 120 initiatives to date.
- Embedded climate considerations into capital planning, with ongoing work to refine next steps.
- Piloted carbon price policy in key projects like the Hartland Renewable Natural Gas project and incorporated it into all energy audits conducted in 2024.
- Delivered multiple staff training opportunities, including Climate 101 (general primer) and Climate 201 (embedding a climate lens in work). Maintained a Climate Action SharePoint hub for capacity building.

### CRD Roles

Operational decision making

This goal contains

**15**  
sub actions



CRD Fisgard Boardroom



- Conducted annual corporate GHG reporting.
- Collaborated with First Nations on shoreline restoration projects to protect ecological and cultural values, while integrating Indigenous knowledge and governance structures into regional park management.

## Indicators



### Annual CRD Corporate GHG emissions

- 2,865 t CO<sub>2</sub>e (3.1% decrease compared to 2023)



CRD staff e-bike training session in Centennial Square



## Sustainable Land Use, Planning and Preparedness

**Goal 2: Support the region on its pathway to livable, affordable and low carbon communities that are prepared for climate change.**



**Overall Action Status**  
On Track

How land use is managed has a strong influence on regional emissions, by affecting how far residents must travel to daily amenities, school and work, and what mode of travel is used, as well as affecting how much land can be protected as carbon sinks. The 2018 Regional Growth Strategy sets a regional vision and high-level policies for growth management. The key provision is to contain 95% of growth in designated areas and to concentrate growth in a way that is connected. In addition to land use, planning and preparedness efforts across the region are important to increase the resilience of the region by increasing our ability to cope with hazardous or emergency events and other impacts that result from a changing climate.



The majority of sub-actions in this goal area are well progressed, resulting in an overall action status of *on track*.

### Goal Progress Summary

- Advanced the public-facing emergency dashboard and expanded the Public Alert Notification System (PANS) for real-time weather and public safety updates.
- Launched the Capital Region Extreme Heat Information Portal and shared findings with local partners, interest holders and First Nations. Hosted and presented at multiple workshops to improve understanding of heat vulnerability.
- Completed updated regional downscaled climate projections and provided capacity-building workshops for municipal staff.
- Initiated analysis of projects and policies to close the emissions reduction gap before 2038.

### CRD Roles

Regional planning  
Juan de Fuca land use planning  
Emergency management in electoral areas  
Inter-municipal coordination  
Data management

**This goal contains**

**24**  
sub actions



*Capital Region Extreme Heat Information Portal*



- Successfully applied for a grant for a coordinated regional climate adaptation capacity-building project, set for completion in 2025-2026.
- Continued discussions on regional mobility hub feasibility and initiated the Growth and Mobility Study to inform a potential Regional Growth Strategy update in 2026.
- Continued work on the FireSmart program.
- Advanced annual drought and wildfire response planning and improved coordination of extreme heat, flood and drought awareness among emergency management stakeholders.
- Continued to facilitate and administer several inter-municipal networks that serve to coordinate regional climate action, set priorities and disseminate resources, including the Climate Action Task Force and Climate Action Working Group, Development Planning Advisory Commission, Transportation Working Group, Local Government Emergency Program Advisory Committee, the Regional Emergency Management Partnership and the Healthy and Safe Environments Community Health Network.

## Indicators



### Regional GHG emissions

- 1.86 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2022 (1% increase compared to 2020)



### Number of net new dwelling units in areas where more than 43% walk/bike/bus to work\*

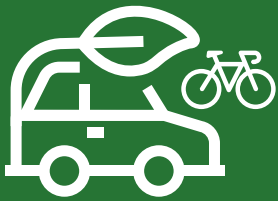
- Currently, the region is not meeting the desired trend

\* Progress on this indicator is reported in the Regional Growth Strategy Indicator Report.



Old Man Lake Wildfire





## Low-Carbon Mobility

**Goal 3: Rapidly reduce corporate fleet emissions. Support, endorse and encourage active, public and zero emission transportation options across the region.**



**Overall Action Status**  
On Track

On-road transportation is the region's largest source of GHG emissions. Not only do vehicles release significant emissions, but they also lead to increased traffic congestion in peak periods. Shifting from a vehicle focus to a low-carbon mobility focus means improving the options to get more people walking, biking and taking transit. For trips that use a vehicle, rapidly switching to electric vehicles (EVs) will require building out charging infrastructure throughout the region, making sure chargers are accessible to those who live in all types of homes and at key locations across the region. The CRD owns and operates a fleet of approximately 300 vehicles to provide its many services across the region and must reduce its GHG emissions by transition to EVs and utilizing low emission fuels.



The majority of sub-actions in this goal area are well progressed, resulting in an overall action status of *on track*.

### Goal Progress Summary

- Updated the corporate Green Fleet Policy to strengthen and accelerate vehicle electrification efforts for CRD corporate fleet.
- Accessed BC Hydro grant funding to initiate phase 2 of EV Ready Fleet Planning to advance understanding of fleet electrification charging needs for over 10 CRD work sites.
- Secured grant funding from the federal and provincial Investing in Canadian Infrastructure Program and Clean BC Communities Fund and installed 11 public electric vehicle chargers at 8 municipal sites and facilitated grant funding for 136 additional public chargers on behalf of the City of Victoria; advanced planning and procurement for remaining sites.
- Completed installation of 2 publicly available EV chargers at Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park – Beaver Beach.

### CRD Roles

CRD fleet

CRD infrastructure  
(Regional trail system and EV charging)

Regional planning

Electoral area transportation

Data management

Community programs

This goal contains

**31**  
sub actions



Ford Lightning charging at Integrated Water Services.

- Collaborated with BC Hydro and municipal partners as per a Memorandum of Understanding to advance key priorities related to EV charging infrastructure and policies across the region, resulting in the identification of over a dozen potential public fast-charging sites, detailed design for multiple locations with planned construction in 2025, and one site fully installed in 2024.
- Continued Ready Step Roll - Sustainable School Commute Planning program with three schools in the 2023/24 cohort and five schools in the 2024/25 cohort, working along side their respective local governments and other partners. Hosted 11 Let's Get Visible events in 2024 on the regional trails to promote road and trail safety.
- Continued to participate in various technical and working groups to support transit access and infrastructure.
- Progressed efforts toward establishing a Regional Transportation Service and held a Transportation Governance Workshop with elected officials and staff across the region and consulted municipalities and electoral areas on its establishment.
- Advanced planning for the Regional Trails Widening and Lighting Project.
- Continued to implement the Gulf Islands Trails Plan, with phase 1 of the first regional trail in the Gulf Islands (Mayne Island Regional Trail) complete.

## Indicators



### Regional EV Infrastructure Roadmap implementation

- Level 2 ports: 81% (627 installed)
- DCFC ports: 42% (56 installed)



### Regional GHG emissions from transportation

- 930,656 t CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2022 (14% increase compared to 2020) *(No new data for 2024, updated regional inventory scheduled for 2025)*



### Annual EV ICBC registrations (region fleet size)

- 13,558 total EV and PHEV vehicle registrations, 4.6% of total registrations (0.9% increase compared to 2023)



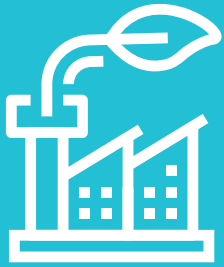
### Annual CRD corporate fleet GHG emissions

- 1,154 t CO<sub>2</sub>e (8.7% decrease compared to 2023)



### Number of corporate EVs purchased\*

- 8 EVs purchased (53 total in fleet)



## Low-Carbon and Resilient Buildings Infrastructure

**Goal 4: Accelerate energy efficiency, emission reductions and enhanced resilience in CRD buildings and infrastructure. Support and encourage the same for all buildings and infrastructure across the region.**



### Overall Action Status

Opportunity for Improvement

A large portion of regional GHGs come from energy used in buildings across the capital region, almost all of which is from fossil fuels for space heating and hot water. Shifting from relying on fossil fuels for space heating and hot water and improving the energy efficiency of our buildings are key to achieving GHG reduction targets and can support resiliency measures. As the climate changes, it is increasingly important to prepare buildings and infrastructure. The capacity of infrastructure to be resilient to climate impacts must be considered, such as increased stormwater flows, power interruptions, poor air quality and heat waves.

### CRD Roles

CRD buildings and infrastructure

Building inspection in electoral areas

Data management

Community programs



Although many actions are well-progressed in this goal area and progress has been made on all actions in 2024, staff indicate that updated project timelines for corporate carbon reduction projects and assessment of CRD infrastructure for climate risk were required in previous years due to funding constraints, resulting in an overall status of opportunity for improvement for this goal area. Foundational energy studies and conceptual designs for key facilities have been completed and retrofit projects will be completed in future years.

### This goal contains

# 30

sub actions over the next five years

### Goal Progress Summary

- Completed additional detailed studies for Panorama Recreation Centre, SEAPARC Leisure Complex and Rainbow Recreation Centre to further GHG-reduction projects at these facilities.
- Initiated work on energy studies for Parks Headquarters and SIMS.
- Completed energy audits and conceptual HVAC design for the Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant.



*Thermal imaging cameras released in libraries in the capital region in 2024.*



- Reviewed all 350 corporate sites for rooftop solar potential, identifying top 10 sites to be considered for future installation.
- Completed the design and installation of dehumidification systems for Panorama Recreation, reducing the facility's emissions by 26%.
- Implemented the Home Energy Navigator program, which saw 321 registrants, providing approximately 240 home consultations, and supported 163 heat pump retrofits since the program's inception.
- Continued supporting the BC Sustainable Energy Association to deliver Cool it! climate action workshops for students in the region, delivering 104 workshops (35 funded by the CRD and 69 additional workshops funded by municipalities).
- Successfully launched new thermal imaging camera kits and refreshed Climate Action To Go Kits in partnership with local public libraries.
- With the District of Saanich and the City of Victoria, continued to support consultations and development of a model bylaw for creating mandatory energy and carbon emission reporting requirements for existing large Part 3 buildings; developed a covered buildings list to inform bylaw approach and shared with local governments.
- Continued to support municipalities in their considerations and adoptions of the Zero Carbon Step Code (ZCSC) and the transition to mandatory BC Energy Step Code requirements.
- Conducted water use audits of 5 secondary schools to help identify where they can improve efficiency of water use.
- Advanced multiple initiatives to incorporate climate impacts in risk assessments and infrastructure upgrades in the Greater Victoria Supply Area (GVWSA), including factoring climate projections into bridge designs and climate and stream flow inputs in the reservoir management model.

## Indicators



### Regional Energy Retrofit Program implementation

- 700 participants signed up as of December 2023



### Regional GHG emissions from buildings

- 619,054 t CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2022 (10% decrease compared to 2020) *(no new data for 2024, updated regional inventory scheduled for 2025)*



### Annual CRD corporate facilities GHG emissions

- 1,711 t CO<sub>2</sub>e (1.1% increase compared to 2023)



## Resilient and Abundant Nature, Ecosystems and Food Systems

**Goal 5: Protect, conserve and manage ecosystem health and nature's capacity to store carbon and adapt to climate change. Support the ongoing ability of natural systems to sustain life.**



### Overall Action Status

Opportunity for Improvement

Green spaces, blue spaces and parks provide important services to store carbon in vegetation and soils, while at the same time providing ecological services that support the region's resilience to climate change. As temperatures in the region rise, natural areas can also serve to reduce the need for energy-intensive air conditioning and provide accessible areas of respite for all residents. Monitoring ecological changes over time and sharing this across all levels of government, including First Nations, as well as community organizations and citizens, can increase our collective understanding of the impacts of these changes and inform how the region can collectively respond to support the health of our ecosystems.



Although many efforts are being made in this goal area, staff indicate *opportunities for improvement* or delays in identifying and implementing adaptation strategies and data collection on biodiversity.

### Goal Progress Summary

- Progressed development of the Regional Parks Stewardship Plan to guide management and acquisition decisions that build resiliency in regional parks and trails under a changing climate.
- Progressed updates to the Regional Parks Land Acquisition Strategy, which provides direction on the selection of land for regional park purposes that reflect the values identified in the Strategic Plan, including climate considerations.

### CRD Roles

Stewardship of CRD lands

Land acquisition

Community and inter-municipal coordination

Education and outreach

Regional planning

Data management

This goal contains

**19**  
sub-actions



*Invasive species Scotch Broom removal.*

- Undertook several initiatives to better assess and understand climate change impacts relating to ecosystem health and water supply in the GVWSA, including: annual forest health review with updated orthophoto data, expanded monitoring of forest defoliating insects, research projects on red alder bark beetle and Douglas-fir beetle, improved reservoir water inflow and hydrology monitoring, thinning and juvenile spacing initiatives to reduce wildfire risk, and updates to inventory of GVWSA ecosystems to support climate vulnerability analysis.
- Provided various regional and local ecological data sets to support planning and policy efforts, including the completion of intertidal and subtidal inventories of the core area harbours.
- Continued to chair and coordinate the Capital Region Invasive Species Partnership.
- Advanced work on a proposed Regional Foodlands Trust, progressing to Alternative Approvals Process, with ultimate approval in early 2025.

## Indicators



### Hectares of regional park land\*

- 13,350 ha (an additional 21.28 ha was acquired in 2024)



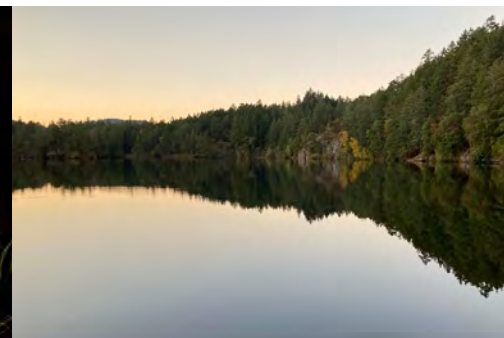
### Number of volunteer stewardship hours

- 6,699 hours by 711 volunteers

*\*Progress on this indicator is reported in the Regional Growth Strategy Indicator Report*



CRD Watershed Tour



Thetis Lake Park





## Minimized Waste

**Goal 6: Waste generation and the resulting emissions are minimized and remaining waste is transformed into a resource. Follow the 5R pollution prevention hierarchy.**



### Overall Action Status

Opportunity for Improvement

Product use and the disposal of waste contribute to GHG emissions in the region. About 2.7% of regional GHG emissions are associated with waste—and the majority of this comes from decomposing organic waste that was added to Hartland Landfill over the last several decades (e.g., food scraps and construction wood waste). The most effective way to reduce future emissions from the landfill is to follow the 5R hierarchy – focusing first on decreasing the amount of waste produced, and then on decreasing the GHG emissions from the remaining waste.



The majority of sub-actions in this goal area are well progressed, resulting in an overall action status of *on track*.

### Goal Progress Summary

- Commenced Material Diversion Transfer Station operations at Hartland Landfill, processing clean and treated wood and asphalt shingles for reuse, recycling, or energy recovery, diverting approximately 9,600 tonnes of waste.
- Standardized waste disposal and recycling education for 40 apartments and condos (2,730 units) across seven municipalities as part of the Multi-family Dwelling Waste Diversion Project. Installed 512 signs and distributed over 2,700 educational materials.
- Initiated Kitchen Scraps Transfer Relocation Project, which in the first year resulted in 13,463 tonnes of kitchen scraps processed.
- Approved the Long-Term Biosolids Management Strategy, focusing on advanced thermal processing, additional combustion and non-agricultural land application.

### CRD Roles

Solid waste management  
Liquid waste management  
Education and outreach

This goal contains

8

sub actions over the  
next five years



Hartland Landfill Education

- Continued the curbside Blue Box Collection Program for the collection of recyclables from single-family homes, using a contractor that operates 23 CNG trucks in their curbside program fleet. Electric trucks have been ordered, with expected delivery date in 2025.
- Supported 24 projects with approximately \$70,000 in funds through the Rethink Waste Community Grant.
- Between the Hartland Landfill Public Tours, Hartland Landfill Technical Tours, 3Rs K-12 program, and attending community events, the CRD connected with 4,631 residents. New this year, the CRD introduced a downtown Victoria pickup option for public landfill tours to improve accessibility and partnered with the Compost Education Centre to host two Composting Basics Workshops in conjunction with landfill tours.

### Indicators



#### CRD's per capita disposal rate

- 338 kg/per capita (decrease of 11.6% and decrease of 44 kg/capita compared to 2023)



#### Landfill Gas Efficiency\*

- Achieved a 50% gas collection efficiency based on UBCi model in 2024

*\*Please refer to the Solid Waste Management Plan Progress Reports for additional information.*



Hartland Landfill and the Landfill Gas Plant



Wood diversion at Hartland Landfill

## Looking Ahead – 2025

The CRD will continue to show a leadership role, support inter-municipal collaborative efforts, pursue strategic partnerships and external funding sources, and respond to opportunities, as local and senior levels of governments advance their efforts. Some activities planned for 2025 include:

- **Climate Action Strategy Renewal:** Revise and reaffirm priorities for climate action both corporately and community wide. This renewal will entail action planning to more clearly articulate climate mitigation and adaptation focused work throughout the organization for the next 5 years.
- **Transportation Service:** Complete AAP and final approvals to establish new Transportation Service. Initiate update to the Regional Transportation Plan.
- **EV Infrastructure Roadmap:** Continue leveraging grant funding from the federal and provincial Investing in Canadian Infrastructure Program and Clean BC Communities Fund to install over 400 Level 2 chargers and 20 Direct Current Fast Chargers, in partnership with City of Victoria and other municipalities at over 80 sites.
- **Regional GHG inventory:** Develop an inventory for the 2024 year for the region and each local government. Results will be shared in late 2025.
- **Climate Adaptation Capacity Building Initiative:** Provide targeted workshops, training and a regional cohort to build understanding and technical proficiency in climate adaptation topics.
- **Building Benchmarking:** Continue advancing work with City of Victoria and the District of Saanich to develop a benchmarking support program. The program will support local governments to promote and expand voluntary and mandatory energy and carbon emissions data reporting for large buildings.
- **Climate Risk and Emergency Management:** Advance integration of climate risk and adaptation into emergency management, as per new *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*.
- **Biodiversity and Environmental Stewardship Service:** Begin service planning starting in early 2025 post successful AAP and final approvals. This service will conduct research, collect and monitor biodiversity data, manage ecological stressors and invasive species, collaborate with partners to protect and restore key habitats, and develop public outreach and stewardship initiatives to enhance ecological conservation.





*Galloping Goose Trail, Victoria BC*

## Appendix A: Climate Action Report Card

This Climate Action Report Card is intended to provide a high-level, easy-to-understand overview of the CRD's climate performance and progress.

### **Methodology**

The Climate Action Strategy defines specific actions to guide CRD efforts over the lifespan of the strategy. These include 56 “umbrella” actions broken down into 127 sub-actions, with specific timelines and responsible divisions.

The Climate Action Report Card compiles the self-reported quantitative progress metrics from services for each of the 127 sub-actions. By averaging the progress of respective sub-actions, the report card measures the current ‘action status’ for several informative categories, such as overall climate action status, corporate and community-focused actions, and the six goal areas of the strategy.

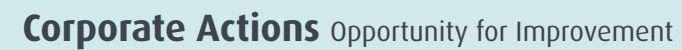
The report card uses a math-based system to produce a percent grade by comparing reported progress with expected progress based on the action timelines established in the strategy. For ongoing actions with no timeline, percentages are based on self-reported levels of progress satisfaction by the responsible service. Each action status score is accompanied by qualitative progress updates that summarize any actions taken or barriers encountered during the reporting year. For clarity, percentages are converted to three coloured status indicators: on track, opportunity for improvement, and attention required. In addition, several broader corporate and regional indicators are included. These are not considered in the evaluation of the action statuses.

For more information on timing, divisions involved, and sub-actions, please see Appendix C in the Climate Action Strategy.

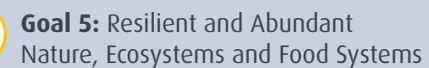
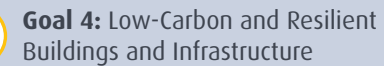
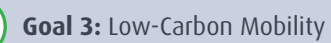
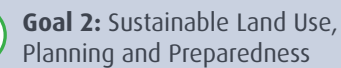
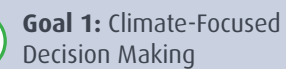
## 2024 Overall Action Plan Progress

On Track

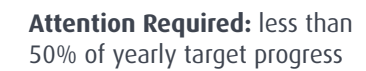
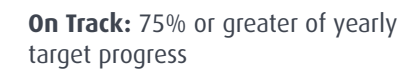
The climate action strategy identifies 127 actions with specific timelines across the organization. Scores are based on the current status of each action within their goal areas.



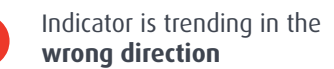
### Goal Areas:








Legend: Action Status



Legend: Indicators\*



\*While indicators are not considered in the calculation of the action status, they provide context and track long-term progress.

Status	Action	Update
Progress on Actions		
	<b>1-1 Integrate and standardize the climate lens framework across processes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Developed an initial framework to evaluate declared climate action impacts of new initiatives as part of corporate strategic planning service planning, and annual reporting, with over 120 initiatives reviewed and advanced to date.</li><li>• Advanced asset management planning by embedding climate considerations into capital planning. Ongoing work needed to refine next steps.</li><li>• Strengthened procurement policies and procedures with new Legal Services and policy review staff, introducing tools like the Low Value Routine Procurement Toolkit and contract drafting resources. “Best value” purchasing continues to prioritize climate-first decisions.</li><li>• Complete annual corporate GHG reporting.</li></ul>
	<b>1-2 Develop internal carbon pricing policies and procedures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Completed in 2023.</li><li>• Piloted carbon price policy with large projects, such as the Hartland Renewable Natural Gas project, included in all building energy audits, and new fleet analysis.</li></ul>
	<b>1-3 Identify internal funding sources for climate action</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continued and utilized the Climate Action Reserve Fund (CARF).</li><li>• Embedded key climate projects in 2025 capital planning process.</li><li>• Sourced additional incentives and grant funds from Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), BC Hydro and Fortis BC.</li></ul>
	<b>1-4 Support staff capacity building and coordination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provided a variety of staff training sessions, including: a Lunch &amp; Learn, Climate 101, a general primer available to all staff and offered regularly; and Climate 201, to guide staff on embedding a climate lens in their work.</li><li>• Maintained an internal Climate Action SharePoint hub for staff capacity building.</li><li>• Presented onboarding materials for the Peninsula Recreation Commission and the Sooke and Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission (SEAPARC).</li><li>• Hosted Climate Action Fleet and Facilities Working Group quarterly meetings, and quarterly meetings between Regional Parks and Regional Planning and Climate staff.</li></ul>
	<b>1-5 Investigate how Indigenous knowledge can inform climate action at CRD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Partnered with First Nations on shoreline restoration efforts to protect ecological and cultural values in the face of increasing storms and continued learning about Indigenous-led approaches to shoreline restoration. Collaborated with First Nations to incorporate Indigenous knowledge and governance structures into management approaches in regional parks.</li><li>• Additional activities described in actions below.</li></ul>

### Additional Action Plan Indicators



- 2,865 t CO<sub>2</sub>e (3.1% decrease compared to 2023)



## Sustainable Land Use, Planning and Preparedness




**Goal 2: Support the region  
on its pathway to livable,  
affordable and low carbon  
communities that are prepared  
for climate change.**





**Overall Action Status**  
On Track

Status	Action	Update
Progress on Actions		
	<b>2-1 Incorporate climate hazards and vulnerabilities into corporate CRD emergency response plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Progressed the communication plan for the public facing emergency dashboard - a tool to provide centralized information related to emergencies, including climate-related issues and responses.</li><li>• Enhanced climate emergency preparedness through organizational notifications and the Public Alert Notification System (PANS) for real-time extreme weather and public safety updates.</li></ul>
	<b>2-2 Monitor Regional Growth Strategy (RGS)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reviewed Regional Context statements, as needed, through an established process in which municipal climate policies are reviewed in relation to Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) goals.</li><li>• Completed the annual RGS Indicator Report.</li></ul>
	<b>2-3 Integrate climate impacts into Juan de Fuca land use plans and policies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continued working on the Port Renfrew Official Community Plan (OCP) with Pacheedaht First Nation.</li><li>• Will be considered during the Port Renfrew and Willis Point OCP update in 2025.</li></ul>
	<b>2-4 Collect and share pertinent energy, emissions, climate projections and vulnerability data</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Launched the Capital Region Extreme Heat Information Portal and published the final report, sharing findings with local governments, stakeholders and First Nations. Presented at several conferences, workshops and meetings to advance local government understanding of heat vulnerability data in the region.</li><li>• Completed the updated regional downscaled climate projections based on updated global models and hosted capacity-building workshops for municipal staff to advance understanding of climate projections.</li></ul>
	<b>2-5 Identify innovative actions to close the regional 2030 emissions reduction gap</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Initiated the analysis of several potential major projects that would contribute to closing the emissions reduction gap ahead of 2038 targets.</li></ul>
	<b>2-6 Coordinate regional climate action, collaboration and capacity building among local governments and interested First Nations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Participated in advancing project planning for a sub-regional coastal adaptation plan with local governments for the Gorge Waterway.</li><li>• Successfully applied for a \$144,423 grant to support a coordinated regional climate adaptation capacity building project, scoped with municipal partners. Project to be completed 2025-2026.</li><li>• Continued to facilitate and administer several inter-municipal networks that serve to coordinate regional climate action, set priorities and disseminate resources, including the CRD Inter-Municipal Climate Action Task Force, CRD Inter-Municipal Climate Action Working Group, Development Planning Advisory Commission, Transportation Working Group, Local Government Emergency Program Advisory Committee, the Regional Emergency Management Partnership and the Healthy and Safe Environments Community Health Network.</li><li>• Produced and distributed a monthly local government climate action e-newsletter.</li><li>• Continued to chair and increased frequency Local Government Emergency Programs Advisory Committee (LGEPAC) meetings from quarterly to bi-monthly. Continued to resource and support Regional Emergency Management Partnership (REMP).</li><li>• Completed the Community Health Network's (CHN) Healthy and Safe Environments summary report of the extreme heat and health research and action planning session, applied for additional funding to research how BIPOC communities are utilizing food security projects to build community resilience in the face of climate change, recorded podcast episodes for knowledge translation of our extreme heat and health research (to be launched summer 2025), began conducting research into barriers to use of emergency response infrastructure (funded by the Province of BC).</li><li>• Continued discussions regarding feasibility of mobility hub development in key locations across the region in partnership with Ministry of Transportation and Transit.</li><li>• Initiated the Growth and Mobility study that will inform the decision as to whether to initiate an RGS update in 2026. Continued work toward the establishment of a Regional Transportation Service.</li></ul>



Status	Action	Update
	<b>2-7 Incorporate regional climate projections into electoral area emergency planning and enhance FireSmart efforts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initiated Climate Adaptation Risk Assessment work that will feed into Electoral Areas' Emergency Operations Work Plans once complete.</li> <li>Secured two years of confirmed FireSmart funding and have program coordinators. Improvements and continued efforts to the program are secured through to mid-2026 (via UBCM, CRI stream).</li> <li>Continued to pursue other grants to enhance FireSmart activities at a regional and local level.</li> <li>Continued exploring collaborative efforts with Transition Salt Spring Society to enhance program delivery on Salt Spring Island.</li> <li>Advanced planning for drought and wildfire response in Electoral Areas is redone annually, so this is an ongoing action.</li> </ul>
	<b>2-8 Coordinate with emergency management stakeholders on planning and public outreach activities related to climate risks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued to work to coordinate extreme heat, flood and drought awareness among emergency management stakeholders and partners in the region.</li> <li>Launched public dashboard on heat vulnerability.</li> </ul>
	<b>2-9 Investigate Transition Salt Spring Island 2.0 Climate Plan implementation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allocated funds from the provincial Local Government Climate Action Program to award a contract to Transition Salt Spring Society to provide education programming and community engagement to reduce emissions.</li> </ul>

Regional Climate Progress Indicators and Trends		
	<b>Regional GHG emissions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.86 million tonnes of CO2e (1% increase compared to 2020)</li> <li>No new date for 2024; next regional inventory scheduled for fall 2025.</li> </ul>
	<b>Number of net new dwelling units in areas where more than 42% walk/bike/bus to work*</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently, the region is not meeting the desired trend</li> <li>In 2024, this target was updated from 45% to 42% to reflect the decrease in BC Transit's mode-share target from 15% to 12%.</li> </ul>

\*Progress on this indicator is reported in the Regional Growth Strategy Indicator Report.








## Low-Carbon Mobility

**Goal 3: Rapidly reduce corporate fleet emissions. Support, endorse and encourage active, public and zero emission transportation options across the region.**












**Overall Action Status**  
On Track

Status	Action	Update
Progress on Actions		
	<b>3-1 Administer and track the new Green Fleet Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continued to advance Green Fleet Policy implementation, accelerating vehicle electrification with strong support from Corporate Fleet and Climate Action.</li></ul>
	<b>3-2 Develop electric vehicle (EV) adoption and right-sizing plan for the corporate fleet</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continued monitoring market availability of electric vehicles (EVs).</li><li>Investigated opportunities for telematics and fuel purchase management software to assist in fleet right sizing, identifying pilot project opportunities to be conducted in 2025.</li></ul>
	<b>3-3 Develop EV infrastructure plan for the corporate fleet</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Initiated phase 2 of an EV Ready Fleet Plan to advance understanding of fleet electrification and charging needs, with completion date scheduled for Q1 2025.</li><li>Charging needs for current electric fleet has been met; additional charging infrastructure needed is identified during fleet replacement capital planning process.</li></ul>
	<b>3-4 Investigate the feasibility of bio-based diesel supply and storage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Investigated, with limited opportunities for fixed storage capacity.</li></ul>
	<b>3-5 Develop a region-wide approach to transportation demand management and safety policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continued Traffic Safety Commission work on safety education and initiatives on impairment, distracted driving, high impact collision zones, and active transportation.</li><li>Completed several Let's Get Visible events across the region.</li><li>Held a Transportation Governance Workshop with staff and elected officials across the region.</li><li>Integrated Traffic Demand Management and safety policy as a function of the Transportation Service Establishment Bylaw.</li></ul>
	<b>3-6 Collect and distribute transportation planning data regionally</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continued collection, analysis and distribution of transportation data through traffic count program, volunteer bike program, permanent bike counter program, and the addition of short duration automated bike count pilot using cameras to do volume counts in locations throughout the region. Data is routinely utilized to inform decision making at a local, regional, provincial and national level.</li></ul>
	<b>3-7 Accelerate infrastructure improvements that support active transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Supported Board transportation advocacy, including working toward the establishment of a Regional Transportation Service.</li><li>Participated in Go by Bike Week celebration stations in spring and fall, with a display table to educate and support active transportation and regional trail etiquette (Cruise with Courtesy campaign).</li><li>Continued implementation of the Regional Transportation Plan, which will be updated following the establishment of the Regional Transportation Service.</li><li>Completed construction of phase 1 of the Mayne Island Regional Trail (2.3km), identified as the priority within the Gulf Islands Regional Trails Plan.</li><li>Initiated the development of a Feasibility Study for the construction of a new regional trail on Salt Spring Island.</li><li>Accelerated the Regional Trails Widening &amp; Lighting Project, commencing construction on Selkirk Phase 1 below-deck repairs; anticipated completion in spring 2025.</li><li>Initiated work on the CRD Multi-Use Trails Safety Enhancement Study. Coordination with municipal and provincial partners is underway to schedule construction activities and plan for detours that minimize disruption to trail users. Engagement with special interest groups and First Nations, in partnership with the Province, was also initiated.</li></ul>

Status	Action	Update
	<b>3-8 Lead and support regional education programs focused on zero-emission mobility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintained current portfolio of education programs, including Charge Your Ride, on the CRD website; provided outreach materials to community groups, as requested.</li> <li>Continued Ready Step Roll - Sustainable School Commute Planning Program with three schools in the 2023/24 cohort and five schools in the 2024/25 cohort, working along side their respective local governments and other partners.</li> <li>Hosted 11 let's Get Visible events in 2024 on regional trails to promote road and trail safety.</li> </ul>
	<b>3-9 Support acceleration of transit improvements and increased service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed staff report on the climate impacts of Mass Transit, with a focus on connecting downtown to Westshore through Bus Mass Transit (BMT).</li> <li>Continued participation in numerous technical and working groups to support delivery of BMT in region.</li> <li>Continued supporting MOTT on mobility hub redevelopment of provincially-owned land efforts as mixed-use mobility hubs.</li> <li>Increased the number of park and rides in suburban areas. Local area transit plans for each.</li> <li>Consulted with all municipalities and electoral areas on the establishment of a Regional Transportation Service. Staff reports supported Board discussions around planning for long-term transportation alternatives.</li> <li>Continued participation in discussions around the Island Rail Corridor.</li> <li>Expressed interest to BC Transit for rural buses, submitted rezoning application for one of the CRD lots to be rezoned for electric bus charging.</li> </ul>
	<b>3-10 Support a public electric vehicle charging network and encourage uptake of zero-emission vehicles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborated with BC Hydro to identify ideal sites for installation of public fast chargers throughout the region.</li> <li>Continued ongoing delivery of educational and support materials via website and by request.</li> <li>Continued participation in the Community Energy Association's EV Peer Network.</li> <li>Developed user fee bylaw for CRD's public chargers; advanced development of a corporate use policy.</li> <li>Continued coordination of Regional Public EV Charger Program. Accessed grant funding from the federal and provincial Investing in Canadian Infrastructure Program and Clean BC Communities Fund and installed 11 public electric vehicle chargers at 8 municipal sites and facilitated grant funding for 136 additional public chargers on behalf of the City of Victoria; advanced planning and procurement for remaining sites.</li> <li>Completed the installation of 2 publicly available EV chargers at Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park - Beaver Beach.</li> <li>Designed two publicly accessible EV chargers for Witty's Lagoon Regional Park, with construction anticipated to be completed in 2025.</li> <li>Continued monitoring funding opportunities.</li> </ul>
	<b>3-11 Implement Regional EV Charging Roadmap</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued work to meet Roadmap targets.</li> <li>Continued implementation of Regional Public EV Charger Program, contracting stage with partners and service providers; significant installation progress made by project partner (Victoria).</li> <li>Continued the expansion of DCFC banks in the region through a BC Hydro MOU partnership, reaching the detailed design stage at multiple locations, with one site fully installed, and many others in the investigation stage.</li> </ul>
	<b>3-12 Improve internet access on Southern Gulf Islands</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Entering into partnership agreement with City West for Connected Coast last mile fibre to the homes on Galiano and Saturna Islands.</li> <li>Received a grant from the Rural Economic Diversification Infrastructure Program, which enabled the CRD's community contribution to last mile on Galiano and Saturna. Negotiating final agreement with City West for Connected Coast Partnership.</li> </ul>



Additional Action Plan Indicators		Regional Climate Progress Indicators and Trends	
	<b>Regional EV Infrastructure Roadmap implementation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Level 2 ports: 81% (627 installed)</li> <li>DCFC ports: 42% (56 installed)</li> </ul>		<b>Percentage of total trips made by walking, cycling and transit in the Growth Management Planning Area*</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress is being made toward the target. The overall active transportation mode share has increased due to a sizeable increase in cycling trips and a steady increase in walking. There is no data update for this year, as the Origin Destination Household Travel Survey will not be updated until 2027.</li> </ul>
	<b>Percentage of the Regional Trail Network completed*</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>97.5%</li> </ul>		<b>Annual EV ICBC registrations (region fleet size)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13,558 total EV and PHEV vehicle registrations, 4.6% of total registrations (0.9% increase compared to 2023)</li> </ul>
	<b>Annual CRD corporate fleet GHG emissions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,154 t CO2e (8.7% decrease compared to 2021)</li> </ul>		<b>Victoria Transit Region fuel sales</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2024 data for this indicator was unavailable at the time of reporting</li> </ul>
	<b>Number of corporate EVs purchased</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 new EVs acquired (total 53 in fleet)</li> </ul>		<b>Regional GHG emissions from transportation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2024 data for this indicator was unavailable at the time of reporting</li> </ul>
	<b>Number of CRD fleet EV chargers installed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>54 (79 to date)</li> <li>No new fleet chargers installed in 2024.</li> </ul>		

\*Progress on these indicators is reported in the Regional Growth Strategy Indicator Report. In 2023, the Percentage of the Regional Trail Network completed indicator was revised to better align with the Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan 2022-2032 and so cannot be compared to what has been reported in previous years.



## Low-Carbon and Resilient Buildings and Infrastructure

**Goal 4: Accelerate energy efficiency, emission reductions and enhanced resilience in CRD buildings and infrastructure. Support and encourage the same for all buildings and infrastructure across the region.**










**Overall Action Status**  
Opportunity for Improvement

Status	Action	Update
Progress on Actions		
	<b>4-1 Develop and implement a corporate Green Building Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Green Building Policy fully finalized and implemented in 2023. Continued implementation as part of Field Operations Centre design.</li></ul>
	<b>4-2 Develop and implement a Strategic Energy Management Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monitored Strategic Energy Management Plan (updated in 2023 with a two-year renewal cycle).</li></ul>
	<b>4-3 Conduct energy studies for CRD facilities to identify priority emission reduction and energy efficiency projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Completed feasibility study to connect District Energy System from Saanich Peninsula Wastewater treatment plant.</li><li>Conducted energy studies for Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant, SEAPARC and Rainbow Road Recreation. Progressed work on energy studies for Parks Headquarters and SIMS.</li><li>Energy audits and conceptual HVAC design completed for Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant and supporting pump stations.</li><li>Reviewed all 350 corporate sites for rooftop solar; identified top 10 sites to consider for future installation.</li></ul>
	<b>4-4 Complete identified high impact retrofits to CRD facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>HVAC conceptual designs for Fisgard Headquarters completed in 2024.</li><li>Began Alternative Approvals Process to attain loan funding to complete Energy Recovery System project at SEAPARC.</li><li>Replacement of fuel oil burners in SEAPARC included as part of conceptual design underway for heat recovery project.</li><li>Completed the design and installation of dehumidification systems for the arenas at Panorama Recreation, reducing the facility's emissions by approximately 26%. Full heat recovery project design is complete and has moved to procurement phase.</li></ul>
	<b>4-5 Pursue climate-friendly development and retrofits for CHRC and CRHD facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Integrated energy reduction strategies into new construction designs, aligning with BC Housing Design Guidelines and Energy Performance targets.</li><li>Sought grant funding to enhance energy efficiency and reduce GHG emissions in housing facilities.</li><li>Applied for FCM Sustainable Affordable Housing Grants for three projects targeting Step Code 4 and Net Zero Ready performance, contingent on funding.</li><li>Adhered to the Hospital District's 10-year capital plan, supporting Island Health's energy guidelines.</li><li>Partnered with Island Health to fund health infrastructure projects following GHG reduction policies.</li><li>Conducted Building Envelope Condition Assessments for CRHC properties, identifying a \$10.7M capital funding gap over five years, limiting maintenance efforts.</li></ul>
	<b>4-6 Consider climate impacts in risk assessments and infrastructure upgrades</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Incorporated climate and stream flow inputs in reservoir management model.</li><li>Reviewed risks to the water supply system on an annual basis; wildfire identified again as a high consequence, moderate likelihood risk.</li><li>Worked with UVic to carry out modelling of potential climate change effects on forests within the GVWSA and how mechanical thinning would mitigate forest mortality and associated forest fuel increase.</li><li>Participated in the development of a model to improve dam safety in a changing climate via managing reservoir levels.</li><li>Drainage structure management program factors in climate change projections in a holistic system that factors in inventory, maintenance, and is very climate resilient. Progress on implementation to update infrastructure continues at a moderate pace. Reviewed current drainage structure sizing standards based on latest CRD climate projections.</li><li>Climate projections factored into bridge designs.</li><li>Obtained more detailed Digital Elevation Model and Surface Model to enhance modelling of watershed hydrology in drainage structure catchments.</li></ul>
	<b>4-7 Implement a Regional Energy Retrofit Program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continued to implement the Home Energy Navigator program, which saw 321 registrants.</li><li>Promoted the program through in-person outreach, summer door knocking campaigns, tax inserts of local government partners, digital and newspaper advertising.</li><li>Piloted a new enhanced energy assessment in 2024 with some success.</li><li>Evaluated the option for financing component in 2024. However, that option was not pursued in 2024, as residents continue to access a federal 0% loan.</li></ul>

Status	Action	Update
	<b>4-8 Develop, deliver and support building-related energy, emissions and water education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued supporting the BC Sustainable Energy Association (BCSEA) to deliver Cool it! climate action workshops for students in the region that help to build knowledge and encourage them to reduce carbon pollution at home through a 4-week take-home challenge. The program delivered 104 workshops in the region, 35 funded by the CRD and 69 additional workshops funded by municipalities.</li> <li>Successfully launched new thermal imaging camera kits and refreshed Climate Action To Go Kits in partnership with local public libraries.</li> <li>Hired a one-year auxiliary communications officer to begin developing a community mobilization program and enhance climate education resources. To understand how the CRD can best support community climate action, 22 community groups engaged were interviewed, along with local government staff and elected officials.</li> <li>ICI water conservation program funded water use audits of 5 secondary schools to help identify where they can easily improve the efficiency of the water use in their buildings and provide a return-on-investment to help justify the cost of upgrades. The reports also calculated GHG reductions due to hot water use. A total of 9,500 m³ and 3.97 tCO2e of potential annual savings were identified. Follow-ups will occur in April of 2025 and in 2026 to assess the success of the recommendations.</li> </ul>
	<b>4-9 Support acceleration of regional building energy benchmarking and local government regulation approaches</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborated with Saanich and Victoria on mandatory energy and emission reporting consultation.</li> <li>Developed a covered buildings list in 2024, which will form the basis for potential bylaw enforcement of interested local governments. Delivery of a regional benchmarking program planned to start implementation in late 2025.</li> <li>Participated in provincial policy engagements on the Highest Efficiency Equipment Standard, which is a provincial policy that would set a minimum of 100% efficiency for all home heating equipment.</li> </ul>
	<b>4-10 Coordinate high-performance building policy support and capacity-building activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued to participate in the numerous peer networks in 2024, including the Step Code Local Government Peer network.</li> <li>Continued to support the adoption of the Zero Carbon Step Code among member municipalities.</li> <li>Initiated a policy and modelling review project to help member municipalities understand the emission implications for adopting the Zero Carbon Step Code and other potential policy measures.</li> <li>Delivered pamphlets promoting the step code approach to building and the home energy navigator to municipal permits offices. Initiated planning for a building-focused intermunicipal workshop, which took place in early 2025.</li> </ul>
	<b>4-11 Collect and share data and research on building energy use and emissions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided energy and emission data in support of the Saanich and Victoria 2023 GHG inventories; supported onboarding of new staff in several municipalities on data and metrics.</li> <li>Utilized the intermunicipal working group on climate action to share knowledge about regional best practices.</li> <li>Continued to participate in an embodied carbon peer network.</li> </ul>
	<b>4-12 Promote green infrastructure and improved stormwater management approaches</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual Stormwater outreach programs (LiveGreen Summer) regularly promote the use of rain gardens, flow-through planters, healthy organic topsoil, and converting impervious areas to drought-tolerant landscapes through residential outreach campaigns.</li> <li>Online workshops on rainwater harvesting and building a rain garden area offered in the spring and fall.</li> <li>Worked with Tsawout First Nation in the early stages of progress towards a service agreement for CRD Stormwater Source Control Bylaw staff to enforce Tsawout stormwater bylaws. This agreement is planned to be developed in 2025.</li> <li>Planned a Green Infrastructure Workshop and started work with a consultant to develop a half-day workshop for municipal staff and professionals to use the CRD's Green Infrastructure Guidelines. The workshop is scheduled for Q1 2025.</li> </ul>
	<b>4-13 Understand climate impacts on groundwater resources in Juan de Fuca Electoral Area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secured funding for potential groundwater study of Aquifer 606, with RFP scheduled to go out in 2025.</li> </ul>
	<b>4-14 Investigate regional renewable energy and storage potential</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed a solar PV assessment of all corporate sites, identifying top 10 sites and providing high-level designs for future consideration.</li> <li>CRD continues to seek collaboration to further explore regional mapping of renewal energy potential in the region.</li> </ul>



Additional Action Plan Indicators		Regional Climate Progress Indicators and Trends		
	Annual CRD corporate facilities GHG Emissions	• 1,552 t CO2e (8.7% decrease compared to 2023)	 Regional Energy Retrofit Program implementation	• 321 participants registered as of December 2023
	Number of critical emissions reduction projects completed	• 0*	 Annual FortisBC natural gas consumption numbers	• 7,164,449 GJ in 2023 (3% decrease compared to 2022)
	Number of site energy audits completed	• 11 (increase of 3 since 2023)	 Annual FortisBC natural gas connections	• 61,535 in 2023 (2% increase compared to 2022)
			 Regional GHG emissions from buildings	• 2024 data for this indicator was unavailable at the time of reporting

\*Studies have been undertaken that will direct capital projects in coming years.



## Resilient and Abundant Nature, Ecosystems and Food Systems

**Goal 5: Protect, conserve and manage ecosystem health and nature's capacity to store carbon and adapt to climate change. Support the ongoing ability of natural systems to sustain life.**



**Overall Action Status**  
Opportunity for Improvement

Status	Action	Update
Progress on Actions		
	<b>5-1 Integrate climate considerations into regional parks strategic and management planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Progressed updates to the Regional Parks Land Acquisition Strategy, which provides direction on the selection of land for regional park purposes that reflect the values identified in the Strategic Plan, including climate considerations and incorporating self-determination, rights and feedback from First Nations.</li><li>• Continued to develop the Stewardship Plan to guide management and acquisition decisions that build resiliency in regional parks and trails under a changing climate.</li><li>• Engaged with First Nations and incorporated climate action and resiliency considerations into Interim Management Guidelines (IMGs) for two regional parks and one managed property.</li><li>• Collaborated with Sc'ianew First Nation and T'Sou-ke First Nation on the protection of culturally significant sites, including Restoration of 0.15 hectares at Devonian Regional Park with elders, volunteers and staff, planting 120 trees and 100 shrubs.</li><li>• Continued to collaborate with T'Sou-ke First Nation and The Land Conservancy (TLC) on restoration projects at Ayum Creek Regional Park.</li><li>• Supported Mayne Island Conservancy Society in conservation initiatives at St. John Point Regional Park.</li><li>• Continued to work cooperatively with the WSÁNEĆ Leadership Council and designates on the development of the Mount Work Regional Park Management Plan.</li><li>• Initiated a Cultural Use and Safety Policy to clarify Indigenous rights to cultural access and enhance safety in regional parks.</li></ul>
	<b>5-2 Monitor ecosystem health in the Greater Victoria Water Supply Area (GVWSA) and investigate expanding regionally</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conducted the annual forest health review, using 2023 orthophoto data to update forest mapping.</li><li>• Completed 2024 forest health overview flights and ground checks as an early warning system for forest health issues.</li><li>• Expanded monitoring of forest defoliating insects to track ecosystem changes.</li><li>• Red alder bark beetle research project (concluded in 2024) confirmed the expanding presence of bark bee-tle due to climate change.</li><li>• Ongoing Douglas-fir beetle research project assessing climate change risks to forest health.</li><li>• Assisted federal research on mountain pine beetle on Vancouver Island.</li><li>• Developed a research project on the resilience of red alder in a changing climate.</li><li>• Improved the implementation of the hydrology program mandate by hiring a hydrology technician and expanding hydrology monitoring stations in the Sooke Water Supply Area to improve reservoir water inflow monitoring.</li><li>• Initiated a project to align water quality sampling with streamflow monitoring, strengthening the understanding of water quality/streamflow relationships for the Sooke Lake Reservoir.</li><li>• Enhanced the extent, quality and frequency of hydrology monitoring to better assess climate vulnerability.</li><li>• Ongoing work to update mapping systems of the GVWSA for climate risk assessment.</li><li>• Updated the inventory of GVWSA ecosystems to support climate vulnerability analysis.</li></ul>
	<b>5-3 Undertake climate adaptation initiatives to increase the resilience of the GVWSA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thinning and juvenile spacing initiatives were completed to reduce wildfire risk and enhance forest resilience.</li><li>• Conducted modelling with UVIC, simulating forest growth, mortality and composition under two climate change scenarios to compare thinned vs. un-thinned stands and to guide future management.</li><li>• Juvenile spacing project completed in the Leech Water Supply Area, the first such project since the 1990s.</li><li>• Progressed Goldstream Water Supply Area assessments to identify future forest management opportunities.</li><li>• Completed LiDAR-derived Enhanced Forest Inventory to guide forest management decisions and prioritize areas for intervention.</li></ul>
	<b>5-4 Provide regional and local ecological data to support planning and policy efforts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General ecological inventory data from provincial and federal databases have been compiled as a first step to determine usefulness of such an inventory for a comprehensive regional biodiversity inventory.</li><li>• Detailed intertidal and subtidal ecological inventories for Victoria Harbour, Portage Inlet, Gorge Waterway, Esquimalt Lagoon, and parts of Esquimalt Harbour have been completed.</li><li>• Work on ecological ratings progressed and neared completion; plans to upload the new inventories to the Harbours Atlas for public access by 2025.</li><li>• Confirmed interest from Tsartlip First Nation, District of Saanich, City of Victoria and Saanich Peninsula municipalities for expanding the inventory up the peninsula coastline, to be considered under the new Regional Biodiversity Service, once operational.</li><li>• Tree cover and impervious cover layers are publicly available on CRD Maps, and raw data is available for download. Most municipalities in the region have accessed the data, with several using it for biodiversity and urban forest projects.</li><li>• CRD continues to work with a consultant to review and refine flow discharge curves for the six flow stations maintained by CRD; project completion anticipated in 2025. Flow data is used by various parties, including District of Saanich, to determine base flow levels necessary to support fish populations and to inform the development of municipal stormwater management plans.</li></ul>

Status		Action	Update			
		<b>5-5 Coordinate regional invasive species program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CRD continues to coordinate the Capital Region Invasive Species partnership and coordinates the development and support implementation of the Early Detection Rapid Response program. Membership and participation by municipal and First Nations staff continues to increase.</li><li>• Several training sessions and capacity-building workshops were delivered in 2024.</li><li>• Update to the regional list of priority invasive species began in 2024 and will be completed by July 2025.</li><li>• Ongoing collaboration and support to T’Souke Nation and other stakeholders in dealing with Knotweed infestation on Sooke River.</li></ul>			
		<b>5-6 Support regional forest and urban tree programs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Changes to the 2 Billion Trees program remove the need for a regional application, as individual municipalities are now submitting their own applications to the revised Growing Canadas Community Canopy administered by FCM.</li><li>• Considerations for coordinated planning to increase canopy and sequestration potential is being considered as part of the next update to the Land Cover (urban forests and impervious cover), and through the new Biodiversity service.</li></ul>			
		<b>5-7 Support Indigenous-led monitoring and restoration programs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collaborating closely with First Nation cultural workers and Guardians regarding the conservation and protection of heritage sites across all service areas. Working with First Nations on the management of cultural and ecological values within regional parks and community parks, including ecological restoration.</li><li>• Signed an agreement with the Malahat Nation to enable their Guardians to conduct environmental monitoring in the Greater Victoria Water Supply Area.</li><li>• Efforts were made to involve Songhees Nation, Esquimalt Nation, and the four W̱SÁNEĆ Nations in the update of the Bowker Creek Blueprint.</li><li>• CRD staff are assisting T’Souke Nation and the District of Sooke with managing an outbreak of Knotweed in the Sooke River.</li><li>• CRD staff are liaising with Tsartlip Nation regarding an outbreak of hogweed on their reserve lands.</li><li>• Through the CRDs involvement in the GreenShores Local Government Working group, staff at several First Nations have been supported to take Level 1 and Level 2 training at no cost to build capacity with the Nations.</li><li>• CRD collaborated with Tsawout First Nation in the early stages of progress towards a service agreement for CRD Stormwater Source Control Bylaw staff to enforce Tsawout stormwater bylaws. This agreement is planned to be developed in 2025.</li></ul>			
		<b>5-8 Support local food and agriculture planning and programs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regional Foodlands Access Service Bylaw was drafted and sent for approval in Q1 2025.</li><li>• Worked on increasing partnerships with various agricultural entities and groups with interest in the Regional Foodlands project.</li><li>• Through the Goose Management service, CRD has partnered with four First Nations in the region to support First Nation-led harvest of Canada Geese. The meat from the harvested birds is shared amongst the participating First Nations communities.</li><li>• Continued distributing food and agriculture educational materials, as requested.</li></ul>			
		<b>5-9 Integrate climate impacts and solutions into environmental education and outreach campaigns</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Climate adaptation and resilience messaging has been fully integrated into multiple outreach programs, including water conservation, integrated watershed management, backyard biodiversity, stormwater management and invasive species awareness campaigns.</li><li>• Establish cross-divisional communications working group to share opportunities moving forward.</li><li>• Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) Water Use Assessments conducted with high schools in the region included a list of recommended actions and return on investment calculations to reduce water consumption, lower emissions and cut costs.</li><li>• Piloted Species at Risk Program and Invasive Species Awareness and Removal Program for grades 4-5; both programs are action-oriented, encouraging students to positively impact local ecosystems (230 participants).</li><li>• Co-led Regional Parks and Climate Action professional Development Workshop for teachers.</li><li>• Seven “Point Duty” programs delivered on Regional Trails, covering trail etiquette and benefits of active transportation (340 people engaged).</li><li>• Participation in two Go By Bike Week events to promote sustainable transportation on Regional Trails (488 people engaged).</li><li>• Co-hosted International Trails Day event with Trans Canada Trail staff, educating the public on trail stewardship, etiquette and active transportation (66 attendees).</li></ul>			
Additional Action Plan Indicators			Regional Climate Progress Indicators and Trends			
	<b>Hectares of regional park land</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No new land acquisitions in 2024.</li><li>• 13,350 ha total, 21.28 ha acquired in 2023.</li></ul>		<b>Percentage of Sea-to-Sea Green/Blue Belt acquired*</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This indicator has been replaced in the Regional Growth Strategy Indicator Report by Total Regional Park land acquired</li></ul>
	<b>Number of volunteer stewardship hours</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6,600 hours by 711 volunteers</li></ul>		<b>Hectares of farmland in the Growth Management Planning Area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This indicator has been replaced in the Regional Growth Strategy Indicator Report with Farm operating revenues in the Growth Management Planning Area due to census data being unavailable</li></ul>





Minimized Waste

**Goal 6: Waste generation and the resulting emissions are minimized and remaining waste is transformed into a resource. Follow the 5R pollution prevention hierarchy.**



**Overall Action Status**  
**Opportunity for Improvement**

Status      Action      Update

Progress on Actions



**6-1 Implement the Solid Waste Management Plan**

- Commenced Material Diversion Transfer Station operations at Hartland Landfill, processing clean and treated wood and asphalt shingles for reuse, recycling or energy recovery, diverting approximately 9,600 tonnes of waste.
- Processed and utilized 10,867 tonnes of select waste materials onsite as per ENV guidelines, reducing reliance on virgin materials.
- Transitioned to a new contractor for single-family home recycling collection, effective January 2nd, 2024. Contractor utilizes 23 CNG trucks and plans to integrate electric trucks in future fleet operations.
- Provided consolidation, transfer and processing services for 13,463 tonnes of kitchen scraps from municipalities and private providers.
- Continued enforcement of landfill bans on yard and garden materials. Processed 1,300 tonnes of yard and garden material at Hartland Depot.
- CRD Board approved increased budget for the 2024 Kitchen Scraps Transfer Station Relocation Project. Contractor procured for construction, with hauling and processing contracts awarded for 2025-2030.
- CRD Board approved the Long-Term Biosolids Management Strategy, focusing on advanced thermal processing, additional combustion and non-agricultural land application.
- Refer to 2024 Solid Waste Management Plan Progress Report for more information.



**6-2 Develop and deliver education programs to promote a circular economy, zero waste and the 3 Rs**

- Provided \$70,300 in funding to support 24 community-led waste reduction projects under the Rethink Waste Community Grant.
- Standardized waste disposal and recycling education for 40 multi-family buildings (2,730 units) across seven municipalities, as part of the Multi-family Dwelling Waste Diversion Project. Installed 512 signs and distributed over 2,700 educational materials.
- Continued to deliver education workshops and landfill tours. Responded to 23,365 public inquiries via phone and email.
- Continued participation in the Coast Waste Management Association (CWMA) Communications/Educators Working Group.
- Continued sponsorship of the EcoStar Awards.
- Promoted food waste prevention through the Love Food Hate Waste Campaign, featuring movie theatre ads, social media and print/digital media.
- Developed a new circular economy lesson plan for schools.
- Investigated options for soft and flexible plastic collection for multi-family and single-family homes.
- Provided funding to the Compost Education Centre (CEC) for waste diversion and composting programs; partnered with the CEC to deliver two Composting Basics Workshops in conjunction with public landfill tours to 55 residents.



**6-3 Support education and engagement on waste management to be delivered by and for First Nations communities**

- Continued regular meetings with WSÁNEĆ Leadership Council and the Capital Regional District Solid Waste Working Group.
- Worked with the Pacheedaht First Nation to decommission a temporary waste and recyclables transfer station on their lands in 2024.
- Ongoing collaboration to develop a long-term solid waste and recyclables management strategy for the broader Port Renfrew community.



**6-4 Continue to maximize and optimize the capture of landfill gas for beneficial use**

- Collection efficiency of Landfill Gas calculated at 43% (ENV model) and 50% (UBCi model) in 2024.
- Continued operation of the old flare system during Biogas Upgrading Facility commissioning and gas-to-electricity facility decommissioning. Installed a new enclosed flare in 2024 to support gas destruction.
- Biogas Upgrading Facility for Renewal Natural Gas construction continued, with projected 450,000 tonnes CO2e reduction over 25 years – a 73% improvement from 2019 estimates. Facility expected to be operational in 2025.
- Continued annual landfill gas collection infrastructure installations and implemented strategies to enhance gas collection and reduce fugitive emissions.



**6-5 Consider climate change impacts in liquid waste management**

- Continued development of the renewed Core Area Liquid Waste Management Plan and Saanich Peninsula Liquid Waste Management Plan. Staff are working to engage First Nations and integrate climate change considerations into the plan updates.

Regional Climate Progress Indicators and Trends



**CRD's per capita disposal rate**

- 338 kg/per capita (decrease of 11.6% and decrease of 44 kg/capita compared to 2023).



**Landfill Gas collection efficiency\***

- Achieved a 50% gas collection efficiency based on UBCi model.

\*Please refer to the Solid Waste Management Plan Progress Reports for additional information.





**Capital Regional District**

625 Fisgard Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 2S6  
250.360.3000

[www.crd.ca](http://www.crd.ca)  
Facebook: Capital Regional District





# 2024 Climate Action Progress Report

Environmental Services Committee  
April 16, 2025



# Agenda

1. Climate Action Strategy
2. Current Status
3. Tracking Our Progress
4. Report Card
5. Looking Ahead – 2025



# Climate Action Strategy



Climate-focused decision making

Sustainable land use, planning and preparedness

Low-carbon mobility

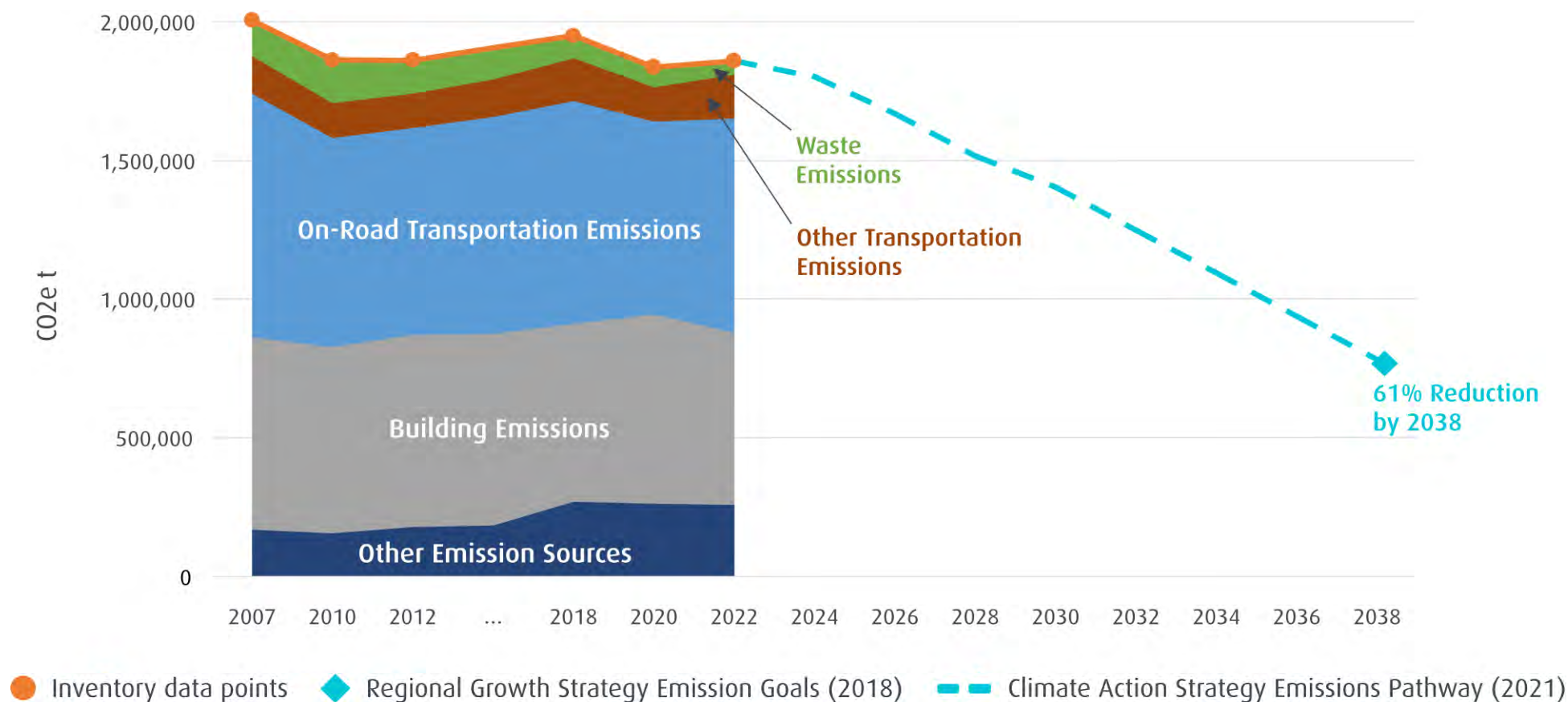
Low-carbon and resilient buildings and infrastructure

Resilient and abundant nature, ecosystems and food systems

Minimized waste

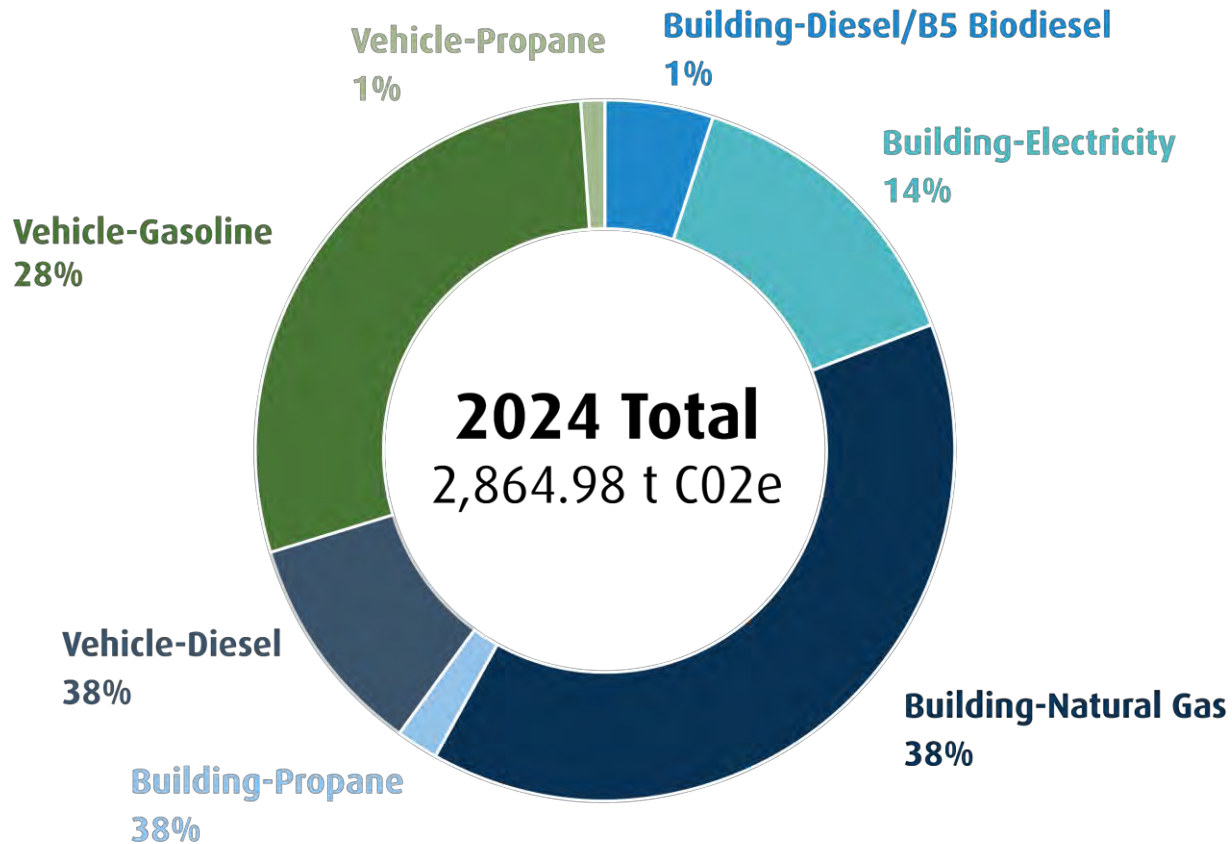


# Current Status – Regional Emissions





# Current Status – Corporate Emissions

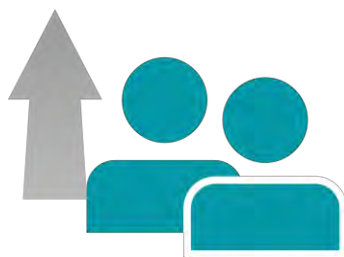


**Total Vehicle & Equipment Emissions**  
1,153.80 t CO2e

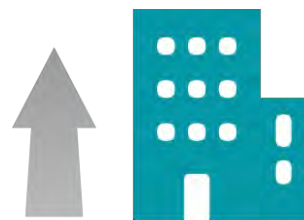


**Total Buildings & Infrastructure Emissions**  
1,711.18 t CO2e

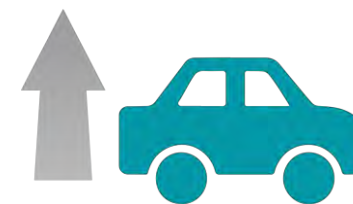
# Corporate Emission in Context of Growing Services



Added 237 new employees, a 23% increase\*



Added three major facilities\*\* resulting in an additional 17% in facility emissions in 2023

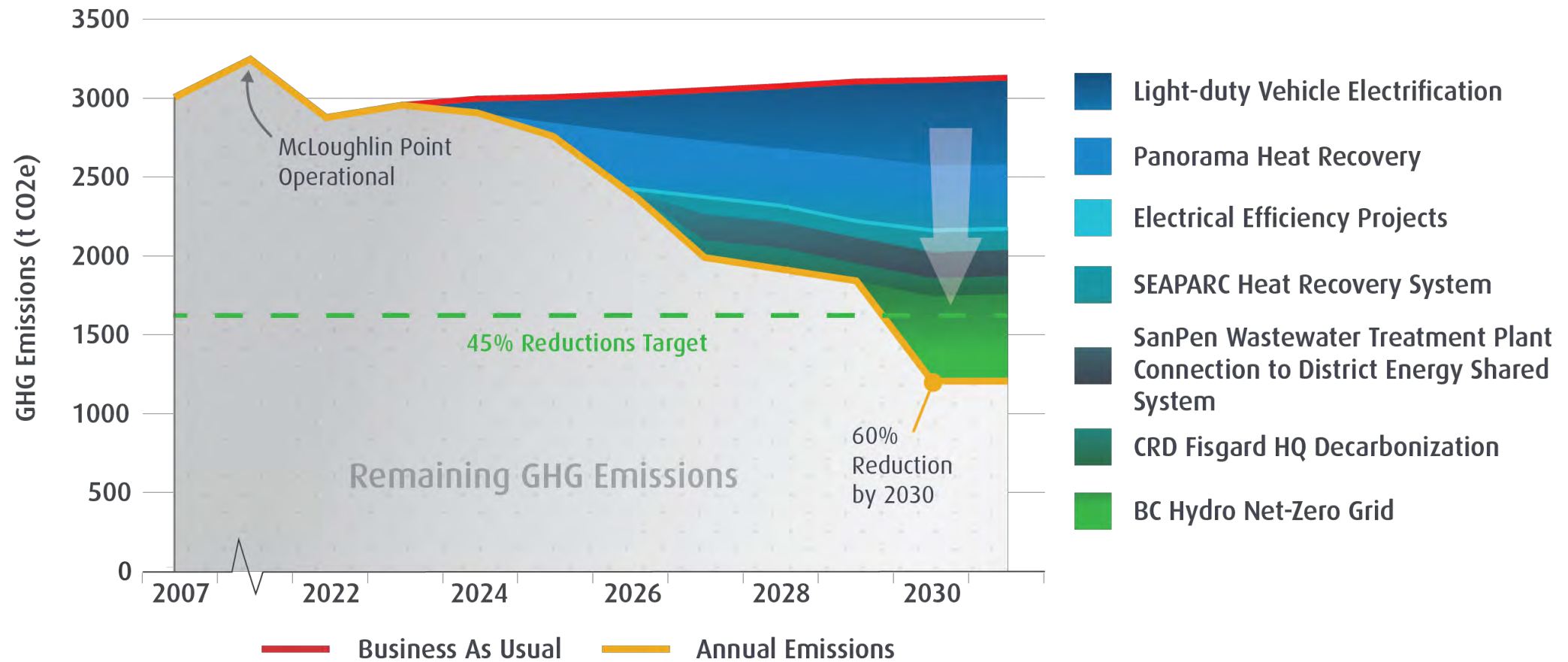


Fleet size grew by 27% and fleet use increased by 17% (365,000 km)

*\*2019 used as baseline year due to impact of COVID-19 on 2020 staffing levels*

*\*\*McLoughlin Point Wastewater Treatment Plan, Salt Spring Island Multi-Space (SIMS), and McCallum Pump Station*

# Emissions Pathway







# Report Card



## 2024 Overall Action Plan Progress On Track

The climate action strategy identifies 127 actions with specific timelines across the organization. Scores are based on the current status of each action within their goal areas.



## Corporate Actions Opportunity for Improvement



## Community-Focused Actions On Track

## Goal Areas:



**Goal 1:** Climate-Focused Decision Making



**Goal 2:** Sustainable Land Use, Planning and Preparedness



**Goal 3:** Low-Carbon Mobility



**Goal 4:** Low-Carbon and Resilient Buildings and Infrastructure



**Goal 5:** Resilient and Abundant Nature, Ecosystems and Food Systems



**Goal 6:** Minimized Waste



# Climate-Focused Decision Making

**Goal 1:** Climate action priorities are integrated at all levels of decision making across the organization.



Overall Action Status:  
On Track



## Progress Summary

- Created a framework to assess climate action in strategic and service planning, reviewing 120+ initiatives.
- Integrated climate considerations into capital planning.
- Piloted carbon pricing in key projects.
- Provided staff training on climate initiatives.
- Partnered with First Nations on shoreline restoration, incorporating Indigenous knowledge into park management.



# Sustainable Land Use, Planning and Preparedness

**Goal 2:** Support the region on its pathway to livable, affordable and low-carbon communities that are prepared for climate change.



Overall Action Status:  
On Track



## Progress Summary

- Launched the Capital Region Extreme Heat Information Portal.
- Completed and shared Electoral Area Wildfire Resiliency Plans.
- Updated regional downscaled climate projections.
- Led inter-municipal climate, emergency, and planning committees.
- Secured grant for regional climate adaptation capacity building.
- Enhanced the public emergency dashboard and expanded PANS for real-time alerts.





# Low Carbon Mobility

**Goal 3:** Rapidly reduce corporate fleet emissions. Support, endorse and encourage active, public and zero-emission transportation options across the region.



Overall Action Status:  
On Track



## Progress Summary

- Strengthened Green Fleet Policy to accelerate electrification.
- Launched Phase 2 of EV Ready Fleet Planning.
- Installed 13 public EV chargers at 9 municipal sites; managed grants for 136 City of Victoria chargers.
- Partnered with BC Hydro to assess 12+ potential fast-charging sites.
- Expanded Ready Step Roll school programs at Tillicum Elementary and Tribal Schools.
- Completed Sustainable Commute Pilot with CFB Esquimalt and Seaspan.
- Advanced Regional Transportation Service planning.
- EVs in CRD fleet: 68.



# Low-Carbon and Resilient Buildings and Infrastructure

**Goal 4:** Accelerate energy efficiency, emission reductions and enhanced resilience in CRD buildings and infrastructure. Support and encourage the same for all buildings and infrastructure across the region.



Overall Action Status:  
Opportunity for  
Improvement

## Progress Summary



- Enrolled 300+ residents in Home Energy Navigator.
- Delivered 104 Cool It! workshops (35 CRD-funded, 69 municipal-funded).
- Launched thermal imaging kits and refreshed Climate Action To-Go kits with local libraries.
- Supported regional benchmarking for large buildings.
- Conducted energy audits and HVAC design for Saanich Peninsula WWTP.
- Assessed corporate sites for solar potential, identifying top 10 candidates.
- Installed dehumidification at Panorama Recreation and advanced heat recovery project



# Resilient and Abundant Nature, Ecosystems and Food Systems

**Goal 5:** Protect, conserve and manage ecosystem health and nature's capacity to store carbon and adapt to climate change. Support the ongoing ability of natural systems to sustain life.



Overall Action Status:  
Opportunity for  
Improvement



## Progress Summary

- Advanced Regional Foodlands Trust, approved in early 2025.
- Developed Regional Parks Stewardship Plan and Land Acquisition Strategy.
- Assessed climate change impacts on ecosystem health and water supply in GVWSA.
- Provided ecological data to support regional planning and policy.
- Supported stream flow monitoring across the region.
- Coordinated the Capital Region Invasive Species Partnership.
- Partnered with First Nations on park management, cultural site protection, and restoration planning





## Minimized Waste

**Goal 6:** Waste generation and the resulting emissions are minimized and remaining waste is transformed into a resource. Follow the 5R pollution prevention hierarchy.



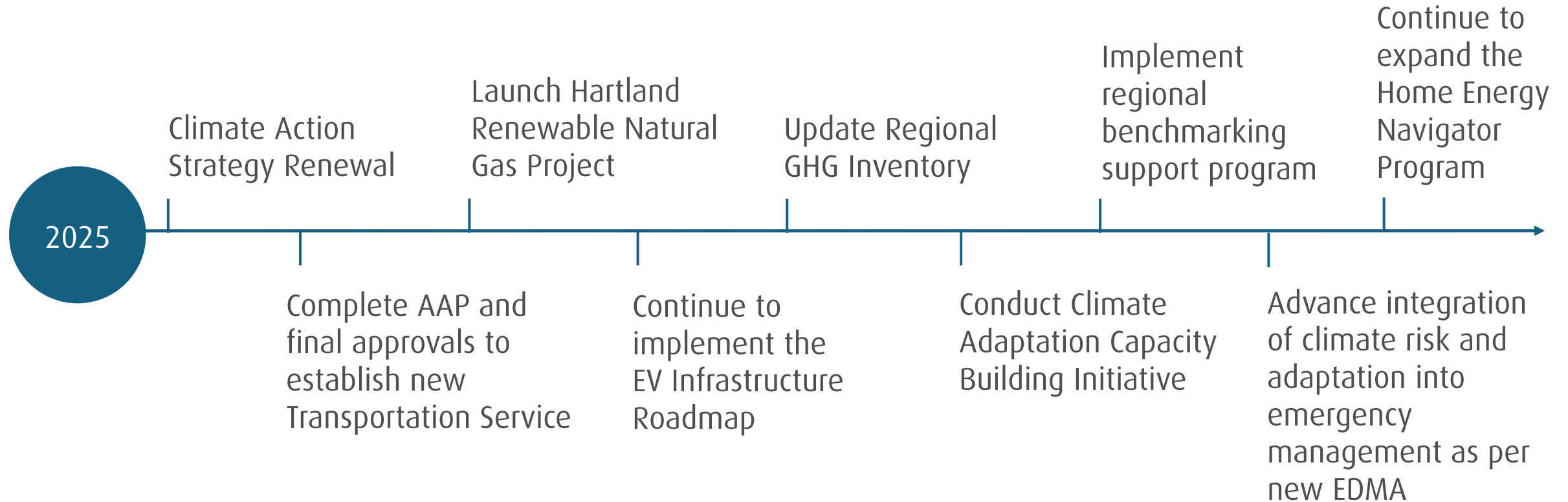
Overall Action Status:  
On Track



## Progress Summary

- Launched Material Diversion Transfer Station at Hartland Landfill.
- Provided ~\$70,000 to 24 projects via Rethink Waste Community Grant.
- Expanded education programs and developed a circular economy lesson plan.
- Continued curbside Blue Box Collection using 23 CNG trucks.
- Promoted Love Food, Hate Waste to reduce food waste.
- Installed landfill gas collection infrastructure to cut emissions.
- Advanced Hartland Renewable Natural Gas project.

# Looking Ahead – 2025 Initiatives







# Thank you

nelliott@crd.bc.ca | 250.360.3048



Capital Regional District



CRDVictoria



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**REPORT TO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025**

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**SUBJECT**     **Climate Action Strategy Renewal – Vision, Principles, Goals and Targets**

**ISSUE SUMMARY**

To endorse the vision, principles, goals and targets of the Capital Regional District's (CRD) renewed Climate Action Strategy.

**BACKGROUND**

The CRD's Climate Action Strategy (CAS) was adopted in 2021 following the Board's declaration of a climate emergency. The CAS includes a framework that identifies a vision, principles, goals and targets alongside a 5-year action plan to guide implementation of initiatives to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the regional impacts of climate change.

Staff aim to renew the CAS in 2025. Staff are seeking Board endorsement of the vision, principles, goals and targets provided in Appendix A as a foundation and strategic direction for its development and implementation.

**Proposed Guiding Framework**

The vision, principles, goals and targets in the CAS provide a guiding framework for plan development and implementation. Between January 2025 and March 2025, CRD staff engaged subject matter experts, local government staff counterparts and elected officials represented through the CRD's Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force (Task Force) to ensure the guiding framework is current and responsive to the realities of the region.

Outcomes of the engagement informed amendments to the vision, principles, goals and targets (provided in Appendix A), generally reflect the following themes:

- Strengthen equity and inclusion lens
- Emphasize climate adaptation and resilience
- Use plain language wherever possible
- Lead by example by strengthening corporate commitments

**Next Steps**

Once approved, the updated framework will guide the CAS renewal, which is focused on *implementation* and *future planning*, and will:

- Clarify and frame where the CRD can make an impact.
- Identify opportunities to be more responsive to shifts in provincial and federal government priorities.
- Incorporate new Board directives.
- Establish an updated action plan (2025 to 2030).
- Determine a schedule and sequence of actions to advance to the CAS.

The CAS will build on past progress, incorporate recent technical and policy analysis, and be shaped by robust engagement from CRD services and inter-municipal climate committees, and presented to the Board in late 2025.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

### *Alternative 1*

The Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the CRD adopt the guiding framework for the CRD's renewed Climate Action Strategy, as stated in Appendix A.

### *Alternative 2*

That this report be referred back to staff for additional information.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### *Alignment with Board & Corporate Priorities*

The key driver of this initiative is to advance the Board's Climate Action & Environment Board and Corporate Priorities.

### *Alignment with Existing Plans & Strategies*

Embedded through numerous services, climate action at the CRD has strong linkages with several strategic plans across the organization, including: 2023-2026 Board Priorities and Corporate Plan, the 2018 Regional Growth Strategy, the 2014 Regional Transportation Plan and Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plans, the 2022 Regional Water Supply Master Plan, the 2022-2032 Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan, the Solid Waste Management Plan and regional transportation priorities. Successful implementation of these plans alongside the strategy is integral to fulfilling the CRD's role in climate action.

### *Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Implications*

The guiding framework includes a principle to "Strive for Climate Equity", which will be embedded in the updated CAS.

### *Financial Implications*

Funding to implement the 2021 Climate Action Strategy and renew the strategy is embedded in 2025-2028 Financial Plan. Financial implications associated with a renewed CAS will be presented to the Board following its development.

### *First Nations Implications*

The guiding framework includes a principle to "Work Toward Reconciliation", which will be embedded in the updated CAS.

*Intergovernmental Implications*

Within a mandate to support regional collaboration on climate action, the regional Climate Action and Adaptation service works directly with local government partners through the CRD Climate Action Inter-Municipal Working Group and Task Force to inform the renewed CAS.

*Regional Growth Strategy Implications*

Climate action and planning for climate impacts are essential to achieving the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) vision and goals. Integrating the RGS vision into the renewed CAS ensures alignment between the two, including the regional greenhouse gas emissions target. If the RGS is amended during the CAS timeline, staff will undertake a process to ensure the two remain aligned.

**CONCLUSION**

The renewal of the CRD's Climate Action Strategy in 2025 presents an opportunity to build on the CRD's longstanding commitment to climate action. Informed by robust engagement, updated inventories and climate forecasts, and evolving policy and programming opportunities, the updated CAS will provide a clear framework for implementation, while strengthening commitments to equity and adaptation. By refining CRD's role, updating key initiatives, and establishing a strategic roadmap for 2025–2030, the renewed CAS will ensure continued progress toward corporate and regional climate goals.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Environmental Services Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the CRD adopt the guiding framework for the CRD's renewed Climate Action Strategy, as stated in Appendix A.

Submitted by:	Nikki Elliott, MPA, Manager, Climate Action Programs
Concurrence:	Rory Tooke, PhD, Senior Manager, Environmental Innovation
Concurrence:	Luisa Jones, MBA, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENT**

Appendix A: Proposed Vision, Goals, Principles & Targets for Renewed CRD Climate Action Strategy



## Proposed Vision, Principles, Goals and Targets for Renewed CRD Climate Action Strategy

### Vision

The purpose of the climate action vision statement is to define the Capital Regional District's (CRD) long-term aspirations and desired future state with regards to climate change. It serves as a guiding principle, inspiring interest holders and aligning efforts toward a common goal. By articulating a clear and compelling climate action vision statement, the CRD can foster motivation, strategic direction, and a shared sense of purpose. Through engagement with the CRD Climate Action Inter-Municipal Working Group (IMWG) and elected official members of the CRD Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force (Task Force), it was determined that the vision statement defined in the CRD Regional Growth Strategy fulfilled these parameters and lent itself to an effective vision for the CRD Climate Action Strategy. Therefore, it is proposed to adopt the vision statement from the Regional Growth Strategy.

VISION STATEMENT	
2021 CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY	PROPOSED UPDATE
Through collective action, we eliminate emissions and foster healthy and resilient communities and natural areas now and in the future.	In 2038, Capital Regional District residents enjoy a healthy and rewarding quality of life. We have a vital economy, livable communities and steward our environment and natural resources with care. Our choices reflect our commitment to collective action on climate change.

## Principles

The 2021 Climate Action Strategy has six principles that were identified and crafted with input from multiple levels of interest holders during the development of the strategy. These principles are intended to guide the selection of actions within the strategy and to guide the implementation of actions under each goal area. Through engagement with internal subject matter experts and participants in the IMWG and Task Force, use of plain language to improve accessibility of each guiding principle was recommended. Updates to the guiding principles were made to reduce use of jargon and emphasize active language.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES	
2021 CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY	PROPOSED UPDATE
<b>LEADERSHIP</b> The CRD takes bold action to rapidly eliminate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from corporate operations, prepares CRD assets for the changing climate, and integrates climate action across the CRD's local and regional services.	<b>LEAD</b> Act boldly as an organization and lead by example.
<b>COLLABORATION</b> Collaborative and collective action among municipal, provincial, federal and First Nations governments, businesses, organizations and residents is critical to advance climate action.	<b>COLLABORATE AND LISTEN</b> Work together across the region and seek to understand what the community needs.
<b>URGENCY</b> Actions to mitigate the impacts of climate change are swift and substantial to respond to the climate emergency.	<b>EVIDENCE BASED DECISIONS</b> Base decisions on the best available evidence to ensure they work well, are responsible, and can be adjusted as needed.
<b>FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS</b> Actions support indigenous-led climate solutions that are grounded in indigenous self-determination, shared prosperity and respect indigenous relationships with the land, water and all beings.	<b>WORK TOWARDS RECONCILIATION</b> Further CRD's work towards reconciliation by supporting Indigenous-led climate solutions that are grounded in Indigenous self-determination and shared prosperity, and respecting Indigenous relationships with the land, water, and all beings.

## EQUITY

Actions are inclusive and accessible to residents across the region, and particularly support those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

## STRIVE FOR CLIMATE EQUITY

Apply an equity, diversity and inclusion lens to climate action so that actions are inclusive and accessible to residents across the region, and particularly support those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

## CO-BENEFITS

Actions maximize co-benefits, including reducing ghg emissions, increasing resilience, improving affordability, expanding economic opportunities, improving health and well-being, advancing reconciliation, and more.

## CO-BENEFITS

Maximize win-wins, including energy efficiency, resilience, affordability, health and well-being, and biodiversity.

## Goal Areas

The CRD's 2021 Climate Action Strategy identified six primary goal areas as focal points for its initiatives. Actions are grouped within each goal area accordingly. Updates have been made to the goal area titles and description, based on feedback during engagement with the IMWG and Task Force, resulting in the following recommended language for inclusion in the updated Climate Action Strategy. The updated strategy will also include long-form descriptions of each goal area, expanding on the themes, activities, and responsibilities of the CRD.

## GOAL AREAS

### 2021 CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY

#### CLIMATE-FOCUSED DECISION MAKING

Climate action priorities are integrated at all levels of decision making across the organization.

#### SUSTAINABLE LAND USE, PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS

Support the region on its pathway to livable, affordable and low-carbon communities that are prepared for climate change.

### PROPOSED UPDATE

#### CLIMATE-FOCUSED DECISIONS

Climate action is integrated at all levels of decision making across the organization.

#### SUSTAINABLE AND PREPARED COMMUNITIES

Support the region's transition to low-carbon, affordable, and climate-ready communities.



#### LOW CARBON MOBILITY

Rapidly reduce corporate fleet emissions. Support, and encourage active, public and zero-emission transportation options across the region.

#### LOW-CARBON AND RESILIENT BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Accelerate energy efficiency, emission reductions and enhanced resilience in CRD buildings and infrastructure. Support and encourage the same for all buildings and infrastructure across the region.

#### RESILIENT AND ABUNDANT NATURE, ECOSYSTEMS AND FOOD SYSTEMS

Protect, conserve and manage ecosystem health and nature's capacity to store carbon and adapt to climate change. Support the ongoing ability of natural systems to sustain life.

#### WASTE REDUCTION

Waste generation and the resulting emissions are minimized, and remaining waste is transformed into a resource. Follow the 5R pollution prevention hierarchy.

#### LOW CARBON MOBILITY

Rapidly reduce vehicle emissions and support more options for active and public transportation across the region.

#### LOW-CARBON AND RESILIENT BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Accelerate energy efficiency, electrification, and prepare buildings and infrastructure for climate impacts.

#### RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS AND FOODLANDS

Enhance natural spaces to sustain life, improve water quality, and support climate adaptation.

#### WASTE REDUCTION

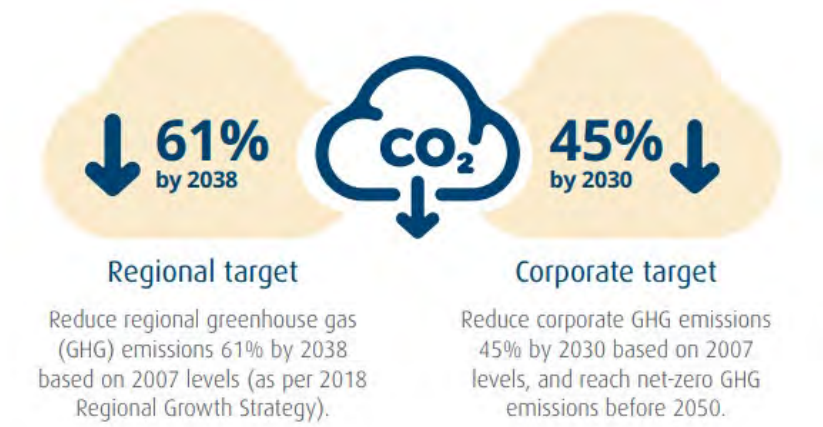
Reduce waste and landfill emissions. Transform remaining waste into a resource.

## Emission Reduction Targets

The emission reduction targets included in the 2021 Climate Action Strategy are divided by scope into two targets: one for regional emissions and another for corporate emissions. The regional emissions target is 61% by 2038, as defined by the 2018 Regional Growth Strategy (RGS). This target may be reviewed as part of revisions to the RGS in coming years, but in the meantime will remain as is within the updated Climate Action Strategy.

The corporate target of 45% by 2030 and net-zero by 2050 is guided by the principles of the strategy and is based on global best practices as advised by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

As part of the Climate Action Strategy update, staff will consider developing sub-targets for corporate emissions to account for growing service impacts. The proposed targets for the renewed Climate Action Strategy (2025-2030) are:



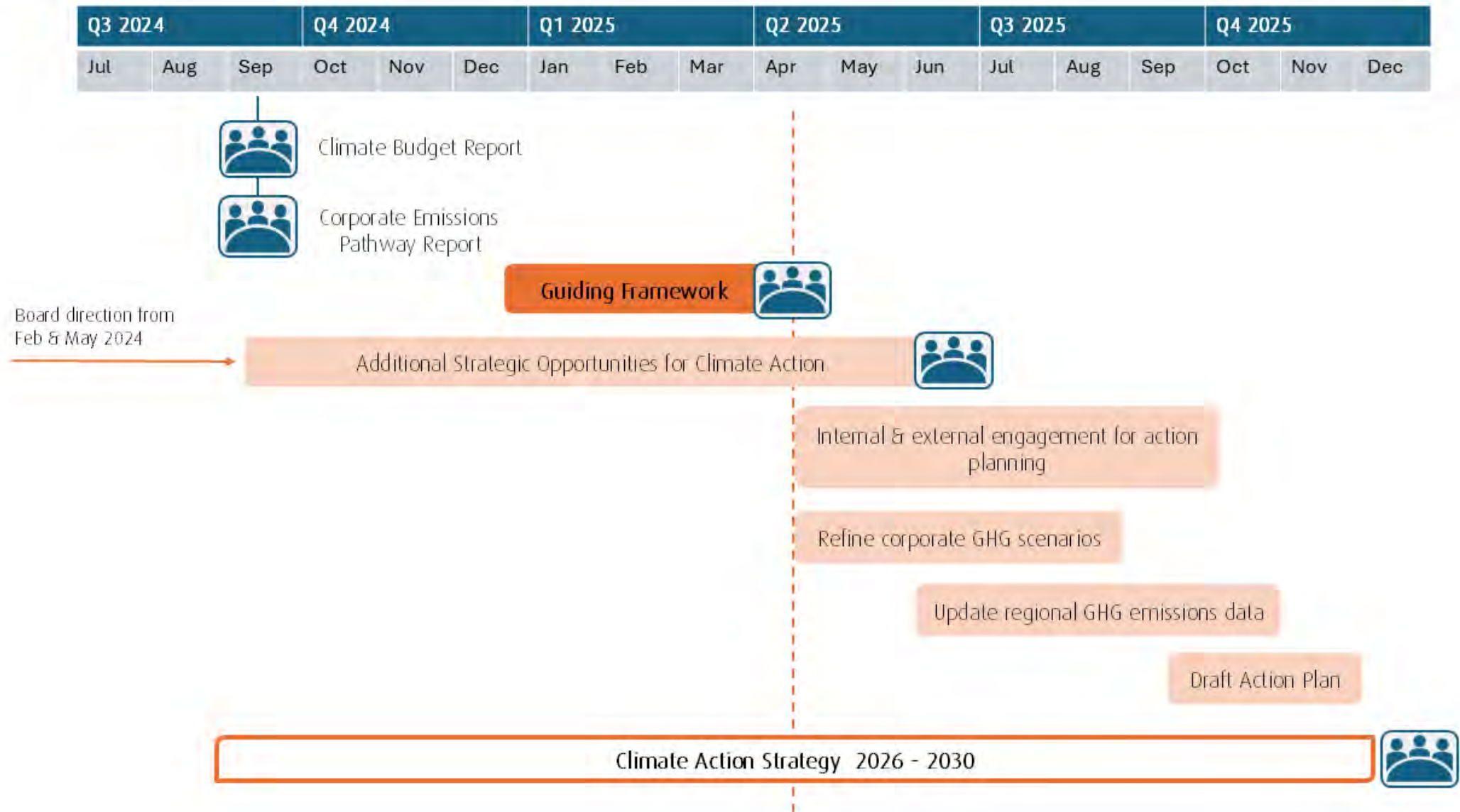
# Climate Action Strategy Guiding Framework Update

Environmental Services Committee

April 16, 2025



# Background



# Guiding Framework

Align vision to **Regional Growth Strategy** & update framework based on the following themes:

- Augment **equity and inclusion** considerations
- Emphasize **climate adaptation and resilience**
- Lead by example by strengthening **corporate commitments**
- Use **plain language** wherever possible



# Impacts and Implications

- Structures upcoming **engagement** sessions
- Drives increased **focus** on climate adaptation and resilience
- Supports further exploration of impacts and **implications** for the CRD Climate Action Service
- Helps identify **priority actions** and implementation strategy





## Capital Regional District

### Meeting Minutes

### Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force (IMTF)

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Friday, March 14, 2025

9:30 AM

Room 488/MS Teams

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Present: Councillor S. Duck (Sidney), Councillor M. Gardiner (Victoria), Councillor D. Grove (Colwood), A. MacKenzie (View Royal), Councillor S. Riddell (Central Saanich), Councillor M. Wagner (Langford)

Electronic Participation: Councillor A. Appleton (Oak Bay), Councillor A. Baird (Highlands), Councillor J. Brownoff (Saanich), Councillor S. Gray (Metchosin), Director G. Holman (SSI EA), Councillor T. St-Pierre (Sooke), Director A. Wickheim (JdF EA)

Staff: M. Carolsfeld (Climate Action Coordinator), N. Elliott (Manager, Climate Action Programs), M. Greeno (Community Energy Specialist), M. Rowe (Climate Action Program Assistant, Recorder), R. Tooke (Senior Manager, Environmental Innovation & Strategy)

Regrets: Director P. Brent (SGI EA), Councillor D. Cavens (Esquimalt), Mayor P. Jones (North Saanich)

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

- A round of introductions was made by Task Force members, and CRD staff.

#### 2. Territorial Acknowledgement

- N. Elliott provided a Territorial Acknowledgment.

#### 3. Approval of Agenda

- Agenda for the [March 14, 2025](#) Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force meeting.

#### 4. Adoption of Minutes

- Minutes from the [December 6, 2024](#) Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force meeting.

**MOVED by Councillor S. Duck, SECONDED by Councillor A. Baird**

**That the minutes of the December 6, 2024 Climate Action Inter-Municipal Task Force meeting be adopted as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

## 5. Climate Action Program Updates

- N. Elliott provided background information and updates for the CRD Climate Action Service, including:
  - Staffing updates, electric mobility, Low Carbon Fuel Standard Reporting service, forthcoming reports to Environmental Services Committee in April, climate adaptation capacity building grant approval, climate adaptation backgrounder report, Climate Action Strategy renewal, and CRD 2025 Budget approval.

Action:

- a) CRD staff to upload final reports to SharePoint Collaboration site when finalized.

## 6. Check-in: CRD's Climate Action Strategy (CAS) Vision, Targets, Principles, Goals

*To support renewal of the CAS, members were asked to participate in an exercise reviewing the guiding framework for the 2025-2030 strategy, with an implementation focus.*

- Vision: Reviewed RGS and Climate Action Strategy Vision Statements. Feedback/discussion included:
  - Needs stronger equity and First Nations lens, future generations focus, and a broader, future-looking regional vision. Should inspire hope while being realistic about global trends, politics, and population growth. Greater emphasis on adaptation, emissions reduction, intergovernmental coordination, evidence-based decision-making, advocacy and high-impact actions. Should consider biodiversity, tree protection, and natural assets.
- Targets: Reviewed CRD corporate and regional emissions reductions targets. Feedback/discussion included:
  - Targets are mostly fine but could be more memorable (e.g., 50% by 2030 vs. 61% by 2038). CRD should lead by example with stronger corporate targets. Need to "walk the talk". Regionally, consider sector-specific breakdowns and tangible impacts to improve engagement. Acknowledge non-linear progress (e.g., Zero Carbon Step Code effects take time). Population growth is challenging emissions reductions, with many key factors beyond CRD control.
- Principles: Reviewed the guiding principles for plan. Feedback/discussion included:
  - Could combine equity and reconciliation, guided by First Nations. Leadership should prioritize collaboration, evidence-based decisions, and efficiency. Add "Culture Shift" as a principle to make sustainable choices easy and appealing. Highlight co-benefits like economic resilience, biodiversity, and emergency preparedness. Use plain, practical language.
- Goals: Reviewed the 6 goal areas of the CAS and asked members to note "things they like" and "things they don't". Staff provided a link to an online platform for further feedback. Themes/summary of feedback collected included:
  - Ensure language is clear and relatable. Emphasize evidence-based decisions and cultural shifts (e.g., public transit, affordable housing). Add a goal for biodiversity and nature protection. Land use planning should consider densification. Strengthen adaptation focus (e.g., extreme heat, floods). Frame climate action positively—affordability, well-being, and quality of life—rather than fear-based messaging. Provide practical alternatives to high-emission behaviors.

- b) CRD staff to consider feedback for vision, principles, goals, targets of renewed CAS and

present to Board.

## 7. Municipal Roundtable – Open Discussion

- Deferred due to time constraints.

Action:

- c) Members to share any pertinent updates to CRD Staff for distribution with meeting minutes.

## 8. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

New Actions	Responsibility	Timeline
CRD staff to upload final technical reports to SharePoint Collaboration site when finalized.	Staff	ASAP
CRD staff to consider Task Force feedback in for vision, principles, goals, targets of renewed CAS and present to Board.	Staff	ASAP
Members to share any pertinent updates to CRD Staff for distribution with meeting minutes.	IMTF	ASAP
Past Actions	Responsibility	Timeline
Members to utilize Task Force SharePoint site to share key documents and resources between members. If you need assistance accessing the collaborative site, please contact staff.	IMTF	Ongoing
Members to provide future meeting topic requests to Manager, Climate Action Programs.	IMTF	Ongoing
CRD staff to attach the minutes from the previous meeting with future meeting invites, in addition to linking to the SharePoint collaboration site.	Staff	Ongoing