

6

Climate Action



Progress on adaptation, reduced greenhouse gas emissions and triple-bottom line solutions that consider social, environmental and economic impacts

01 Strategy

STRATEGIES & PLANS

- › [Climate Action Strategy](#)
- › [Regional Growth Strategy](#)
- › [Regional Water Supply Strategic Plan](#)
- › [Regional Water Supply Master Plan](#)
- › [Regional Parks Strategic Plan 2022-2032](#)
- › [Special Task Force on First Nations Relations](#)
- › [Statement of Reconciliation](#)
- › [Solid Waste Management Plan](#)
- › [Regional Transportation Plan](#)

CORPORATE PLAN GOALS

- 6a Sustainable & resilient land use, planning and preparedness
- 6b Low carbon mobility
- 6c Low carbon & resilient buildings & infrastructure
- 6d Community-based greenhouse gas emissions

02 Contacts

Rory Tooke, Senior Manager, Environmental Innovation

@ [email](#) T. 250.360.3626

03 Operating Context

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2026

1. **Renewal of the Climate Action Strategy**, to guide Climate Action at the CRD from 2026 through to 2030. The renewed strategy works within the current context of shifting climate policies and government priorities by focusing on actions that reduce greenhouse gases and adapt to a changing climate while saving money for residents, businesses, and governments.
2. **Launched the CRD Building Benchmarking program** in March 2026 to help local governments track, manage and reduce energy use and carbon emissions from large buildings. A first in Canada for a regional government, this program supports bylaws approved in 2025 in Saanich and Victoria that require annual energy use reporting from large buildings.
3. Completed the grant-funded regional **Climate Adaptation Capacity Building Initiative**, providing targeted workshops, training, and a regional cohort to build understanding and technical proficiency in climate adaptation, leading to the development of a regional climate adaptation roadmap.
4. **Expanded the public EV charger network** across the region, including new level 2 chargers installed and commissioned in Saanich, Metchosin, Colwood, and Salt Spring Island.
5. **Continued delivery of climate action programs** such as the **Home Energy Navigator** program to support home energy retrofits, the **Cool It! climate leadership program** in local schools, and reduction of corporate greenhouse gas emissions through **energy retrofits of CRD buildings** and continued **electrification of the CRD vehicle fleet**.

FACTORS THAT WILL AFFECT OUR OPERATIONS IN 2027 AND BEYOND

- Climate is changing, with hotter, drier summer and more intense precipitation events, which will result in various regional impacts to human health, water supply and demand, rainwater and coastal storm management, transportation networks, ecosystems and species, buildings, infrastructure and energy systems, tourism and recreation, and food and agriculture. The CRD will continually need to monitor impacts and understand the risk and vulnerability of climate change on our infrastructure and services and implement measures to adapt accordingly.
- Climate action is a shared responsibility, and the CRD provides data collection and research, education and outreach, policy facilitation, regional program delivery, and manages emissions and adaptation within its own service delivery.
- The Board declared a Climate Emergency in February 2019 and approved the 2021 Climate Action Strategy, which included a five-year action plan. The strategy expired in 2025, and CRD Climate Action brought a renewed strategy to the Board in 2026 to guide climate action through to 2030.
- CRD Climate Action service levels were increased in 2022 to focus on impactful areas of emissions mitigation including electric vehicle infrastructure, residential retrofit program, and corporate energy management. It is anticipated that service levels will need to continue at similar or increased levels moving forward to continue progress toward the CRD's 2038 emission reduction goal.
- There was an 11% reduction in the overall regional greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions between 2007 and 2024 (equivalent to a 33% reduction per capita). Population growth and economic growth will

continue to put upward pressure on overall emissions even as the region reduces dependence on fossil fuels.

- There was a 4.7% decrease in corporate GHG emissions between 2007 and 2024. With increases in service levels and associated infrastructure, the CRD will need to sustain efforts and investment in GHG reduction initiatives to achieve 2030 and 2050 targets. This includes implementation of several critical electrification and energy efficiency initiatives, including at Panorama Recreation Centre, SEAPARC Recreation Centre, CRD Headquarters, Saanich Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant and other key facilities, and sustained fleet conversions to electric vehicles.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS OF CLIMATE ACTION SERVICE

- Over 2023-2026, the climate action service accessed or applied to external funding for **34 distinct corporate or regional climate projects/programs**:
 - 22 complete (approximate \$1.7 million in grant value)
 - 12 in progress (approximate \$7.2 million in value, including \$4.4 million redistributed to municipal partners)
- Annually administered four climate action Inter-municipal Working Group meetings and four Inter-Municipal Task Force meetings, produced monthly local government climate action e-newsletters, and actively participated in five distinct Vancouver Island based and provincial local government peer networks.
- Approximately **939** Home Energy Navigator consultations performed to date.
- Approximately **326** retrofits completed to date through the Home Energy Navigator.

04 Services

The services listed below rely on the support of several corporate and support divisions to operate effectively on a daily basis. More information about these services is available in the Corporate Services and Government Relations Community Need Summaries.

SERVICE BUDGET REFERENCES¹

- › 1.309 Climate Action & Adaptation
- › 1.012 Other Legislative & General - Climate

1. COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION

Description

To support and align regional climate action efforts with local governments related to strategies, policies and programs, and to liaise and coordinate information and efforts with senior levels of government.

What you can expect from us

- ▶ Provide support to local governments in developing and implementing climate action plans and policies and execute regional programs.
- ▶ 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.

Staffing Complement

Climate Action Program: **5 FTE (including 1 Term and 1 Manager)**

2. CORPORATE CLIMATE ACTION

Description

CRD services will embed climate action within their own service delivery, with support from Climate Action program staff. The program will support the organization with its corporate climate goals/commitments, develop and monitor corporate policies related to climate action, undertake annual

¹ Service budget(s) listed may fund other services

reporting, support corporate building and fleet energy and emission reduction and climate preparedness initiatives.

What you can expect from us

- ▶ Develop and monitor corporate energy and climate action initiatives, policies and strategies.
- ▶ Facilitate internal coordination, knowledge sharing, capacity building and project identification and execution.
- ▶ Pursue grants and support services in implementing corporate projects.
- ▶ Complete annual reporting.

Staffing Complement

Climate Action Program: **1 FTE**

05 Initiatives

Below are the initiatives listed in the [Capital Regional District 2023-2026 Corporate Plan](#) and the related initiative business cases (IBCs). For an overview of the financial impacts, including cost of staffing, please refer to the Provisional Budget report.

Initiative	Implementation year(s)
6a Goal: Sustainable & resilient land use, planning and preparedness	
6a-1 Promote community capacity building on climate action	Ongoing
▶ IBC 6a-1.1 Implement Climate Action Strategy	2025-ongoing
▶ IBC 6a-1.1 Implement Climate Action Strategy (Revised)	2026
6a-2 Update the climate projections for the capital region to support decision making and to help community partners understand how their work may be affected by our changing climate	2023-2024
6a-3 Generate analysis to understand vulnerability and exposure to extreme heat now and into the future	2023-2024
6a-4 Explore options for a regional approach to biodiversity and the protection of ecological assets	2024-2026
▶ IBC 6a-4.1 Biodiversity Service	2024-ongoing
6a-5.1 Supplemental Goose Harvesting Support*	2026
▶ NEW IBC 6a-5.2 Goose Management Service Enhancements*	2027-ongoing
6b Goal: Low carbon mobility	
6b-1 Implement the Capital Region Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Roadmap to support shift to low-carbon transportation options	Ongoing
6b-2 Advance the electrification of the CRD vehicle fleet	2023-2030
▶ IBC 6b-2.1 Corporate Fleet Mechanic	2025-ongoing
▶ FUTURE IBC 6b-2.2 Corporate Fleet Mechanic	Planned for 2028

Initiative	Implementation year(s)
6b-3 Enhance on-board and CRD fleet management technology to support utilization management, reporting, fiscal accountability and climate action ▶ IBC 6b-3.1 Fuel Purchase System ▶ IBC 6b-3.2 Fleet Data Telematics ▶ IBC 6b-3.3 Fleet Overhead Recovery	Ongoing 2024 Advanced in 2025 through core service
6c Goal: Low carbon & resilient buildings & infrastructure	
6c-1 Collaborative policies, programs and data collection initiatives to achieve energy efficient and low carbon buildings across the region	Ongoing
6c-2 Implement the CRD Corporate Green Building Policy and the CRD Corporate Carbon Price Policy	Ongoing
6c-3 Expand the Home Energy Navigator program	Ongoing
6d Goal: Community-based greenhouse gas emissions	
6d-1 Update the regional greenhouse gas inventories biannually to monitor progress on emissions reduction targets	2023 & 2025

¹⁶Not captured in the 2023-2026 Corporate Plan

06 Performance



The following performance measures were developed and tracked as part of the 2021 Climate Action Strategy. To improve how we track progress on climate action and to reflect the CRD's role in climate action in the region, staff are reviewing and renewing the performance measures and targets for climate action at the CRD as part of the renewed Climate Action Strategy 2026-2030. For this reason, the measures below are marked as "N/A", and the first set of renewed measures will be reported in 2027.

GOAL 6A: SUSTAINABLE & RESILIENT LAND USE, PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS

Targets & Benchmarks

Tracking regional resiliency is challenging due to data availability and the various roles and responsibilities of governments and agencies within the region. Additionally, the regulatory framework is changing with the new provincial *Emergency and Disaster Management Act*.

Staff will work with partners to consider opportunities for developing regional targets, benchmarks and related monitoring programs in the future.

Measuring Progress

Ref	Performance Measure(s)	Type	2025 Actual	2026 Forecast	2027 Target	Desired trend
1	Progress of climate adaptation related actions in the Climate Action Strategy ¹	Quality	90%	100%	N/A ²	↗

¹ Indicator details are available in the [2025 Climate Action Progress Report](#). Input data is collected annually through a staff survey.

² As noted at the beginning of this section, new performance measures will be reported in 2027 as part of the renewed Climate Action Strategy 2026-2030

Discussion

- **Metric 1:** 26 actions related to climate adaptation are included in the 2021 CRD Climate Action Strategy.

GOAL 6B: LOW CARBON MOBILITY

Targets & Benchmarks

- Transportation mode shift targets: the Regional Transportation Plan established a mode share target of 42% for active transportation and transit combined for the region by 2038, based on 15% walking, 15% cycling and 12% transit. The Victoria Regional Transit Commission increased the transit mode share target to 15% in 2020, increasing the regional target to 45%.
- New public electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure target: 770 public Level 2 EV charger ports and 132 Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC) ports by 2030.
- Regional EV registrations: provided for context, no explicit target in place.

Measuring Progress

Ref	Performance Measure(s)	Type	2025 Actual	2026 Forecast	2027 Target	Desired trend
1	Total trips made by walking, cycling and transit in the Growth Management Planning Area ¹	Quantity	N/A	N/A	N/A ⁴	↗
2	New public EV charging infrastructure installed across the region: Level 2 ports/ DCFC ports ²	Quantity	650/60	700/70	N/A ⁴	↗
3	Regional EV registrations ³	Quantity	5%	6%	N/A ⁴	↗

¹ Indicator details are available in the [Regional Growth Strategy indicator report](#); data is collected every five years through the CRD Origin and Destination Household Survey, last update completed in 2022

² Data from the [Electric Charging and Alternative Fuelling Stations Locator \(canada.ca\)](#). More stations have been installed in our region that have yet to be added to the Electric Charging and Alternative Fuelling Stations Locator.

³ EVs as a percentage of all vehicles registered with ICBC in the capital region; data collected and provided by ICBC.

⁴ As noted at the beginning of this section, new performance measures will be reported in 2027 as part of the renewed Climate Action Strategy 2026-2030

Discussion

- **Metric 1:** Targets included in Regional Transportation Plan.
- **Metric 2:** Target from Capital Region EV Infrastructure Roadmap (2021). Forecast assumes implementation of the CRD EV Infrastructure Regional network, Saanich and Victoria EV network.

GOAL 6C: LOW CARBON & RESILIENT BUILDINGS & INFRASTRUCTURE

Targets & Benchmarks

- Natural gas consumption: provided for context, no explicit target in place.
- Natural gas connections: provided for context, no explicit target in place.
- Fossil fuel heated homes sold in the region: provided for context, no explicit target in place.
- Home Energy Navigator participation: provided for context, no explicit target in place.
- Home Energy Navigator supported retrofits: the business case for the Navigator program targeted 1,000 per year of operation.

Measuring Progress

Ref	Performance Measure(s)	Type	2025 Actual	2026 Forecast	2027 Target	Desired trend
1	Regional natural gas reported consumption ¹	Quantity	7.3 PJ	7.3PJ	N/A ⁶	↘
2	Regional Fortis BC gas connections ²	Quantity	63,000	63,000	N/A ⁶	↘
3	Fossil fuel heated homes sold in the capital region ³	Quantity	28%	26%	N/A ⁶	↘
4	Home Energy Navigator participation ⁴	Quantity	250	300	N/A ⁶	↗
5	Home Energy Navigator low carbon retrofits ⁵	Quantity	300	500	N/A ⁶	↗

¹ Total natural gas consumed annually in the capital region; data collected and provided by the Province of BC.

² All gas connections active in the capital region in any given year; data collected and provided by the Province of BC.

³ Oil, propane and natural gas heated homes in the capital region; data provided by the Victoria Real Estate Board.

⁴ Annual total Home Energy Navigator participants; data collected and provided by City Green Solutions and the CRD Climate Action Program.

⁵ Annual retrofit projects supported by the Home Energy Navigator; data collected and provided by City Green Solutions and the CRD Climate Action Program.

⁶ As noted at the beginning of this section, new performance measures will be reported in 2027 as part of the renewed Climate Action Strategy 2026-2030

Discussion

- **Metric 4:** The CRD launched the regional Home Energy Navigator Program in November 2022. Participation includes anyone who accessed the program for support during the term.
- **Metric 5:** Low-carbon retrofits/conversion is a lagging indicator.

GOAL 6D: COMMUNITY-BASED GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Targets & Benchmarks

The metrics included provide community and corporate Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction results.

- The CRD Board set a target to decrease community GHG emissions by 33% from 2007 levels by 2020, and 61% by 2038.
- The CRD has a target to decrease corporate GHG emissions by 45% from 2007 levels by 2030, and net-zero by 2050.

Measuring Progress

Ref	Performance Measure(s)	Type	2025 Actual	2026 Forecast	2027 Target	Desired trend
1	Community GHG emissions ¹	Quantity	1.78M	1.7M	N/A ³	↘
2	Corporate GHG emissions ²	Quantity	3,432	3,250	3,100	↘

¹ Tonnes of CO₂ emissions in 2024 estimated by community activities; data from Regional GHG Inventory Study (Stantec, 2025). Inventory is done every 2 years.

² Tonnes of CO₂ emissions generated by CRD operations; data from CRD 2025 Climate Action Progress Report.

³ As noted at the beginning of this section, new performance measures will be reported in 2027 as part of the renewed Climate Action Strategy 2026-2030

Discussion

- **Metric 1:** Includes emissions sources such as stationary energy, transportation, waste, industrial process and product use, agriculture, forestry and other land use. Inventories are completed every two years.
- **Metric 2:** Does not include waste processing emissions from Hartland Landfill nor Capital Region Housing Corporation. The 2025 emissions reduction is based on anticipated completion of recent GHG saving projects. The 2026 target is based on additional initiatives planned for completion in future.

07 Business Model

PARTICIPANTS	All municipalities and electoral areas
FUNDING SOURCES	Requisitions and grants
GOVERNANCE	<u>Environmental Services Committee</u>