

# A candidate's primer for partnering with local government on CLIMATE ACTION

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Local governments across BC are acknowledging the critical decade of climate action we've entered and ramping up their ambition and actions.

Local governments have an impact on over half of GHG emissions in BC - at least 150 communities have Community Energy Plans and/or Climate Action Plans representing 77% of BC's population.

The Province plays a vital role in supporting local action through enabling policies, funding and partnerships.

In turn, community scale action supports Provincial climate targets.

## Local Government Climate Action 2020



- » Since early 2019, over 30 BC communities have declared a climate emergency and most of those are aligning with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) targets of 45% reduction from 2010 levels by 2030 and 100% reduction by 2050.
- » Many communities that have not declared a climate emergency are still ramping up action, adjusting targets, and refreshing their plans.
- » In 2019, UBCM launched its Special Committee on Climate Action to come up with a series of requests for the Province to support local climate action. This report is imminent.

## Local Government Leadership Highlights



Local governments working together have, are, and will continue to develop the best climate action policies and programs. Some examples include:

- » EV-ready building requirements
- » Regional approaches to the Energy Step Code and increasing efforts for a low-carbon approach
- » Retrofit campaigns and incentive top-ups
- » Collaborations to deploy regional EV charging networks (eg. Accelerate Kootenays and Charge North)



The BC Municipal Climate Leadership Council (BCMCLC) is composed of leading mayors and councilors from across BC representing communities – big and small, north and south, east and west – who are committed to climate action. Learn more: [www.bcmclc.ca](http://www.bcmclc.ca)

BCMCLC and CEA often coordinate with [Climate Caucus](#), a Canada-wide network of elected leaders working collectively to advance climate action in communities.



BCMCLC is facilitated by [Community Energy Association \(CEA\)](#), the trusted independent advisor to local governments on climate and energy.

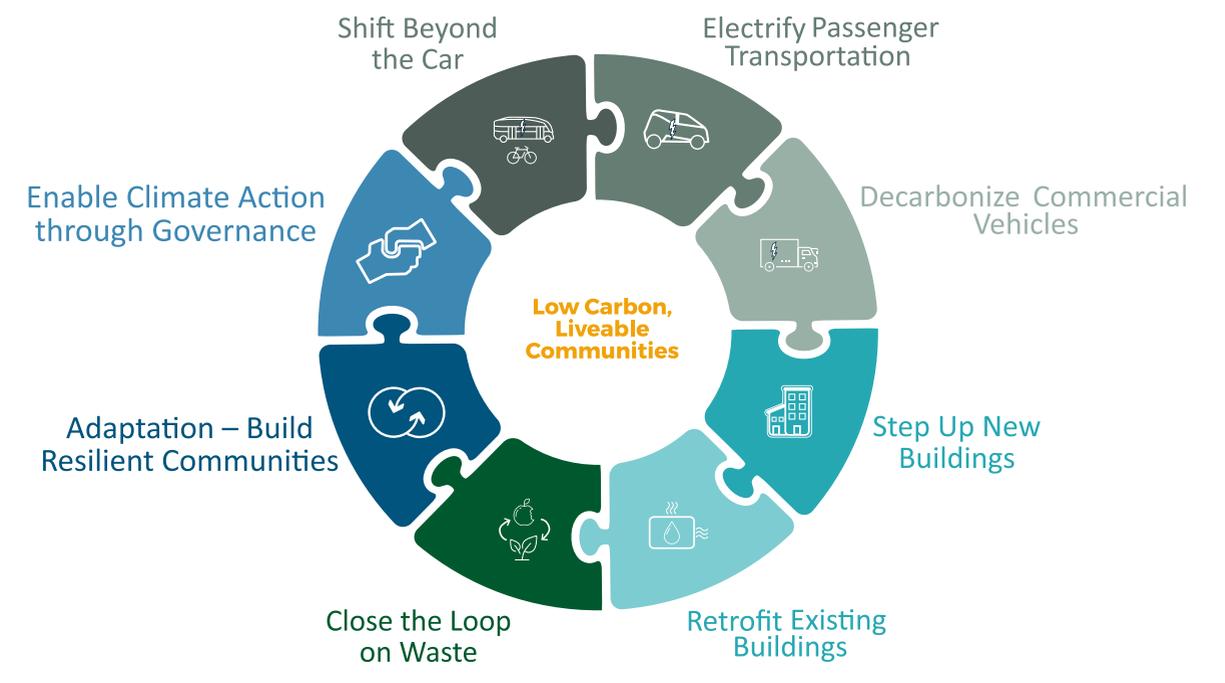
Some of CEA's recent resources include:

- » The [Climate Leaders Playbook](#) featuring the Big Moves for deep emissions reductions
- » A [Climate Action Planner](#) online tool that enables any BC community to take a first look at their energy and emissions inventory and model the impacts of implementing the Big Moves

# Our Climate Action Pathway: Working together to create low carbon, liveable communities

Local governments need the Province to help with:

- Funding
- Creating and updating regulations and legislation
- Support industry training, coordination and capacity
- Enabling new local government powers to advance climate action priorities

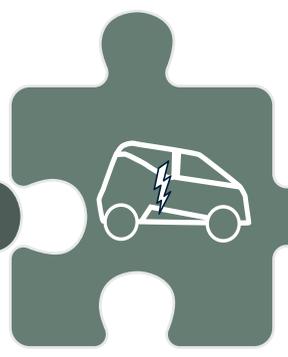


Local governments are doing a lot

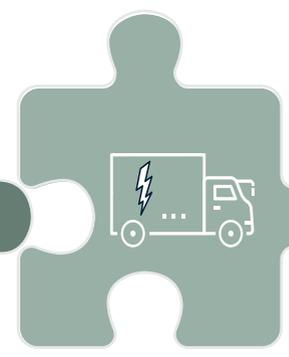
Supporting all ages and abilities (AAA) active transportation by building safe routes and enabling end-of-trip amenities  
Supporting transit ridership, car & bike sharing



Providing public charging at municipal facilities  
Adopting EV-ready building requirements



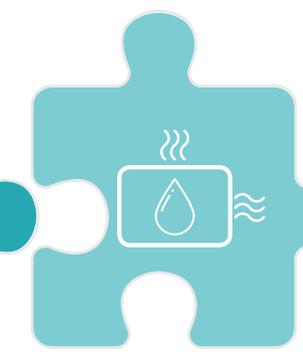
Investigating opportunities for fleet transition



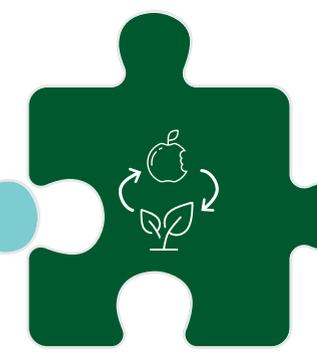
Adopting the Energy Step Code, some with a two-step low-carbon approach



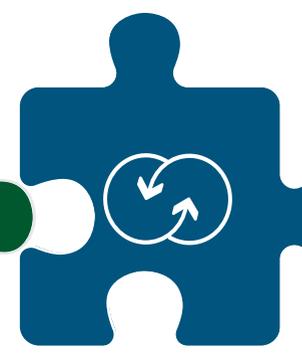
Topping up provincial and utility incentives, providing information, coordinating local and regional marketing campaigns



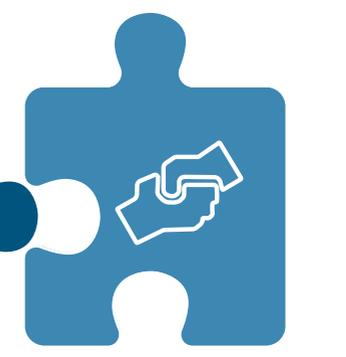
While most communities are collecting and processing organics, many small communities do not have the infrastructure in place



While some communities have risk assessments and are adapting to the impacts of climate change, many need more support



Embedding climate action into budgeting and decision-making  
Reporting regularly on climate action progress



The Province can support in these ways

Significantly increase investment in active transportation infrastructure  
Fund transit improvements and decarbonization  
Partner to enable more compact land use & transit-oriented density  
Continue and expand e-bike incentives & reduce barriers to participation  
Continue to work with innovative shared-mobility providers

Increase public and workplace charging  
Invest in regional & cross-regional fast-charging networks

Increase fuel efficiency standards for medium and heavy-duty vehicles  
Provide funding for fleet conversion pilots

Implement carbon metrics in the building code for optional adoption by local governments  
Support climate, jobs and affordable housing with the construction of sustainable wood-frame affordable housing units across the province

Directly fund deep energy retrofits and fuel switching of affordable housing units  
Support low-carbon retrofits through enabling legislation to allow local governments to require energy labelling and benchmarking  
Enable Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing  
Clarify the direction on decarbonizing existing buildings. Local governments are now making decisions that could lock into specific pathways – renewable natural gas or electrification.

Invest in organics processing facilities and resource recovery, including regional infrastructure and new programs to increase diversion

The Province can provide funding and guidance for conducting risk assessments and incorporating adaptation projects into long-term capital plans. The Province can advance both mitigation and adaptation with a low-carbon resilience lens on various funding opportunities and programs

Provide more access to data by enhancing the Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI) and providing this to communities consistently every two years. Part of this is obtaining quality vehicle registration and usage data from ICBC  
Revamp the Climate Action Charter to support accelerated local climate action  
Provide more resources and tools to help local governments with decision making