



Victoria Introduces New Climate Plan on Earth Day

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For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — Victoria City Council committed to two ambitious environmental targets on Earth Day, signing on to the BC Green Communities Act goal of reducing green house gas emissions by 33% by 2020, and targeting 2012 for municipal operations to be carbon neutral. Both targets will live in a Climate Action Plan to be developed by the municipality.

“Victoria is starting this process from a position of strength,” notes Acting Mayor Geoff Young. “We already have the highest use of sustainable modes of transportation for work travel in Canada, and we are building our sustainable, carbon neutral City operations from there.”

Today, the Governance and Priorities Committee approved an interim amendment to the current Official Community Plan in order to meet the Province of B.C.’s Green Communities Act deadline of May 31 for inclusion of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets, policies and actions. Climate protection and energy use reduction will form a major part of the new official community plan, currently being developed through intensive community consultation.

In addition to targeting the reduction of GHG emissions, the Climate Action Plan will outline a comprehensive, prioritized and phased strategy for how the community will mitigate impacts of current activity on climate change, and adapt in future. The plan will address improved transportation choices, integrated land use and transportation, new building practices and reducing vulnerability and risk due to climate change impacts.

Victoria already has significantly lower residential emissions than the average municipality in the Capital Regional District, due to our more compact and connected urban design.

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For More Information:

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