









# COMMUNITY CARBON TRACKER

Greenhouse gas emissions for Átl'<u>k</u>a7tsem / Howe Sound and Sunshine Coast communities

8<sup>th</sup> JUNE, 2023 | Tracey Saxby

### **2020** Path to Zero Carbon Municipalities

#### OCEAN WATCH | Átl'ka7tsem/Txwnéwu7ts/Howe Sound 2020

#### The Path to Zero Carbon Municipalities

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#### What is happening?

#### We are facing a climate emergency

In October 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCO) warned that we must take significant action by 2030 in order to limit warming to 1.5° Celsius (C) to avoid worsening the long-lasting and irreversible impacts of climate change. A tapid, far-teaching culture shift is necessary to immediately reduce greenhouse gas (OHO) emissions and minimize impacts on ecosystems and human health.<sup>1</sup>

CLIMATE CHANGE AND OCEANOGRAPHY

The growing scientific evidence for climate change is finally having a global social response. In September 2019, more than 6 million people<sup>9</sup> participated in a global climate strike. Inspired by Greta Thunberg's "Skolstrejk for klimatet" (school strike for climate), strikes took place in more than 4,500 locations in 150 countries.<sup>1</sup> Youth are drawing attention to issues of moral responsibility and social justice, highlighting that climate disruptions are



Over 100,000 people gathered in Vancouver B.C. for the global climate strike on 27 September 2019. (Credit: Dr. Timothy J. Raybould)

ZERO CARBON | Page 50

We are facing a climate emergency.

Communities have an opportunity to lead the transition to a zero carbon economy.

### **2020** Path to Zero Carbon Municipalities



Where are our emissions coming from?

**Challenge:** many smaller communities don't have the budget or capacity to track emissions every year.

**Solution:** develop a Community Carbon Tracker tool to build capacity for local governments to track and report community-wide emissions every year.

## What is (and isn't) being measured?

### Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI)

The BC Provincial government tracks and reports greenhouse gas emissions produced by buildings, transport, and solid waste.



### National Inventory Report (NIR) (Territorial or Sector-based Emissions)

The Federal government tracks and reports greenhouse gas emissions calculated by sector, e.g., industry, agriculture, oil + gas, buildings, transport, and solid waste.

### Consumption-based Emissions Inventory (CBEI)

Greenhouse gas emissions associated with the production, transportation, use, and disposal of products and services consumed by a community. These emissions are not currently being tracked by the Provincial or Federal governments.

## Why is it important to track emissions?

- "If we don't measure it, we can't manage it."
- Supports evidence-based climate action planning
- Tracking and reporting annual emissions allows municipalities to:
  - Identify key emission sources so we can target policies / public outreach
  - Evaluate success and adjust policies / public outreach
  - Experiment and share success (or failures) with neighbouring communities
  - Improve accountability and transparency
  - Inspire community engagement and behaviour change
  - Achieve climate action targets and work towards zero emissions
  - Advocate for support from Provincial and Federal governments.

## SCRD staff report and resolution in 2020

- The Sunshine Coast Regional District's 2019-2023 Strategic Plan identified the need for a Community Energy and Emissions Inventory.
- On October 22, 2020, the SCRD board adopted the following resolution;

"The Planning and Community Development Committee recommended that the report titled My Sea to Sky Pilot Community Invitation - Building Capacity for Community Energy and Emissions Inventory and Evidence-Based Climate Action Planning be received;

AND THAT a letter of support be provided to My Sea to Sky for the Climate Action Report Card Project;

AND FURTHER THAT the request for letters of support for the Climate Action Report Card Project be forwarded to the Town of Gibsons, the District of Sechelt, and shIshálh Nation."

• Letters of support were received from the SCRD, Sechelt, and Gibsons.

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### 2020 Sunshine Coast Regional District





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Community-wide greenhouse gas emissions (tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e)



Per capita greenhouse gas emissions (tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e)

9

## Benefits to local governments

### PHASE 1:

- Builds capacity to track and report community-wide emissions every year.
- Community Energy + Emissions Inventory that will be conducted by Community Energy Association (Value = \$1,000 per community).
- Supports evidence-based climate action planning.
- Increase public awareness and build support for climate action.
- Enables local governments to advocate for support from other levels of government.

### PHASE 2 (FUTURE):

- Consumption-Based Emissions Inventory by BCIT (Value = \$16,500 per community).
- Support from BCIT students to help collect and enter data.

### Next steps

**Spring** Finalize the data

Draft mockups of the Community Carbon Tracker

Solicit feedback from local government staff

**Summer** Finalize Community Carbon Tracker

Soft launch of Community Carbon Tracker

Workshops with non-profits and local governments

Fall Add in 2021 GHG data and public launch

Delegations to local governments

Community outreach and engagement

## Climate actions for SCRD:

- Declare a climate emergency.
- Set climate targets equal to (or higher than) the 2023 IPCC report:
  - 43% below 2019 levels by 2030
  - 60% below 2019 levels by 2035
  - Net zero by 2050
- Make climate action a priority in your strategic planning and budget.
- Direct the Growing Communities Fund and Gas Tax to climate adaptation <u>and</u> mitigation.
- Direct staff to include the Community Carbon Tracker in SCRD's climate action planning, and to develop an MOU to provide input and collaborate.







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Emissions







