

**Climate Action Revenue Incentive Plan (CARIP) Public Report**

# Climate Action Revenue Incentive (CARIP) Public Report for 2011

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## Table of Contents

- [General Information](#)
- [Community Wide Actions](#)
  - 1.1 - [Measure](#)
  - 1.2 - [Plan](#)
  - 1.3 - [Reduce](#)
    - [Supportive](#)
    - [Direct](#)
  - 1.4 - [Community Wide Innovation](#)
- [Corporate Actions](#)
  - 2.1 - [Measure](#)
  - 2.2 - [Reduce](#)
    - [Supportive](#)
    - [Direct](#)
  - 2.3 - [Corporate Innovations](#)
- [Carbon Neutral Progress Reporting](#)

## General Information

Name of Local Government	<i>District of North Cowichan</i>
Member of Regional District (RD)	<i>Cowichan Valley Regional District</i>
Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) in region	<i>No</i>
Population	<i>29837</i>

## Community Wide Actions for 2011

### 1.1 Measure

#### Community Wide Measurement Actions

Question	Have you been using the Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI) to measure progress? What else have you been using instead of/in addition to CEEI?
Answer	YES
Additional Information	<i>The District of North Cowichan has a new Official Community Plan that was adopted in 2011. The OCP identifies five key goals. One of which is "adjust for climate change." Through the consultation process a large number of participants indicated strong support to begin taking action on climate change. The CEEI was used to inform this process. The OCP contains targets, strategies and policies to begin reducing community GHG emissions. The CEEI was also used to inform and receive endorsement from Council to begin moving forward on a seperate climate change action planning process which is beginning in 2011.</i>

### 1.2 Plan

#### Community Wide Targets

Question	Do your OCP(s) have targets, policies and actions to reduce GHG emissions, as per the requirements under the Local Governments Act (LGA)? If yes, please identify the targets set. If no or in progress, please comment.
Answer	YES
Additional Information	<i>North Cowichan signed the BC Climate Action Charter, a voluntary commitment to make municipal operations carbon-neutral by 2012. The OCP includes three targets: carbon neutrality as soon as possible; 33% reduction by 2020, until an action plan is complete; and sequestering more than we produce.</i>

Question	
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	<p>If you are a Regional District, does your RGS have targets, policies and actions to reduce GHG emissions, as per the requirements under the Local Governments Act (LGA)? If yes, please identify the targets set. If no or in progress, please comment.</p>
Answer	
Additional Information	

## 1.3 Reduce

### Supportive Community Wide Actions

Action Type	<b>Broad Planning</b> (e.g. creation/revision of OCPs, CEPs, transportation plans)
Actions Taken this Year	<i>A new OCP was adopted in 2011 that implements various policies and strategies which includes commitments to: take an integrated approach to transportation planning; recognize the distinct needs of active transportation options; and maintain an effective transportation network. Additional roundabouts, bike routes and walking trails are also planned. An active transportation plan study shared between Cowichan Tribes, the City of Duncan and North Cowichan has been started. A Climate Action and Energy Plan study has begun for the community and corporation.</i>
Proposed Actions for Next Year	<i>Recommendations will be implemented for the both the Active Transportation Plan and Climate Action and Energy Plan.</i>

Action Type	<b>Building and Lighting</b> (e.g. developed green building policy, increased density in the downtown)
Actions Taken this Year	<i>On November 16, 2011, the Municipality of North Cowichan adopted an innovative bylaw to create jobs, and to encourage investments that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions in North Cowichan. The "Industrial Revitalization Tax Exemption Program Bylaw," is designed to provide up to a 10-year property tax exemption for:• investments of \$250,000 or more in light or major industrial properties in North Cowichan; or• investments in improvements to industrial properties of \$50,000 or more that result in a 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.</i>
Proposed Actions for Next Year	<i>Implemented urban growth boundaries that encourage infill, small zone lots and secondary suites in the growth areas. Strategic Agricultural Plan protects land for agriculture, enabling food to be grown locally and, therefore, reduces GHG emissions resulting from transportation. Partnership with Vancouver Island University with a biosolids application program on forest land</i>

	<i>to enhance tree growth.</i>
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Action Type	<b>Energy Generation</b> (e.g. signed on to provincial 'solar ready' regulation, explored options for bioheating for buildings)
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Green Space</b> (e.g. developed urban forestry policy, adopted park acquisition policy)
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Transportation</b> (e.g. developed sustainable transportation plan, completed bicycle master plan)
Actions Taken this Year	<i>Eleven roundabouts have been constructed that reduce stopping and idling. A bike and walking trail network is being constructed with future growth considerations. The Chemainus Active Transportation Plan was completed in 2010. The OCP contains a number of policies and strategies that support and encourage the use of alternatives to the single occupant vehicle. Parking variances related to land use applications have been considered where type I and II bicycle parking is being provided, new bus shelters built, and participation in the regional car co-op. Partnering with the CVRD and developers to construct segments of the Cowichan Valley Trail network.</i>
Proposed Actions for Next Year	<i>The OCP has been adopted and we are beginning to implement various policies and strategies which includes commitments to: take an integrated approach to transportation planning;</i>

	<i>recognize the distinct needs of active transportation options; and maintain an effective transportation network. Additional roundabouts, bike routes and walking trails are also planned.</i>
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Action Type	<b>Waste</b> (e.g. introduced composting and recycling education programs)
Actions Taken this Year	<i>The curbside recycling program has existed in north cowichan since 1999 with a diversion rate of around 33%. It has included public education and school presentations.</i>
Proposed Actions for Next Year	<i>Community wide kitchen organic curbside pick-up program will begin in May 2012. Curbside collection of organics will decrease the amount of solid waste transported to landfills by 30-40%, which in turn will decrease the amount of methane and leachate produced by landfills.</i>

Action Type	<b>Water/Sewer</b> (e.g. participated in water smart initiatives, implemented Water Action Plan, introduced rebates on low flush toilets)
Actions Taken this Year	<i>Completed water service metering program (100% of water users in the municipality are now metered), upgraded Chemainus and Crofton Sewer Treatment Plants to improve efficiencies, researched a new curb-side organics pick-up program , modified the toilet rebate program from low-flow to high-efficiency toilets (4.8l).</i>
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Other Actions</b>
Actions Taken this Year	



Proposed Actions for Next Year	

### Direct Community Wide Actions

Action Type	<b>Buildings</b> (e.g. implement use of sustainability checklists and development permit guidelines for new buildings)
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Energy</b> Generation (e.g. implement district energy, geothermal, solar)
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Transportation</b> (e.g. implement bike lanes, pedestrian paths, upgrade <b>transit</b> service and infrastructure, improve roads, parking fees etc.)
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Waste</b> (e.g. introduce composting and recycling programs )
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Water/Sewer</b> (e.g. implement water conservation and reduction initiatives)
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Green Space</b> (e.g. plant trees, conserve forest etc.)
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Other Actions</b>
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

### 1.4 Community Wide Innovation

Question	<b>Is there any activity that you have been engaged in over the past year(s) that you are particularly proud of and would like to share with other local governments? Please describe and add links to additional information where possible.</b>
Answer	

## Corporate Actions for 2011

### 2.1 Measure

#### Corporate Measurement Actions

Question	What steps has your local government taken toward completing its corporate emissions inventory (e.g. corporate assets gathered related to energy and fuel data and calculated GHG emissions from energy use)?
Answer	<i>Staff have compiled a Corporate Energy and GHG Inventory with 2008 as the baseline year. It was reviewed by senior staff, the Climate Change Advisory Committee and Council.</i>

Question	What tool are you using to measure, track and report on your corporate emissions (e.g. SMARTtool, other tools including excel spreadsheets)?
Answer	<i>North Cowichan has purchased the SMARTtool program and is organizing the reporting categories in preparation for corporate emissions reporting in 2012.</i>

### 2.2 Reduce

#### Supportive Corporate Actions

Action Type	<b><i>Broad Planning</i></b> (e.g. developed corporate climate action plan)
Actions Taken this Year	<i>Contracted a consultant to develop corporate and community Climate Action and Energy Plan.</i>
Proposed Actions for	

Next Year	<i>Implement recommendations of corporate and community Climate Action and Energy Plan.</i>
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Action Type	<b>Building and Lighting</b> (e.g. developed energy reduction plan for all corporate buildings)
Actions Taken this Year	<i>Fuller Lake Arena relamping renovation saving 122,199 kilowatt hours per year. Education campaign to shut off lights when rooms not in use.</i>
Proposed Actions for Next Year	<i>Review developing energy reduction plan for all corporate buildings.</i>

Action Type	<b>Energy Generation</b> (e.g. undertook feasibility study of green energy generation for civic buildings)
Actions Taken this Year	<i>Meeting with BC Hydro to discuss the benefits of retaining an Energy Manager to review potential reductions of all corporate energy uses.</i>
Proposed Actions for Next Year	<i>Review the proposed Energy Manager position and investigate funding opportunities.</i>

Action Type	<b>Transportation</b> (e.g. created anti-idling policy for city vehicles, bike to work week promotion)
Actions Taken this Year	<i>Partnered with City of Duncan and Cowichan Tribes and hired a consultant to create an Active Transportation Plan. Bike to work week promotion.</i>

Proposed Actions for Next Year	<i>Implement recommendations of Active Transportation Plan Study. Continue to study and support reductions of GHG's related to transportation.</i>
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Action Type	<b><i>Waste(e.g. completed waste audit of City Hall)</i></b>
Actions Taken this Year	<i>Operations building and Municipal hall both have options of recycling and organics to separate them out of the waste stream.</i>
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b><i>Water/Sewer (e.g. completed study of sewer and water energy use)</i></b>
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b><i>Other Actions</i></b>
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

### Direct Corporate Actions

Action Type	<b>Building</b> and Lighting (e.g. energy efficiency retrofits to municipal buildings )
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Energy Generation</b> (e.g. implemented heat recovery systems, solar)
Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Fleet</b> (e.g. anti-idling policies for fleet vehicles, purchasing of hybrid)
Actions Taken this Year	<i>Municipal fleet switched to biodiesel, municipal fleet anti-idling policy, fuel efficiency consideration when replacing fleet vehicles. A bike and walking trail network is being constructed with future growth considerations. The Chemainus Active Transportation Plan was completed in 2010. The draft OCP contains a number of policies and strategies that support and encourage the use of alternatives to the single occupant vehicle. Parking variances related to land use applications have been considered where type I and II bicycle parking is being provided, new bus shelters built, and participation in the regional car co-op. Partnering with the CVRD and developers to construct segments of the Cowichan Valley Trail network.</i>
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Waste</b> (e.g. introduction of composting and recycling programs and education)
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Actions Taken this Year	<i>Preparation and education to implementing residential curb side kitchen organics program, starting in May 2012.</i>
Proposed Actions for Next Year	<i>Implementing residential curb side kitchen organics program, starting in May 2012.</i>

Action Type	<b>Water/Sewer</b> (e.g. initiated water conservation and reduction initiatives)
Actions Taken this Year	<i>Completed water service metering program (100% of water users in the municipality are now metered), upgraded Chemainus and Crofton Sewer Treatment Plants to improve efficiencies, modified the toilet rebate program from low-flow to high-efficiency toilets (4.8l).</i>
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Green Space</b> (e.g. planting of trees )
Actions Taken this Year	<i>Council has set the annual allowable cut for the Municipal Forest reserve at 20,000 cubic metres per year. The land is producing at a rate of 26,000m<sup>3</sup>/yr therefore we are adding this additional volume (6,000m<sup>3</sup>/yr) to our standing timber and in trees every year.</i>
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

Action Type	<b>Other Actions</b>
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Actions Taken this Year	
Proposed Actions for Next Year	

### 2.3 Corporate Innovations

Question	<p><b>Is there any activity that you have been engaged in over the past year(s) that you are particularly proud of and would like to share with other local governments? Please describe and add links to additional information where possible.</b></p>
Answer	<p><i>Elementary School Program</i></p> <p><i>Each year a post secondary student is hired for the spring and summer months to bring awareness to environmental issues in our community and to research green initiatives. The student is directed by the Technologist and has the responsibility of creating and delivering an environmental presentation to elementary students with a different focus each year. Topics have included solid waste reduction through composting and recycling, water conservation, ecological footprint and food security. Information and awareness are keys to creating mindful green habits and we believe that this program has been successful in instilling environmental stewardship in our young citizens. In 2010, the 50-minute presentation was delivered to 108 classes at 14 elementary schools to students in grades K-7. Following the classroom presentation, the Environmental Student presents a &gt;&gt;Friends of the Environment" poster contest. Students are encouraged to create a poster that promotes the message taught in the classroom. These posters are displayed at local businesses and provide a way to send positive environmental messages to the community. Winning entries receive a certificate of recognition and a prize, which are presented at a council meeting. The Environmental Student spends the last two months of the work term on research assignments and preparing reports.</i></p>

## Carbon Neutral Progress Reporting

Tonnes CO2e

<b>Corporate emissions using SMARTTool or equivalent inventory tool</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Emissions from</b> services delivered directly by the local government	
<i>Emissions from contracted services</i>	
Less: GHG reductions being claimed for this reporting year from Option 1 - GHG reduction project	0
<i>Energy Efficient Building Retrofits and Fuel Switching</i>	
<i>Solar Thermal</i>	
<b>Household Organic Waste Composting</b>	
<i>Low Emissions Vehicles</i>	
Less: GHG reductions being claimed for this reporting year from Option 2 - GHG reduction projects  <i>Please list all Option 2 Projects Implemented (insert title of the projects(s) as per project plan template. If you have more than two Option 2 projects you can add more lines at the bottom of this sheet)</i>	0
Less: Offsets purchased for this reporting year (Option 3)	
<b>Balance of corporate emissions for this reporting year.</b> <i>(If the corporate emissions balance is zero, your local government is carbon neutral for this reporting year)</i>	<b>0</b>

## Making Progress on Your Carbon Neutral Commitment

Question	If your community has not achieved carbon neutrality for this reporting year please describe the actions that you intend to take next year to move you toward your carbon neutral goal.
Answer	<b>Error! Not a valid link.</b>



