

# Memo



**Date:** September 15, 2010  
**File:** 1200-90  
**To:** City Manager  
**From:** Michelle Kam and Tracy Guidi, Sustainability Coordinators  
**Subject:** Climate Action Consultation Plan

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## **Recommendation:**

THAT Council endorse community consultation regarding Community Climate Action reduction initiatives;

AND THAT Council direct staff to complete a Community Climate Action Plan, incorporating the results of the community consultation.

## **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a strategy for obtaining public input on the focus and extent of actions required to achieve future community greenhouse gas reductions.

## **Background:**

On November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Council endorsed the Kelowna Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and Projections report from the Director of Policy and Planning. As an outcome of that report, Council later endorsed OCP Bylaw Amendment, No. OCP09-0015 to amend OCP Policy 7.6.1:

“The City of Kelowna will, in partnership with: senior governments; local residents and businesses; NGOs; external agencies; and utility providers, work towards reducing community greenhouse gas emission by 33% by 2020.”

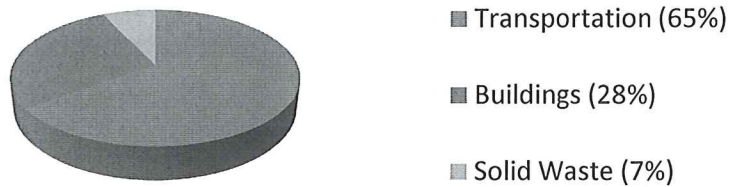
## **Community Energy and Emissions Inventory Update**

Due to improved information and methodology, the Province of BC recently completed an updated 2007 Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI) for communities within BC. The CEEI represents greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption for community on-road transportation, buildings and solid waste.

Kelowna's revised community emissions by source include:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, located in the bottom right corner of the page.

## Kelowna Community Emissions 794,539 CO<sub>2</sub>e (tonnes) (2007)



This shows that 2007 transportation emissions have an even bigger contribution to GHG than first reported by the Province in 2009 (increase from 57% to 65%).

Transportation contributes the greatest amount of GHG emissions in Kelowna and thus provides our largest opportunity for improvement and therefore will have a significant focus during consultation.

### Community Consultation

In order to make significant steps in climate action and to meet the Partners for Climate Protection requirements and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities funding requirements, staff needs to engage residents, stakeholders and businesses to increase awareness and provide an opportunity for discussion.

Extensive consultation will occur this fall and will include the following:

1. *Provincial Climate Action Workshop* - staff has encouraged residents, businesses and stakeholders to attend this workshop at UBC-O to engage the community, build awareness and increase collaboration (September 22 and 23)
2. *Staff Workshops* - designed to create awareness, engage staff and to provide an opportunity for discussion regarding potential reduction initiatives (October)
3. *Stakeholder Consultation* - stakeholder consultation in conjunction with FortisBC and the Integrated Energy Management Committee (November)
4. *Public Consultation*
  - **Survey** - survey residents regarding the reduction initiatives at Car Free Day (September 25)
  - **Web Survey** - month long web-based survey regarding reduction initiatives on Castanet (October)
  - **Statistically Valid Survey** - Community and Media Relations will be completing a statistically valid survey regarding barriers and benefits for potential GHG reduction initiatives
  - **Youth Consultation** - students participating in the Youth Forum on Climate Change and Climate Action will provide feedback on reduction initiatives. Youth will be engaged through surveys, daily transportation logs and a marketing forum (November 9)
  - **Additional Consultation** - opportunities for additional public consultation is currently under development (November to February).

To achieve a substantial reduction of GHG emissions, the City, stakeholders, businesses and the community will have to make significant changes. Extensive consultation and review of potential reduction initiatives needs to be done to determine which reduction initiatives are feasible and which initiatives the community accepts as most realistic and achievable.

Once the consultation is complete, staff will develop a Community Climate Action Plan. This plan will identify the initiatives necessary to help reduce our GHG emissions, while also working towards creating a resilient, healthy community. Once the Community Climate Action Plan is developed, it will be forwarded for Council's consideration.

Concurrently, Infrastructure Planning is completing a Corporate Climate Action Plan to meet the City's commitment to be carbon neutral by 2012. Transportation emissions are closely tied to the capacity of the transportation infrastructure system to support convenient and effective alternatives to the single occupancy vehicle. Policy and Planning is working with Infrastructure Planning, Regional Services as well as the Operational Departments to ensure appropriate collaboration and coordination of both climate action initiatives. Regional Services is working with provincial partner agencies (i.e. BC Transit) to plan for transit service improvements that provide a competitive alternate transportation mode. Implementation of Phase 2 and 3 of Rapid Bus project is projected to reduce GHG emissions by 600 tonnes/yr.

**Internal Circulation:**

General Manager, Community Sustainability  
Director, Community and Media Relations  
Director, Infrastructure Planning  
Director, Regional Services

**Legal/Statutory Authority:**

Local Government Statutes Amendment Act, Bill 27 - requires that a GHG reduction target and policies and actions to achieve those targets be incorporated into municipalities' OCPs by May 31, 2010 and regional districts' regional growth strategies by May 31, 2011. The City has complied with this requirement.

**Existing Policy:**

OCP Policy 7.6.1 (endorsed November 24, 2009):

"The City of Kelowna will, in partnership with: senior governments; local residents and businesses; NGOs; external agencies; and utility providers, work towards reducing community greenhouse gas emission by 33% by 2020.

The City of Kelowna's efforts will be focused on creating more mixed-use neighbourhoods (as identified on the OCP Future Land Use map) and on ensuring that residents can conveniently and safely travel by bus or by foot, bicycle and other forms of active transportation to get to major community destinations while also ensuring the efficient movement of goods and services.

The City will support the reduced use of fossil fuels in buildings by encouraging renewable energy supplies, district energy systems and energy efficient technologies in new and existing buildings. By working with senior government partners, regulated utilities and others, the City will lead through example and strive to meet the BC Climate Action Charter targets for the reduction of GHG emissions from municipal infrastructure."



**Financial/Budgetary Considerations:**

In order to achieve GHG targets, it is likely that a re-allocation of budget resources will be required to prioritize services and infrastructure that support local residents and businesses in lowering their GHGs.

Policy and Planning will receive funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to assist with this initiative. We have existing budget to meet FCM's matching funds requirement. FCM has made their contribution contingent on consultation.

**Community & Media Relations Comments:**

Policy and Planning staff has been working with Community and Media Relations staff to determine a 2011 budget item in regards to a Community Climate Action strategic direction and social marketing program.

**Considerations not applicable to this report:**

Alternate Recommendation

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements

Personnel Implications

External Agency/Public Comments

Submitted by:

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Approved for inclusion



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Director, Policy and Planning

cc:

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Director, Infrastructure Planning  
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