



CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting – Tuesday, April 26, 2022
6:30 pm - BY MS TEAMS

- Members:** Ken Ashley, Diana Leung, Mariko Michasiw (Chair), Oliver Ng, Irwin Oostindie, Lorna Pelly, Councillor Megan Curren
- Regrets:** Keegan Casidy, Eleanor Gill, Jennifer Johnson
Bo Ocampo, Sustainability Specialist
- Staff:** Caroline Jackson, Manager, Climate Action, Natural Systems and Biodiversity;
Adam Wright, Sustainability Planner;
Mary Jukich, Committee Clerk
-

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

Territorial Acknowledgement

The Chair provided the Territorial Acknowledgement.

Adoption of the Agenda

Moved, seconded and resolved
To adopt the agenda.

Adoption of the Minutes

Moved, seconded and resolved
To adopt the January 18, 2022 minutes.

2. Low Carbon Buildings Overview

Adam Wright, Sustainability Planner, provided a presentation on the District's work related to Low Carbon Buildings. Information was provided on greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets, low carbon building initiatives at the District, and the Jump on a New Heat Pump program, an initiative focussed on reducing emissions from existing buildings. This is a partnership program with the three North Shore municipalities to raise awareness and support homeowners interested in making the switch to low carbon heating systems such as electric heat pumps. The program provides a virtual Home Energy Check Up service that connects Homeowners with energy experts to assess what home energy upgrades may best suit their goals and priorities. As part of the program the District has reached out to homeowners and contractors for feedback on their experience with heat pumps.

3. Miro Session #1: Reducing emissions from existing single family homes

Through an online sharing platform, members provided feedback on two questions; what homeowners need to make the switch to a heat pump and secondly, how can the District ensure all interested residents can access program resources. Committee members indicated support for having information, incentives, and technical support for homeowners interested in switching to a heat pump. Committee members requested information on why solar hot

water was not part of the initiative and staff provided information in a follow-up email, including that the District currently waives permit fees for these installations and information on incentives for other solar systems, such as photovoltaic (PV) systems.

4. Building Electrification Coalition

Mariko Michasiw, B2E Program Manager, provided a presentation on the Building Electrification Coalition. This is a broad coalition working together to electrify buildings in British Columbia to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and reliance on fossil fuels.

The presenter noted that there are challenges when looking at electrification particularly around the way Renewable Natural Gas is marketed as a low emissions fuel, when technically it is the same product as conventional gas supply (which contains approximately 1% renewable gas). Through their work, the Coalition provides opportunities for stakeholders to collaborate and share best practices for building electrification, including facilitating discussions with BC Hydro and the Province in moving forward with their programs.

5. Break

The meeting resumed at 7:38 pm.

6. Proposed Policy Measures for New Large Developments

Adam Wright, Sustainability Planner, provided a presentation on the proposed policy measures for new large buildings. These measures would help account for the embodied carbon of construction materials, improve indoor air quality through air filtration, and help reduce the impacts of extreme heat in new buildings by encouraging cooling measures in building design.

7. Miro Session #2: Proposed policy measures for new large developments

Through an online sharing platform, members provided feedback on two questions: how much do you support these changes for new large buildings and secondly, what suggestions do you have to help make sure this approach is successful.

During the Miro session, the following comments were provided:

- Whether the heating and cooling measures for extreme heat would be provided using mechanical equipment or if other measures such as landscaping could achieve a similar goal in minimizing the use of supplied electricity.
- Information was requested around tree retention regulation and what could be done to retrofit existing buildings.

- A comment was made that separate policies for embodied carbon and cooling may become problematic and that it can be helpful to consider how they can best work together.

8. Outreach Subcommittee

Caroline Jackson, Manager, Climate Action, Natural Systems and Biodiversity, provided an update on the Outreach Subcommittee noting that the majority of Committee members have put their names forward to work on the subcommittee. There have been some recent discussions with the library about potential for collaboration, and the library has indicated interest to partner with the subcommittee for an outreach initiative. A representative from the library has been identified and the next step is to determine the work going forward and to have something completed by September.

Alison Campbell, Community Connections at the North Vancouver District Public Library will be the lead staff person from the Library supporting the outreach initiative.

Members were also informed that one of the members, Oliver Ng, has put his name forward to run an outreach story time program at the library.

9. Committee Member Updates

As part of an open roundtable discussion, Committee members provided updates on community events as follows:

- Local youth are partnering to show the Fracking film on May 25 at the West Vancouver Library.
- A pledge site has been set up for Mothers' Day with the gift of climate action.
- There is a new exhibit at The Nature House on Coast Salish plants, as well as other community events on April 30.
- Tsleil-Waututh Nation is doing some work around sacred trust events, in addition to initiatives for food recovery.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Next meeting on July 12, 2022: Healthy Ecosystems, Irwin Oostindie, Chair