



CSAC Memo

penticton.ca

Date: June 2, 2021
To: Community Sustainability Advisory Committee
From: David Kassian, Community Sustainability Coordinator
Subject: **Cancellation of Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program**

Background

In 2007 the City of Penticton signed the Climate Action Charter along with 182 other municipalities in British Columbia. The B.C. Climate Action Charter is a voluntary agreement between the B.C. government, Union of B.C. Municipalities and each local government signatory to take action on climate change. Under the Charter, local government signatories commit to:

- Becoming carbon neutral in their corporate operations
- Measuring and reporting their community's greenhouse gas emissions
- Creating complete, compact, more energy efficient communities

The City is still a signatory of the Climate Action Charter and will continue to meet the commitments of the Charter.

CARIP Cancellation

To compliment the Climate Action Charter, the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) was formed to provide incentives for local governments to track and report their corporate emissions and annual carbon tax expenditures. Until recently, CARIP enabled Charter signatories to receive a grant equivalent to 100% of the carbon tax they pay in a given year. The annual financial incentives for Penticton have been:

Reporting Year	CARIP Grant
2016	\$42,920
2017	\$48,073
2018	\$52,320
2019	\$55,553
2020	\$55,553
2021	TBD

The City was recently advised that effective this year, CARIP has been cancelled by the Province, with the 2020 reporting year being the last year that local governments will receive the carbon tax grant equivalent. The Province released this information on May 11, 2021 with no update on any potential new programs or requirements. The official notice can be found in Appendix A of this memo. It is important to note that the Province is still supporting the Climate Action Charter and the commitments to track and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Greenhouse Gas Tracking

The City will continue to track Corporate greenhouse gas emissions on an annual basis to meet commitments in the Climate Action Charter and the City's Official Community Plan. In section 4.4.3 of the OCP it states that staff will actively monitor GHG emissions and meet or exceed city-wide and corporate (City of Penticton) GHG reduction targets in the City's Climate Action Plans.

The City will continue to monitor Corporate emissions and to seek out new funding sources for climate action planning and implementation.

Respectfully submitted,

David Kassian
Community Sustainability Coordinator

Appendix A: Notification of CARIP Cancellation



May 11, 2021

Ref: 266895

Dear Mayors and Chairs:

I am writing in follow up to a recent update from Okenge Yuma Morisho, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs, to Chief Administrative Officers regarding the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP). As you may be aware, 2021 will mark the wind down and final year of grant payments under this program. Budget 2021 also commits new funding to help local governments reduce greenhouse gas emissions through planning for compact, energy-efficient communities. The purpose of this letter is to thank British Columbia's local governments for your continued leadership and to describe how our government continues to work with local governments to achieve our collective climate goals.

Since the 2008 inception of the Climate Action Charter (CAC), almost every local government in B.C. has signed the CAC, committing to take action and develop strategies to achieve the following three goals:

- Work toward becoming carbon neutral in their local government corporate operations
- Measure and report on their community greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile
- Create complete, compact, energy-efficient rural and urban communities

As of 2018, the last year of full reporting prior to the pandemic, 187 local governments had signed on to the CAC and were publicly reporting on their progress toward meeting their climate action goals, 147 were measuring and reporting GHG emissions, and 50 local governments had achieved carbon neutrality in their operations. Communities across B.C. both large and small have consistently demonstrated leadership in taking action on climate change, in areas as broad as local food production, renewable energy generation and planning for public transit and active transportation. Thank you for your continued ambition and efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in your corporate operations, and more broadly to inspire and work within your communities to tackle climate change.

Under CleanBC, the Province of British Columbia has put a priority on reducing pollution, boosting energy-efficient solutions and building a low-carbon economy. Local governments will continue to be a key partner in our collective efforts to address the challenges of a changing climate, playing a specific and important role in B.C.'s climate goals.

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Ministry of Municipal Affairs

Office of the Minister

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Just as local governments' actions on climate solutions have evolved in the past decade, our government is responding to support you with tools and funding programs such as:

- Updating the BC Action Climate Toolkit and the Green Communities Committee Carbon Neutral Framework.
- Investing \$110 million in combined provincial and federal funding to help local governments and Indigenous communities develop energy efficiency and clean energy projects through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program CleanBC Communities Fund.
- Working with the federal government to assess the climate impacts of all major infrastructure being funded under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program to reduce GHG emissions and increase resilience to climate change, which benefits communities and creates jobs.
- Boosting active transportation infrastructure with \$18 million through the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.
- Making sure commuters can get out of their cars with historic investments in public transit, such as the Broadway Subway Line, and free transit for kids 12 and under starting this September.

Building on record investments in CleanBC, the province will continue to strengthen our work with local governments and support the CAC.

As noted, Budget 2021 commits \$11 million in new funding to help local governments plan for compact, energy-efficient communities, directly supporting the CAC's commitment to create complete, compact, energy-efficient rural and urban communities. I look forward to working with all local governments through Union of BC Municipalities and the Green Communities Committee on how to support greener and more livable communities.

Our government remains committed to working with local governments to reach our climate goals and make life better for people across British Columbia.

Sincerely,



Josie Osborne
Minister

pc: Chief Administrative Officers



2021 Community Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting Dates

Meeting commences at 9:00 a.m.

Council Chamber, City Hall, 171 Main Street (Second Level) or via Zoom

Month	Date
January	20
February	17
March	17
April	21
May	19
June	16
July	21
August	18
September	22
October	20
November	17
December	8