



Local Government Climate Action Program Survey Submission Report

Thompson-Nicola Regional District

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Question	Answer
1. Does your local government or Modern Treaty Nation have a climate action plan or strategy?	No, but we are currently undertaking one and it will be complete in the next year
2. For the calendar year 2021, did your local government or Modern Treaty Nation measure and publicly disclose corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions?	We have been actively measuring and making this info public, but discontinued temporarily in 2021 due to lack of resources - staffing plus prioritizing large scale wildfire and flooding events. We are now in process of re-setting measurement tools for 2022 and will be measuring and reporting 2022 emissions in 2023. We may try to undertake going back and measuring 2021 at same time.
3. For calendar year 2021, did your local government or Modern Treaty Nation measure and publicly disclose a community-wide emissions inventory?	We have included in our 8 official community plans and RGS targets for reductions and a baseline using data from CEEI noted above, but the CEEI data has not been updated in 10 years (since 2012) so we do not have the ability to use that data now, and further are faced with lack of expertise/technical capacity to measure community wide emissions ourselves. We really rely on the Province to measure through CEEI.
4. Is your local government or Modern Treaty Nation tracking progress on its community-wide GHG reduction target?	No
4.e. If no, select all that apply:	"No, as our community emissions are not fully calculated"

<p>5. Describe up to four climate initiatives, and their outcomes, your local government or Modern Treaty Nation is currently undertaking for Buildings</p>	<p>1) plan to install solar panels on roof of civic building, housing public library, art gallery and TNRD administrative offices, to reduce electricity needs otherwise with renewable source</p> <p>2) In 2021 the TNRD's public library building burned down. We have plans in place to rebuild and are intending to rebuild with more modern, fire resistant materials and to higher standard to minimize carbon emissions related to this facility.</p> <p>3) We continue to invest in our other library branches, fire halls and community halls to higher standards to minimize building related carbon emissions. Examples are better, more efficient insulation, LED lights to replace old incandescent lights, modern furnaces and heat pumps to replace older technology when they wear out, etc. Time and money and manpower is really the factor that will determine timing of such.</p> <p>4) Although we are not measuring community-wide emissions, we continue to invest in community building not owned by the TNRD. Examples are use of gas tax/Canada Community Building Fund monies into various community halls owned by not-for-profit Societies and used as public meeting places to replace roofs, replace old furnaces or air conditioners with heat pumps, other older appliances with more energy efficient models, insulate, update, and otherwise make more energy efficient.</p>
<p>6. Describe up to four climate initiatives, and their outcomes, your local government or Modern Treaty Nation is currently undertaking for Transportation</p>	<p>1) We have invested in E-vehicle fast-charging stations in the past and continue to partner with member municipalities on public transportation services, but overall at this time we have no specific projects or initiatives of this sort in 2022. Development of extended biking/walking paths connecting communities in the rural areas is being considered. As a regional district, we do not have roads as part of our mandate of assets we operate (municipal or provincial responsibility).</p> <p>2) Like most others, we continue to encourage virtual meetings when possible, reducing travel for staff throughout our large regional district. Public meetings are also being streamed live, reducing the need for members of the public to drive long distances to attend.</p>
<p>7. Describe up to four climate initiatives, and their outcomes, your local government or Modern Treaty Nation is currently undertaking for Community</p>	<p>1) Per our 10 year RSWMP, the City of Kamloops is developing an organics waste diversion program. Currently in Phase 2. There is also a proposed Sun Peaks–TNRD partnership on commercial organics diversion & composting.</p> <p>2) consistent with previous years, the TNRD continues to implement and maintain methane oxidation beds at closed landfill sites, to convert methane gases that naturally percolate out of the landfill into CO₂, a much less potent greenhouse gas. External consultants have been measuring outputs and calculating the net amount of CO₂ equivalent reduction each year.</p>

<p>8. Describe up to four climate initiatives, and their outcomes, your local government or Modern Treaty Nation is currently undertaking for Climate Resilience</p>	<p>The TNRD is in process of restructuring it's committees, and will include a specific climate action and resiliency committee. This committee will oversee the development of a formal climate action strategy for our organization, with that strategy driving development of future action plans that will have the greatest and best impacts on reducing CO2 emissions given the resources available. We expect the new LGCAP funding will assist with developing this formal strategy, which will then guide how these and other resources can be best used to have the greatest positive impact.</p>
<p>9. Which elements of your community's current official community plan (OCP) (or other relevant strategies, policies and/or plans) support the creation of more complete, compact communities?</p>	<p>As a regional district, outside of our member municipalities we largely consist of smaller unincorporated communities and rural, often agricultural or industrial properties or vacation homes spread out at various distances. Many pre-existed the TNRD. The TNRD has 8 Official Community Plans covering most but not all of the RD. All 8 have policies on greenhouse gas reductions and all encourage development in pre-existing settlement areas and not in pristine areas. We also have a Regional Growth Strategy which does the same, and includes a "fringe development" policy to discourage development just outside the borders of existing member municipalities. These all discourage sprawl.</p>
<p>10. What actions has your local government or Modern Treaty Nation taken to increase community completeness and compactness since 2020 (e.g. urban containment boundary, increasing density by allowing secondary suites and laneway or carriage housing options)?</p>	<p>Updating RGS and OCPs discussed above. Since the 1970's the TNRD has allowed for secondary suites and outbuildings to encourage densification on existing settlement areas rather than forcing development on separate, more widespread parcels of land, and recently changed bylaws to enable more or larger buildings in certain circumstances.</p>
<p>11. What data would be most valuable to your local government or Modern Treaty Nation in decision-making related to the creation of complete, compact communities?</p>	<p>Improved census data accompanied by GIS/mapping data that would better inform us how many people are currently living in the TNRD and where.</p>
<p>12. From 2021 to now, has your local government or Modern Treaty Nation taken any action(s) to address climate impacts?</p>	<p>For several years the TNRD has worked closely with Fraser Basin Council and other societies on work to better assess risks and impacts from climate change, such as updating flood plain mapping along the Thompson Rivers and other risk studies. However, regulatory changes are needed to force change to respond to these risks, as building permits are still permitted in various areas of higher risk (for example). We see properties with homes being flooded out or destroyed by wildfire but are being encouraged to re-settle and re-build the lost properties ion the same space.</p> <p>During 2021 we have experienced history making wildfires and floods and all of our resources have been consumed with response and recovery, with very little ability to get to pro-active planning.</p>

<p>13. Has a climate risk and vulnerability assessment (or similar assessment) been undertaken for your local government or Modern Treaty Nation?</p>	<p>No, for reasons apparent in responses to previous questions. It's on the wish list to get to it and with formation of Climate Action committee to head development of a strategy and LGCAP funding, it's more likely to get done in next 2 years than before.</p>
<p>14. What are the three most significant climate hazards faced by your jurisdiction</p>	<p>"Wildfire", "Overland flooding", "Ecological, cultural and/or human health impacts (examples of cultural impacts include threats to identities, languages, and livelihoods; examples of ecological impacts include biodiversity loss, erosion, invasive species, ecosystem changes)", "Extreme heat and heat stress", "Water shortage", "Wind, rain, and other storm events", "Extreme cold, snow and ice", "Coastal flooding, storm surge events and/or other coastal hazards"</p>
<p>15. Are you responding to this survey on behalf of a Modern Treaty Nation?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>16. Based on the hazard you indicated as most significant in question 14, as a local government, which groups are most exposed/vulnerable to the impacts of that climate hazard?</p>	<p>"All of the above? Wildfires do not discriminate between rich or poor, men or women. We have a lot of long established settlement areas in rural regions and with large, widespread wildfires many such communities are effected. Some are low income farming properties who rely on their land to earn a living, some are multi-million dollar lakeside vacation homes and resorts. Some are entire communities like the Village of Lytton. Some can afford insurance and some (many) can't, which makes them more vulnerable to lack of resources to rebuild."</p>
<p>17. Based on the hazard you indicated as second most significant in question 14, as a local government, which groups are most exposed/vulnerable to the impacts of that climate hazard?</p>	<p>"The answer is much the same as the above when it comes to flooding, and the two are linked as the wildfires create conditions in those areas that are more vulnerable to flooding and landslides in future. Last year floods wiped out important transportation corridors, such as along Hwy 8 near Spences Bridge and impacted a large number of homes in the City of Merritt and area. many of these people are still not able to move home. or their homes may be condemned. In some areas along Hwy 8, the flooding actually washed away the land, so that not only was the house lost but there is no land now to rebuild on - it's now where the river is."</p>
<p>18. Based on the hazard you indicated as third most significant in question 14, as a local government, which groups are most exposed/vulnerable to the impacts of that climate hazard?</p>	<p>"Ours is a vast and biologically diverse area containing many unique and endangered plant and animal species. Biodiversity loss, erosion, invasive species and ecosystem changes are actively happening right now and effecting all the people living here in many ways. It's hard to identify any one group most vulnerable, as indigenous peoples have deep connections to these things as part of their culture and identity, low income groups face increasing challenging making a living off the land, seniors on fixed incomes can't always afford rising costs to address climate change."</p>

<p>19. Select the top three factors your local government or Modern Treaty Nation needs most to increase the capacity to adapt to climate impacts and build community resilience.</p>	<p>"Increased funding", "Increased staff knowledge, expertise and data specific to climate adaptation", "Increased staff capacity"</p>
<p>20. How does your local government or Modern Treaty Nation ensure equitable access to, and distribution of, climate action opportunities and benefits?</p>	<p>"Much of the climate action taken to date has been through use of the Federal Gas Tax/CCBF funding, and much of that has been distributed as grants to not-for-profit societies for eligible projects to lower energy consumption and realize greater energy efficiency. We have created an application process to ensure all needed information is gathered to ensure full discussion and pre-approval can take place with our Board of 26 Directors. Moving forward, we are looking to form a specific Climate Action Committee that will develop a specific climate action strategy, that will in turn consider where the greatest positive impacts can be achieved with available resources including the LGCAP funding now available. Equity would be part of that consideration.", "By engaging with equity seeking groups/frontline communities most impacted by climate change", "There are no specific measures in place at this time to ensure equitable access to, and distribution of, opportunities and benefits"</p>
<p>21. Do the climate action plan(s) and priorities of your local government or Modern Treaty Nation align with the climate action plans and priorities of senior levels of government?</p>	<p>"More of the above is needed and we are actively working to improve in this area.", "Yes, we assess our plans and priorities for multilevel alignment", "Yes, we collaborate with other communities to align with climate action plans and priorities of senior levels of government"</p>
<p>22. Is your local government a signatory to the B.C. Climate Action Charter or a Modern Treaty Nation?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>23. To demonstrate commitment to climate action, climate investments (i.e., matching funding or in-kind contributions) equivalent to 20% of the provincial funding received are required of local governments and Modern Treaty Nations. The intent is to show past, current, and future investments in climate action and create awareness and education.</p>	<p>"Use of Federal Gas tax/ CCBF funds to fund multiple infrastructure upgrade projects (both TNRD corporate assets and community assets). We anticipate continuing to do so on many LGCAP funded projects in addition to the above..", "Staff time", "Climate or energy studies and/or assessments", "Climate resilient infrastructure and/or capital project(s)"</p>
<p>24. Please provide your (or survey primary contact's) first and last name.</p>	<p>Douglas Rae</p>

25. Please indicate your (or survey primary contact's) position with your local government or Modern Treaty Nation.	Chief Financial Officer
26. Please provide your (or survey primary contact's) business email address.	drae@tnrd.ca
27. Please provide your (or survey primary contact's) business phone number.	2503777050



Local Government Climate Action Program Attestation Form

Instructions for the Attestor:

1. Complete and sign this form by filling in the fields below.
2. Email the completed and signed form to LGCAP@gov.bc.ca.

I, the Chief Financial Officer, or equivalent position, of Thompson-Nicola Regional District (name of local government) confirm the following:

1. That Local Government Climate Action Program funding has been, or will be, allocated to climate action.
2. That if funds are held in reserve, they will be spent by the end of March 2025.
3. That a completed and signed version of this form will be submitted by email to the Climate Action Secretariat, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy by July 29, 2022.
 - a. If council approval is required, it will be submitted no later than September 30, 2022.
4. That a completed and signed version of this form will be publicly posted by September 30, 2022.
5. That a completed and exported version of the program survey (submitted online) will be publicly posted by September 30, 2022.

Attested to by me at (name of local government) Thompson-Nicola Regional District
on (date) July 18, 2022

Signature of Attestor: *Douglas Rae*

Printed Name of Attestor: Douglas Rae

Title or Profession of Attestor (i.e. Chief Financial Officer or equivalent position): CFO

Telephone Number of Attestor: 250-377-8673

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**Ministry of Environment and
Climate Change Strategy**

Climate Partnerships and
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