



## Local Government Climate Action Program Survey Submission Report

### Vernon

Report generated on Wednesday, July 13, 2022 23:06 PST

Question	Answer
1. Does your local government or Modern Treaty Nation have a climate action plan or strategy?	Yes
1.a. Indicate the date the plan was adopted.	April 12, 2021
1.b. Include a link to the document (URL) or webpage.	<a href="https://www.vernon.ca/homes-building/environment-sustainability/climate-action">https://www.vernon.ca/homes-building/environment-sustainability/climate-action</a>
2. For the calendar year 2021, did your local government or Modern Treaty Nation measure and publicly disclose corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions?	Corporate GHG emissions were measured in 2017 and reported in 2020. Moving forward, we are putting in place a regular reporting cycle (e.g. every 5 years)
3. For calendar year 2021, did your local government or Modern Treaty Nation measure and publicly disclose a community-wide emissions inventory?	Our last community-wide emissions inventory was in 2017, published in a 2020 report
4. Is your local government or Modern Treaty Nation tracking progress on its community-wide GHG reduction target?	Yes

4.a. Please provide your reduction target(s).	Our community targets are: 23% reduction in GHG emissions below 2017 levels by 2026; 50% reduction in GHG emissions below 2017 levels by 2030; 75% reduction in GHG emissions below 2017 levels by 2040; 100% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050.
4.b. Please provide the target year.	2050
4.c. Please provide the baseline year.	2017
4.d. Please provide the link(s) to the document(s) or website if available.	<a href="https://www.vernon.ca/homes-building/environment-sustainability/climate-action">https://www.vernon.ca/homes-building/environment-sustainability/climate-action</a>
5. Describe up to four climate initiatives, and their outcomes, your local government or Modern Treaty Nation is currently undertaking for Buildings	<p>Our Climate Action Plan (CAP) commits us to two goals for buildings: 1) All new buildings are efficient, use zero carbon energy systems, and are resilient to, and adapted for, projected climate change impacts and hazards; and 2) Existing buildings are retrofitted to be energy efficient, use zero-carbon energy systems, and are resilient to, and adapted for, projected climate change impacts and hazards.</p> <p>1) With regard to goal 1, the City of Vernon requires new construction to meet the BC Energy Step Code, as referenced in Part 15 of our Building Bylaw #5900. The requirements are as follows: a building regulated by Part 3 of the Building Code must be designed and constructed to meet the minimum performance requirements specified in a) Step 1 of the Step Code as of July 1, 2022 for all Part 3 (commercial) buildings. A building regulated by Part 9 of the Building Code, of new residential construction, must be designed and constructed to meet the minimum performance requirements specified in a) Step 1 of the Step Code as of January 10, 2022 for all Part 9 residential buildings; b) Step 3 of the Step Code as of January 1, 2023 for all Part 9 residential buildings. We are in the research and development phase of a program for building energy labelling and benchmarking for energy, emissions, and resilience in accordance with the guidance in the BC Energy Step Code.</p> <p>2) With regard to goal 2, we plan to develop a building retrofit program to support residents to be more resilient to climate change, reduce energy investments over time, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by improving building efficiency and installing lowcarbon energy systems. We are currently in the research and development phase of this program.</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>Our Climate Action Plan (CAP) commits us to two goals for transportation: 1) Active transportation is the first choice to move around Vernon, and 2) The community’s transition to low greenhouse gas vehicles, such as electric, is supported.</p> <p>With regard to the first goal, we are continuing to implement our Master Transportation Plan, and update as needed, concurrently with our Official Community Plan to integrate and prioritize active transportation investments with the goals of the CAP. Specific initiatives this year include:</p> <p>1) We have made new investments in active transportation infrastructure with the Silver Star Road Multi-Use Path Project currently under construction, multiple Park Trail Connections, and a Sidewalk Ramp Replacement Project to improve accessibility at crosswalks for all ages and abilities. We continue our participation as a pilot community in the Province’s Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Program. In 2021, we launched the dockless e-scooter share program, and in 2022, we added on a dockless e-bike share program for the community.</p> <p>2) We are working to enable and support the enhancement and expansion of the transit network and alternative mobility options through implementation of our Transit Future Action Plan which identifies improvements to transit services and describes the path to implement those improvements. We are currently working on building bus stop pads and installing transit shelters.</p> <p>3) The City encourages employees to carpool, bike, and walk. We offer an e-bike fleet to city staff for work-related community transportation. The City was also an active participant in GoByBikeBC week (May 30-June 5, 2022) and had 41 riders register for a total of 1328 kms travelled.</p> <p>With regard to the second goal, we are also expanding our network of charging infrastructure to support the transition to electric vehicles. Vernon currently has 19 public charging station ports (Level 2 and Level 3).</p> <p>4) This year we have just installed electric vehicle charging equipment at our new Civic Memorial Park, which is currently under construction.</p>
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<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>Our Climate Action Plan and our Official Community Plan commits us to compact community development, where residential uses are developed in close proximity to commercial services, employment, schools and recreational amenities. We will begin a full review and update of our OCP in the fall of 2022. Our new OCP will integrate all climate risk and vulnerability analyses and emissions data, and objectives, actions and targets from the Climate Action Plan.</p> <p>1) In partnership with our Climate Action Advisory Committee (CAAC), we have a volunteer engagement program to encourage groups and individuals in the City to help implement climate action goals. We are part of ICLEI’s 2022 Agents of Change leadership group of Canadian municipalities focusing on excellence in volunteer engagement.</p> <p>2) Our GHG inventory demonstrated that organic waste is the third largest source of GHGs in our community. To address this, on May 2, 2022, the City launched a new weekly curbside residential organics collection program. This new service is helping to divert kitchen and yard waste from more than 14,000 Vernon households from the Greater Vernon Diversion and Disposal Facility (landfill) to reduce our community’s greenhouse gas emissions and extend the life of our landfill.</p> <p>3) The City of Vernon has just completed a new five-year business strategy to help steer the future direction of tourism in our community; climate action and sustainability are included as key priorities.</p> <p>4) We are in the research and development phase of an information support program to help local businesses, including the tourism sector, get ready for climate change.</p>
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8. Describe up to four climate initiatives, and their outcomes, your local government or Modern Treaty Nation is currently undertaking for Climate Resilience

Our Climate Action Plan commits us to ensuring that all members of the community, including those most at risk and vulnerable, have equitable access to information, support and resources related to preparing for climate readiness. We have undertaken the following initiatives:

1) The City of Vernon has a FireSmart program and FireSmart neighbourhood recognition has been achieved in a number of the wildland interface areas of the City. Vernon Fire Rescue Services and the Emergency Program engage with citizens to develop FireSmart Champions and Committees. The City has accessed grant funding to enable supports to the neighbourhood programming as well as undertake FireSmart activities at the landscape level. An internal FireSmart Committee has also been engaged to coordinate FireSmart considerations and initiatives across the corporation.

2) Another initiative in the research and development phase is a neighborhood resilience program to facilitate social connection, information sharing, climate awareness, and climate response activities amongst City residents at the neighborhood scale.

3) Our partner organization, the Social Planning Council of the North Okanagan (SPCNO), in cooperation with our Emergency Program, has identified populations vulnerable to climate change and are working to support their needs and build their adaptive capacity. The City of Vernon provides funding for SPCNO to facilitate the Partners in Action Committee, a solution-oriented, community driven committee that addresses social issues with a community development approach. Once an issue is identified, an action team is created to help problem solve and ensure that key players are recruited based on their skills, knowledge and connections. Leading up to a heat wave in 2021, an action team was organized to develop supports for this population and to build adaptive capacity. In a very short period of time, community partners were recruited to assist with setting up cooling centres, providing access to water and hydration, and distribution of health and safety tips through multiple networks. As a result, community partners have since come together to develop an extreme heat protocol that can be activated each summer (when needed) and ensures that people who are unhoused have access to water, cool spaces and first aid resources. Another partner coalition, the Vernon Seniors Action Network, is engaged with emergency preparedness programming targeting seniors.

<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>Our Climate Action Plan and our Official Community Plan commits us to compact community development, where residential uses are developed in close proximity to commercial services, employment, schools and recreational amenities. Our current OCP has been successful in promoting high density development in designated neighborhood areas serviced by active transportation infrastructure. We will begin a full review and update of our OCP in the fall of 2022. Our new OCP will integrate all climate risk and vulnerability analyses and emissions data, and objectives, actions and targets from the Climate Action Plan.</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>In 2021, the City of Vernon approved amendments to our Zoning Bylaw #5000 regarding secondary suites which would remove owner occupier requirements, remove height contradictions, improve clarity, and increase the ability to include suites in secondary buildings. At the same time, the City also removed a previous requirement for secondary suite owners to pay business license fees and additional garbage and recycling utility fees, to reduce barriers to legalization of secondary suites. We are currently investigating the feasibility of allowing secondary suites in some multi-family housing types to further encourage densification within designated neighborhood areas serviced by active transportation infrastructure.</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>Provincial level data:  funding opportunities for renewable/low carbon corporate infrastructure investments  funding opportunities for active transportation infrastructure</p> <p>Local level data:  % of development within urban containment areas  % of mixed commercial and residential development within urban containment areas  # minutes by bicycle or walking to core amenities and services  # of public EV charging station ports (Level 2 and Level 3)  public transit service and usage metrics</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>In addition to the activities discussed in our response to Question 8 (Firesmart program, neighborhood resilience program, and emergency preparedness and support to vulnerable populations), the City has been doing extensive work on flood readiness. Building on flood mapping undertaken in the past several years by the Okanagan Basin Water Board, the City undertook detailed flood mapping in and around Okanagan Lake and creeks within our municipal boundary. Drawing on this data, on February 28, 2022, Vernon City Council approved a series of infrastructure improvements to mitigate the flood hazards identified in the mapping. On July 27, 2022, City Council approved a new Floodplain Development Bylaw and a Flood Hazard Development Permit Area that will ensure that new development in floodplain areas is undertaken safely and meets appropriate Flood Construction Levels (FCLs).</p>

13. Has a climate risk and vulnerability assessment (or similar assessment) been undertaken for your local government or Modern Treaty Nation?	Yes
13.a. Please provide a link to the document (URL).	We have not published the complete document online, but selected facts are available on a StoryMap at: <a href="https://www.vernon.ca/homes-building/environment-sustainability/climate-action">https://www.vernon.ca/homes-building/environment-sustainability/climate-action</a>
14. What are the three most significant climate hazards faced by your jurisdiction	"Wildfire", "Overland flooding", "Extreme heat and heat stress", "Water shortage", "Extreme cold, snow and ice", "Wind, rain, and other storm events", "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)", "Coastal flooding, storm surge events and/or other coastal hazards"
15. Are you responding to this survey on behalf of a Modern Treaty Nation?	No
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?	"Indigenous peoples", "People experiencing homelessness", "Seniors"
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?	"Residents in floodplain and lakeshore areas", "Low-income households", "Indigenous peoples"
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?	"Low-income households", "People experiencing homelessness", "Seniors"
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.	"Increased funding", "More community engagement and activation", "Increased staff capacity"

<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>"By including members of equity deserving groups as representatives on our Climate Action Advisory Committee, Vernon Seniors Action Network and as Climate Ambassadors", "By collecting and analyzing disaggregated and/or spatial data on the impact of climate actions", "By engaging with equity seeking groups/frontline communities most impacted by climate change", "By designing and implementing climate actions that target the barriers to access and resilience faced by the equity seeking groups/frontline communities most impacted by climate change"</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>"Yes, we align climate action plan(s) and priorities with the federal 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan", "Yes, we align climate action plan(s) and priorities with the provincial CleanBC Roadmap to 2030", "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>"Staff time", "Climate or energy studies and/or assessments", "Climate or energy plans, policies and/or strategy development", "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>Barbara Everdene</p>
<p>25. Please indicate your (or survey primary contact's) position with your local government or Modern Treaty Nation.</p>	<p>Long Range Planner</p>
<p>26. Please provide your (or survey primary contact's) business email address.</p>	<p>Beverdene@vernon.ca</p>



27. Please provide your (or survey primary contact's) business phone number.

12505403425



## 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](mailto:LGCAP@gov.bc.ca).

I, the Chief Financial Officer, or equivalent position, of \_\_\_\_\_ (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) \_\_\_\_\_  
on (date) \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Attestor:

\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Attestor:

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number of Attestor:

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address of Attestor:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Ministry of Environment and  
Climate Change Strategy**

Climate Partnerships and  
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Climate Action Secretariat

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environment/climate-change](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change)



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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 March 31, 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.
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Attested to by me at (name of local government) City of Vernon  
on (date) 30 JUNE, 2022

Signature of Attestor:

DLaw

Printed Name of Attestor:

DEBRA LAW

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

DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL SERVICES

Telephone Number of Attestor:

250-550-3550

Email Address of Attestor:

dlaw@vernon.ca

Ministry of Environment and  
Climate Change Strategy

Climate Partnerships and  
Engagement Branch  
Climate Action Secretariat

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