Coastal Climate Resilience Collaborative: Partner Profiles



ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability
Les gouvernements locaux pour le développement durable
CANADA

Natural Resources Canada | Ressources naturelles Canada
Canada

Supported by Natural Resources Canada's Coastal Communities Program

Coastal Climate Resilience Collaborative

The Collaborative

The Coastal Climate Resilience Collaborative (the Collaborative) brings together local governments, First Nations, regional organizations, and health authorities from across the Pacific North Shore and Sunshine Coast to think regionally. Together, the Collaborative identifies shared resilience priorities, and advances key climate adaptation initiatives.

The Collaborative is made up of community representatives, advisory group members, and ICLEI Canada.

Several communities across the region are represented in the Collaborative, with staff taking part in regular meetings and activities. In addition, an advisory group of regional organizations supports and guides these communities through climate adaptation action planning and implementation.

The Collaborative's approach is grounded in regular reflection and iteration. Through virtual and in-person gatherings, members learn from one another, support each other's priorities, and develop a shared vision for climate resilience.

The Collaborative is delivered by ICLEI Canada and supported by Natural Resources Canada's Climate-Resilient Coastal Communities Program.

About ICLEI Canada

ICLEI Canada is a national leader in municipal climate action. We collaborate with diverse partners across government, Indigenous communities, industry, academia, and NGOs. We have a long history of innovation, creativity, and collaboration, helping build more sustainable communities across Canada since 1990.

- As a network, we connect urban sustainability professionals to share knowledge, foster leadership, and collaborate.
- As a movement, we accelerate local action through programs and partnerships that build capacity and deliver results.
- As a consulting agency, we provide local governments with expertise, tested tools, practical resources, and tailored services to plan, finance, and implement solutions.

ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability
Les gouvernements locaux pour le développement durable
CANADA

Natural Resources Canada | Ressources naturelles Canada
Canada

Supported by Natural Resources Canada's Coastal Communities Program.

Collaborative Community Partners

Communities across the Pacific North Shore and Sunshine Coast with staff representatives who participate in Collaborative meetings and activities include:

Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation)

The Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) is a Coast Salish Nation with deep ancestral ties to the lands and waters of in the area today known as the Lower Mainland and sea to sky. More than 4,000 members strong, the Nation is addressing a range of climate-related challenges including sea level rise, flooding, wildfire, and ecosystem degradation. The Nation's 2022 Climate Legacy Strategy guides Indigenous-led climate action through four priorities: Low Carbon Resilience, Green Economy, Land and Water, and People and Community.

District of Squamish

The District of Squamish is a growing coastal community at the northern tip of Howe Sound, home to approximately 28,000 residents. Facing climate risks including riverine and coastal flooding, sea-level rise, wildfire and extreme precipitation, the District is advancing adaptation through its Climate Adaptation Strategy and Integrated Flood Hazard Management Plan. Its efforts focus on nature-based flood management, climate-resilient infrastructure, land use planning and community preparedness, alongside emissions reduction through its Community Climate Action Plan.

District of West Vancouver

The District of West Vancouver is a coastal municipality of approximately 44,000 residents, situated between mountains and ocean. Facing climate risks including sea-level rise and wildfire, the District's Climate Action Strategy targets a 45% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050. Its adaptation efforts include shoreline stabilization, wildfire risk assessments, emergency preparedness and integrating climate risks into asset management and development guidelines.

District of North Vancouver

The District of North Vancouver is home to over 90,000 residents and is characterized by mountainous terrain, forests, creek systems and an extensive shoreline. Facing climate risks including flooding, landslides and wildfire, the District is advancing adaptation through hazard mapping, wildfire management and climate-resilient infrastructure planning. Its approach emphasizes natural asset management, evidence-based planning and collaboration with First Nations, neighbouring municipalities and local partners to protect people and ecosystems.

City of Vancouver

The City of Vancouver is an urban municipality home to over 660,000 residents. Facing climate risks including extreme heat, drought, sea-level rise and flooding, the City is advancing adaptation through its Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, Rain City Strategy and initiatives such as the Sea2City Design Challenge. Its efforts focus on integrating climate resilience into urban planning and infrastructure, with an emphasis on equity, reconciliation and protecting vulnerable populations.

Bowen Island Municipality

Bowen Island Municipality is a small coastal community in Howe Sound, home to approximately 4,200 residents. Facing climate challenges including sea-level rise, coastal erosion, landslide risk and water scarcity, the Municipality declared a climate emergency in 2019 and adopted a Climate Action Strategy in 2020. Its resilience efforts include water conservation, shoreline protection, hazard assessments and integrating climate adaptation into land use planning, infrastructure and community engagement.

Sunshine Coast Regional District

The Sunshine Coast Regional District spans approximately 3,800 square kilometres and serves just over 32,000 residents across coastal, forested and rural communities. Facing climate risks including sea-level rise, wildfire, drought and extreme precipitation, the SCRD is advancing adaptation through its Community Climate Action Plan, Coastal Flood Mapping Project and water supply resilience initiatives, including infrastructure upgrades and watershed monitoring.

Town of Gibsons

The Town of Gibsons is a coastal municipality on British Columbia's Sunshine Coast, home to approximately 4,800 residents. Recognized for its leadership in climate adaptation and natural asset management, the Town developed the Gibsons Eco-Asset Strategy to integrate natural systems into infrastructure planning and financial decision-making. Its efforts include coastal hazard mapping, green infrastructure and incorporating natural assets into development and asset management frameworks.

District of Sechelt

The District of Sechelt is a coastal community on the Sunshine Coast, home to approximately 11,000 residents. Facing climate risks including sea-level rise, coastal erosion, wildfire and seasonal water shortages, Sechelt is integrating climate resilience into land use planning, infrastructure and emergency preparedness. Its efforts include shoreline mapping, exploring nature-based solutions and strengthening partnerships with regional and provincial governments to support sustainable development and protect local ecosystems.

Collaborative Advisory Group

Regional organizations that provide strategic guidance to the Collaborative on action planning and implementation through the Advisory group include:

Government of British Columbia

The Government of BC's Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy, CleanBC policy and Local Government Climate Action Program informs the work of the Collaborative, with guidance from a staff representative from the Community Partnerships and Columbia River Treaty Branch within the BC Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions, which now includes the previous Climate Action Secretariat (CAS).

First Nations Emergency Services Society (FNESS)

The First Nations Emergency Services Society (FNESS) of BC is a non-profit organization that supports First Nations communities in emergency management and climate resilience. Its services include fire protection, emergency preparedness, mitigation, and recovery. FNESS offers hazard risk assessments, decision-support tools, and training to strengthen community capacity. It also works with Indigenous communities to integrate traditional knowledge with modern emergency management practices and build safer, more resilient communities.

North Shore Emergency Management (NSEM)

North Shore Emergency Management (NSEM) is the emergency management department for the City and Districts of North Vancouver and the District of West Vancouver. It supports the three municipalities and their residents with emergency planning, preparedness, response, and recovery. NSEM also coordinates training, exercises, public education, and partnerships, and administers the provincial Emergency Support Services program to support evacuees.

First Nations Health Authority (FNHA)

The First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) is Canada's only provincial First Nations health authority, serving over 200 First Nations communities across BC. Its Climate Health Action Program (CHAP) supports community-led projects addressing climate change impacts on health, including food security, mental health, environmental monitoring, and stewardship. The program also supports connections to land, culture, and language, while strengthening community capacity. FNHA emphasizes Indigenous leadership and knowledge in climate adaptation.

Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH)

Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) provides health services and supports to 1.3 million people across its region. Its Chief Medical Health Officer report, Protecting Population Health in a Climate Emergency, examines the health impacts of climate hazards such as extreme heat, poor air quality, and drought. The report outlines recommendations to reduce health risks through climate mitigation and adaptation.

Simon Fraser University - Action on Climate Team (ACT)

The Action on Climate Team (ACT) at Simon Fraser University is a research-to-practice hub that connects climate change and sustainability research with practical action. It focuses on low-carbon resilience and nature-based solutions, supporting local governments through research, partnerships, and initiatives such as the Integrated Climate Action for BC Communities Initiative (ICABCCI). ACT helps communities integrate climate adaptation and mitigation into local planning and decision-making.

UBC Coastal Adaptation Lab (CAL)

CAL works with First Nations, communities, governments, and other partners to explore changing relationships between land, water, people, and ecosystems. Working across coastal, riverine, and rainfall-affected landscapes, CAL combines community knowledge, spatial analysis, and research-by-design to advance place-based approaches to climate adaptation. Their work traces how landscapes have changed over time, identifies local values and priorities, and uses mapping, visualization, and design to explore alternative futures. Through this collaborative approach, CAL aims to support more just and resilient futures for communities and ecosystems.

Community Energy Association (CEA)

The Community Energy Association (CEA) accelerates climate and energy action by local governments and Indigenous communities. Its members and staff bring local experience, collective expertise, a commitment to Truth and Reconciliation, and a passion for building healthy, resilient communities. CEA supports community planning and infrastructure projects, collaboration, knowledge sharing, and public engagement. It also offers adaptation capacity-building programs, including the BC-wide Resilience Peer Network and Climate Adaptation Planning and Action Cohorts.

Fraser Basin Council (FBC)

The Fraser Basin Council (FBC) is a non-profit organization that supports climate adaptation across BC through collaborative, multi-jurisdictional approaches. Its work focuses on extreme heat, water scarcity, wildfires, flooding, and community resilience planning. FBC develops tools and initiatives such as FloodWise, ReTooling for Climate Change, and Community Wildfire Roundtables. It brings together governments, First Nations, researchers, and private sector partners, integrating scientific research, Indigenous knowledge, and policy to advance regional resilience.



Local Governments for Sustainability
Les gouvernements locaux pour le développement durable
CANADA

Natural Resources Canada
Ressources naturelles Canada
Canada

Supported by Natural Resources Canada's Coastal Communities Program