Impactful Climate Solution Policies

EAST KOOTENAY CLIMATE HUB

*Please see **Backgrounder** for details on each suggested policy*

A. Future Ready Buildings & Energy

Sept 2023

1. Buildings

1.1 New buildings: Mandate accelerated adoption of Zero Carbon Step Code with a faster timeline for the coastal climate zones, allowing more time for interior zones.

Retrofit existing homes:

1.2 Install 1 M electric heat pumps in 3 years supported by training.
1.3 Phase out the sale of emission-producing heating/cooling equipment by Jan 2028.
1.4 Implement PACE financing (Property Assessed Clean Energy) which will also help homeowners address extreme heat and wildfire smoke air quality issues.
1.5 Provide heat pumps for free or at low cost for income qualified properties.

Build awareness:

1.6 Mandate climate action training for local government staff and elected leaders.
1.7 Provide public awareness campaigns on: *water conservation; *reduced heat absorption via light coloured roofing, siding, hardscaping and deciduous trees; *reduced stormwater discharge during extreme rains via permeable driveways, patios, etc.

2. Electrical Grid

2.1 Increase emissions-free power generation and sale by establishing an Independent Grid System Operator to open up competition, innovation and workforce adjustment.

3. Energy Supply

3.1 Develop a Power Purchase Agreement framework for clean power generation.
3.2 Legislate an emissions cap on gas utilities per CleanBC.
3.3 Redirect all fossil fuel and related subsidies to emissions-free energy initiatives.
3.4 Electrify and complete BC's public transit fleet, and EV infrastructure by 2030.
3.5 Mandate satellite monitoring and reporting of major sources of methane from coal mines and gas wells.

B. Community Wildfire Resilience

4.1 Provide longer term funding and streamlined permitting so that communities have the flexibility they need to deliver wildfire risk reduction treatments at scale and pace.
4.2 Reduce open burning of slash piles by developing markets for monetizing currently non-merchantable forest biomass such as: producing electricity, biochar, etc (see *Backgrounder*). Biomass should not be used to produce Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) since RNG produces GHG emissions.