



STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 14, 2021

FILE: 0550-04 Board

TO: Chair and Directors,
Regional Board

FROM: Dave Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer

RE: CLIMATE ACTION REVENUE INCENTIVE PROGRAM (CARIP)

PURPOSE

To provide an update on the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program reporting requirements for 2020.

POLICY ANALYSIS

The Regional District is a signatory to the Climate Action Charter and under Section 5 of the Charter, has agreed to achieve the following goals (summary):

- Being carbon neutral in respect of its operations by 2012;
- Measuring and reporting on community greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions profile, and;
- Creating complete, compact and more energy efficient rural and urban communities.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

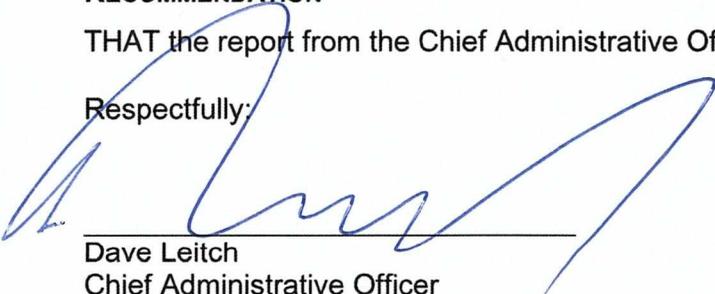
In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Finance and Infrastructure has announced that the only reporting requirement for the 2020 reporting year will be the completion of the 2020 Carbon Tax Calculation Form which identifies the amount of carbon tax the Regional District paid during 2020. The Regional District will receive a grant equal to one hundred percent of the carbon tax paid and reported as a direct expenditure.

The Strathcona Regional District continues to strive for ways to reduce emissions as required under the Climate Action Charter. There is no legal obligation under the Climate Action Charter to purchase off-sets as a means to achieve carbon neutrality. In the absence of any specific sustainability plan, staff continue to seek opportunities to reduce GHG emissions wherever possible.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report from the Chief Administrative Officer be received.

Respectfully:



Dave Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer

Prepared by: Edith Watson, Senior Executive Assistant

Attachment: May 11, 2021 email from the Ministry of Finance and Infrastructure

Edith Watson

From: Edith Watson
Sent: May 14, 2021 4:17 PM
To: Edith Watson
Subject: FW: Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Reporting 2020

From: INFRA MUNI:EX <INFRA@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: May 11, 2021 12:40 PM
To: INFRA MUNI:EX <INFRA@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Reporting 2020

NOTICE: This email is from an external source.

To: All Municipal and Regional District Chief Administrative Officers and Chief Financial Officers

Re: Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Reporting 2020

Many thanks to all who joined Deputy Minister Okenge Yuma Morisho and me on today's call about the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP), please accept our apologies for the technical difficulties on the call that some experienced. This email includes the information that was shared during the call. We want to emphasize that local governments throughout British Columbia have shown great leadership on climate action. The province is committed to working with local governments to reach our climate goals and make life better for people across British Columbia.

For those who were unable to attend or hear due to some technical difficulties on the call, I wish to inform you and your staff that the CARIP will be wrapping up in the 2021/22 fiscal year. During this final program year, local governments will be required to complete and submit the 2020 Carbon Tax Calculation Form. **This will be the only reporting requirement.**

All program information is available on the [Ministry of Municipal Affairs' CARIP webpage](#). In particular, we encourage you to review the CARIP [Program Guide](#) for 2020 prior to completing the [2020 Carbon Tax Calculation Form](#).

CARIP Reporting Requirement

1. **2020 [Carbon Tax Calculation Form](#) (submission deadline: August 6, 2021)**

Complete and submit a signed electronic version of the form to INFRA@gov.bc.ca. This form requires Financial Officer certification.

The end of the CARIP program should not be interpreted as the Province pulling back from the productive relationship we have and we look forward to working with UBCM, through the Green Communities Committee, to support the goals of the Climate Action Charter.

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 British Columbia's climate goals.

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.

Budget 2021 commits \$11 million in new funding to help local governments plan for compact, energy-efficient communities, directly supporting the Climate Action Charter's commitment to create complete, compact, energy-efficient rural and urban communities. We look forward to working with all local governments through UBCM and the Green Communities Committee on how to support greener and more livable communities.

Building on record investments in CleanBC, the Province will continue to strengthen our work with local governments and support the Climate Action Charter.

If you have any questions, please contact the Ministry of Municipal Affairs at (778) 698-3243 or INFRA@gov.bc.ca.

Kind regards,

Tara Faganello
Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government Division
Ministry of Municipal Affairs