



Smart Energy Planning for Communities

HELPING BRITISH COLUMBIA COMMUNITIES
IDENTIFY ENERGY SOLUTIONS

Today's communities face many sustainability challenges—providing and paying for services and infrastructure, diversifying local economies, managing change, and enhancing environmental quality, just to name a few. **Smart Energy Planning can help local and First Nations governments in their quest for sustainability.**

Local governments are also keenly attuned to the importance of energy plans, given current commitments to carbon neutrality under the BC Climate Action Charter, and the greenhouse gas reduction targets, policies and actions that form part of their Official Community Plans.

Your community can help reduce greenhouse gases, and save money, by considering all aspects of energy in your land use, building, infrastructure, and transportation policies and activities.

 **Ask us your energy planning question.**



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How We Help

Smart Planning for Communities (SPC) will provide your community with energy efficiency, renewable energy, and emission reduction measures through innovative policies, plans, and program ideas. Some examples of measures in different areas are:

PLANNING: community energy plans; energy and emission reduction strategies; energy management objectives; energy-related policies and actions in official plans to help meet targets; First Nations and off-grid community renewable energy and energy efficiency plans

LAND USE AND INFRASTRUCTURE: zoning initiatives to encourage compact, complete, connected communities; development cost charges; transit, walking and cycling actions; district energy, small hydro and combined heat and power opportunities; service area bylaws

BUILDING AND SITE: solar hot water policies; sustainability checklists; voluntary guidelines; development permit area guidelines; revitalization tax exemptions and incentives; density bonuses; local improvement charges; green building programs; innovative project financing

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS: corporate greenhouse gas inventories; civic building policies; greening vehicle fleets; landfill gas and biogas opportunities; sustainable purchasing policies



Fraser Basin Council





OTHER RESOURCES

Community Energy Association supports local governments in accelerating the application of energy efficiency and renewable energy in community design, infrastructure, and community engagement.
www.communityenergy.bc.ca

Community Energy Solutions, Ministry of Energy Mines and Petroleum Resources provides staff and program support for communities in developing innovative energy solutions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve efficiency, and encourage the use of community based clean energy sources.
www.empr.gov.bc.ca/RET/CommunityEnergySolutions

Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Fund provides loans and grants, as well as education and training services, to support municipal initiatives that improve air, water and soil quality, and protect the climate. www.gmf.fcm.ca

FortisBC Power Sense provides financial incentives and advice on energy efficient technologies and practices to reduce its customers' electricity consumption.
www.fortisbc.com/powersense

Fraser Basin Council Climate Change Program works with communities to improve energy efficiency and air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and develop adaptation strategies on climate change. www.fraserbasin.bc.ca

Ministry of Community and Rural Development provides programs, funding and strategic support to help communities grow economically, construct infrastructure and improve air and water quality. www.cd.gov.bc.ca

Power Smart Sustainable Communities Program, BC Hydro helps local governments by providing expertise, education, program support and financial incentives to reduce electricity consumption.
www.bchydro.com/powersmart/ps_communities.html

Solar BC provides solar hot water programs for homes, communities, government buildings, First Nations, social housing and schools. www.solarbc.ca

Terassen Energy Services is an energy utility specializing in alternative energy solutions with a focus on sustainability, including geexchange and district energy systems.
www.terassen.com/energyservices

Union of BC Municipalities provides information on grant programs, including the Gas Tax Agreement funding for environmentally sustainable municipal infrastructure.
www.civicinfo.bc.ca | www.ubcm.ca

Core Energy Planning Services

Smart Planning for Communities delivers five core services:

- **Process Advice** (e.g. steps in preparing a community energy plan, such as inventories, targets, actions, implementation, monitoring, amendments)
- **Strategic Support** (e.g. helping identify funding programs for community energy initiatives)
- **Education and Training** (e.g. workshops and presentations with elected officials and staff on community energy planning)
- **Technical Assistance** (e.g. understanding and interpreting your Community Energy and Emissions Inventory)
- **Online Tools and Resources** (e.g. accessing information on specific community energy topics, best practices, and case studies)

 **Read More Online**
www.smartplanningbc.ca



Visit our website for access to online tools, resources and information for local and First Nations government staff.

FUNDERS GROUP

Smart Planning for Communities is administered by the Fraser Basin Council on behalf of a Funders Group. For more information go to www.smartplanningbc.ca.

THE FRASER BASIN COUNCIL

is a non-profit society that brings people together to advance sustainability in the Fraser River Basin and throughout British Columbia. The Council works in support of healthy ecosystems, vibrant economies and strong communities, reports on progress towards a more sustainable river basin and facilitates the resolution of complex sustainability issues.

MORE INFORMATION

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