



# Meeting Notes

The City of Calgary – Calgary Climate Panel – Meeting #7  
 9:00am – 12:00noon, May 29, 2020  
 Online – Microsoft Teams Platform

## Agenda

Time	Agenda Items	Lead
9:00am – 9:15am	Welcome and Agenda	Climate Team
9:15am – 9:30am	New Panel Member Introductions and Co-Chair	Climate Team
9:30am – 10:00am	Covid-19 Impacts and Response	Climate Team
10:00am – 10:45am	Progress Update from Admin	Climate Team
10:45am – 11:10am	Funding Update from Alberta Ecotrust	Alberta Ecotrust
11:10am – 11:40am	Panel Recommendations to Council	Climate Team
11:40am – 11:55am	Events and Opportunities	Climate Team
11:55am – 12noon	Upcoming Panel Meetings & Wrap Up	Climate Team

## Attendance

Organization	Representative	May 29, 2020
Alberta Council for Environmental Education	Gareth Thomson	
Alberta Ecotrust	Mike Mellross	√
Alberta Health Services	Dr. Nicholas Etches	√
ATCO Gas	Ryan Germaine	√
BILD Calgary Region	Ben Coleman	√
BOMA Calgary	Jayeful Islam	√
Brookfield Residential	Doug Owens	
Calgary Airport Authority – Co-chair	Harris Switzman	√
Calgary Board of Education	Olena Olafson	√
Calgary Chamber of Commerce	To Be Determined	
Calgary Climate Hub	Bob Morrison	√
Calgary Emergency Management Agency	Chief Tom Sampson	√
Citizen-at-Large	Rev. Bill Phipps	√
ENMAX Energy	Jennifer Lefevre	√
Fuse Collective	Ai-Linh Tran	√
Indigenous Community	Lorna Crowshoe	√
Intact Insurance	Luisa Currie	√
Siemens Canada	Adrian Francese	
The City of Calgary – Councillor	Cllr. Peter Demong	√
The City of Calgary – UEP General Manager	Dan Limacher	√
University of Calgary	Dr. Jennifer Winter	√
Youth Community	Logan Mitchell	√
<b>Administrative Support</b>		
The City of Calgary – ESM Director	Christopher Collier	√
The City of Calgary – Climate Change & Environment Manager	Dick Ebersohn	√
The City of Calgary – Climate Leader	Brit Samborsky	√
The City of Calgary – Climate Leader	Dawn Smith	√

The City of Calgary – Climate Team Member	Adrienne Beattie	
The City of Calgary – Climate Team Member	Alice Yu	√

## Discussion

Agenda Item Notes	Actions
<p><b>1. Welcome and Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This meeting is hosted online and few regrets in this meeting</li> <li>○ Vast representations on the climate panel to be partnered on some of the initiatives to mitigate climate impact in this community.</li> <li>○ Land acknowledgement</li> <li>○ Overview of the agenda</li> </ul>	
<p><b>2. New Panel Members Introduction and Co-Chair</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are great representations from different industries across the Panel.</li> <li>○ Introduction to three new Panel Members: Intact Centre (insurance industry); Indigenous Community and Youth Community</li> <li>○ Introduction to four representative changes from existing Panel membership: Fuse Collective; Alberta Health Services; Alberta Ecotrust and BILD Calgary.</li> <li>○ Introduction to the new co-chair of this Panel - Calgary Airport Authority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1)Remarks from new co-chair: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ We are in good position to bring on next challenge during the COVID 19 challenge.</li> <li>➤ City is being the leader and Panel Members are in unique position to help support going forward and ensure The City stay focus on the climate actions and keep them on track.</li> <li>➤ The Climate Resilience Strategy and Plans highlight collaboration and partnership is critical.</li> <li>➤ As Panel Membership is expanding, great initiatives and collaboration can be fostered.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Roundtable of introductions to all Panel Members and Climate Team staff</li> </ul>	
<p><b>3. COVID-19 Impacts and Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This session is to have conversations on our current challenge and focus on this crisis related to climate questions. Recommendations from the Climate Panel provided last year will be discussed.</li> </ul>	

- The climate emergency is like the COVID-19 emergency, just in slow motion and much graver. Both involve market failures, externalities, international cooperation, complex science, questions of system resilience, political leadership, and action that hinges on public support. The COVID-19 crisis is likely to have dramatic consequences for progress on climate change. Imminent fiscal recovery packages could entrench or partly displace the current fossil-fuel-intensive economic system. How will this be shaped for us?

1)**Climate Focused Economic Recovery:** Several governments internationally push for recovery efforts that align to environmental goals, some pushing the private sector to align in order to access stimulus dollars.

2)**Reduced Consumption and Lower Prices of Oil and Gas:** Activities such as travel, shipping, recreation, and commuting maybe affected for a long period. Rebalancing the energy system may result in a prolonged drop in energy prices and production, and longer term may result in supply constraints due to decreased investment in exploration and capital projects.

3)With climate risks, it will be having compounding effect on the economic recovery after the challenging period.

- These dramatic declines in economic activity as mentioned in the previous slide, have reduced energy demand and the use of fossil fuels, which supply 85% of our energy demands
- Globally, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions might fall by 8% or 2.6 Gtonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2020, which is more in absolute terms than in any other year on record. By comparison, annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions fell by an average of 4% during the Second World War, 3% during the early 1990s recession, 1% during the early 1980s energy crisis, and 1% during the 2009 Global Financial Crisis. The declines in 2020 are significant relative to major historical wars and epidemics.

1)Positive signals:

- There are tremendous costs in being the payor, lender, and insurer of last resort which may prompt governments to take a much more active role in ensuring resiliency.
- The tide may be turning toward “building back better” after the crisis.
- Lower interest rates may accelerate the deployment of new sustainable infrastructure, as well as of adaptation and resilience infrastructure—investments that would support near-term job creation.

2)Negative signals:

- There are tremendous costs in being the payor, lender, and insurer of last resort which may prompt governments to take a much more active role in ensuring resiliency.
- The tide may be turning toward “building back better” after the crisis.
- Lower interest rates may accelerate the deployment of new sustainable infrastructure, as well as of adaptation

and resilience infrastructure—investments that would support near-term job creation

- There are certain actions for climate-aligned COVID recovery:
  - 1) Modeling climate risk and assess the economics of climate change helps to inform recovery programs for infrastructure and enables the use of climate stress testing in the funding programs.
  - 2) Devoting a portion of the vast resources deployed for economic recovery to climate change resiliency and mitigation with range of sustainability levers.
- What else is also on the book:
  - 1) Seize the opportunity to reconsider existing subsidy regimes that **accelerate climate change**.
  - 2) Reinforce national and international **alignment and collaboration** on sustainability, for inward-looking, piecemeal responses are by nature incapable of solving systemic and global problems.
  - 3) Utilize this moment to **raise awareness** of the impact of a climate crisis, which could ultimately create disruptions of great magnitude and duration. That includes awareness of the fact that physical shocks can have massive nonlinear impacts on financial and economic systems and thus prove extremely costly.
  - 4) Build upon the **mindset and behavioral shifts** that are likely to persist after the crisis (such as working from home) to reduce the demands we place on our environment—or, more precisely, to shift them toward more sustainable sources.
  - 5) Public support for action on climate change increased to a peak prior to the pandemic; government and corporate action was also gathering momentum. COVID-19 has clearly slowed this momentum. The shape of COVID-19 fiscal recovery packages put in place in the coming months, once lockdowns are eased, will have a significant impact on whether globally agreed climate goals are met.
- In conclusion, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in significant impact on the global economy. The financial impact to Calgary is considerable, an experience similar to other municipalities globally, however due to our own unique socio-economic conditions, our community's response to the pandemic will differ. Unlike other Canadian municipalities, Calgary has been responding to economic challenges since 2015, which compounds the impact of this significant event. The City's economic and social response will require a concerted effort to address the additional pressures created by COVID-19.
- In alignment with Calgary's focus on a three-phased approach to recovery and resilience-building, the Climate Team recognizes that a staged approach to integrating climate-related risk is necessary. The

three opportunities for reducing GHG emissions while integrating climate-related risk and resilience measures are as follows:

- 1) Short-term response (**Recover**): streamlined stimulus criteria for “shovel-ready” projects that move resources and projects quickly.
- 2) Medium-term recovery (**Reimagine**): develop new and innovative ideas and projects that signal to the market a novel direction for The City.
- 3) Long-term resilience-building activities (**Resilience**): focus on integrated resilience goals and strategies to support long-term economic growth, climate stabilization, and infrastructure creation.

- Immediate intervention is required as well as sustained resources to protect our community from the compounding systemic impacts of COVID in tandem with climate change. We have an incredible opportunity to adapt and shift towards a more sustainable, diverse and equitable economy.
- Discussion:
  - 1) Fundings and industries:
    - There is recognition that this will result in significant economic impact in Canada. Panel Members suggested some fund from the governments can be used for investment for emissions reduction if governments provide funding to stimulate the economy. Energy sectors have been in conversation with different levels of governments to bring solutions about the use of hydrogen, which can play a role in the low carbon energy transition.
    - Climate Innovation Fund’s position is in early days but will look at the program framework to maximize the benefits and seek opportunities and potential solutions for climate crisis.
    - Aviation industries has been hitting hard during the COVID-19 situation. There is a lot ongoing work in the aviation sector and to try and sort out what the new reality is. Sector leaders have been keen on ensuring goals of reduced emissions are not lost.
    - There are changes in the economy as an opportunity to advance this climate work, especially if capital funding support is provided through low-interest rate loans. However, the question is about the timing.
  - 2) Valuable lessons:
    - COVID-19 taught us interesting lessons including communication pathway to control the spread and giving us examples. This COVID-19 has shaken everybody, unlike climate change. COVID-19 has been an economic and health problems but climate change is

<p>an economic, health and wellness problems. It is much larger.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ These valuable lessons we learnt today can be applied to climate change. Intentional governance and collaboration among governments and there has been work in progress by Calgary Climate Hub on green stimulus package to encourage investment not only good for economy but also for the climate.</li> <li>➤ People are feeling strongly that we cannot go back to the life and way we were. Imagination and creativity can be used to look for sustainability space. It may require substantial changes but it would be different lens compared to few months ago.</li> <li>➤ It is important to learn this is immediate threads. If everyone understands the basic knowledge on how they respond to COVID-19, education is there for the future.</li> <li>➤ COVID-19 has disproportionally hit economy and disadvantaged/marginalized communities. Climate change is no different and should not be lost track of that.</li> </ul> <p>3)There has been increase in ridership recently due to reopening of businesses. There are also more masks available from the province.</p>	
<p><b>4. Progress Update from Admin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ According to the Climate Panel Report 2019, Climate Team has been working on integrating its recommendations and started using the language of climate lens, not only to infrastructure but also to policy, design of standards and process. Cross-corporation governance is needed with climate governance framework in order to look for cultural shift to accountability, decision making based on climate lens.</li> <li>○ Performance measurements are needed and not only it is important how climate actions to be reported but also how these can be valued economically.</li> <li>○ Discussion about future actions and 2020 Q1 Progress Update using climate lens and approaches: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1)Climate Mitigation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Energy benchmarking is well underway.</li> <li>➤ Energy mapping project is in progress to help The City and utilities companies understand where Calgary wants to go with the GHG targets.</li> <li>➤ Climate team continues motivate citizen to take actions via public domain on education and outreach program.</li> <li>➤ Climate Team is working on connecting funding and financing for corporate climate mitigation projects.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

- Carbon management is in progress by managing carbon offsets and reporting portfolio. Climate Team is also continuing projects with different partners in the communities.
- There are three categories of projects in 2020: corporate (corporate emissions and energy plan, funding applications, pilot projects and carbon offsets), community (benchmarking program for over 400 buildings and to be launched later this year) and collaboration (with Alberta Ecotrust on Calgary Climate Innovation Fund and industry innovation).

## 2) Climate Adaptation:

- It is important to know adaptation is a new area and need a strategic direction to use risks to inform the decision making.
- Two main projects have been in progress:
  - 1) Capital Project Climate Resilience Assessment - The City has moved forward several projects on climate lens for stimulus funding so the assessment framework has been developed to support climate lens resilience. Resilience is how adaptive to the climate change risks and climate hazards are different across the city. Each infrastructure needs to be looked at individually on resiliency to climate hazards. The return of investment to account the financial impact by the climate change hazard occurring is about \$1 invested for \$6 savings. This work has been completed and Climate Team is working with Infrastructure Calgary to incorporate into asset management process to improve City's infrastructure resiliency.
  - 2) Community climate resilience index - it is related to public infrastructure. The vulnerabilities and sensitivities of each communities needed to be assessed from citizen wellbeing perspective. GIS process will be used to identify vulnerability score across the city. The project will have different phases and will be completed in Q2 2021 to set the baseline.
- There are many ways to measure climate adaptation and risks. Measuring progress on climate adaptation relates to how to measure the vulnerability of each neighbourhood to climate-related risks and to report on improvements over time in the community level resilience. Also, applying climate lens resilience into different levels of the organization using scorecard and Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosure (TCFD) framework will take several years to complete.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This is the process of lens applied across all the Climate Team’s work on different levels by participating working groups on climate equity, working with major Canadian cities, local NGOs and funding agencies to advance our work.</li> <li>○ During the meeting, it was announced by the provincial government that 20 million sing-use masks will be distributed at drive-thru restaurants across Alberta in packs of four. This can be great opportunity to circulate the information on climate change.</li> <li>○ It is suggested that to provide how specific programs are in progress in the Climate Resilience Strategy in order for Climate Panel Members to understand how the actions are doing and be able to tell stories.</li> <li>○ Introduction to Alberta Health Services as one of the new representatives joining the Climate Panel and Director of Environmental and Safety Management.</li> </ul>	#1
<p><b>5. Funding Update from Alberta Ecotrust</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Introduction of Alberta Ecotrust and Low Carbon Cities Canada (LC3): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1)Founded in 1991 by PetroCanada and Pembina Institute to work on projects protecting natural systems.</li> <li>2)Funding organization and continue to support environmental projects.</li> <li>3)LC3 Centres and established climate innovation fund program.</li> <li>4)LC3 is a network of seven largest metropolitan cities in Canada, committing to climate actions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Strongly connected to FCM and help to bring expertise from seven centres.</li> <li>➤ Calgary Climate Innovation Fund, along with the sister hub in Edmonton, is to build alignments and collaboration between two cities.</li> <li>➤ In Alberta, this is where the emissions are and where the solutions are - we are not going to meet the Pan-Canadian framework goals but we need to ensure to work across Canada.</li> </ul> </li> <li>5)LC3 is modelled on Toronto Atmospheric Fund. It is very innovative and forward-thinking organization created in 1991. It is a successful program and would try to replicate to other Canadian cities to advocate and lobby more funding across the country. LC3 received a total of \$158 Million from FCM to start the project and allocate \$20 Million and \$1.7 Million for set up.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Overview of Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1)Strategy 1: go where public and private dollars can’t</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Public and private sectors are risk adverse.</li> <li>➤ Need to look at gaps to support the crossing the “valley of death”.</li> <li>➤ AB Ecotrust is not attached to any governments but have strong relationship with municipalities.</li> <li>➤ AB Ecotrust is a separate entity to have independent investment as these funds are not flowing to municipal projects but may be partnering with municipalities to address the support to local communities across different sectors.</li> </ul> <p>2)Strategy 2: follow the carbon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It’s all about emissions but also looking for multi-solving solutions.</li> <li>➤ Climate Innovation Fund focuses on major emissions sources - mostly from buildings, transportation, and waste and in Alberta, this also includes electricity sector.</li> </ul> <p>3)Strategy 3: activate ideas using multiple tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Programming/policy - direct program and put it into the market. Currently engagement plans are being developed to address the gaps.</li> <li>➤ Grant making - spending at least 20% of the operating budget on grants, which is first focus area.</li> <li>➤ Direct investment - the Climate Innovation Fund is positioned for impact for \$20 Million and is looking at the return via debt financing.</li> </ul> <p>4)Strategy 4: unlock co-benefits for communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ More for multi-solving side as it is important to discuss the co-benefits such as economic development, job creation, sustainability, etc. Emissions is one of the key metrics.</li> <li>➤ It is needed to use equity lens and all individuals from low income groups to participate in low carbon future.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Climate Innovation Fund Governance Ecosystem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1)Climate Innovation Fund Advisory Committee will be planned to set up, which includes municipalities representatives as the catalyst on that committee. AB Ecotrust is building the relationship to bring ideas to this Panel in a way to support the advisory committee.</li> <li>2)There are three focus areas for this Fund: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Focus Area 1: Building better and retrofitting wiser</li> <li>➤ Focus Area 2: Moving on mobility</li> <li>➤ Focus Area 3: Decarbonizing energy sources</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Next steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1)Alberta Ecotrust will continue building awareness and engaging stakeholders, developing programming framework and launching engagement next month.</li> <li>2)Programming will be launched in Q4 2020 and the project pipeline will be established.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The City of Calgary has signed off the memorandum and Councilor Demong will be serving on the advising committee on behalf of The City of Calgary.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>6. Panel Recommendations to Council</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Panel Members has recommended some form of declaration or statement to provide a message to those who is carrying climate messaging for us. This will be a valuable tool.</li> <li>○ It is also suggested that indigenous communities have a lot to contributed going forward as they have the global view applying into this climate discussion. This is also a perception including Mother Earth conversation. It is critical that not only local indigenous groups but also in the global scale.</li> <li>○ There are also rare discussions about spirituality, which is not religion. It is a relationship between humanity and all of the creations (species, animals). Indigenous communities have a lot to offer and hopefully there are more opportunities to offer them to provide their inputs.</li> <li>○ In summary, earlier conversations can be summarized as following themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) COVID-19 crisis has exposed us vulnerabilities and equity. This is not equal across the city.</li> <li>2) COVID-19 has demonstrated excellent communications - can we take the same learnings to apply into climate change? How to explain climate change is a global issue - citizens are so disassociated - how climate change affects Calgary and globally?</li> <li>3) This is a strong theme - this situation provides us opportunities to re-think and re-assess. How do we assess through climate lens and how to apply climate lens to rebuild differently such as investment on new technologies (i.e. hydrogen with governments)?</li> <li>4) It is needed to look at the grassroot on communication. This does not come only from government but it also needs to be holistic.</li> <li>5) It is needed to bring indigenous communities on their holistic view and bring the Mother Earth lens into this climate change conversation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Climate Team will bring these themes to senior management updates on climate change and this small update will continue our demonstration on climate actions.</li> <li>○ This will also provide public communication from the Panel to the public.</li> </ul>	<p>#2 #3</p>

<p><b>7. Events and Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Due to current COVID-19 situation, the 2020 Climate Symposium scheduled in September 2020 will be postponed to March 2021.</li> <li>○ Climate Team is working with various organizations.</li> <li>○ If there are any other organizations hosting any webinars about climate change, this will be a good platform to promote it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1)Calgary Climate Hub is hosting “A Climate of Change” series</li> <li>2)Mayor’s Environmental Expo is happening next week to offer online sessions and learnings for students. It is fully subscribed this year.</li> <li>3)University of Calgary is partnering with Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA) and putting a webinar series on Alberta Energy Future</li> <li>4)University of Calgary has a student training program focusing on infrastructure and sustainable city. The fall workshop and presentation will move to online.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Some organizations partnered to pivot their offer online learnings for students and provide support for parents as there are many families balancing home and work at the same time.</li> </ul>	<p>#4</p>
<p><b>8. Upcoming Panel Meetings &amp; Wrap Up</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Our next potential Climate Panel Meeting dates are September 11 and December 4, 2020. The Climate Team will work with the two co-chairs on the planning.</li> <li>○ There may be some topics that the Panel Members would like to discuss between the Climate Panel meetings and it is suggested to have a smaller group discussion prior to the next Climate Panel meeting to continue the discussion.</li> <li>○ Closing Remarks from the new co-chair: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1)Thank you everyone for the time and look forward to continuing the conversation.</li> <li>2)As a group, this Panel is a lot more active in climate and without any questions with this COVID-19 situation, there are influence in climate.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Next meeting is scheduled to be at 9am to 12noon on September 11, 2020.</li> </ul>	

## Meeting Action Items

#	Description	Responsibility	Due Date	Status
1	Climate Team to work on how to track specific programs progress in the Climate Resilience Strategy	Climate Team	September 2020	In Progress
2	Climate Team to provide the five major themes related to COVID-19 discussion during this meeting	Climate Team	3 June 2020	Completed
3	Climate Team to provide public communication for Climate Panel to support their communication on five major themes.	Climate Team	Q3 2020	
4	University of Calgary to share the student training program webinar links focusing on infrastructure and sustainable city in the Fall.	University of Calgary	5 June 2020	Completed