



TOWN OF SIDNEY

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 24, 2010

SIDNEY BEGINS PROCESS TO DEVELOP A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

The Town of Sidney is embarking on a process to develop a Climate Action Plan to guide efforts to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from Town operations and across the community as a whole. The Climate Action Plan will set targets to reduce GHG emissions and articulate policies and strategies to assist in meeting the targets.

Provincial legislation requires local governments to set community-wide GHG emissions reduction targets and incorporate them into their Official Community Plans. Additionally, the Town of Sidney has voluntarily signed on to the BC Climate Action Charter, committing to become "carbon neutral" in its own operations by 2012. According to Mayor Larry Cross, the Climate Action Plan will build on key priorities in Vision 2020, the Town's Strategic Plan. "The Town has committed to becoming a carbon neutral organization and to ensuring the long term health and vitality of the community. The Climate Action Plan will explore opportunities to improve energy efficiency and increase our resiliency against the potential social, environmental and economic impacts of climate change."

The Climate Action Plan is scheduled to be completed by May 2010. Over the coming months, residents, community stakeholders, Town staff and Council members will be engaged in the development of the plan through workshops and an online survey. Education and outreach materials will also be distributed at various venues around town and online via the Town of Sidney website.

For further information contact:

Randy Humble
Director of Development Services
Town of Sidney
250-656-1725 rhumble@sidney.ca www.sidney.ca