

# **REPORT**

To: Chair and Directors Report Number: DS-BRD-489

From: Development Services Date: July 17, 2025

Subject: Regional Climate Resiliency Plan – Request for Endorsement

### **RECOMMENDATION:** [Corporate Unweighted]

That the Regional Board endorse the Regional Climate Resiliency Plan which provides a framework for the Peace River Regional District to continue working towards a sustainable and climate-resilient future, taking into consideration the unique opportunities and challenges found in this northern and rural region.

## **BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

#### The Plan:

The Peace River Regional District (PRRD) has been facing increasing climate-related challenges including wildfires, floods, extreme heat, drought and severe storms. These events pose risk to daily life, infrastructure and the local economy, underscoring the need for a proactive and coordinated approach to climate resilience. The Regional Climate Resiliency Plan (RCRP) provides a framework for action that the PRRD can undertake to help better prepare, adapt and build resilience for these events.

The RCRP provides an overview of existing actions undertaken in the region to-date, regional climate projections and how climate impacts can disproportionately impact vulnerable populations. The plan then provides a fulsome action plan with the following key them areas:

- Buildings and Energy
- Transportation and Mobility
- Public Infrastructure and Corporate responsibility
- Local Economy and Agriculture
- Emergency Management
- Ecosystems and Green Spaces

The actions are separated into three categories:

- Regional District Scope
  - o Actions that can be directly led and/or implemented by the PRRD.
- Collaboration
  - Actions that require cross-jurisdictional collaboration.
- Advocacy
  - Advocating to other levels of government for improved processes, policy updates, support and resources.

Some actions can be achieved by incorporating climate risk considerations and best practices into existing projects, bylaw and policy updates, while other actions for larger projects or undertakings will be required to go through the formal budgeting and Board approval processes.

Staff Initials: Dept. Head Initials: AM CAO: Shawn Dahlen Page 1 of 2

#### **Background:**

This project was authorized through the 2023 budget process and work began in early 2024. Since that time the following has occurred:

- 1. March 30, 2024 Presentation outlining engagement events for the summer of 2024.
- 2. June 8 12, 2024 In-person engagement events were held throughout the region.
- 3. June 8 July 31, 2024 Survey to receive public input was open.
- 4. September 12, 2024 Interim Summary Report was presented to the Regional Board.
- 5. March 3, 2025 Draft Regional Climate Resiliency Plan was presented to the Regional Board.
- 6. March 6 28, 2025 Survey to receive input on the draft plan was open.

Staff and partners, including representatives from provincial agencies and agricultural producer groups, participated in several workshops throughout the plan's development. The final plan presented today is the result of significant public input and feedback received throughout the workshops and engagement events.

#### **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

#### **STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:**

- ☐ Collaboration and Cooperation with First Nations
- ☑ Interprovincial Collaboration

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):**

This project was entirely funded through the Green Carbon Reserve Fund.

## **COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):**

The RCRP Project 'Have Your Say' webpage will be updated with the RCRP final plan, pending Board approval.

## OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

Endorsement of this plan does not mandate the Board to undertake any actions outlined therein. All projects will follow the standard budgeting and Board approval processes, where applicable.

#### Attachment:

1. Regional Climate Resiliency Plan

#### External Link:

1. <u>Draft Regional Climate Resiliency Plan</u> – See Item 12.1 on the Regional Board Meeting Agenda dated March 6, 2025