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# Food Security and Climate Change Committee

## 2015 Annual Report to Mayor and Council

January 2016

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## Introduction

In January 2015, Mayor and Council for the City of Port Alberni created the Food Security and Climate Change Committee [FSCCC] with a mandate to make “recommendations to Council with respect to urban food security and climate change concerns affecting the community”. To come to those recommendations, the Committee was tasked to use previous City reports and City Staff to inform itself and support its initiatives, liaise and build partnerships with like minded groups and committees in the area, and regularly report to City council on its progress. This document represents the FSCCC’s first written report and recommendations to Council for inclusion in the 2016-2020 Financial Plan.



The committee was comprised of the following members:

- Sam Brownlee (Chair)
- Rosalind Chapman
- Sandra Gentleman
- Bob Haynes
- Guy Langlois (Secretary)
- John Mayba
- Gary Swann
- Chris Alemany (Vice-Chair - City Council)

The recommendations from the FSCCC try to focus on initiatives that are immediately achievable with low upfront cost, and that set a tone and direction for the City and community that prepare it for more ambitious projects in the future to reduce CO2 emissions and energy use and increase food security. The Committee thanks the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to contribute to City Council’s decision making in these critical areas and to continue its work in coming years.

*Cover image is 2015 Mt. Klitsa record-low snow pack due to Climate Change and affecting water supply and Food Security in the Alberni Valley. Photo courtesy Russ and Brenda Widdess. Garden Raspberries and China Creek Water Intake images courtesy Chris Alemany. [BikeToWork.ca](http://BikeToWork.ca) 2015 picture courtesy Alberni Valley News.*

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## Motions for Council's Consideration

The Food Security and Climate Change Committee recommends that the City of Port Alberni adopt the following motions including to change the name of the Committee to Food Security and Climate Disruption Committee to reflect the realities of the situation we now face as a community and world.

See Page 7 and Appendix A for further information about the Environmental Bill of Rights.

See Pages 5 through 15 for brief as well as detailed listings of the recommendations.

### **Motion 1:**

*That the City of Port Alberni change the name of the Food Security and Climate Change Committee to the Food Security and Climate Disruption Committee.*

### **Motion 2:**

*That the City of Port Alberni adopt the Declaration to The Right To A Healthy Environment as explained on Page 7 and written in Appendix A of this report to help guide its operations and decisions in the future.*

### **Motion 3:**

*That the City of Port Alberni receive and accept the recommendations of the 2015 Food Security and Climate Change annual report and direct City Staff to report back to council and include the items in the 2016-2020 financial plan budgeting process as appropriate.*

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## Year in Review and Looking Forward.

The FSCCC completed eight meetings in 2015 and heard from six delegations.

The delegations were mainly Food Security related dealing with the ACRD Agricultural Plan and Committee, the Community Gleaning Project, Model Forest Policy as it relates to food production, and the Community Garden initiatives in the City. These delegations reinforce the important and ongoing role the FSCCC has in promoting and participating in community engagement with other food security related entities in the City of Port Alberni, Alberni Valley and beyond.

The FSCCC also took time to brainstorm and debate initiatives that would assist the community in meeting its goals in terms of corporate carbon neutrality and community carbon reduction and increased food security within city limits and beyond.

The results of that brainstorming, debate and research from other communities are outlined in the report below.

The FSCCC considers this report and the recommendations included as important first steps to ensure the City of Port Alberni and its residents can start to address the challenges that climate change, or disruption, is already having in our lives and on our city infrastructure and to try to lessen the severity of those anticipated effects in the future through both adaptation and GHG reduction strategies.

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## Recommendations for Action in Brief

### Possible Budget Items

1. *Direct Staff to create a Phased Implementation Plan for All-Abilities Protected Bike Lanes within City Limits including possible tree and garden planting to mitigate heat island and storm rain effects and provide food. (Page 8)*

[Estimated Cost: Report - Staff Time / Consultant \$10,000 ; Implementation - \$TBD]

[Grant Sources: Federal and Provincial]

[FS Impact: Increasing Production Space ; Decreasing City Temperatures ; Rain Retention]

[CC Impact: Reducing Pass. Transport Emissions (2010: 43,048TCO<sub>2e</sub>) ;

Reducing Res. Building Emissions (2010: 20,427TCO<sub>2e</sub>)]

[Timeframe: Report - 2016 ; Implementation of Phase 1 - 2017/2018 Budget Year]

2. *“Oil to Electric, and Energy Audit Rebates and Energy Retrofit Half-the-Tax Challenge” (Page 9)*

[Estimated Cost: Oil/Electric: \$2,500/yr ; Energy Audit: \$5000 Retrofit Challenge: \$20,000/yr + advertising]

[Grant and Funding Sources: Municipal (Carbon Fund)]

[FS Impact: None]

[CC Impact: Reducing Residential Building Emissions (2010: 20,427TCO<sub>2e</sub>)]

[Timeframe: Start in 2016/2017 Budget Year and Continuing]

3. *Public Water Bottle Stations in City facilities. (Page 10)*

[Estimated Cost: \$5000 for two stations]

[Grant and Funding Sources: Provincial ; Municipal (Carbon Fund)]

[FS Impact: Valuing Water Resources]

[CC Impact: Reducing Solid Waste Emissions (2010: 16,689TCO<sub>2e</sub>)]

[Timeframe: 2016/2017 Budget Year and Continuing]

4. *The City Implement a pilot kitchen/yard waste pickup compost project utilizing biodynamic principles and education. (Page 11)*

[Estimated Cost: Cost of Extra Bins - Integrated into existing pickup schedule]

[Grant and Funding Sources: NA]

[FS Impact: Food Production and Waste Management]

[CC Impact: Reducing Solid Waste Emissions (2010: 16,689TCO<sub>2e</sub>)]

[Timeframe: 2016/2017 Budget Year]

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## Recommendations for Action in Brief Non-Cost Items

5. *City Staff to Develop and Bring to FSCCC a Community Garden Implementation Policy.*

**(Page 12)**

[Estimated Cost: \$0/Staff Time]

[Grant and Funding Sources: NA]

[FS Impact: Food Production]

[CC Impact: Reducing Transport Emissions (2010: 43,048TCO<sub>2</sub>e)]

[Timeframe: 2016]

6. *City to task the Community Forest Board to investigate and report on implementing longer harvesting rotations in the AV Community Forest (from 60 to 120 or 240 years).* **(Page 13)**

[Estimated Cost: \$0/Staff Time]

[Grant and Funding Sources: NA]

[FS Impact: Watershed Management - Natural Foods (Game and Plant)]

[CC Impact: Reducing Transport Emissions (2010: 43,048TCO<sub>2</sub>e); Carbon Sequestration - Afforestation - Mitigating Landscape Changes]

[Timeframe: 2016]

7. *Re-affirming the Vision in the Strategic Plan to improve access to the Waterfront while also developing a plan in coordination with Provincial authorities to address sea level rise and flood concerns from climate disruption.* **(Page 14)**

[Estimated Cost: NA]

[Grant and Funding Sources: NA]

[FS Impact: NA]

[CC Impact: Reducing Transport Emissions (2010: 43,048TCO<sub>2</sub>e)]

Climate Adaptation and Planning]

[Timeframe: Ongoing]

8. *City Urban Food Inventory webpage and information.* **(Page 15)**

[Estimated Cost: Staff Time for Web Page Creation - Existing IT Budget]

[Grant and Funding Sources: Provincial ; Municipal (Carbon Fund)]

[FS Impact: Tracking and enhancing local food production]

[CC Impact: Reducing Transport Emissions (2010: 43,048TCO<sub>2</sub>e)]

[Timeframe: 2016/2017 Budget Year - Ongoing]

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# Recommendation to Declare Right to a Healthy Environment

In keeping with and in evolution of the Commitment to Sustainability (see image below) in the 2015-2018 Corporate Strategic Plan it is recommended that the City of Port Alberni endorse and adopt the Declaration of the Right to a Healthy Environment as outlined in Appendix A as a key policy document that will further assist and encourage the Food Security and Climate Change Committee and all City committees and operations in their ongoing work. This declaration has been passed by the City of Nanaimo and many other municipalities and a similar Environmental Bill of Rights has been endorsed in a motion (shown below) at the Union of BC Municipalities in September 2015.

## COUNCIL PRINCIPLES

City Council has adopted the following principles to guide the Strategic Plan and their decision making

- ECONOMIC GROWTH
- FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY
- INNOVATION
- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION
- OPEN & TRANSPARENT
- LEADERSHIP

### Commitment to Sustainability

The 'Four Pillars' approach to municipal government planning recognizes the need to balance social, environmental, economic and cultural perspectives. There is an emphasis on 'sustainability', ensuring that the needs are being met today but also that future requirements are being strategically addressed.

#### Sustainability - a definition

The standard definition for Sustainability is: "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the current generation without impairing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

The Brundtland Report - United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987



## A5 ENVIRONMENTAL BILL OF RIGHTS

Richmond

WHEREAS municipalities and regional districts are the government nearest to people and the natural environment, and therefore share a deep concern for the welfare of the natural environment and understand that a healthy environment is inextricably linked to the health of individuals, families, future generations and communities;

AND WHEREAS fostering the environmental well being of the community is a municipal purpose under section 7(d) of the *Community Charter* and regional district purpose under section 2(d) of the *Local Government Act*;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia enact a provincial environmental bill of rights that:

- recognizes the right of every resident to live in a healthy environment, including the right to clean air, clean water, clean food and vibrant ecosystems;
- provides for public participation in decision-making respecting the environment and access to environmental information;
- provides access to justice when environmental rights are infringed; and
- has whistle-blower protection.

ENDORSED BY THE LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UBCM RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Endorse**

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# Committee Recommendations for Action

## Recommendation 1

*Direct Staff to create a Phased Implementation Plan for All-Abilities Protected Bike Lanes within City Limits including possible tree and garden planting to mitigate heat island and storm rain effects and provide food.*



Building on the 2014 Active Transportation Plan the plan would implement a one or two-way protected bike lanes connecting with existing paths and trails while also improving the streetscape with more trees for shade, wind and rain protection and for rain water mitigation.

This best-practice protected bike lane network would deliver safety and mobility advantages over simple painted bike lanes for all ages and abilities and lead to more people using the network and reduce long term street maintenance cost. The report is anticipated to cost \$0-\$10,000 depending on the use of consultants. It will be delivered in 2016 with

recommendations and cost for Phase 1 for the 2017/2018 budget.

These considerations justify a slower implementation pace in order to manage higher cost though grants or the carbon fund should be available to offset costs. These designs are consistent with designs in the 2007 Uptown Revitalization Report.



[**Estimated Cost:** Report - Staff Time / Consultant \$10,000 ; Implementation - \$TBD]

[**Grant and Funding Sources:** Federal and Provincial]

[**FS Impact:** Increasing Production Space ; Decreasing City Temperatures ; Rain Retention]

[**CC Impact:** Reducing Pass. Transport Emissions (2010: 43,048TCO<sub>2e</sub>) ;  
Reducing Res. Building Emissions (2010: 20,427TCO<sub>2e</sub>)]

[**Timeframe:** Report - 2016 ; Implementation of Phase 1 - 2017/2018 Budget Year]

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## Committee Recommendations for Action

### Recommendation 2

#### *“Oil to Electric, and Energy Audit Rebates and Energy Retrofit Half-the-Tax Challenge”*

Thirty percent of emissions in Port Alberni are from buildings. Residential units represent half the emissions and over half of those emissions are from heating oil. In order to reduce the community’s carbon and energy footprint and cost, the FSCCC recommends implementing three rebate initiatives. Both of these types of rebates are common in other jurisdictions such as the Regional District of Nanaimo. The initiative would be promoted through tax bills and real estate offices to stimulate investment in the community.



**Rebate # 1:** “Oil to Electric” would incentivize replacing oil furnaces with electric sourced heat. The rebate would be \$250 to a maximum of \$2,500 per year or 10 homes.

**Rebate # 2:** “Energy Audit”: A simple \$100 rebate for completing a home energy audit meant to encourage people to ‘get in the door’ and start their renovations. The City would cap the number of these rebates available to \$5000 (50 a year).

**Rebate # 3:** “Energy Retrofit Half-the-Tax Challenge” open to residents who submit proof of an improved home energy audit score. They will receive up to a maximum of 50% of their taxes or \$2000 per home, whichever is lower. The City would evaluate the scores to determine the rebate. Rebates would be capped at \$20,000 or 10 or more homes.

[**Estimated Cost:** Oil/Electric: \$2,500/yr ; Energy Audit: \$5000 Retrofit Challenge: \$20,000/yr]

[**Grant and Funding Sources:** Municipal (Carbon Fund)]

[**FS Impact:** None]

[**CC Impact:** Reducing Residential Building Emissions (2010: 20,427TCO<sub>2</sub>e)]

[**Timeframe:** 2016/2017 Budget Year and Continuing]

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## Committee Recommendations for Action

### Recommendation 3

*“Public Water Bottle Stations in City facilities [Multiplex and Echo Fieldhouse]”*



Municipalities, School Districts (including SD70) and other organizations are installing these water stations to support and encourage the use of re-useable water bottles and to drink local water. This is a way to promote health and wellness, reduce waste, and promote the inherent value of our excellent water in the City of Port Alberni. The City should also sell low and high end Port Alberni branded water bottles in their concessions and stores. (Echo Centre, Multiplex, Echo Fieldhouse, McLean Mill).

The goal would be to install these stations across all City buildings for both employee and public use and to gradually phase out the selling of bottled water in City facilities and instead sell refillable water bottles at concessions.

[**Estimated Cost:** \$5000 for two stations]

[**Grant and Funding Sources:** Provincial ; Municipal (Carbon Fund)]

[**FS Impact:** Valuing Water Resources]

[**CC Impact:** Reducing Solid Waste Emissions (2010: 16,689TCO<sub>2</sub>e)]

[**Timeframe:** 2016/2017 Budget Year and Continuing]

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## Committee Recommendations for Action

### Recommendation 4

*“The City Implement a pilot kitchen/yard waste pickup compost project utilizing biodynamic principles and education”*

Food security depends on developing the ability to grow more food locally and affordably. There are available biodegradable materials currently going to the landfill which could be used for gardens within the City (both public and City). Using the best processes to enhance the composted soil, could grow substantial amounts of food.

To achieve these goals and also support the investigation of Kitchen and Yard Waste programs by the Alberni Valley Solid Waste Management Committee at the ACRD, the FSCCC recommends that the City undertake a small scale pilot project that would participate in a kitchen and yard waste pickup program with the waste sent to an appropriate City owned property that would use humus rich biodynamic composting methods to improve the soil fertility and make a more marketable and tenable product than standard composting would. This facility could be open to the public, including home and market gardeners, to educate them on biodynamic processes. (Photo Alberni Valley News )



[**Estimated Cost:** Cost of Extra Bins - Integrated into existing pickup schedule]

[**Grant and Funding Sources:** NA]

[**FS Impact:** Food Production and Waste Management]

[**CC Impact:** Reducing Solid Waste Emissions (2010: 16,689TCO2e)]

[**Timeframe:** 2016/2017 Budget Year]

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## Committee Recommendations for Action

### Recommendation 5

*“City Staff to Develop and Bring to FSCCC a Community Garden Implementation Policy”*



The FSCCC recognizes that there are many community organizations that may want to support community gardens in the future. However, as a first step and to reinforce the work already done by the Young Professionals of the Alberni Valley, SD70 and other individuals and community groups, the City of Port Alberni can develop a Community Gardens Policy.

City Staff will research and draft a policy for review by the Food Security and Climate Change Committee and review and adoption by Council. This policy can be modelled from the City of Nanaimo Community Gardens Policy or other similar policies from similar communities.

(Photo of Alberni Elementary Garden from @JennyFortin55)

[**Estimated Cost:** \$0/Staff Time]

[**Grant and Funding Sources:** NA]

[**FS Impact:** Food Production]

[**CC Impact:** Reducing Transport Emissions (2010: 43,048TCO<sub>2</sub>e)]

[**Timeframe:** 2016]

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## Committee Recommendations for Action

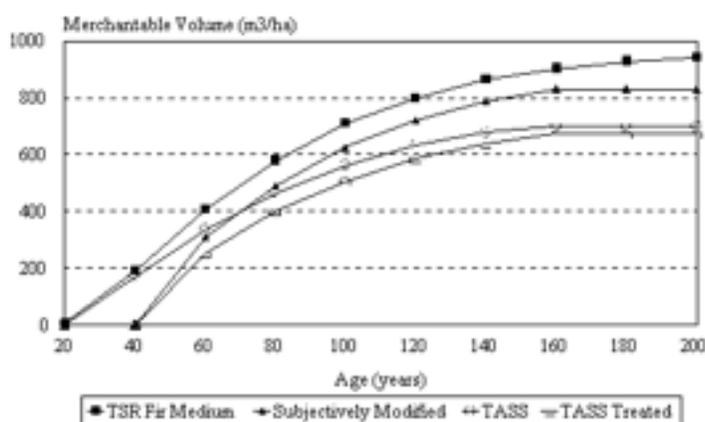
### Recommendation 6

*“City to task the Community Forest Board to investigate and report on implementing longer harvesting rotations (from 60 to 120 or 240 years)”*

Present Provincial Government forest policy is resulting in harvesting of immature stands. Recent second growth harvests of the Alberni Valley Community Forest have been around 60 years of age.

Yield curves for Douglas Fir forests show very little volume for the first 30 years. Harvesting at 60 years effectively means only 30 years of growing volume, plus replanting so half of the years in the stand produce little merchantable volume. By increasing the harvest age to 120 years only one quarter of the growing time is low volume. (if 240 year then 1/8 low volume).

**Yield Comparison**  
Managed Stands - Arrowsmith TSA



In the era of climate disruptions, sequestering carbon in forests is a consideration. Longer rotations are economically valuable and viable; sequester carbon, and are a benefit to human and beyond human species. The FSCCC recommends that City Council ask the Community Forest Board to investigate and report on how longer rotations could be implemented.

[Estimated Cost: NA]

[Grant and Funding Sources: NA]

[FS Impact: Watershed Management - Natural Foods (Game and Plant)]

[CC Impact: Reducing Transport Emissions (2010: 43,048TCO<sub>2</sub>e);

Carbon Sequestration - Afforestation - Mitigating Landscape Changes]

[Timeframe: 2016]

# Committee Recommendations for Action

## Recommendation 7

*“Re-affirming the Vision in the Strategic Plan to improve access to the Waterfront while also developing a plan in coordination with Provincial authorities to address sea level rise and flood concerns from climate disruption.”*

The City of Port Alberni Strategic Plan states in its vision that the City of Port Alberni is a vibrant waterfront community at the heart of the West Coast.

In order to emphasize and support this vision the FSCCC would like to encourage and recommend that council reaffirm the statement with the knowledge that more pedestrian and

people friendly infrastructure

along the waterfront as it re-develops not only is an excellent economic goal, but

will also help mitigate GHG emissions. The FSCCC further

recommends that as the City

strives for and develops a vibrant waterfront (eg. the

Name	Station				Uplift Rate		RSL2100 Mean Scenario			RSL2100 High Scenario			Final Cat.
	ID	Lat. 'N	Lon. 'E	T yr	Yup	yr	mean (mm)	low (mm)	high (mm)	mean (mm)	low (mm)	high (mm)	
Prince Rupert	prup	54.357	-130.324	77	0.5	0.2	25	13	37	95	65	125	2
Queen Charlotte City	qucc	53.252	-132.072	45	2.2	0.3	10	-3	22	79	49	110	2
Bella Bella	bela	52.153	-128.143	45	2.3	0.4	9	-4	22	75	45	100	2
Winter Harbour	winh	50.513	-128.029	18	1.7	0.8	14	-3	31	84	51	118	1
Zabatos	zabo	49.979	-126.846	13	5.1	1.6	-17	-44	10	52	13	91	0
Gold River	golv	49.679	-126.125	13	0.7	1.8	24	-6	54	93	52	134	0
Tofino	tofo	49.154	-125.913	58	2.7	0.3	5	-7	17	75	44	106	4
Port Alberni	palb	49.233	-124.814	40	2.5	0.6	7	-8	22	70	45	100	2

Clutesi Haven Redevelopment) that it does so taking into full account the maximum possibilities of sea level rise in our unique harbour which may experience anywhere from no rise at all, to a rise of as much as **1.08 metres** (or more depending on changing IPCC/UN estimates) by 2100. Recent data from NASA indicates sea levels are currently rising by 3.5mm/yr which is faster than the uplift listed here.

[Estimated Cost: NA]

[Grant and Funding Sources: NA]

[FS Impact: NA]

[CC Impact: Reducing Transport Emissions (2010: 43,048TCO2e)

Climate Adaptation and Planning]

[Timeframe: Ongoing]

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## Committee Recommendations for Action

### Recommendation 8

*“City Urban Food Inventory webpage and information”*



One of the key ways for a community to enhance its food security is to increase local food production. This will provide food for residents when there are problems with imported supplies due to transportation disruptions (high costs, natural disasters) and disruptions in climate resulting in inadequate food availability from off-shore sources (due to droughts, floods, storms). A "local food production registry" will assist in tracking our community's progress

in producing its own food. It will also serve as a vehicle to educate residents about the state of our local food supply and encourage local production. To our knowledge this would be a municipal first in Canada-an opportunity to take a leadership role as a sustainable community!

The goal would be to allow residents to confidentially register their food production throughout the year or to publically display food availability for sale, barter or to give away.

[**Estimated Cost:** Staff Time for Web Page Creation - Existing IT Budget]

[**Grant and Funding Sources:** Provincial ; Municipal (Carbon Fund)]

[**FS Impact:** Tracking and enhancing local food production]

[**CC Impact:** Reducing Transport Emissions (2010: 43,048TCO<sub>2e</sub>)]

[**Timeframe:** 2016/2017 Budget Year - Ongoing]

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## References

### **2015-2018 City of Port Alberni Corporate Strategic Plan**

<http://www.portalberni.ca/sites/default/files/users/tfeltrin/2015%20-%202018%20Strategic%20Plan%20Final%20-%20September%202015%20Update.pdf>

### **Union of BC Municipalities 2015 Resolutions**

<http://www.ubcm.ca/EN/main/resolutions/resolutions/resolutions-responses.html>

### **2010 Port Alberni City 2010 Community Energy and Emissions Inventory**

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change/reports-data/community-energy-emissions-inventory>

### **Victoria Protected Bike Lanes Project**

<http://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/community/cycling/new-cycling-projects/protected-bike-lanes.html>

### **Vancouver Urban Heat Island Project**

<http://www.urbanheatlands.com/vancouver>

### **Protected Intersections - Nick Falbo Urban Planner**

<https://vimeo.com/86721046>

### **Bike Lane Comparisons - Jeff Speck City Planner**

<https://vimeo.com/136672997>

### **FOUR TYPES OF CYCLISTS? Testing a Typology to Better Understand Bicycling Behavior and Potential**

[http://web.pdx.edu/~jdill/Types\\_of\\_Cyclists\\_PSUWorkingPaper.pdf](http://web.pdx.edu/~jdill/Types_of_Cyclists_PSUWorkingPaper.pdf)

### **14 Ways to Make Bike Lanes Better**

<http://www.peopleforbikes.org/blog/entry/14-ways-to-make-bike-lanes-better-the-infographic>

### **Regional District of Nanaimo Energy Rebates**

<http://www.rdn.bc.ca/cms.asp?wpID=2420>

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## References

### **VIU Water Initiative - Water Bottle Stations**

<https://www2.viu.ca/sustainability/Water.asp>

### **Ministry of Forests - Stand Level Impacts Report**

<https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/publications/00003/stand.htm>

### **Alberni Valley Community Forest**

<http://www.communityforest.ca>

### **Sea Level Rise Adaptation Primer - BC Government 2013**

<http://www.toolkit.bc.ca/Resource/Sea-Level-Rise-Adaptation-Primer>

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/climate-change/policy-legislation-and-responses/adaptation/sea-level-rise/slr-primer.pdf>

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/climate-change/policy-legislation-and-responses/adaptation/sea-level-rise/addendum-tidegauge-gps-2100rsl.pdf>

### **NASA Climate Vital Signs Website**

<http://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/sea-level/>

### **Declaration of Right to a Healthy Environment - City of Nanaimo**

[https://www.nanaimo.ca/UploadedFilePath/Site\\_Structure/Corporate\\_Services/Corporate\\_Administration/Supplemental/COW150511SThe\\_Right\\_to\\_a\\_Healthy\\_Environment\\_Declaration\\_-\\_Delegation\\_-\\_Mr\\_Paul\\_Manly\\_and\\_Mr\\_Trevor\\_Greene.pdf](https://www.nanaimo.ca/UploadedFilePath/Site_Structure/Corporate_Services/Corporate_Administration/Supplemental/COW150511SThe_Right_to_a_Healthy_Environment_Declaration_-_Delegation_-_Mr_Paul_Manly_and_Mr_Trevor_Greene.pdf)

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## APPENDIX A

# City of Port Alberni Declaration The Right To A Healthy Environment

Whereas the City of Port Alberni understands that people are part of the environment, and that a healthy environment is inextricably linked to the well-being of our community;

The City of Port Alberni finds and declares that:

1. All people have the right to live in a healthy environment, including:
  - The right to breathe clean air.
  - The right to drink clean water.
  - The right to consume safe food.
  - The right to access nature.
  - The right to know about pollutants and contaminants released into the local environment.
  - The right to participate in decision-making that will affect the environment
2. The City of Port Alberni has the responsibility, within its jurisdiction, to respect, protect, fulfill and promote these rights.
3. The City of Port Alberni shall apply the precautionary principle: where threats of serious or irreversible damage to human health or the environment exist, the City of Port Alberni shall take cost effective measures to prevent the degradation of the environment and protect the health of its citizens. Lack of full scientific certainty shall not be viewed as sufficient reason for the City of Port Alberni to postpone such measures.
4. The City of Port Alberni shall apply full cost accounting: when evaluating reasonably foreseeable costs of proposed actions and alternatives, the City of Port Alberni will consider costs to human health and the environment.
5. The City of Port Alberni shall specify objectives, targets and timelines and actions the City of Port Alberni will take, within its jurisdiction, to fulfill residents' right to a healthy environment, including priority actions to:

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- A. Ensure equitable distribution of environmental benefits and burdens within the municipality, preventing the development of pollution "hot spots";
  - B. Ensure infrastructure and development projects protect the environment, including air quality;
  - C. Address climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and implementing adaptation measures;
  - D. Responsibly increase density;
  - E. Prioritize walking, cycling and public transit as preferred modes of transportation;
  - F. Ensure adequate infrastructure for the provision of safe and accessible drinking water;
  - G. Promote the availability of safe foods;
  - H. Reduce solid waste and promote recycling and composting;
  - I. Establish and maintain accessible green spaces in all residential neighbourhoods.

The City of Port Alberni shall review the objectives, targets, timelines and actions every five (5) years, and evaluate progress towards fulfilling this declaration.

The City of Port Alberni shall consult with residents as part of this process.