CleanBC Indigenous Engagement Sessions



Identified Priorities from Previous Engagements

Cultural Sites

1. Are cultural sites being impacted in your community and leading to a risk of loss of cultural identity? How could cultural and heritage impacts of climate change could be reduced in your community?

Transportation

2. How could lower emitting modes of transportation be improved in your community? (examples: public transit, safe cycling and walkways)

Energy Alternatives

- 3. The First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) survey from 2019 indicated that communities were most interested in developing solar, wind, and run-of-river energy generation to increase community access to renewable energy.
 - a. Are any clean energy alternatives currently being used or planned for in your community?
 - b. Has your community completed any assessments on clean energy usage for your community? What were some of the results/outcomes/ from those assessments?
 - c. In what ways could provincial policies support local community renewable electricity generation?

Food Security: Opportunities for Self-Determination

- 4. What does food security look like in your community?
 - a. Do community gardens or indoor growing opportunities exist to reduce reliance on transported goods?
 - b. How can CleanBC (and the Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy) promote food security within the framework of climate change response and/or energy efficiency?

Assessment

- 5. Has your community undergone an assessment to see what clean energy alternatives could be available?
 - a. Would your community benefit from drafting a renewable clean energy or Climate Action plan?
 - b. What other energy challenges could an Energy Coach or clean energy mentor support in your community? An Energy Coach currently supports energy efficiency options related to heat pumps.

Housing

- 6. How could net-zero energy buildings and housing be addressed by the Ministers responsible in concert with communities? Do you agree Indigenous Services Canada + MIRR and Housing + CleanBC partnerships need actionable items and further development?
- 7. Would you be interested in energy retrofits and what type would you prefer?
- 8. What is the need for energy retrofits in your community? How might energy retrofits be introduced in your community?

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Self-determination and Energy Independence

- 9. What does energy equity mean to you?
- 10. Are there economic opportunities that could occur in your community through innovative energy or adaptation initiatives? (examples: trades training to maintain/retrofit houses, ecosystem restoration/manage and guardianship programs for environmental stewardship)
- 11. Where do you look for energy/climate response project ideas? Are there projects in other communities that you would like to emulate in your community?
- 12. The application of Indigenous Knowledge and laws in governing lands forms the foundation for the use of land throughout BC. To support communities into a carbon-reduced future, what sustainable energy options do you want to see?
- 13. Energy independence can be linked to self-determination because it can be a vehicle for self-sufficiency. Do you see this linkage in your community? What may empower your community to be more energy independent and self-sufficient?
- 14. How would Indigenous Rights and Title influence climate adaptation strategies?
- 15. How has climate change impacted your life and community:
 - a. Is the impact felt:
 - i. Daily?
 - ii. Seasonally?
 - iii. Annually?
 - iv. Other?
 - b. What changes have you made in your life because of this?
- 16. What are the two best changes the government could make to help you manage the way climate change has impacted your life / community?

Recognition of Poverty Barriers

- 17. Do you know of any clean energy initiatives that don't cost money to access?
- 18. What is the most important energy issue facing your life today?
 - b. The FNLC survey from 2019 identified a lack of sufficient funding or resources to undertake climate actions. In what ways do you feel that CleanBC initiatives include or exclude people who have limited funding or resources? What about people living in poverty?
- 19. Are you a homeowner or a renter? Do you have autonomy and ability to improve the energy efficiency of your home?

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Approach to CleanBC's Work

- 20. How should Indigenous Knowledge be incorporated into the Province's CleanBC Strategy? How can engagement be done in a meaningful way?
- 21. What principles should guide Government decisions? If you could draft the guiding principles for government in their decision making on climate, what would you include?
- 22. Reporting out on advancements made: what kind of information or data do communities want to know? What kind of information should form the basis of an equitable approach to climate action? What does accountability look like?

Example: How is the Province measuring the success of CleanBC beyond emissions targets?

- a. Are programs accessible to those who need it the most?
- b. How many economic development initiatives have been incorporated into the strategy?
- c. How many dollars have been saved by those living on or below the poverty line? How have energy savings impacted the lives of those living on a fixed income?
- d. What are the downstream effects of the current energy source (e.g. woodstove use depleting surrounding areas of critical natural habitat; for those who drive in rural areas or commute, looking at the rising price of carbon)?
- e. Will incentivizing renewable energy increase prices for fossil fuel energy sources (costs for community running on diesel)?

COVID Realities and Opportunities

- 23. Thinking of how COVID has affected life in your community, in what ways do you see 'green recovery' opportunities in your community to 'build back better'? Do any currently exist?
- 24. How can the different levels of government meaningfully engage Indigenous communities around climate change and energy efficiency during COVID?

Ongoing Opportunities

25. Are you familiar with CleanBC programs such as the <u>Clean Communities Fund</u>, <u>BC Indigenous Clean Energy Initiative</u>, or the <u>Renewable Energy for Remote Communities Program</u>? Are you familiar with the <u>List of Funding Opportunities for Clean Energy Projects</u>? Do you have any suggestions for improvements to make it easier to find and access funding programs?

If you have any questions about process or would like to provide any input prior or following our session, please email Elaine at elaine@alderhill.ca