

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### RELATED PROGRAMS

**Ministry of Community and Rural Development**

[www.gov.bc.ca/cd](http://www.gov.bc.ca/cd)

**LocalMotion**

[www.localmotion.gov.bc.ca](http://www.localmotion.gov.bc.ca)

**B.C. Spirit Squares**

[www.spiritsquares.gov.bc.ca](http://www.spiritsquares.gov.bc.ca)

**Building Canada**

Victoria: 250 952-0675

[www.bcbuildingcanadafundcommunities.ca](http://www.bcbuildingcanadafundcommunities.ca)

**Trees for Tomorrow**

[www.treesfortomorrow.gov.bc.ca](http://www.treesfortomorrow.gov.bc.ca)

### USEFUL LINKS

**CivicInfo BC**

*Municipal government news and information*

Victoria: 250 383-4898

[www.civicinfo.bc.ca](http://www.civicinfo.bc.ca)

**Civic Net BC**

*Union of BC Municipalities*

Richmond: 604 270-8226

[www.civicnet.bc.ca](http://www.civicnet.bc.ca)

**FrontCounter BC**

Toll free: 1 877 855-3222

[www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca](http://www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca)

**B.C. Brownfield Renewal Strategy**

[www.brownfieldrenewal.gov.bc.ca](http://www.brownfieldrenewal.gov.bc.ca)

**Innovative Clean Energy Fund**

[www.tted.gov.bc.ca/ICEFund/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.tted.gov.bc.ca/ICEFund/Pages/default.aspx)

**Action on Climate Change**

[www.livesmartbc.ca](http://www.livesmartbc.ca)

**Climate Action Secretariat**

[www.climateactionsecretariat.gov.bc.ca](http://www.climateactionsecretariat.gov.bc.ca)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER



Climate change is everyone's responsibility. There are steps we can take as individuals, communities and governments to reduce our carbon footprint and help battle climate change. The B.C. Building Code now contains the highest energy-efficiency standards in Canada, leading to more economical

home heating, reduced emissions from buildings and less impact on the environment. Across British Columbia, communities are showing themselves to be leaders in going green, providing examples of environmental leadership and encouraging their citizens in finding innovative, cutting-edge ways to reduce their energy use, take alternative forms of transportation, limit greenhouse gas emissions and save money at the same time.

We're partnering with communities to help them 'go green.' One hundred and seventy-four B.C. municipalities and the Islands Trust have signed the B.C. Climate Action Charter, pledging to become carbon neutral by 2012. The Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program provides grants to offset 100 per cent of the carbon tax to every one of these participating municipalities.

Programs like the Innovative Clean Energy Fund and SolarBC are providing direct funding to municipalities looking for clean energy options, while LocalMotion, Trees for Tomorrow and similar grant opportunities help communities develop sustainable, livable communities.

Honourable Gordon Campbell  
Premier of British Columbia



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### SERVICE BC

*(For information on any provincial government service or program)*

*Monday to Friday: 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.*

*Toll-free provincewide: 1 800 663-7867*

*Telephone device for the deaf (TDD) in B.C.: 1 800 661-8773*

*WWW.SERVICEBC.GOV.BC.CA*

### SIGN UP FOR THE PREMIER'S NEWSLETTER:

[PREMIERSOFFICE@GOV.BC.CA](mailto:PREMIERSOFFICE@GOV.BC.CA)

SEND YOUR COMMENTS TO:

E-MAIL: [PREMIER@GOV.BC.CA](mailto:PREMIER@GOV.BC.CA)

**BUILDING THE FUTURE** »

**IN GREEN COMMUNITIES**



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COLUMBIA

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## GREEN COMMUNITIES

The Province is committed to helping local governments create greener, healthier communities through programs that encourage reduced greenhouse gas emissions, increased energy conservation and sustainable development.

- » LocalMotion provided \$40 million for 122 projects including bike paths, walkways, greenways and improved accessibility for persons with disabilities.
- » The Province has approved \$58 million for 42 local government projects through the Building Canada fund.
- » The \$20-million B.C. Spirit Squares program helped develop 64 unique gathering spaces across B.C. to commemorate our 150th anniversary.

- » The Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program offsets 100 per cent of the carbon tax communities pay for fossil fuel purchases and encourages local governments to sign the B.C. Climate Action Charter. To date, 174 local governments and the Islands Trust have signed the charter, committing to become carbon neutral by 2012.
- » Trees for Tomorrow supports tree planting and other energy-saving initiatives across British Columbia. In 2009, 129 projects were approved for \$3 million in provincial funding.
- » The Province and the federal government each contributed over \$74.5 million to the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund for projects across the province, of which at least 60 per cent were defined as "green". Local government contributions pushed the total program value over \$220 million.
- » The BC Community Water Improvement Program has contributed \$80 million to 87 "green" projects.

## SUPPORT FOR CARBON NEUTRAL COMMUNITIES

Programs like the Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund invest in energy initiatives.

The ICE Fund showcases B.C. technologies to the world and fosters solutions to British Columbia's energy challenges. The ICE Fund can award up to \$25 million annually to help make B.C.'s clean energy technologies commercial-ready.

Since 2008, the ICE Fund has approved over \$47 million toward 34 projects in communities across B.C., representing a total value of over \$174 million.

These projects will help develop clean and renewable energy for British Columbians through various technological applications, including solar, wind, tidal, wave, geothermal and bioenergy.

The provincial carbon tax puts a price on carbon emissions, encouraging people and businesses to make sustainable choices. Every dollar raised by the tax is returned through tax reductions.

The Climate Action Revenue Incentive provides grants for school districts and local governments that commit to carbon neutrality by 2012.

The Pacific Carbon Trust, a Crown corporation that is part of B.C.'s Climate Action Plan, delivers high-quality carbon offsets generated by B.C.-based activities that demonstrate real greenhouse gas reductions or removals.

## TURNING UNDERUTILIZED BROWNFIELDS INTO PRODUCTIVE COMMUNITY SPACES

Estimates indicate B.C. has between 4,000 and 6,000 brownfield sites located across the province in both rural and urban settings.

Examples include former dry-cleaner sites, abandoned factories, closed gas stations and refineries, as well as old waterfronts and railyards.

Left as they are, these sites have reduced economic value, represent an unexplored development opportunity, and in some cases, pose a risk to human health and the environment.

Cleaning up and redeveloping these sites can generate significant economic, social and environmental benefits, leading to more sustainable communities.

B.C.'s Brownfield Renewal Strategy encourages brownfield redevelopment by making funding available for private land owners, First Nations and local governments to undertake early stage investigations on brownfield sites.

During this fiscal year, the Province will award over \$1 million in grants to communities and other land holders for this type of work.

*Smart planning, with compact communities, energy-efficient buildings and more clean transportation alternatives, is the way of the future.*

*Across British Columbia, communities are going green.*

