



City of Port Moody

Minutes

Climate Action Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Climate Action Committee held on Monday, March 22, 2021 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Meghan Lahti, Chair
Councillor Amy Lubik, Vice-Chair
Helen Howes
Adam Janis
Mike Kasuya
Poopeh Morakkabati
Shelley Moore
Derek Wilson

Absent

Elaine Golds

In Attendance

Jennifer Mills – Committee Coordinator
Laura Sampliner – Sustainability and Energy Coordinator

Also in Attendance

Sam, Community Energy Coach, CleanBC
Elli, Community Energy Coach, CleanBC

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

2.1 CAC21/005

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Climate Action Committee meeting held on Monday, February 22, 2021 be adopted.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

CleanBC Home Rebates

- 4.1 Presentation: Sam the Community Energy Coach, CleanBC
Link: <https://betterhomesbc.ca/rebates/cleanbc-better-homes-and-home-renovation-rebate-programs/>

The Community Energy Coaches, CleanBC, gave a presentation on CleanBC Rebates and the following was noted:

- the CleanBC program offers a variety of promotional and engagement opportunities for community-based and municipal platforms; the program provides access to information and rebates that support reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in new and existing homes and buildings;
- the Community Energy Coaches are an extension of the CleanBC program and offer coaching services to homeowners and businesses undertaking renovations by reviewing the available options and opportunities to improve the energy efficiency of the home or building; the coaching specialists are available via phone at 1-844-881-9790;
- the CleanBC Better Homes program is funded by the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada under the Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund; the CleanBC Better Homes rebates are administered by BC Hydro, FortisBC, and BC Housing;
- there are various rebates available related to space heating, water heating, secondary heating, and some bonus offers; the rebate search tool is available on the CleanBC website which can be filtered by location and primary heating source;
- there are select CleanBC Better Homes rebates being doubled for a limited time for customers switching to an electric heat pump or heat pump water heater; registration for a promo code is available until March 31, 2021 and the upgrades must be complete by June 30, 2021;
- the program does not include multi-unit residential buildings such as apartments and condominiums;
- the Electrical Service Upgrade rebate is only available in combination with the Heat Pump Space Heating or Heat Pump Water Heating rebates for systems that were previously fossil fuel fired equipment;
- there are currently no municipal top-ups available for Port Moody;
- the Heat Pump Group Purchase Rebate offers groups of homeowners the opportunity to work together to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by switching to an air source heat pump; participants are encouraged to spread the word about their heat pump purchase group to take advantage of the maximum rebate; rebates range from \$200 per home, for a group of two

homes, up to a maximum of \$500 for a group of 20 to 30 homes;

- the CleanBC Better Homes Low-Interest Financing Program is an alternative to the rebates that offers low-interest rate loans for switching from a fossil fuel heating system to a heat pump;
- there are civic and local government resources and toolkits available; and
- the program can be promoted through the use of the CleanBC marketing toolkit, social media, direct mail, community webinars, municipal top-ups, and the Heat Pump Group Purchase Rebate.

The Community Energy Coaches noted the following in response to Committee members questions:

- the municipal top-up amounts are established in collaboration with the Province and can range from \$350 to \$2,000;
- the municipal top-up programs can be useful in tracking data related to uptake in the program;
- the live webinars are customized to the municipality or regional district requesting the service; the Regional District of Nanaimo and Comox Valley Regional District webinars were recorded and are available on their respective websites;
- the lead time to develop the webinars can range from a few weeks to one month, depending on the range of information requested;
- the general practice of other local municipalities has been to focus on a smaller number of rebates and offer a larger financial incentives, rather than offer many rebates with smaller financial incentives;
- the Electrical Service Upgrade rebate and the heat pump rebates are directly related to greenhouse gas reductions and could be linked to the Climate Action Plan; and
- the Electrical Service Upgrade rebate does not include upgrades for electric vehicles.

The Community Energy Coaches left the meeting at this point and did not return.

The Committee noted the following:

- the data regarding Port Moody properties taking advantage of the program could be used to measure participation in the program and for awareness and education opportunities;
- the webinars are an opportunity to engage with the community and provide information, education, and awareness on the environmental benefits of the program;

- the webinars could be developed as a series with dedicated webinars for each rebate available on the City website;
- the webinars could be hosted in the Inlet Theatre when appropriate;
- the City could develop a municipal top-up program to incentivize residents to participate in the program and to demonstrate the commitment to the climate emergency declaration;
- the Committee could review the rebate options and rate structures to determine the most appropriate options for Port Moody;
- the rebates are typically related to retaining heat in homes and may be more effectively promoted in the fall; and
- a general CleanBC Better Homes webinar could be hosted in the summer and the incentive program and specific webinars could be rolled-out in the fall.

CAC21/006

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the Climate Action Committee request that staff report back with a potential municipal top-up program for the CleanBC Better Homes rebates, and a community education program to promote the Heat Pump Group Purchase Rebate program and the CleanBC Better Homes rebate program.

CAC21/007

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the City of Port Moody invite CleanBC to host a webinar for the community;

AND THAT the CleanBC program information be posted on the City website and City social media including a link to the Climate Action Plan.

CAC21/008

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the foregoing motion be amended by adding: “, and print publications”.

The question on the main motion (CAC21/007) as amended (by CAC21/008) was called for; the following motion was CARRIED:

THAT the City of Port Moody invite CleanBC to host a webinar for the community;

AND THAT the CleanBC program information be posted on the City website, City social media, and City print publications, with all posts including a link to the Climate Action Plan.

Draft Fleet Policy

- 4.2 Presentation: Paul Leblanc, Manager of Solid Waste, Fleet, and Shared Services
Attachment: Report, Engineering and Operations Department, Corporate Policy – Vehicles and Equipment, dated February 1, 2021
File: 01-0360-20-55-01

This item was postponed to a future meeting.

Mass Timber Construction

- 4.3 Attachment: Report, Councillor Milani, Sustainable Building Practices, dated March 1, 2021
File: 01-0360-20-55-01

The following was CARRIED at the Regular Council meeting of March 9, 2021:

THAT staff report back to Council with options on how best to:

- a) *prioritize and incentivize Mass Timber (Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT)) construction for buildings over six storeys in height; and*
- b) *discourage the use of concrete as the main component of buildings over six storeys in height.*

THAT this item be referred to the Climate Action Committee for consideration and establishment of a subcommittee to investigate the environmental, economic, public safety, and affordability issues related to mass timber construction being the primary building form in Port Moody;

AND THAT the subcommittee be directed to research and invite industry experts and academics in an effort to provide direction on the most sustainable building practices available.

The Chair provided an overview of the Sustainable Building Practices report, noting that the motions in report were not endorsed by Council, and that the resolutions direct the Climate Action Committee to establish a subcommittee to investigate the issues related to mass timber construction in the city and collaborate with industry experts and academics for direction on the issue.

CAC21/009

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the following members be appointed to the Sustainable Building Practices Subcommittee:

- **Councillor Meghan Lahti;**
- **Helen Howes;**
- **Adam Janis;**
- **Mike Kasuya; and**
- **Poopeh Morakkabati.**

Digital CO₂ Display in Rotunda

- 4.4 Derek Wilson provided an overview of the proposed digital CO₂ display in the rotunda, noting that the atmospheric carbon dioxide levels could be displayed to bring awareness to environmental issues, and could provide an opportunity to engage the public and provide links to the Climate Action Plan and other initiatives.

The Chair noted that the digital billboard agreement includes the availability of 10% of display time for City use.

The Committee noted the following:

- a display is a great way to engage with the community and provide information on how they can contribute to environmental initiatives;
- the tracking could include global and local information to show how all efforts impact the environment;
- the displayed information should include a staff contact and a link to the Climate Action Plan and Implementation Plan;
- a communication plan linked to the Climate Action Implementation Plan phases could be developed for pre-planned billboard messaging; and
- a Quick Response code could be included in communication efforts.

CAC21/010

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT each City department be allocated opportunities for the use of the digital billboards to promote initiatives;

AND THAT the Community Development Department be provided with the digital billboard to promote Earth Day on April 22, 2021.

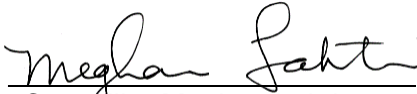
5. Information

Staff Updates

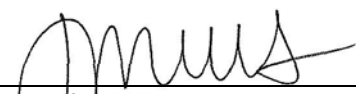
- 5.1 There were no staff updates at this time.

6. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:26pm.



Councillor Meghan Lahti,
Chair



Jennifer Mills,
Committee Coordinator