



# A NEW LEAF

MUSKOKA'S

# CLIMATE STRATEGY



Township of Muskoka Lakes - Update

# A New Leaf: Muskoka's Climate Strategy

**Muskoka's Climate Strategy is comprised of six main components:**

1. A Muskoka Climate Change Action Plan (MCCAP)
2. Corporate Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Initiative
  - A GHG baseline inventory and reduction plan for the District
3. Community Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Initiative
  - A GHG baseline inventory and reduction plan for the Community
4. Outreach and Education
5. Partnerships; and
6. Funding





# MUSKOKA CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

The MCCAP is a product of an interdepartmental effort to develop a series of goals and actions to increase the Districts' resiliency to climatic changes, and decrease GHG emissions that contribute to continued climate warming.

The MCCAP is comprised of **23 GOALS** with **84 ACTIONS** to fulfil those goals

## Timing:

- Immediate, short, medium, and long term projects;
- Some goals and actions already started – (GHG Initiatives, Flood plain mapping, Outreach/education...).



# MCCAP Implementation

Progress towards implementation of the MCCAP will be monitored and evaluated through:

- Annual progress reports to District Council commencing around Earth Week 2021;
- Quarterly MCCAP Steering Committee meetings to review and various champion corporate goals and actions; and
- Comprehensive review and update of the MCCAP every five years.

Each Goal has the following information in chart form to help with implementation:



# MCCAP Implementation Cont'd

**ACTIONS:** Provides detailed information about the action.

**TIMELINE:** The amount of time the action is anticipated to take.

**COST:** The anticipated cost and/or staff effort associated with the action

**STATUS:** Where in implementation the action is (proposed, underway, complete).

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Identifies the lead and supporting department(s) that will help develop /assess/implement the action.

**ADDITIONAL STAKEHOLDERS:** Identifies other parties (Area Municipalities, non-profits, consultants, general public etc.) to help support or promote the action.



# What is a GHG Inventory & Reduction Strategy

- Analysis of energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions within the District, now and in the future;
- Identifies emission reduction targets;
- Develops strategies to achieve these targets; and
- Includes engagement from members of the public, key stakeholders, Council.



# Why Develop a GHG Inventory & Reduction Strategy?

- Local Climate Change Impacts;
- Benefits to Environment, Economy & Health;
- Alignment with Council Strategic Priorities
  - Continue to enhance our knowledge and understanding of our natural environment in order to mitigate the effects of climate change on the resiliency and biodiversity of our watersheds.
- Alignment with provincial, federal and international climate targets;
- Access to funding from higher levels of government; and
- Builds on Conservation Demand Management Plan
  - Addresses corporate emissions.





## Conclusion

Municipalities around the world, including the District, are declaring climate emergencies. These declarations at all levels of government are indications that the time to act in a very focused, strategic and collaborative way is now.

To help the District continue to lead effectively in response to the climate crisis, to strengthen Muskoka's overall climate resiliency, and to achieve any adopted GHG reduction targets, a comprehensive approach is proposed.

The New Leaf: Muskoka's Climate Strategy offers a set of integrated directions and practical actions proposed to manage and reduce Muskoka's contribution to climate change, and to prioritize adaptation goals, actions and programs to prevent or minimize the impacts of projected local climatic changes.

Through this Strategy, the District will continue to work collaboratively with all partners to mitigate and adapt to Muskoka's changing climate.

