

Town of Drayton Valley sets targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030

Drayton Valley, Alberta October 2020 — The Town of Drayton Valley has completed Milestone 2 of the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program. PCP is a network of Canadian municipal governments that have committed to reducing GHG emissions and protecting our climate. Milestone 2 is setting targets to reduce corporate and community greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The targets will now enable the Town of Drayton Valley to develop a plan to reduce GHG emissions, improve energy efficiency and track progress toward these objectives over time.

On August 19, 2020, council adopted the following GHG emissions reduction targets:

- * An 8% reduction below 2015 levels by 2030 for corporate operations.
- * A 6% reduction below 2015 levels by 2030 for the community.

“Setting these data-driven targets to reduce emissions reflects our commitment to become better stewards for energy and the environment. We are proud to join other Canadian municipalities as leaders in creating a sustainable future” says Councillor Fayrell Wheeler. “We intend to continue moving through the 5 PCP Milestone process to optimize our conservation opportunities to create new revenue streams, support local employment, and spur innovation.”

To establish the emissions reduction targets, the Town of Drayton Valley first collected data on current greenhouse gas emissions and developed a GHG inventory (Milestone 1 of the PCP program). The Town of Drayton Valley also consulted with residents, businesses and other stakeholders in the community to set the targets. The Milestone 1 inventory report and a summary of the community engagement exercise are available on the Town’s website. Community feedback clearly indicates a preference for realistic goals and actions – the targets were chosen to reflect this sentiment.

As a member of the PCP program, the Town of Drayton Valley is among over 400 municipal governments across Canada taking a leadership role and making a significant contribution to reducing Canada’s overall GHG emissions. In 2018, PCP member municipalities voluntarily reported over 160 projects to reduce GHG emissions. These projects represent over 720,000 tonnes in annual GHG reductions — equivalent to taking over the amount of carbon stored in over 340,000 hectares of forest in one year. Along with reducing the impacts of climate change, municipalities saw other community benefits and savings, including \$2.88 million in annual cost savings generated by reducing emissions from streetlights and municipally owned vehicles and buildings.

About the PCP program

The Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program is managed and delivered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI Canada). Since 1994, PCP has provided municipalities of all sizes with the tools, resources and guidance they need to progress through a five-milestone process to lower GHG emissions and reduce the impacts of climate change. The five milestones are:

Milestone 1 — Create a baseline emissions inventory and forecast

Milestone 2 — Set emissions reduction targets

Milestone 3 — Develop a local action plan

Milestone 4 — Implement the local action plan Milestone 5 — Monitor progress and report results

There are PCP members in all provinces and territories, and member municipalities represent more than 65 per cent of the Canadian population. PCP receives financial support from the Government of Canada and ICLEI Canada.

For more information

Partners for Climate Protection: <https://fcm.ca/home/programs/partners-for-climate-protection.htm>

Federation of Canadian Municipalities: <https://fcm.ca><<https://fcm.ca/home.htm>>

ICLEI Canada: <http://www.icleicanada.org/> Town of Drayton Valley:

<https://www.draytonvalley.ca/drayton-valley-energy/>

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Contact

Aishah Mohd Isa
Energy Program Coordinator
Town of Drayton Valley
(718) 514 - 2953
energy@draytonvalley.ca