



**Town of Mahone Bay**  
Staff Report  
RE: Climate Mitigation Update  
June 27, 2019

### **General Overview:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update and recommendations concerning climate mitigation initiatives included in the 2019-20 budget.

### **Background:**

The Staff Report re Climate Mitigation presented to Council on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 recommended that the Town of Mahone Bay:

- Join the FCM Partners for Climate Protection Program; and,
- Establish baseline community Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions.

The Town Council accepted the Report's recommendation to include funds to this end in the annual budget and on May 14<sup>th</sup> approved the Town's 2019-20 budget, containing \$25,000 for GHG Reduction Initiatives.

### **Analysis:**

In the April 9<sup>th</sup> report staff referenced the benefits of joining the FCM's Partners for Climate Protection Program, which aligns with Council's strategic plan.

#### Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program

"The Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program, from ICLEI — Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI Canada) and FCM, helps your municipality do its part. It consists of a five-step Milestone Framework that guides you as you take action against climate change by reducing emissions in your municipality."

<https://fcm.ca/en/programs/partners-climate-protection> - See video entitled "Why Become a Member"

Additionally, since April, the Clean Foundation has reached out regarding the Town potentially joining the Transition 2050 climate mitigation program, which they are undertaking in partnership with FCM and several other Nova Scotia municipalities (including the Municipality of the District of Chester). The Foundation has requested a support letter and provided an optional template (attached as Appendix A to this report).

## Transition 2050

“The grants, known as Transition 2050, will fund training and support delivered by partner organizations to groups of municipalities to foster deep emissions reductions through peer learning, strategic planning and operational implementation.”

<https://fcm.ca/en/programs/municipalities-climate-innovation-program/announcing-transition-2050-partner-grant-recipients> - See Clean Foundation group

Both opportunities will assist the implementation of the Council’s strategic plan with regards to the establishment of an emissions baseline, setting reduction targets, and other associated strategies. Through participation the Town will connect to, and share resources with, other like municipalities engaged in these same processes.

There are also significant opportunities to tie these partnerships into the development of the proposed Transportation Plan, building on the work of Bicycle Nova Scotia on the Blue Route Community Hubs pilot and the Nova Scotia Department of Energy’s expressed support for the Town to promote and facilitate active transportation and electric vehicles as low-carbon transportation alternatives in Mahone Bay.

### **Financial Analysis:**

As referenced in the draft support letter, these opportunities come with some cash and in-kind costs, which are anticipated in Council’s strategic plan and annual budget; associated cash costs will be applied against the budgeted \$25,000 for GHG reduction initiatives. It is anticipated that joining these programs / initiatives / partnerships will reduce costs to achieve climate objectives / assist in obtaining external funding to this end.

### **Links to Strategic Plan:**

Key Strategic Initiatives and Core Activities

#### **3.4 Environmental Sustainability**

- Pursue Climate Mitigation strategies (reducing Town carbon footprint)
- Expand Green Energy Generation (continued development of Alternate Resource Energy Authority)

### **Recommendation:**

THAT Council resolve that:

- The Town of Mahone Bay join the FCM’s Partners for Climate Protection Program;

and that,

- The Town of Mahone Bay support the Clean Foundation / FCM Transition 2050 Initiative and staff be directed to send a support letter to this effect to the Clean Foundation.

**Attached for Council Review:**

- draft Letter of Support – Clean Foundation: Transition 2050

**Respectfully Submitted,**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dylan Heide', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dylan Heide  
Town of Mahone Bay CAO

{Community Logo}

Date\_\_\_\_\_

RE: Letter of Support FCM/Clean NS Transition 2050 Program

I am writing you on behalf of (Your municipality here) to express a commitment to the “Clean Climate Action” partnership which is being supported through FCM’s Transition 2050 program. By way of this letter we can commit to in kind contributions of ( dollar amount representation of staff time)

In kind contributions will be from staff time, shared use of meeting facilities, meetings and travel costs for municipal staff to attend capacity building workshops over the two years of the project.

Signature:

Position:

Municipality/Town: