

Climate Action and Waste: *Perspective from the NS Climate Change Plan*

CLIMATE PLAN AND STRATEGIC ACTION
PRESENTATION TO DIVERT NS | MARCH 25, 2024



What is the Climate Change Plan?

- ▶ The Climate Change Plan for Clean Growth is the result of a whole-of-government, coordinated, collaborative approach to climate action.
- ▶ The Plan is a legislated requirement under the *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act (EGCCRA)* and outlines **68 actions** to be taken over **five years** by **13+ departments and agencies** across the Provincial government
- ▶ High-level Goals:
 - ✓ Address the need to respond to climate impacts and to reduce emissions.
 - ✓ Position Nova Scotians to capitalize on opportunities in the growing clean economy.
 - ✓ Build on existing successes, introduce new tools/initiatives, and coordinate action to accelerate progress towards sustainable prosperity.

Climate Change Plan: Action Areas



Intersections of Climate Plan and Waste

- **Right now**, direct links between actions in the Climate Plan and waste management or circular economy are limited.
 - Both circular economy goals and climate goals are addressed in the *Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act (EGCCRA)*, so **the lenses of climate and circular economy are consistent**.



The Climate Plan will be renewed by 2027.

There is opportunity to make stronger connections in the future.

Four Ways Climate Actions Link to Waste



Link #1

Responding to the Impacts of
(and Impacts to) Municipal
Infrastructure

Actions:

- ▶ #1: Build on the research findings of the climate change risk assessment to better understand the risks identified and research important data gaps
- ▶ #53: Provide funding through programs like [Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund](#) to support municipalities to respond to their climate change priorities
- ▶ #54: Provide funding to help communities complete clean energy projects ([LCC](#), [HCl3](#))
- ▶ #63: Invest in new clean technology research ([ECT](#))

Climate Plan offers opportunities to inform investments to reduce operating emissions and mitigate future impacts on infrastructure.



Link #2:

Rapid Growth in Renewable Energy + Electrification

Actions:

- ▶ #18: Build at least 500MW of new local renewables by 2026 and an additional 50 MW of new community solar
- ▶ #19: Provide funding for farms and other businesses to adopt solar
- ▶ #20: Research battery technologies
- ▶ #35-37: Increase electric vehicle charging stations, number of zero-emissions personal vehicles and e-bikes, and zero-emissions medium, heavy duty- and marine vehicles

Climate Plan actions may create opportunity/need to find new ways to manage and circulate increased electronic waste related to renewables and electrification.



Link #3

Transition to Net-Zero Buildings

Actions:

- ▶ #26: Retrofit 60,000 homes by 2030 to reduce home-heating oil use by 20%.
- ▶ #31: Support construction and renovation of net-zero residential buildings, including net-zero affordable buildings
- ▶ #27: Provide energy efficiency upgrades to more low-income households
- ▶ #33: Require all new government buildings and major retrofits entering planning stages after 2022 to be net-zero energy ready and climate resilient

Opportunity/need to reduce construction waste and use products with lower embodied carbon emissions to transition to net-zero buildings.



Link #4:

Increased Access to Climate-related Information, Training and Education

Actions:

- ▶ #1: Build on research findings of the climate change risk assessment
- ▶ #11: Raise awareness of climate risks and adaptation priorities across Nova Scotia through public education and engagement on the risk assessment
- ▶ #45: Support youth centered climate actions and learn from youth in new advisory committee
- ▶ #48: Support youth education by updating school curriculums
- ▶ #49: Increase representation of racialized and Indigenous workers in the energy efficiency and clean technologies sector

Opportunity to link waste management interests to climate/environmental priorities in more venues.

Resources

- ▶ [EGCCRA legislation](#)
- ▶ [Climate Risk and Well-Being Assessment](#)
- ▶ [Climate Change Plan](#)
- ▶ [Annual Report](#) and [Appendices](#)

Thank you!

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