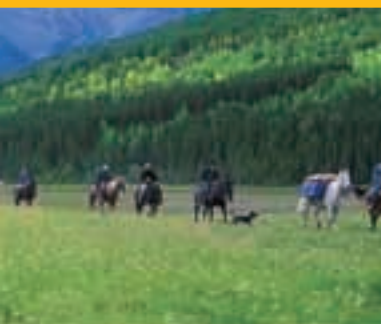


THE BEST PLACE ON EARTH »»
***FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT***



WE WANT YOUR INPUT



Protecting B.C.'s environment in a sustainable, responsible way is critical to our quality of life, and essential for preserving the natural beauty B.C. is known for throughout the world.

We're leading North America in reducing our environmental impacts and working with both U.S. and Canadian neighbours toward common standards and solutions. We've taken action to develop the hydrogen highway, introducing a conservation-focused Energy Plan, committing to large cuts to provincial GHG emissions, and mandating a carbon-neutral government by 2010.

B.C.'s natural heritage is being protected through a comprehensive, public review of the Wildlife Act, monitoring Species-at-Risk, cleaning up contaminated lands, and ensuring only the highest standards in forest and range, eco-system and aquaculture management.

Further, we're acting to provide every B.C. family with safe drinking water through improved infrastructure, testing and accountability. Air quality monitoring initiatives will ensure that British Columbians have clean air to breathe.

I invite you to contact me with your thoughts on furthering B.C.'s environmental leadership and management.

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Gordon Campbell". The signature is fluid and cursive.

*Honourable Gordon Campbell
Premier of British Columbia*



Please Recycle

This product is printed on Productolith Matte paper. By using 10% post-consumer recycled paper for this project, we have the following environmental savings: 758 gallons of water; 84 lbs. of landfill reduced; and 165 lbs. of greenhouse gases reduced.

LEADING NORTH AMERICA IN CLIMATE ACTION

British Columbia's Climate Action and other measures are demonstrating leadership in addressing climate change, by:

- » Committing to cut B.C.'s greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 33 per cent by 2020, 10% below 1990 levels, and creating a Climate Action Secretariat to help identify ways to reach this target.
- » Introducing the BC Energy Plan, which includes 55 measures geared to meet growing energy needs through conservation, innovation and commitment to clean and renewable sources.
- » Investing \$45 million in hydrogen highway fuelling stations and the world's first fleet of 20 zero-emission fuel-cell buses. The stations will link Whistler to Vancouver, Surrey and Victoria, with planned expansion to San Diego by 2010 to create the world's longest hydrogen highway.
- » Committing to reforest areas affected by pine beetles and wildfire, which has an additional benefit of removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- » Extending the \$2,000 PST exemption on new hybrid vehicles and mandating that all new passenger vehicles leased or purchased by the Province will be hybrids.
- » Reducing and offsetting government's GHG emissions to make it carbon-neutral by 2010.
- » Developing a unified Green Building Code for B.C. by early 2008 to reduce GHG emissions associated with buildings and construction.



COLLABORATING TO MAXIMIZE CLIMATE ACTION BENEFITS

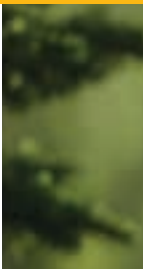

The Province is collaborating on best practices, common standards and solutions to mitigate climate change, by:

- » Signing the Memorandum of Understanding on Pacific Coast Collaboration to Protect Our Shared Climate and Ocean, with California and Washington State.
- » Joining six western U.S. states and Manitoba in the Western Climate Initiative (WCI) to develop and implement a market-based carbon-trading system that provides low-cost carbon reduction solutions for industry.
- » Participating in The Climate Registry, an international collaboration aimed at developing and managing a common greenhouse gas emissions reporting system. B.C. was the first jurisdiction in Canada to join The Climate Registry. Currently, it is comprised of 39 U.S. states, two Canadian provinces, one Mexican state and a US Tribe. In August 2007, all Canada's provincial premiers committed to join The Climate Registry as well.
- » Preparing to forge a Pacific Coast Collaborative with neighbouring jurisdictions as a framework for leadership and co-operation on climate change.
- » Hosting California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger at a business summit to discuss economic opportunities arising from action on climate change.

SAFEGUARDING OUR AIR

The Province has taken important steps to protect air quality in B.C., by:

- » Investing \$13.5 million over the next three years to support clean air research and initiatives across B.C.



British Columbia's Climate Actions include a commitment to cut B.C.'s greenhouse gas emissions 33 per cent by 2020.

- » Introducing tax incentives for bio-diesel use.
- » Phasing out Tier 1 beehive burners by the end of December 2007. By 2010, action will be taken on remaining beehive burners, starting with those near residential areas.
- » Upgrading emission standards for on-road, heavy-duty diesel vehicles, which will reduce particulate matter pollution by 60 tonnes a year.
- » Launching the B.C. Air Quality Health Index, one of the first in the world, which the BC Medical Association recognized with an Excellence in Health Promotion Award.

ENSURING SAFE, CLEAN WATER

To ensure safe, clean drinking water and protect B.C.'s abundant water resources, the Province is:

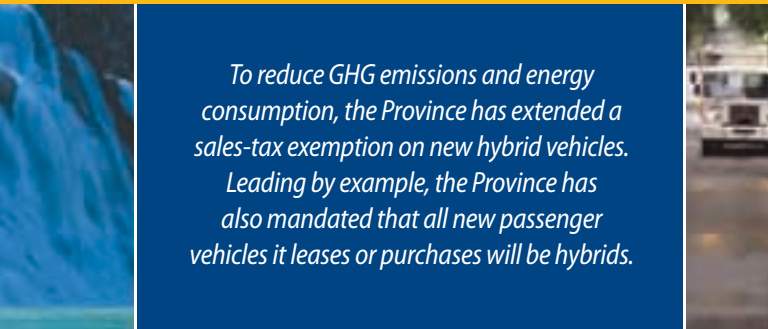
- » Investing \$14 million in a comprehensive Drinking Water Action Plan to improve water management and enhance testing and accountability.
- » Investing \$80 million in 87 drinking and wastewater infrastructure projects under the B.C. Community Water Improvement Program.
- » Enacting Phase 2 of the Ground Water Protection Regulation to bring in additional standards and reporting requirements.
- » Contributing one-third of the funding to upgrade sewage treatment in the Capital Regional District.
- » Investing \$600,000 in the ongoing Okanagan Basin Supply and Demand Study to determine the immediate and future water needs and availability of the basin.
- » Supporting community water management planning to address local water concerns.



STRENGTHENING FISHERIES, WILDLIFE AND HABITAT MANAGEMENT

The Province is committed to using science-based research to ensure B.C.'s environment is managed sustainably and responsibly, including:

- » Tripling the Living Rivers Trust Fund to \$21 million to protect and restore rivers, waterways and fish habitats.
- » Rewriting the Wildlife Act, the foundation for managing fish and wildlife; this was the first major redrafting in 25 years.
- » Adopting a scientific approach to salmon aquaculture management with one of the most comprehensive regulatory regimes in the world.
- » Supporting the commercial fishing industry to obtain third-party certification of sustainability of B.C.'s fisheries.
- » Appointing a provincial species-at-risk co-ordinator to develop scientifically based plans for the recovery of key species at risk, like mountain caribou.
- » Finalizing a provincial agriculture plan to facilitate the sector's growth and diversification.
- » Dedicating \$91 million over four years to ensure contaminated Crown lands are identified, cleaned-up and returned to productive use.
- » Investing \$12 million to strengthen monitoring of forest and range management.
- » Working with the federal government and communities to address the impact of the mountain pine beetle through the Mountain Pine Beetle Action Plan.



To reduce GHG emissions and energy consumption, the Province has extended a sales-tax exemption on new hybrid vehicles. Leading by example, the Province has also mandated that all new passenger vehicles it leases or purchases will be hybrids.

EXPANDING PARKS AND PROTECTED AREAS

To preserve B.C.'s unique natural splendour, the Province has:

- » Protected 1.8 million hectares (three times the size of Prince Edward Island) in B.C.'s Central and North Coast, preserving some of the world's largest intact temperate rainforests and more than 200,000 hectares of habitat for the Spirit Bear, B.C.'s official mammal.
- » Established 65 conservancies in B.C.'s Central and North Coast, with 45 to 49 more to be established by June 2008, and created 46 new Class A parks, one new ecological reserve, eight protected areas and the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve.
- » Expanded more than 50 existing parks and six existing ecological reserves and invested more than \$65 million for BC Parks capital improvements and land acquisitions from 2004/05 to 2006/07.
- » Created an \$8-million BC Trust for Public Lands to help conserve ecologically important private lands for public benefit.
- » Completed the \$73-million agreement to purchase and protect Burns Bog.
- » Established Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) and legal land use objectives for the south Central Coast and committed to implementing EBM throughout the Central and North Coast by 2009.
- » Signed land use agreements with the Wet'suwet'en, Lake Babine Nation, Nedo'ats Hereditary Chiefs and Yekooche First Nation for the Morice region; with the In-SHUCK-ch Nation and with the Squamish Nation to protect cultural areas and create a framework for collaborative and sustainable land management.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

RELATED MINISTRIES

Ministry of Environment www.gov.bc.ca/env

Ministry of Agriculture and Lands www.gov.bc.ca/al

**Ministry of Energy, Mines and
Petroleum Resources** www.gov.bc.ca/empr

Ministry of Forests and Range www.gov.bc.ca/for

FrontCounter BC www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca
Toll-free: 1 877 855-3222

Crown Land Administration Division
www.al.gov.bc.ca/clad

Species at Risk Co-ordination Office
<http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/sarco/>

USEFUL LINKS

Service BC (For information on any provincial
government service or program)

Monday to Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Victoria: 250 387-6121 • Vancouver: 604 660-2421

Toll-free provincewide: 1 800 663-7867

Telephone device for the deaf (TDD)

In Vancouver: 604 775-0303

Elsewhere in B.C.: 1 800 661-8773

www.servicebc.gov.bc.ca

Biodiversity Branch www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/

Environmental Management Branch
www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd

Conservation Officer Service

Report All Poachers and Polluters: 1 877 952-RAPP
(or 1 877 952-7277)

www.env.gov.bc.ca/cos

BC Parks www.bcparks.ca/

Discover Camping www.discovercamping.ca/
Campground Reservations: 1 800 689-9025

Habitat Conservation Trust Fund

Victoria: 250 387-9853

www.hctf.ca

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Bear Smart

www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/bearsmart/bearsminintro.html

Provincial Emergency Program

Report an emergency: 1 800 663-3456

Environmental Assessment Office

Victoria: 250 356-7479 www.eao.gov.bc.ca

Wildfire Protection <http://bcwildfire.ca>

Report a Wildfire: 1 800 663-5555

(or *5555 from a cellular phone)

Wildfire Information: 1 888 3FOREST

(or 1 888 336-7378)

Climate Change Action Plan

www.env.gov.bc.ca/air/climate/

Drinking Water Action Plan

www.healthservices.gov.bc.ca/protect/water.html

Alternative Energy Branch

www.em.gov.bc.ca/AlternativeEnergy/

Mountain Pine Beetle www.gov.bc.ca/pinebeetle

BC Energy Plan www.energyplan.gov.bc.ca

Throne Speech [www.mediaroom.gov.bc.ca/ video/2007Throne_Speech.htm](http://www.mediaroom.gov.bc.ca/video/2007Throne_Speech.htm)



BRITISH COLUMBIA IS

SETTING NORTH AMERICAN

STANDARDS IN ADDRESSING CLIMATE

CHANGE, AND CONTINUES TO LEAD THE

WORLD IN SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL

MANAGEMENT, WITH THE BEST WATER AND AIR

QUALITY AND FISHERIES MANAGEMENT.

*SIGN-UP FOR THE PREMIER'S NEWSLETTER:
PREMIERSOFFICE@GOV.BC.CA*

*SEND YOUR COMMENTS TO:
E-MAIL: PREMIER@GOV.BC.CA*



**BRITISH
COLUMBIA**

The Best Place on Earth