



Northern BC Climate Action Network (NorthCAN) September 28, 2022 – meeting summary

Chair: Casda Thomas, Councillor of the Town of Smithers and a member of the BC Municipal Climate Leadership Council (BCMCLC)

Casda provided an update on a lunch that BCMCLC hosted during UBCM with various Government of BC ministers (plus the Leader of the Green Party). The conversation focused on areas where local governments can collaborate with the Province to both increase and accelerate climate action in communities. These included capacity-building, transportation, and renewable energy.



Presentations

Sinead Earley – Assistant Professor, UNBC: provided an overview of a funding application being submitted to UNBC and the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions to explore low-carbon transitions in rural and resource-based regions, increase NorthCAN membership, and facilitate a workshop on the low-carbon transition in Northern BC.

Danielle Wiess – CEA Transportation Service Area lead: provided an update on installation of Charge North electric vehicle stations in Northern BC. Fort Nelson is the first to have a Charge North station: [https://www.northernrockies.ca/en/news/Level 2 Electric Vehicle EV Charger Now Available in the NRRM.aspx?fbclid=IwAR2fg-2T6-4UyfeYoEQzRnYQ4vGZKQ0f2DdYQNvIBSvIn1hX3kBusNLAPiw](https://www.northernrockies.ca/en/news/Level-2-Electric-Vehicle-EV-Charger-Now-Available-in-the-NRRM.aspx?fbclid=IwAR2fg-2T6-4UyfeYoEQzRnYQ4vGZKQ0f2DdYQNvIBSvIn1hX3kBusNLAPiw)

Charge North has an updated website: <https://chargenorth.ca/>

Sam Zirnhelt – Zirnhelt Timber Frames: provided examples of highly energy-efficient and net zero homes in cold climates such as the Cariboo region. Sam provided a short video demonstrating installation of a timber frame home <https://www.ztframes.com/video-gallery/> and identified a number of different architectural styles that reflected various functions and uses in rural and Indigenous communities: <https://www.ztframes.com/portfolio-categories/community/>

Q and A followed with each presenter in a different break-out room.

NorthCAN updates and coming events

- Next meeting on December 13 with two topics identified so far: The BC First Nations Climate Action Strategy and the Lhoosk'uz Dene Nation bioenergy and housing project.
- A website for NorthCAN has been established with info about past and upcoming meetings, as well as a button to sign up: <https://www.communityenergy.ca/northcan/>
- BC Centre for Innovation and Clean Energy will be holding a hydrogen open house in Prince George on October 18
- Congratulations to Don Pettit for receiving recognition from Northern Lights College for his leadership in regional renewable energy development

Thank you to BC Hydro for providing the funding to initiate the Northern BC Climate Action Network