



**The Board of Education of School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)  
Climate Action Ad Hoc Committee Meeting  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 4:30pm to 6:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Sean P, Deb W, Brian L, Nicole D, Tom A, Natanis C, Kate L, John H, Sean G

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**A. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

**A.1. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories**

Chair Powell recognized and acknowledged the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, on whose traditional territories we live, we learn, and we do our work.

**A.2. Approval of the Agenda**

Nicole

That the February 15, 2023 agenda be approved.

**A.3. Approval of the Minutes**

Tom

That the January 25, 2023 meeting minutes be approved.

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

**B.1. Graeme Verhulst – Guest Speaker**

Building GHG – Efficiencies  
Fundamental Principals – Capital Planning Net 0 – 2050

1. Start Now
2. Efficiency first

Q & A

Contrast lowest cost with value – life cycle cost

Upgrade vs. Rebuilds

Factors that make refurbishing challenging: heat gains, some simple some complex, mechanical challenges.

## B.2. 5 Pillars

|                     |                                  |                             |                             |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Nicole Duncan       | Lands and Water Stewardship      | Sustainable Transportation  |                             |
| Derek Gagnon        | Energy Management                | Waste Reduction             |                             |
| John Harris         | Learning, Engagement, Leadership | Lands and Water Stewardship |                             |
| Butch               | Learning, Engagement, Leadership | Lands and Water Stewardship |                             |
| Brian Leslie        | Energy Management                | Sustainable Transportation  |                             |
| Marni VH            | Waste Reduction                  | Sustainable Transportation  |                             |
| Chris McQuaid       | Sustainable Transportation       | Lands and Water Stewardship |                             |
| Paul Knapik         | Waste Reduction                  | Energy Management           |                             |
| Natanis Christensen | Energy Management                | Sustainable Transportation  |                             |
| Kate Lawes          | Learning, Engagement, Leadership | Energy Management           | Lands and Water Stewardship |
| Sean Powell         | Learning, Engagement, Leadership | Energy Management           |                             |
| Deb Whitten         | Learning, Engagement, Leadership | Waste Reduction             |                             |
| Tom Aerts           | Waste Reduction                  | Lands and Water Stewardship |                             |
| Elsie Richmond      | Waste Reduction                  |                             |                             |
| Alyssa              |                                  |                             |                             |

## B.3. 3 Break Out Rooms:

### 1. Energy Management

Efficiency – optimizing systems and controls

Recovering heat

Off fossil fuel

Renewable supply – Not 0 energy

Offsets – last resort

LED lights

BC Hydro controls

Heating plant

Challenges with retro – old buildings built on steam, then natural gas – now hard to heat with old systems

Replace terminals

New Builds – mechanical systems ie. Cedar Hill sometimes budgets (limited) help climate goals, fewer angles, etc.

John -Lekwungen – their house

What does it look like to be a good guest?

Good relations

Importance of land we live on

Herring's – importance-the place to smoke herring

Herring – indicators

Ecosystem

Health of herring

Recent health and healing due to reduction of cruise ships, marine activity

How can we draw a connection to the land here – in our plan

Story center – in intro – story of herring

- Cultural significance
- Biodiversity

Localized to unique geography and cultural significance

Be in good relation

Honour this and draw this

Next – talk to local elders – Maryanne Thomas and Elmer George  
Stretching people to see climate action differently beyond what we are used to:  
Accessible  
Relatable  
Responsibility  
Local – tied to roots and land here with community  
Include objectives & goals/strategies  
Collection of stories – inspiring

## **2. Lands and Water Stewardship**

Overlap with education, leadership, and engagement  
Turf fields  
Re-wilding fields and other green spaces  
Dedicated budget to re-wild and intentionally focus on land and water health  
Water capture systems  
Rain gardens  
Water run off  
Community based initiatives

- Beach clean-ups
- Collective

## **3. Waste Reduction**

Not biggest impact  
Focus on some initiatives – pack in pack out  
Expand to others – adults, secondary schools  
Align with parks and other areas  
Composting on grounds  
Advocacy – producers – biodegradable etc.

### **B.4. Next Meeting**

**March 2, 2023 – Review the DRAFT Climate Action Plan (CAP) 2022-2027**

**March 16, 2023 – Review the DRAFT Climate Action Plan (CAP) 2022-2027**

**April 6, 2023 – Review the DRAFT Climate Action Plan (CAP) 2022-2027**

**April 19, 2023 – Final Review due to the Operations Policy and Planning Committee May 8, 2023.**

### **C. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

### **D. ADJOURNMENT**

Natanis

That the meeting adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00p.m.