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**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" <CCDTMACDL@vancouver.ca>  
**Date:** 8/19/2016 2:52:13 PM  
**Subject:** Province of BC - Climate Leadership Plan

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

As you may be aware, earlier today, the Province released its Climate Leadership Plan. I am writing to provide a very brief overview of the Plan, based on an initial assessment by staff

By way of background, the plan is based on recommendations provided by the Province's Climate Leadership Team in December 2015. The Climate Leadership Team was mandated to develop recommendations that concurrently achieve BCs legislated GHG emission reduction targets, maintain a strong economy, protect vulnerable populations and maintain BCs reputation for world-leading climate policies.

On an initial review, the plan released today reflects only a few of the Climate Leadership Team's recommendations (roughly 6 of 32, in total). Further, the vision put forward does not include the targets, funding, or legislation necessary for municipalities to achieve the goals that have been set to ensure a sustainable future for our residents and citizens.

Positive elements of the plan include:

- **Electric vehicles:** The plan pays attention to electrical vehicles, including continued purchase incentives and policy to facilitate charging infrastructure;
- **Renewable natural gas:** The Province confirms its intent to support the use of renewable natural gas for the transportation sector;
- **Provincial facilities:** The plan includes a commitment by the Province to reduce carbon emissions associated with the construction of its own buildings.

Potential opportunities that are addressed in less a robust manner, or omitted altogether, include the following:

- **Carbon Tax:** There are no changes to the carbon tax (currently at \$30/tonne), and a reaffirmation to its revenue neutrality rather than as a means to fund green projects.
- **Transportation Support:** There are no significant serious commitments to transportation beyond what has already been announced and no mention of active transportation or improving the emissions of the TransLink fleet.
- **Carbon Fuel Standard:** The 'strengthened' low carbon fuel standard (15% renewable content by 2030, compared to current 10% by 2020) is too little too late for transportation fuels to meet the Province's 80% by 2050 CO2 reduction target
- **Green Buildings:** There is limited content regarding the need to address existing buildings, beyond improved DSM programs from BCHydro and Fortis. The targets for new construction are still based on energy efficiency standards, not GHG reductions and there is no reference to building benchmarking.
- **Smart Grids:** There is no mention of 'smart grids' and the need to prepare our electricity grid for the energy system of the future.
- **Freight Emissions:** Nothing is said about how to tackle freight emissions, beyond supporting natural gas use for freight and marine.
- **Climate Adaptation:** Adaptation is mentioned only in passing. The plan lacks actions associated with adaptation.
- **Solar:** Solar is not referenced.

We are continuing to review the specifics of the Plan and can provide additional detail as may be helpful. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Doug Smith.

Best,  
Paul

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