

Climate Task Force

As part of the City's renewed activation of Council's climate emergency declaration, the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) established a Climate Task Force to achieve the following outcomes:

- Complete a Governance Review and provide ELT with recommendations for changes to enhance environmental and climate governance, decision making, roles and responsibilities, performance and accountability in order to implement both the Energy Transition Strategy and Action Plan and the Climate Resilience: Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan.
- Lead and coordinate the delivery of ELT's climate focus areas (as below).
- Provide a final review and update to ELT on the corporation's progress in focus areas and final guidance to ELT as it implements changes.

The Task Force is made up of leaders with expertise in governance, organizational management and relevant subject matter expertise to lead and coordinate the focus area work. The Task Force includes a number of specialists to challenge the Task Force's perspectives, including an Environment Advocate, an Equity Advocate and a City Plan Integrator.

ELT has identified seven focus areas for Task Force attention and leadership. These focus areas are foundational elements within City Administration that require improvement to advance climate change mitigation and resilience within the organization. Specific deliverables have been identified for each focus area. Some of these deliverables are not new work, but will benefit from Task Force insights. These are initial deliverables, and do not reflect the entirety of the work that is required. The focus areas and deliverables are:

Focus Area 1: Governance and Decision Making

Purpose: Better integrate environment and climate change into the City's governance and decision making processes.

Deliverables:

- Establish ELT's Climate Task Force
- Complete a governance review and develop a recommendation for a long term solution
- Develop a Climate and Environment Decision Making Framework
- Carbon accounting implementation

- Roll-out of new Environment and Climate Section in Council Reports

Focus Area 2: Developing and Implementing Policy and Bylaws

Purpose: Developing and implementing new climate action focussed policy, standards and bylaws to change how Administration operates and builds the city.

Deliverables:

- Developing a Climate Policy Roadmap
- Bringing forward policy considerations for Council:
 - i) Mandatory Energy Labelling in the community; and
 - ii) Implementing and enforcing higher levels of energy savings than the federal energy code
- Setting standards and designing to implement sustainability and climate resilience across assets

Focus Area 3: Building Capacity to Accelerate

Purpose: Increase organizational capabilities for climate action. This includes identifying additional resources, identifying competency/knowledge/skill needs, and exercising skills to prepare for climate related emergencies.

Deliverables:

- Operating Budget Amendment 12 (OP-12)
- Dedicated Climate fund options
- Competency needs assessment and matrix
- Climate related emergency management

Focus Area 4: Culture

Purpose: Mobilize environment and climate action of staff and the community.

Deliverables:

- Develop a City Employee Awareness and Engagement Strategy
- Develop a community culture scale up plan for “Change for Climate” to better engage the community to take action

Focus Area 5: Partnership and Advocacy

Purpose: Mapping, building and fostering relationships to advocate for funding, regulatory changes and bold climate action.

Deliverables:

- Develop Climate Partnership and Advocacy Plan
- Activate Team Edmonton
- Additional direct dialogue with neighbours and at regional tables to determine areas of common ground and focus for possible future collaboration

Focus Area 6: Green Economy

Purpose: Increase efforts to attract low carbon energy investment to the region.

Deliverables:

- Hydrogen Hub
- Activate Economic Development Partners to increase efforts in the Energy 2.0 space

Focus Area 7: Intersectionality

Purpose: Intentionally discuss inclusiveness and find opportunities for raising voices and people through environment and climate action.

Deliverables:

- Assess work plans for opportunities for integration and cooperation