

Appendix 1
2021-2022 Climate Change Action Progress

Initiative	Description
1. Climate Emergency Declaration	<p>In September 2021, Niagara Region Council declared a climate change emergency through a motion brought forward by the Chair. The motion directed staff to conduct a fulsome review of all Regional climate change initiatives, host a climate change summit, among other initiatives. Regional Council's direction to take more action on climate change was partially informed by a 2020 report issued by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Insurance Bureau of Canada that estimated climate change will cost municipalities across the country \$5.3 billion annually. That same report found that local government in Canada is responsible for, or could influence, 50 per cent of all greenhouse gas emissions. These studies, and others, show that local communities are directly impacted by climate change, and have a responsibility to act.</p>
2. Climate Projections for Niagara Region Report	<p>Using a baseline period of 1971-2000, climate projections were generated for various climate parameters (e.g., temperature, precipitation, and growing season) over the short-term (2021-2050) and long-term (2051-2080) under both high emissions (RCP 8.5) and stabilized emissions (RCP 4.5) scenarios. The climate projections report informed the Niagara Official Plan and will also inform future climate change adaptation initiatives and sub watershed planning.</p>
3. Niagara Official Plan Climate Change Policies	<p>On June 23, 2022, Regional Council approved By-law 2022-47 adopting the Niagara Official Plan (NOP). A dedicated climate change section within the NOP highlights additional commitments and actions on climate change, such as preparing a Community/Municipal Energy Plan, implementing a Regional Greening Initiative and developing a Climate Change Adaptation Plan, informed by regional climate projections, and more. On November 4, 2022, the</p>

Initiative	Description
	Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing approved the Niagara Official Plan.
4. Corporate Climate Change Working Group (CCWG)	Region staff established an internal Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) in 2022 to drive the implementation of climate change projects, programs, policies, and initiatives across multiple departments. Comprised of representatives from various departments, the CCWG works to advance the Region's climate change action goals, and will align its efforts with the strategic direction and priority actions outlined in the forthcoming Niagara Region Climate Change Action Plan. With a collective focus on addressing the challenges of climate change, the CCWG is poised to make significant progress towards a more sustainable future for the Region.
5. Climate Change Action Summary	The Climate Change Action Summary (Appendix 2) was completed in collaboration with all Regional departments. The Summary provides an overview and inventory of all climate related projects, programs, and initiatives the Region has undertaken in the last five (5) years. The objective of the summary is to showcase the meaningful climate action that Regional staff are undertaking, as well as any projects that are planned for the future, in one central location. The summary outlines the division, department, and lead who were responsible for each initiative along with the current status of the work, related energy and/or cost savings, applicable links, and a description of each initiative.
6. 2022 Niagara Climate Change Summit	The 2021 Climate Emergency motion directed Regional staff to organize a climate change summit. The Summit hosted by Niagara Region, in partnership with Brock University and the NPCA took place at Brock University on June 28, 2022, and brought together hundreds of people from municipalities, institutions, and businesses. Concluding the summit, attendees were invited to sign a call to action as a demonstration of their commitment to form partnerships, share critical data, and accelerate climate action.

Initiative	Description
7. Niagara Climate Change Action Network (NCCAN)	The Niagara Climate Change Action Network (NCCAN) was also formed in 2022, which acts as a roadmap to integrate the efforts of the Region, local utilities, business, industry, institutions, and interested parties working towards world-class climate change action, energy performance, and sustainable development while realizing positive economic, environmental, social, and cultural outcomes.
8. Niagara Climate Change Municipal Community of Practice (NCCMCP)	In 2022, the Niagara Climate Change Municipal Community of Practice (NCCMCP) was formed to create a collaborative group involving the Region, the LAMs, and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) to focus on work concerning climate resilience and adaptation, land development, energy management, biodiversity, and more. One of the main objectives of the NCCMCP, is to bring alignment to climate change work across Niagara region.