

# Halif**ACT** Acting on Climate Together



# HALIFAX

Halifax Youth Advisory Committee  
July 21, 2022





How can we care  
for our home?

A photograph of two young children riding bicycles on a paved area. The child on the left is wearing a red hoodie, blue jeans, and a white helmet with two black dots. They are smiling and waving their right hand, which is making a peace sign. The child on the right is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt with a graphic, dark pants, and a black helmet. They are also smiling and waving their right hand. In the background, there is a brick building and some blurred figures of other people.

How can we  
protect it for  
7 generations?

# HalifACT 101

<https://youtu.be/bDxFIA3xjd0>

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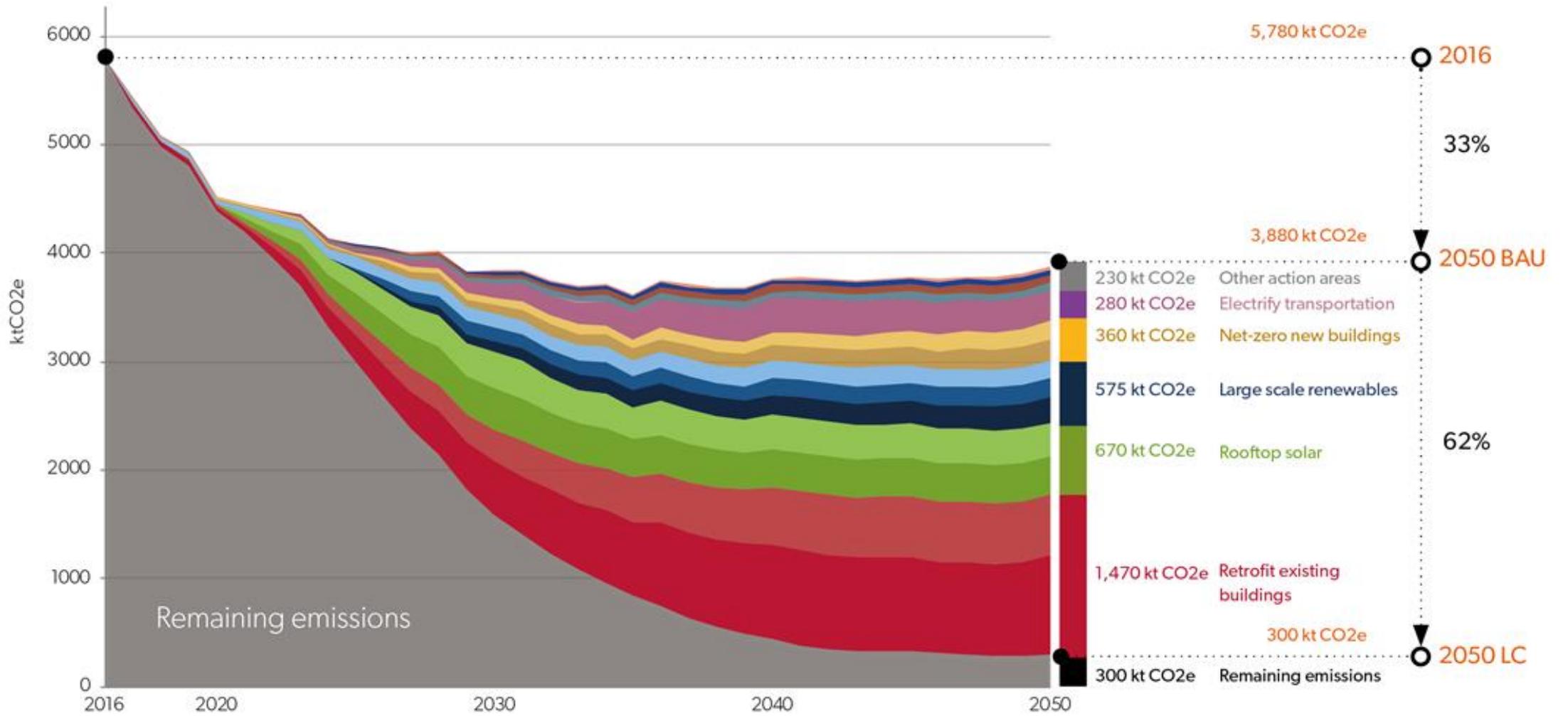


# Climate Hazards in HRM

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- Sea level rise
- Flooding (coastal, overland)
- Extreme weather events & impacts (e.g., storm surge)
- Drought & wildfire
- Disease & invasive species
- Impacts on ecosystem services

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# HalifACT – Acting on Climate Together



Decarbonized  
and Resilient  
Infrastructure



Prepared and  
Connected  
Communities



Governance  
and  
Leadership



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## **DECARBONIZED AND RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE**

Efficient Buildings	Renewable Energy	Decarbonizing Transportation	Greening Government Operations
Water	Planning	Critical Infrastructure and Services	Coastal Preparedness
Natural Areas and Green Infrastructure Assets			

## **PREPARED AND CONNECTED COMMUNITIES**

Food	Community Capacity	Emergency Management	Business Economy
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## **GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP**

Monitoring and Reporting	Carbon Accounting	Mainstreaming Climate into Municipal Operations	Governance and Capacity for Action
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# Immediate Action Areas

- Retrofit and renewable energy programming
- Retrofit municipal buildings to be net-zero ready and climate resilient
- Electrification of transportation
- Net-zero standards for new buildings
- Framework for assessing and protecting critical infrastructure
- Capacity building for climate adaptation
- Financing strategy to operationalize the HalifACT 2050 plan over 30 years

# Net-Zero Municipal Operations

- Mainstream climate thinking
- Retrofit buildings by 2030
- Net-zero new buildings
- Electrify fleet by 2030
- Increase waste diversion
- Generate renewable energy
- Purchase local zero-carbon electricity



# The Opportunity

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# Economic Opportunity

- A low carbon future is a lower cost future
  - Investments generate financial returns
  - **Net benefit of 22 Billion over 30 years**
  - First 10 years of actions will result in an annual average of **9,000 person-years of employment**
- Savings from:
  - Avoided energy costs, Operations & Maintenance costs
  - Avoided carbon pricing costs
  - Increased energy generation revenues
- Economic recovery from COVID-19 pandemic
  - A unique opportunity to do things differently
  - Funding opportunities for a green transition



# Social Opportunity

- Reduce the burden on future generations
- Reduce climate impacts on vulnerable populations
- Build resiliency to improve lives
- Reduce energy poverty



# Key Developments in Climate Action

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# Global & National Updates



**UN CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
CONFERENCE  
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

- COP26
  - Largely touted as last chance to get it right on the climate crisis
  - Mayor Savage is attending part of COP as BCMC Chair
  - IPCC AR6 report released in August
- Race to Zero and Race to Resilience
  - A global campaign to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions, investors
  - Largest ever alliance committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050

733 cities	31 regions	3067 businesses
173 large investors	622 HEIs	120 countries

- Collectively these actors cover nearly 25% global emissions and over 50% GDP
- Mayor Savage got a resolution passed in October by all BCMC cities to join the Race to Zero
- Halifax has committed to both races

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# Local Updates



- Province introduced the Environmental Goals & Climate Change Reduction Act
  - Mandate of 30% of new vehicles sold to be EV by 2030
  - Calls for NSP to retire coal by 2030, 80% renewables by 2030
- CEO Charter on Climate Action
  - Under development by some CEOs and supported by the Halifax Partnership and HRM
  - Inspired by the Nova Scotia Health & Safety Charter
  - Stemmed from the Mayor's first Economic Roundtable on a Green Economy
- HCi3 – Halifax Climate Investment, Innovation and Impact Fund
  - Will be offering grants and loans to private and public sector to drive down emissions in Halifax
- Halifax 5-Year Economic Growth Strategy
  - Includes focus on a green economy and alignment with HalifACT
- Climate Action Challenge
  - Small grants and coaching to move climate projects forward

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# Early Successes - Mitigation

## ✓ Funding

- ✓ Net-zero Mill Cove ferry design, purchase of 60 e-buses and electrification of Ragged Lake Transit Facility expansion
- ✓ \$175,000 grant received from FCM to support retrofit program development
- ✓ Low Carbon Communities funding for several projects

## ✓ Approvals

- ✓ EV Strategy, Deep Energy Retrofit Pilot, Administrative Order mandating net-zero corporate builds all approved by Halifax Regional Council

## ✓ Projects

- ✓ \$18 million in systems installed through the Solar City Program
- ✓ Dartmouth North Community Centre undergoing Deep Energy Retrofit + Solar
- ✓ Corporate Deep Energy Roadmap under development
- ✓ Climate account funded e-bikes for parking services, electric ice resurfacer for community rinks, solar installations



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# Early Successes - Adaptation

## ✓ Funding

- ✓ Climate account funded a refrigerated truck to support vulnerable communities during emergencies, Prince Albert Road rain garden, and \$275,000 worth of trees to support the Urban Forest Master Plan
- ✓ Acquisition of 1.25 acres of land in addition to providing \$750,000 for the Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes land acquisition

## ✓ Approvals

- ✓ Centre Plan was approved, extending the vertical coastal setback requirements to commercial and industrial use

## ✓ Projects

- ✓ Localizing new global climate predictions to create climate hazard maps for flood risks
- ✓ Emergency back-up generators installed at 4 community locations to provide emergency comfort centres in extreme weather events
- ✓ Natural asset inventory completed in partnership with the MNAI



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# HalifACT Action Network

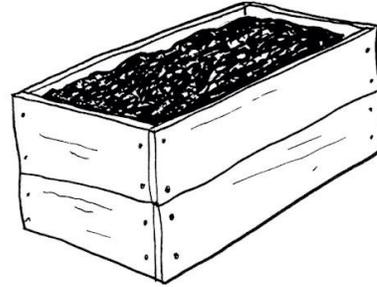
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- Group of stakeholders comprised of government, academia, youth, non-profits, African Nova Scotian community, Mi'kmaq community, businesses, utilities and more
- Meet quarterly on the shared implementation of HalifACT and climate action by all
- Collective impact approach, trying to do things differently to deal with scale and timing of required actio

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# Theory of Change

**SEEDBED**  
(IDEATION)



**CULTIVATE**  
(PILOTING)



**CONNECT**  
(LEVERAGE)



# Youth Engagement

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# Climate & Youth

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- Met with YAC in 2019
- Youth Engagement Event 2019
- HalifACT Network – Plan Development
  - [iMatter Halifax](#)
  - YAC Co-chairs
- Climate March 2020
- Climate Action Challenge 2022
  - Hope Blooms – Solar Awnings
  - One North End – Green Jobs for ANS Youth





**Thank You**

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