

AUGUST 2022

# Climate Action Volunteers

**Agents of Change:** Volunteer Engagement Program  
Briefing Document



Town of New Glasgow  
**Climate Change and  
Sustainability**

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# About the Agents of Change Project

In the early winter of 2022, ICLEI Canada launched a new pilot project called Agents of Change, whose goal is to build volunteer engagement programming in communities across Canada; uniting and mobilizing residents to build local climate resilience and take actions that enable net-zero emission pathways.

The Town of New Glasgow was selected as 1 of 10 participating Municipalities to design and pilot a municipal-led Climate Action Volunteer Program. With support from the ICLEI Canada team, this project will help the Town engage our local residents in our local climate action planning, specifically, through the implementation of key actions identified in the Town's Community Climate Action Plan 2022-2030.

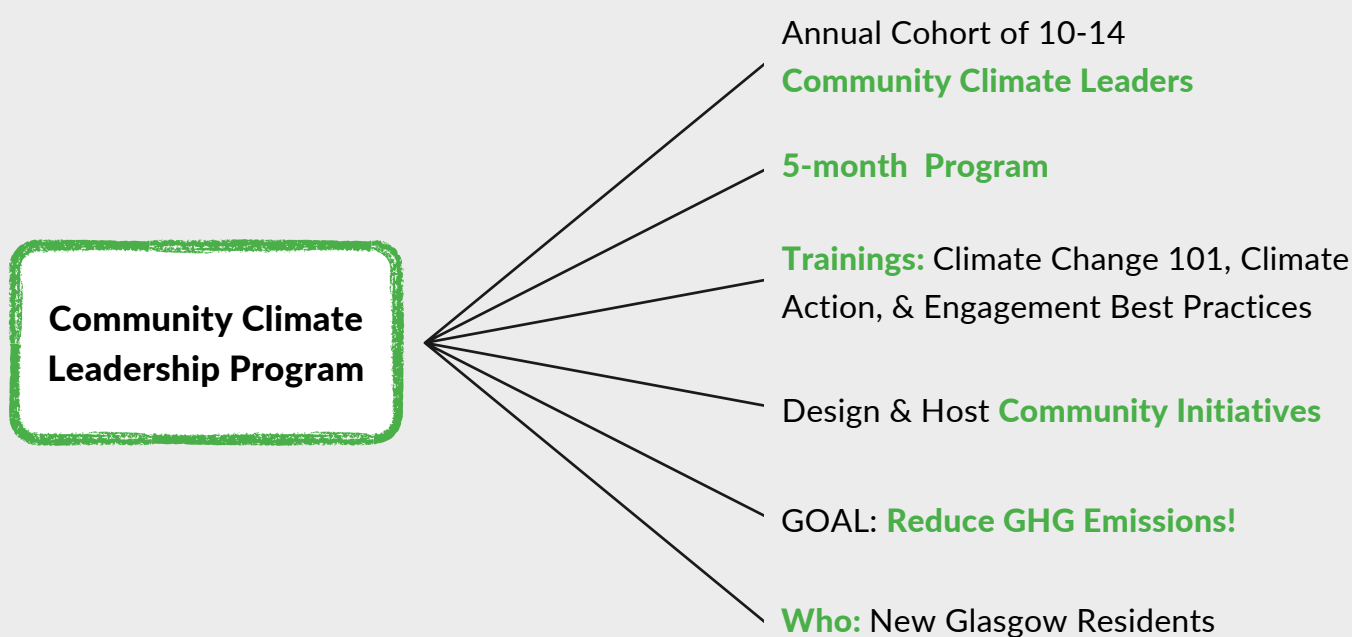
The project will help New Glasgow engage residents in climate action by:

- Identifying **collaborators & stakeholders**
- Identifying opportunities to support the **inclusion of diverse perspectives & equity-seeking groups** in volunteer program design and delivery
- Recruiting & supporting volunteers
- Developing & delivering **training programs**
- Providing financial support



# About New Glasgow's Volunteer Engagement Program

New Glasgow's volunteer engagement program will be a climate leadership training program. Annually, it will bring together a cohort of 10-14 residents to participate in a 5-month program. Its primary objective is to drive local greenhouse gas emission reductions by building community climate leadership. The program will begin with training and capacity-building for the participants, or 'Community Climate Leaders'. Following the trainings, the Community Climate Leaders will work in pairs to design and host their own climate action engagement initiatives. For the 2022-2023 cohort, the engagement initiatives will focus on generating GHG reductions in the transportation and residential sectors. These sectors have been selected as priority areas for GHG reductions based on the Town's Community GHG Emissions Inventory and Community Climate Action Plan.



## Focus Areas



**Buildings**



**Transportation**

## Target Audience

- New Glasgow Residents
- Homeowners & Renters
- Youth
- Equity-Seeking Groups
- Community Orgs & Businesses

# Climate Action

With the impacts of climate change worsening, the Town of New Glasgow recognizes that the threat posed by climate change to our community constitutes an emergency and is committed to ambitious climate action to keep global warming under 1.5 °C. Accordingly, the Town has developed both a Corporate Climate Action Plan (i.e., municipal operations) and a Community Climate Action Plan. These Action Plans chart a course for climate action over the decade, outlining tangibly how the Town will reach its greenhouse gas reduction goals and adapt to the foreseen impacts of climate change.

## Partnerships & Collaboration

The Town of New Glasgow recognizes that it will not be able to reach its climate action goals working alone and that it needs the support of residents, schools, businesses, industry, organizations, communities of faith, and all orders of government to face this challenge! Every group in every neighborhood has a role to play and actions to take.

Through this volunteer program, the Town hopes to work with residents, stakeholders, community partners, and businesses to ensure its program fosters equity and responds to the current needs of the community. From design to implementation, we hope to identify opportunities for partnership and collaboration, making sure New Glasgow is a resilient community for decades to come!



Mayor Nancy Dicks



# Program Timeline

## DESIGN

Program  
Design  
Summer 2022

## LAUNCH

Program  
Recruitment  
in Sept

## TRAINING

Host Training  
Sessions  
in Oct

## EVENTS

Plan & Host  
Initiatives from  
Oct - Jan

## LEGACY

Reflect &  
Report  
due Feb 2023

- The program's anticipated launch date is scheduled for early-to-mid September 2022.
- Recruitment and participant selection will take place during September.
- Training sessions will begin in early October.
- Engagement initiatives will begin following the training sessions and will be hosted during the period of October through to January.
- Feedback, reporting, and future planning will take place in January.

## Want to be a partner or learn more, contact us.

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