

This information has confirmed for council the information I have shared verbally regarding reporting of GHGs in our community. Some communities like Saanich and Victoria were part of a pilot project to measure their GHG. The full Saanich report is here ([https://www.saanich.ca/assets/Community/Documents/Planning/plans/Climate Plan Backgrounder Document October 25 2018 Web.pdf](https://www.saanich.ca/assets/Community/Documents/Planning/plans/Climate%20Plan%20Backgrounder%20Document%20October%2025%202018%20Web.pdf)) It also confirms that only about half of the community's emissions are captured with the CEEI numbers.

Saanich 2015 Consumption Based GHG Inventory
= 881,000 tonnes carbon
= 7.7 tonnes carbon/person

It would be reasonable to extrapolate from these numbers and assume that **Highlands numbers** are about **8 tonnes carbon/person**. Reasons for this is that we have slightly larger homes, drive more, and have slighter higher incomes.

Personal carbon emissions are a separate number than that of Highlands corporate emissions, but all emissions are currently underreported.

Further to this is the latest IPCC report stating that GHGs must reduce by 45% by 2030 AND by 100% by 2050 AND simultaneously we must remove carbon from the atmosphere (carbon sequestration). Achieving these drastic reductions will 'hopefully' avoid what is called a "Hot House Earth" event triggered by moving rapidly past a 1.5 deg C rise in global average temperatures. Going beyond 1.5 deg C is quite uncertain but it is agreed that climate feedbacks will kick in (they are already kicking in) thus accelerating mass extinction and perhaps collapse of human civilization within decades. According to the World Wildlife Federation we have already lost over 60% of all wildlife since 1970.
http://www.wwf.ca/about_us/lprc/

Beginning April 1, 2018, B.C.'s carbon tax rate is **\$35 per tonne** of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions. The tax rate will increase each year by **\$5 per tonne** until it reaches **\$50 per tonne** in 2021.
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change/planning-and-action/carbon-tax> The critical piece here is that BC communities are only counting about half.

I bring this information forward for council's consideration when discussing future corporate offsets as part of the BC Climate Action Charter carbon neutrality program.

Possible motions for consideration at this time:

1. That council direct staff to include this report when considering corporate offsets for the BC Climate Action Charter carbon neutrality program.
2. That council direct staff to include updated community GHGs in future annual reports and other appropriate documents rather than relying on the outdated and incomplete CEEI numbers.

Respectfully Submitted,



Councillor Ann Baird