

**Engineering &
Public Works**

Climate Action Program

The City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square
Victoria
British Columbia
V8W 1P6

Kristie Signer
Climate Action Outreach
Coordinator
KSigner@Victoria.ca
250-686-5843



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Dear Intermunicipal Climate Action Working Group,

The City of Victoria and the District of Saanich with support from the Capital Regional District are submitting an application for the Natural Resources Canada [Zero-Emission Vehicle Awareness Initiative](#) grant. The objective of the grant, if successful, will be to build consumers' awareness and adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) in the Capital Region. We are seeking a Letter of Support from you as one of the municipalities/electoral areas that participate in the Intermunicipal Climate Action Working Group.

Municipalities throughout the Capital Region are committed to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, including Victoria and Saanich as outlined in the City of Victoria's [Climate Leadership Plan](#) and the newly released [2020 Climate Plan](#) from the District of Saanich. Both plans call for increased public charging options to support the adoption of EVs. Between the District and the City, 26 new Level 2 chargers and one Direct Current (DC) fast charger are scheduled for installation with additional chargers expected in 2021. Recently, both the City of Victoria and the District of Saanich have passed requirements for 'EV readiness' in new construction. These amendments support the rapid adoption of EVs in the community, with growth rates in excess of 50 percent a year based on local EV sales. Both municipalities are also preparing EV or E-Mobility Strategies to support the further adoption of EVs in the Capital Region.

If successful in our application, the grant funds would be used to promote the new chargers as part of the growing EV charging infrastructure network in the Capital Region in a commercial that will be distributed based on the funds available. Additionally, the project will aim to increase the general knowledge of EVs, including how they operate, how charging works, and how other alternatives to fossil fuel combustion engines, such as E-bikes, are becoming more prevalent and affordable through a broader campaign that includes videos and print materials. The City of Victoria and the District of Saanich believe that this awareness campaign would be directly complementary to the work that many municipalities and electoral areas in the Capital Region have done to support the adoption of EVs and the reduction of GHG emissions. When complete, the videos and/or print materials will be available for distribution by supporting municipalities and electoral areas as allowed by the grant contract.

We anticipate that your letter of support will be required by September 1, 2020 in order to meet the grant submission deadline. Please advise if this timeline is not achievable. A draft letter of support has been attached for your convenience. We appreciate your past support and hope that we can continue to support the Capital Region's investments in building a low carbon future.

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Kristie Signer, Climate Action Outreach Coordinator for the City of Victoria
KSigner@Victoria.ca 250-686-5843