

## Climate Action Plan Milestone 2 – GHG Emission Reduction Initiatives Survey

The climate is changing, and here in Eastern Ontario, we are already experiencing the impact of this climate crisis. As many of us are aware, urgent and rapid collection action is needed to limit further warming and protect our futures. Many of our daily activities can emit greenhouse gasses and affect the climate. This means that we all have a role to play in reducing our impact on the planet. No action is too big or small. It's never too late to find ways to supporting climate action now.

Canada has pledged to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. Municipalities control approximately 44% of national GHG emissions and are critical in helping Canada achieve its reduction targets. Participating in the Partners for Climate Protection five-step Milestone Framework, the Town is developing a Climate Action Plan, a multi-year strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Smiths Falls, with the help of the Climate Protection Working Group (CPWG), a council-appointed environmental advisory committee.

To lay the groundwork for this ambitious plan, the CPWG is establishing our community's baseline greenhouse gas (GHG) emission target reduction initiatives to complete Milestone 2 of the Partners for Climate Protection Milestone Framework program. The data collected from this survey will inform the Town's Climate Action Plan.

### Demographics

1. How many people are in your household?

- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3-4
- ☐ 5+

2. How old are you?

- ☐ Under 20
- ☐ 20-40
- ☐ 41-65
- ☐ Over 65

3. Do you live in Smiths Falls?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

4. What is your primary form of transportation?

- ☐ Driving
- ☐ Carpooling
- ☐ Walking
- ☐ Biking
- ☐ Other

### Environmentally Conscious

5. What obstacles do you encounter when taking climate action? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Financing
- ☐ I don't know what to do in my home or on my property
- ☐ I don't know who to contact for more information on taking climate action
- ☐ I don't have the time
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

6. How often do you buy food directly from a local farmer/producer or shop at a local farmer's market/farm gate?
- ☐ Weekly
  - ☐ Monthly
  - ☐ Once every six months
  - ☐ Once a year
  - ☐ None at all
7. Municipalities control approximately 44% of national GHG emissions. How important do you think it is for your local municipal government to reduce their GHG emissions for municipal operations?
- ☐ Very important
  - ☐ Somewhat important
  - ☐ No opinion
  - ☐ Not important

### **Environmental Initiatives**

8. According to ChargeHub, Smiths Falls currently has only two public charging station ports (Leve 2 & 3). How important is the availability of electric vehicle charging stations in Town to you?
- ☐ Very important
  - ☐ Somewhat important
  - ☐ No opinion
  - ☐ Not important
9. Electric heat pumps are a cost-effective and eco-friendly way to heat your home. How likely are you to support initiatives that promote an electric heat pump rebate program?
- ☐ Very likely
  - ☐ Likely
  - ☐ No opinion
  - ☐ Not Likely
  - ☐ Won't support it
10. Home energy retrofitting is one of the best ways to improve your home's energy efficiency and reduce GHG emissions. How likely are you to support a local home energy retrofit program?
- ☐ Very likely
  - ☐ Likely
  - ☐ No opinion
  - ☐ Not Likely
  - ☐ Won't support it

11. Did you know that composting kitchen food waste is one of the easiest and cheapest climate actions you can take? How likely are you to support initiatives such as a green compost bin collection program?

- ☐ Very likely
- ☐ Likely
- ☐ No opinion
- ☐ Not Likely
- ☐ Won't support it

12. In 2021, residential buildings contributed to 16% of the Town's GHG emissions. How likely are you to support green building development initiatives (incentivizing low GHG and energy-efficient building practices)?

- ☐ Very likely
- ☐ Likely
- ☐ No opinion
- ☐ Not Likely
- ☐ Won't support it

13. How likely are you to support studies conducted to determine and protect the carbon sequestration and climate resilience value of Town's wetlands, greenspaces and other naturalized areas?

- ☐ Very likely
- ☐ Likely
- ☐ No opinion
- ☐ Not Likely
- ☐ Won't support it

14. In 2021, 52% of the Town's GHG emissions were from on-road transportation. How likely are you to support the exploration of alternative transportation methods such as carpooling, improved active transportation infrastructure, and shuttle bus service to reduce single-occupancy automated vehicle trips?

- ☐ Very likely
- ☐ Likely
- ☐ No opinion
- ☐ Not Likely
- ☐ Won't support it

15. Did you know that the Town's urban tree canopy coverage is 35% overall? Would you support initiatives to increase this coverage?

- ☐ Very likely
- ☐ Likely
- ☐ No opinion
- ☐ Not Likely
- ☐ Won't support it

16. Are there any initiatives not mentioned here that you think Smiths Falls should incorporate into our Climate Action Plan? For example, promote the use of solar panels and energy storage systems.

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### **Become a Climate Change Champion**

17. How did you hear about the CPWG?

- ☐ Newspaper
- ☐ Online
- ☐ Word of Mouth
- ☐ This is the first time hearing about the working group

18. Are you interested in subscribing to the CPWG's page so you can receive information regarding the Climate Action plan in the future?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure