

A person with a backpack is hiking on a large log in a forest. The sun is shining through the trees, creating a bright spot in the upper right. The text is overlaid on this image.

# British Columbia's Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy

Science Advisory Board for Contaminated Sites

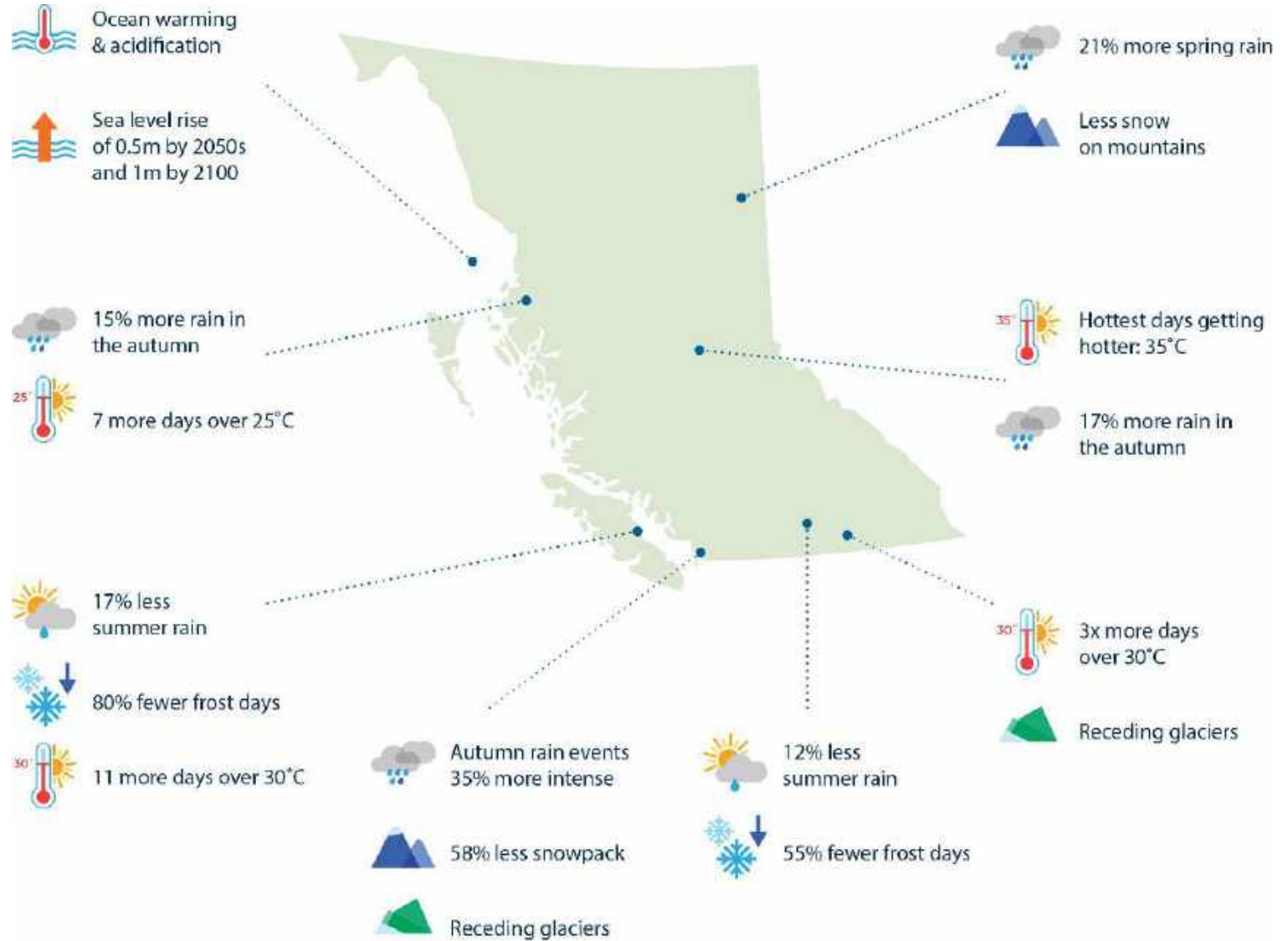
September 21, 2022

# Purpose

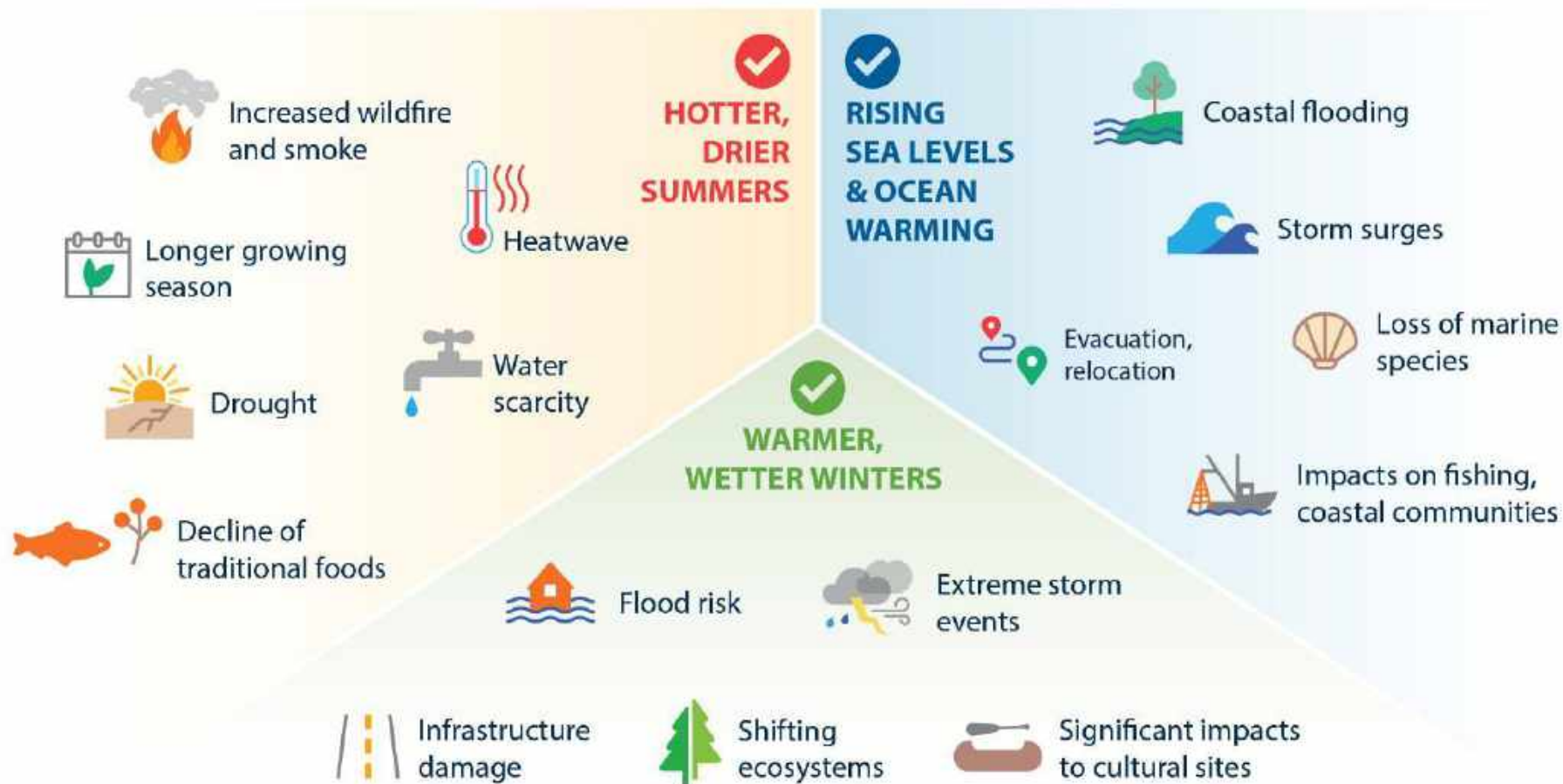
- Overview of the strategy and government's direction on climate adaptation
- Call to action to engage in developing new practices to address the impacts of climate change on contaminated sites management

# CLIMATE PROJECTIONS & IMPACTS IN B.C.

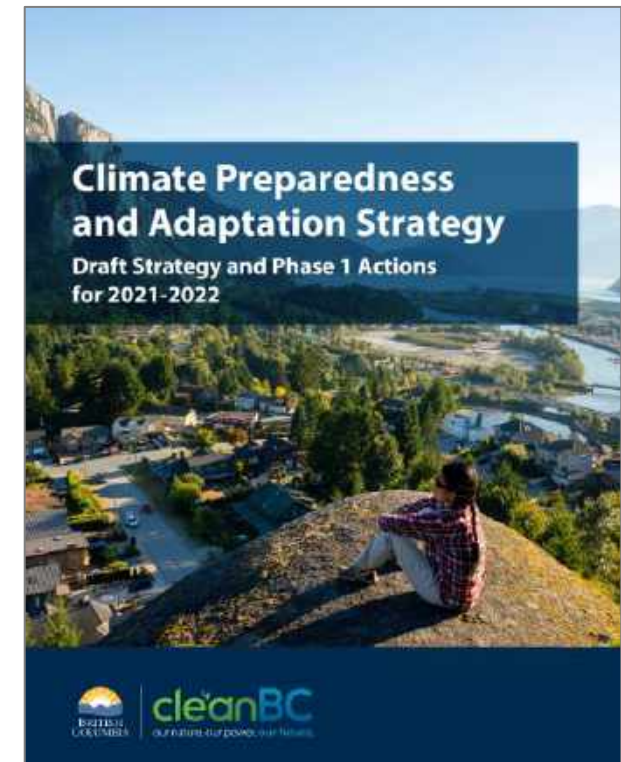
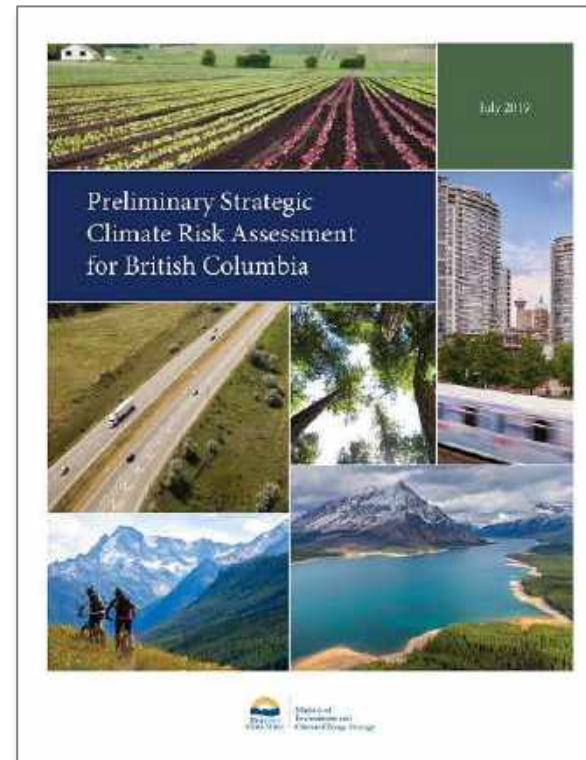
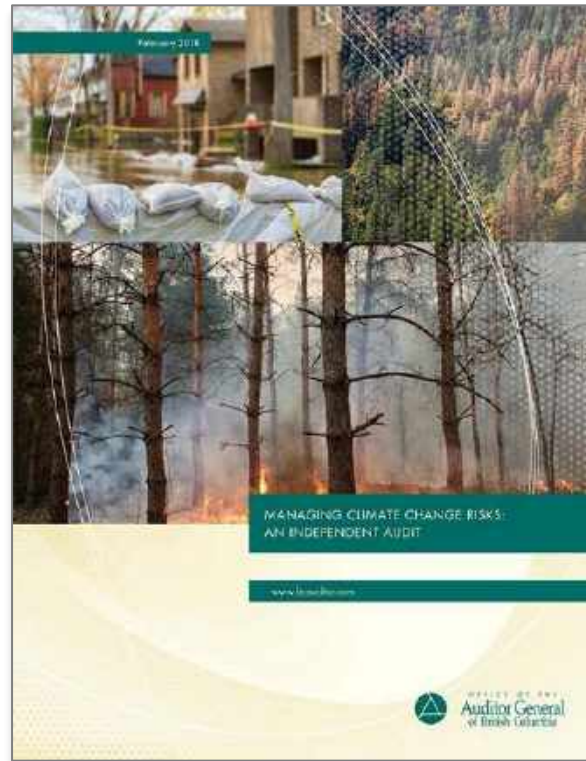
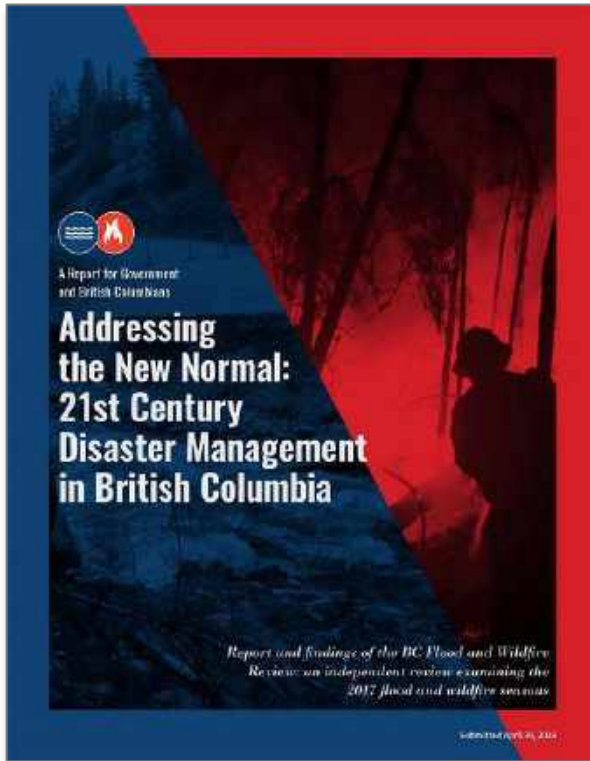
This map illustrates the types of changes that we can expect to see in B.C. by the 2050s. Impacts will vary by region.



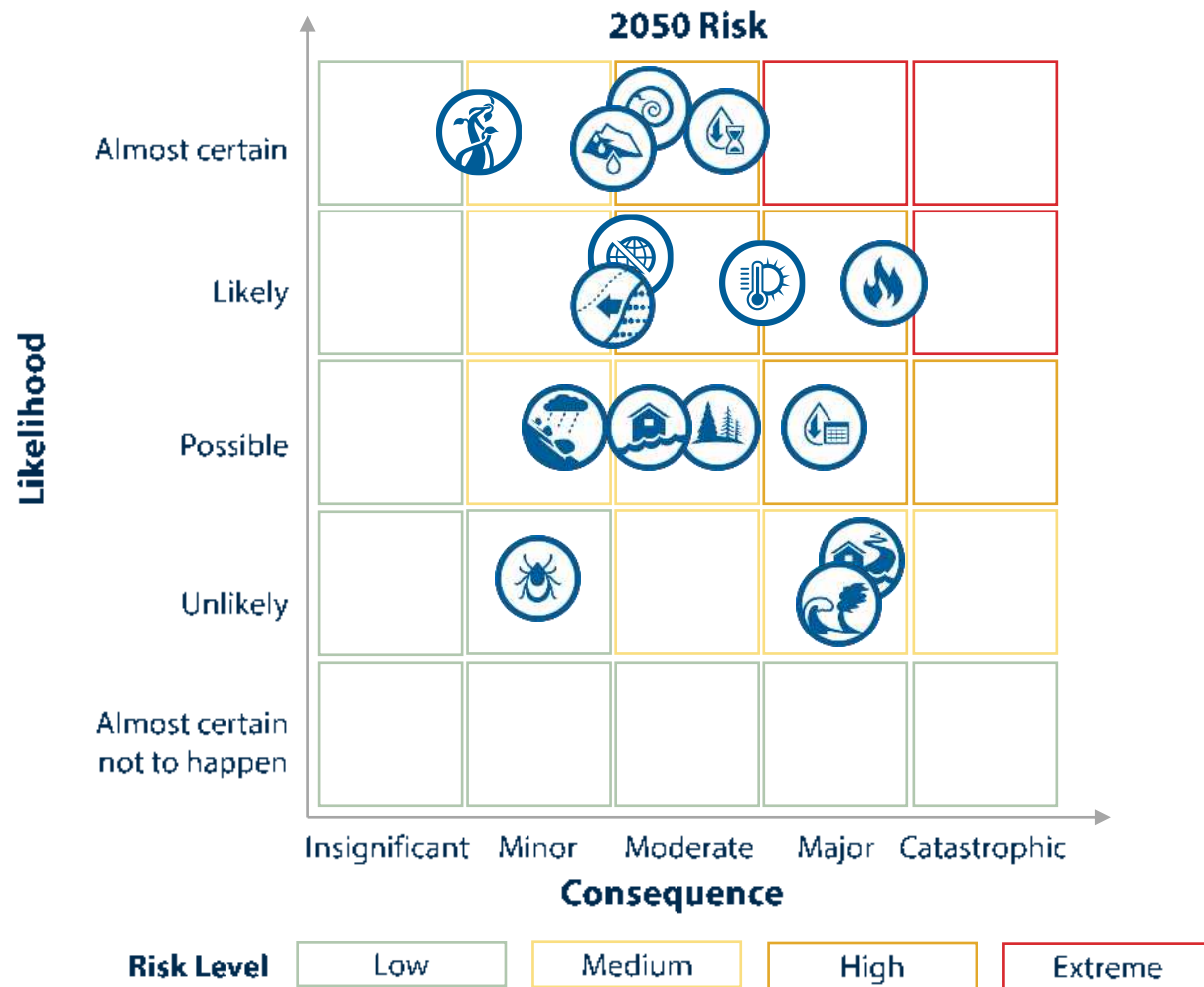
# Impacts on our Communities, Economy, Health and Wellbeing



# Building a Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy for B.C.



# Provincial Climate Risk Assessment 2019

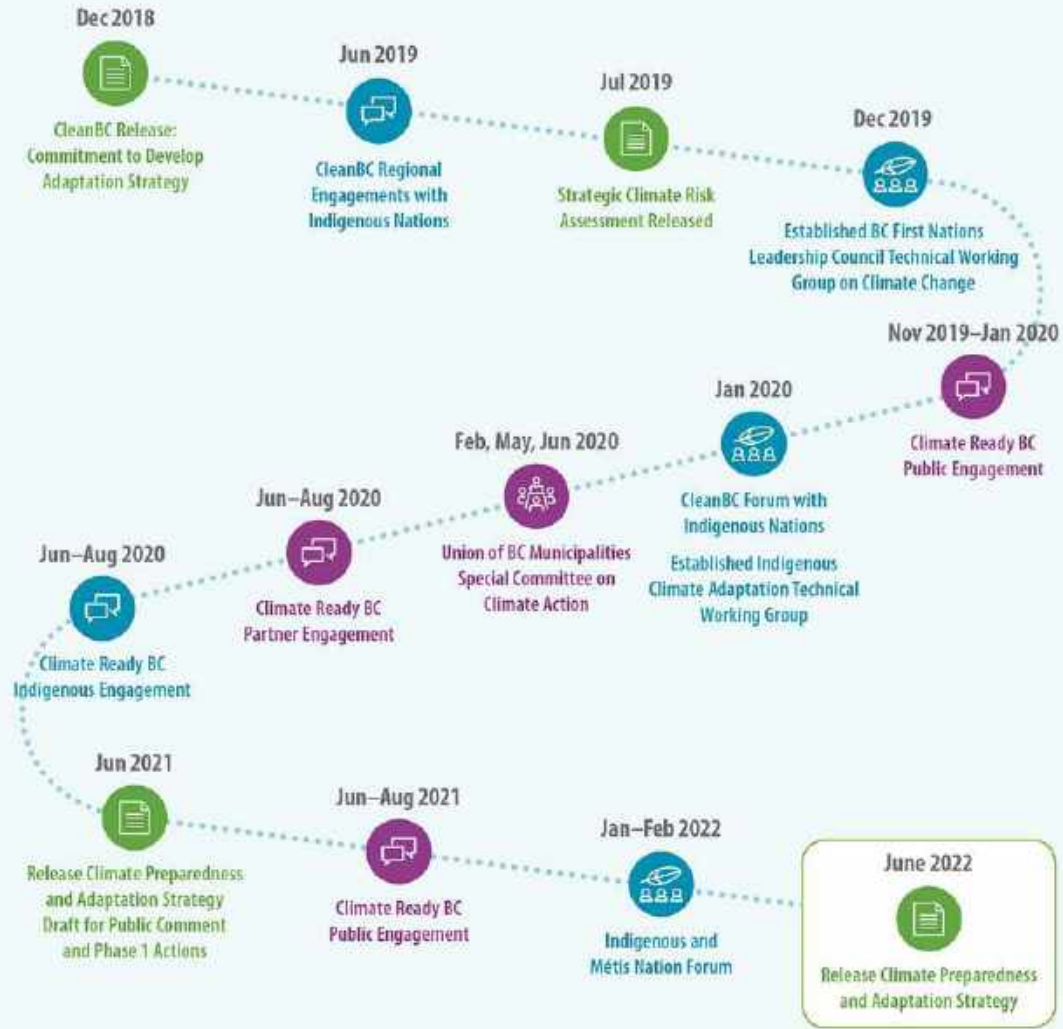


## Highest-ranked Risks

- Severe wildfire season – High
- Seasonal water shortage – High
- Heat wave – High
- Ocean acidification – High
- Glacier mass loss – High
- Long-term water shortage – High

# Path to Releasing a Strategy

## Timeline for Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy Engagement and Development



# Budget Context: Overview of Strategy Funding

Community supports: Emergency preparedness	\$95M
Community supports: Wildfire prevention	\$90M
Provincial wildfire prevention projects and services	\$98M
Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy: 2021/22	\$6M
Essential foundations for climate preparedness	\$83M
Climate-ready transportation networks	\$65M
Local government climate action program (CleanBC Roadmap)	\$76M
	<b>\$513M total</b>
	2021/22 – 2024/25



# Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy

## Actions for 2022-2025

- Significant step forward for climate adaptation
- Responsive to 2021 extreme events
- Key foundational actions in data, capacity building and partnerships
- Sets the stage for future actions
- Commits to monitoring and reporting on progress



# Guiding Principles

## VISION

B.C. is a climate resilient society prepared for, and adapting to, the impacts of a changing climate

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Shared path with Indigenous peoples | Equity-informed approach | Nature-based solutions | Health and wellbeing | Aligning adaptation & emissions reduction | Proactive business case



# Partnering with Indigenous Peoples

- Indigenous Peoples are essential partners in this work, have called for strong action
- The Strategy aligns with the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act & Action Plan
- Partnerships & collaboration will continue into implementation
  - FLNC Climate Strategy and Action Plan



# Actions in 4 Pathways

- **Pathway 1:** Foundations for success- partnerships, knowledge and decision making
- **Pathway 2:** Safe and healthy communities
- **Pathway 3:** Resilient species and ecosystems
- **Pathway 4:** Climate ready economy and infrastructure

# Pathway 1: Foundations for success

- Climate data, monitoring, research, and predictive services
- Climate risk assessment
- Governance and decision-making
- Partnerships with Indigenous Peoples
  - Includes capacity-building pilot project
- Education on climate risks and adaptation
  - K-12 curriculum
  - public education
  - Learning resources for professionals



## Pathway 2: Safe and healthy communities

- Community Emergency Preparedness Fund
- Local Government Climate Action Program
- Indigenous-led climate adaptation knowledge and capacity building
- Wildfire prevention & mitigation
- B.C. Flood strategy, floodplain mapping
- Heatwave response framework
- Climate-resilient health system



## Pathway 3: Resilient species and ecosystems

- Watershed Security Strategy and Fund
- Healthy Watersheds Initiative
- Establish an Ecosystem Forecast Centre
- Coastal Marine Strategy and Wild Salmon Strategy
- Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Action Plan
- Climate change guidance for land use planning



## Pathway 4: Climate-ready economy and infrastructure

- Highway infrastructure climate adaptation program
- Climate resilient resource roads
- Low carbon resilient public sector buildings
- Agriculture: extreme weather preparedness, water infrastructure
- Forest landscape planning
- Strategic framework for tourism





# Next Steps

- Laying the foundation for more comprehensive, long-term climate adaptation efforts in B.C.
- Iterative process based on learning from implementation and future risk assessment
- Work collaboratively with Indigenous Nations and organizations, local governments, communities and other partners, including federal government
- Synergies with National Adaptation Strategy and FNLC Climate Strategy and Action Plan



# Making Contaminated Sites Climate Ready



## Discussion Paper

- Incorporating climate change adaptation into B.C.'s contaminated sites framework
- Introducing remediation requirements to protect groundwater quality
- Upcoming consultation period (Oct/Nov)

# QUESTIONS

