



**COMMON
VISION
COMMON
ACTION**

Agenda

- What is Common Vision Common Action?
- Why is Common Vision Common Action needed?
- How have we developed policies and how do we implement this work?
- Discussion - Breakout groups & reporting back

Common Vision, Common Action

**Creating a Regional Agenda for Social and
Ecological Justice**

Common Vision, Common Action – A brief overview

Common Vision, Common Action is a grassroots initiative in the Capital Region of British Columbia, Coastal Salish and Nuuchahnulth Territory, to create a Regional Agenda for Social and Ecological Justice.

Looking toward the municipal elections slated for the fall of 2018, we gathered with social and environmental organizations, activists, politicians and community members to develop a regional policy platform for progressive candidates in the Capital Region.

We believe that we are reaching a tipping point in terms of the Earth's natural systems – our life support systems – and perhaps a breaking point when it comes to social and economic inequality.



These challenges are evident at a local level and already a concern but will be a greater problem for our children and grandchildren and later generations, unless we act responsibly now.

As local citizens from diverse community organizations, we believe that active participation by people, community groups and local governments is essential to successfully address these issues.

That is why we are working to develop a common platform to address vital ecological, social and economic issues in the Capital Region.



What is our common vision?

Our vision evolves as we engage communities and individuals in the region, but here is a place to start:

The Capital Region is a place where each person's basic needs are met and all enjoy a high quality of life while having a dramatically reduced ecological footprint, equivalent to One Planet, in a governance framework grounded in reconciliation with First Nations and active participation of ordinary people in decisions affecting their lives.



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The vision embraces the themes of “**People, Planet, Participation**” and the goal of “**a Healthy, Just, Sustainable (One Planet) Region,**” identifying solutions within local government jurisdiction connected to:

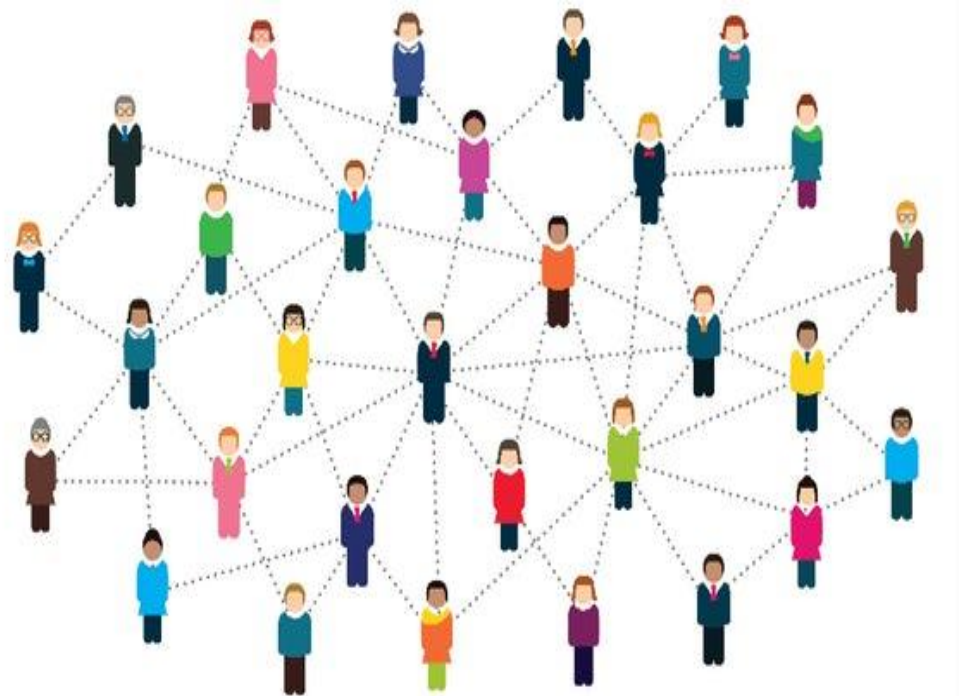
- ✓ Key elements of the Ecological Footprint;
- ✓ Key social justice elements;
- ✓ Key participatory governance mechanisms.

The Conference

- Engaged with individuals and organizations across the region. Partners helped select panel topics, speakers, develop base policy, and priorities for our shared agenda.
- The conference took place on October 13-15, 2017, at the University of Victoria with nearly 200 hundred registrants from across the region.
- We considered topics including housing, land use and transportation; decolonization, reconciliation and self-governance; arts, culture and education; parks, ecological protection and food systems; water, waste water and climate action; and grassroots democracy, inclusive communities and people-oriented economics.
- The process was focused on inclusivity and participatory democratic values that put people and the planet first at the local level of government.
- In workshops we heard from experts and those with lived experience on each policy area. Collectively we reviewed the base policy and then came together as a plenary to incorporate additions and changes.

Next steps

- Connect with candidates across the region
- Candidate and campaign training opportunities
- Use common platform to address vital ecological, social and economic issues in the Capital Region



Common Vision Common Action Draft Policies

1. Housing and Land Use

1.1. Guarantee the right to safe, affordable housing for people of all income levels.

1.2. Encourage housing that is environmentally sustainable.

1.3. Focus development in core areas to protect farmland and natural areas.

2. Transportation

2. Establish an efficient multi-modal and active transportation system, with accessible high-quality public transportation and safe options for walking and cycling throughout the region.

3. Governance

3.1. Build respectful relations between indigenous and non-indigenous people.

3.2. Increase opportunities for ordinary people to participate in decisions affecting their lives.

3.3. Improve the effectiveness of existing local institutions to respond to ecological, social and economic challenges.

3.4. Advocacy Actions: Advocate for provincial and federal governments to adopt and implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, including free, prior and informed consent; restoration of land, waters and resources; and meaningful action to end poverty and inequality among indigenous people, both on and off reserve. -Work with the BC Government to reform governance of the Capital Regional District, including representation of Douglas Treaty and non-treaty nations on the Board and examination of measures to democratize and increase the effectiveness of the Board. -Work with Union of BC Municipalities and Federation of Canadian Municipalities to increase opportunities for indigenous participation.

4. Food, Water and Ecological Systems

4.1. Encourage food security, including access to nutritious food and active support for local food systems.

4.2. Promote resilient, effective and well-maintained water and waste-water systems.

4.3. Protect and restore ecological systems and provide access to greenspace.

5. Education

5. Strengthen public education and opportunities for life-long learning

6. Inclusive and Safe Communities

6.1. Promote respectful, inclusive communities and protection of human rights.

6.2. Embrace universal design and accessibility of infrastructure, programs and services.

6.3. Reform Policing and Emergency Services

7. Energy Systems and Climate Action

7.1. Demonstrate leadership for Climate Action.

7.2. Embrace innovation in Energy Systems.

8. Arts and Culture

8. Support arts and culture as a cornerstone of cohesive communities.

9. People-oriented economics

9.1. Build a resilient, sustainable local economy.

9.2. Promote workers' rights and the equitable distribution of wealth and power.

9.3. Ensure Fiscal Responsibility and Cost-Effective Public Services.

Questions & Discussion