

Jurisdictional authority and constraints for **local government to engage in **fossil fuel bans** and **electrification** in **Canada****

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Prepared by



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For

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Health, Safety, Equity, Climate

Table of Contents

- Acknowledgement & Positionality1**
- Background 2**
 - Client Profile..... 2
 - Problem Statement..... 2
 - Research Questions..... 2
 - Variation in Treatment of Local Governments Across Canada 2
 - City Charters 4
 - Local Utilities in Canada 5
 - The National Building Code and Regional Building Codes 5
- Methodology 6**
- Limitations 6**
- Opportunities & Challenges 7**
 - Overarching Considerations7
 - Key Opportunities 8
 - Key Challenges10
- Final Thoughts and Next Steps 10**

Acknowledgement & Positionality

This report was prepared by Tawâw Strategies for Stand.Earth's Safe Cities program. Tawâw Strategies is a sole proprietorship headquartered on the traditional and unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. Tawâw Strategies' work seeks to be informed by the history, customs and lived experience of the Indigenous peoples of this land and strives to actualize justice for the harms caused by colonization.

Andrea Reimer is the sole proprietor of Tawâw Strategies. Andrea is of Nehiyawak, Kainai, Métis and French-Canadian ancestry. She was adopted out of her community, grew up in a mixed race family and has recently begun the process of reconnecting with her birth family. It's important to note that this lived experience is fundamentally different from those Indigenous people with unbroken ties to their families and communities and those who grew up on reserves, in Métis settlements and in Inuit communities.

Background

Client Profile

[SAFE Cities](#) is a movement of neighbours, local groups, and elected officials working to keep their communities SAFE from fossil fuels. SAFE policies are those passed by local governments which protect public health and safety from the risks of fossil fuels and fall into four categories: (1) Local government resolutions (ex. Climate Emergency declaration), (2) Temporary blocks on new fossil fuel infrastructure, (3) Permanent restrictions on new fossil fuel infrastructure and (4) Electrification policies.

Problem Statement

As the federal government and some provincial and territorial governments begin to pass policies that contemplate the phasing out of fossil fuels and switch to renewable energy in an effort to combat climate change, it is currently unclear what legal authority local governments in Canada have to implement permanent restrictions on new fossil fuel infrastructure as well as to what extent they can require electrification.

Research Questions

This research project looks to better understand the jurisdictional authority and constraints for local governments in Canada to engage in phasing out fossil fuel infrastructure as well as the authority they have for accelerating electrification projects. Specifically, this initial review of government literatures and politics seeks to answer the following questions:

1. What are the jurisdictional authorities and constraints in each province and territory related to the direct ability of local governments to pass policies that limit or fully restrict new fossil fuel infrastructure? ([Reference](#))
2. What are the jurisdictional authorities and constraints in each province and territory related to the direct ability of local governments to pass policies in support of accelerated electrification? ([Reference](#))
3. Within each province and territory, are there novel examples of how local government has successfully expanded its jurisdictional authority over environmental issues? ([Reference](#))

Variation in Treatment of Local Governments Across Canada

In order to properly assess local government authority over fossil fuel and electrification infrastructure, it is first necessary to understand the variation in legislative treatment these local governments adhere to. All local governments exist by virtue of a grant of authority,

that is a set of provisions that delegate to local governments a particular set of roles and responsibilities by the province or territory in which the local government is located.¹ However, because the power of local governments depends on the political will of the province or territory concerned, local governments' authorities vary greatly across Canada. Broadly, there are three different types of governance structures for local governments found in Canada:

Natural Person Power

In 1995, Alberta first introduced what is known as natural person power in its Municipal Government Act (MGA). Natural person power allows the local government to have the capacity, rights, powers, and privileges of a natural person (subject to the limits set out in the MGA) and can therefore exercise broad powers that are not explicitly set out in legislation.² The grant of natural person power does not create new explicit powers or spheres of jurisdiction, but potentially expands the local government's ability to act independently within its areas of jurisdiction as established in provincial law.³

Express Power

Some local governments, in provinces such as Manitoba, Nova Scotia, and Ontario, operate under express power legislation. This type of governance structure spells out every power, in a "laundry-list" style, afforded to the local government and if the power is not listed or necessarily implied, the local government does not have that power. Express power legislation is the most restrictive way a province or territory can grant powers to a local government. It often prevents a local government from easily and efficiently adapting to changing conditions: each change requires the local government to apply to the province or territory for amending legislation.⁴

Spheres of Jurisdiction

In addition to the first two categories, some provinces and territories have begun to redesign their local government legislation. This has led, in some cases, to granting local governments authority over broadly defined categories, called *spheres of jurisdiction* with fewer supplementary express powers. This approach is now used in the local governing

¹ Dobson and Taylor. "Power and Purpose: Canadian Municipal Law in Transition." (2020) 15. https://tspace.library.utoronto.ca/bitstream/1807/99226/1/imfgpaper_no47_Power_and_Purpose_Taylor_Dobson.pdf.

² City of Alberta. "About Municipalities." <https://www.alberta.ca/about-municipalities.aspx>.

³ Dobson and Taylor. "Power and Purpose." 20.

⁴ City of Toronto. "Powers of Canadian Cities - The legal framework Report." (2001) https://www.toronto.ca/ext/digital_comm/inquiry/inquiry_site/cd/gg/add_pdf/77/Governance/Electronic_Documents/Other_CDN_Jurisdictions/Powers_of_Canadian_Cities.pdf.

legislation of eight provinces, with considerable provincial variation, and in some separate city statutes, including those for Winnipeg (a hybrid form), Toronto, and Montréal.⁵

Today, it is likely that some local governments have legislative authority through a hybrid of these structures. For example, British Columbia's Local Government Act utilizes the laundry list (or express powers) method. However, B.C.'s Community Charter distinguishes between spheres of jurisdiction exclusive to local governments and spheres shared by the province or territory and local government and also includes a natural persons (corporate) power clause.⁶

City Charters⁷

Adding a subsequent layer to variation in local government authority are city charters. City charters can be defined as the detaching of the enabling legislation for a specific local government from the general statute so that the local government draws most or all of its authority from a freestanding special law."⁸ Vancouver, Winnipeg, Montreal and Saint John are all Charter cities, meaning, when their respective province or territory's local government legislations were forming, there was a clause written for a separate piece of legislation to govern the city. For example, Winnipeg is granted natural person powers under its Charter Act, but no other local government is granted the same under the Manitoba Municipal Act. Local governments, such as Toronto, and more recently Calgary and Edmonton, which were previously governed by general local government law, were able to detach and receive distinct local government legislation to govern differently.⁹ The goal of creating a city charter is to grant the city special powers that other local governments do not, typically for a special purpose and often in recognition of the status of a city as a hub for the province or territory's economic activity.¹⁰

⁵ Dobson and Taylor. "Power and Purpose." 17.

⁶ Province of British Columbia. "Local Government Legislative Framework."
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/local-governments/facts-framework/legislative-framework>.

⁷ *There are five charter cities in Canada, as expressed in their respective province's local government legislation: Saint John, Montreal, Winnipeg, Vancouver, and Lloydminster (a city that straddles both Alberta and Saskatchewan). In addition, some cities have been granted charters by their province. These cities are Toronto, St. John's, Corner Brook, Nfld. Mount Pearl, Nfld, Charlottetown (the Charlottetown Area Municipalities Act also governs the towns of Stratford and Cornwall in P.E.I.), and most recently, Edmonton and Calgary.*

⁸ Dobson and Taylor. "Power and Purpose." 54.

⁹ Dobson and Taylor. "Power and Purpose." 58.

¹⁰ Dobson and Taylor. "Power and Purpose." 55.

Local Utilities in Canada

Another area of jurisdiction that affects Canadian local governments' abilities to enact fossil fuel bans and electrification policies is the breakdown of a province or territory's energy sources and its utility administration structure. Each province and territory and their local governments preliminary scan, found in [Annex 1](#), lists the regions' energy mix, as well as the utility companies operating in-province or territory and if the utilities market is considered regulated or unregulated. Within this framework are some interesting opportunities as well as some challenges. For example, the City of Summerside, P.E.I is the only local government in the province that, under the P.E.I Municipal Government Act, can create and govern its own electric utility provider (Summerside Electric). Similarly, Winnipeg-owned utility provider Winnipeg Hydro, was the only local government-owned utility company in the province, until 2002 when the province-owned Manitoba Hydro bought it out. Conversely, the energy mix in Saskatchewan is so heavily fossil fuel dependent that even if a local government could vastly expand requirements for electrification, it would be of limited value in the short term. Examples such as these may provide windows of opportunity or challenges, as the degree to which a local government can govern energy provided to a city, will likely coincide with its authority in creating fossil fuel bans or electrification policies.

The National Building Code and Regional Building Codes

The last area that may affect local governments' abilities to enact fossil fuel bans and electrification policies is building legislation. The [National Building Code of Canada 2015 \(NBC\)](#) sets out technical provisions for the design and construction of new buildings. It also applies to the alteration, change of use and demolition of existing buildings. The NBC serves as the code for many federal construction projects but, perhaps more importantly, it serves as the model code for provinces and territories, and subsequently, local governments. Specifically, for the purposes of this scan, a key requirement of the NBC is the [Energy Code](#) which, although prepared federally, is adopted and enforced by provinces and territories.¹¹

Currently, six provinces (Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Manitoba and Saskatchewan) and the three territories have adopted the CNBC with only minor variations. [British Columbia](#), [Alberta](#), [Ontario](#) and [Quebec](#) each published their own codes that are based on the national code, but with substantial modifications and additions. Provinces and territories have chosen to make local governments responsible for the implementation of respective building codes and for

¹¹ McGillivray. "Speaking in code: A brief overview of building code in Canada." (2018). <https://www.insblogs.com/uncategorized/speaking-in-code-a-brief-overview-of-building-code-in-canada/8626>

related inspections. However, local governments are largely barred against requiring building-related measures that go beyond – or supersede – their respective provincial building code (known in construction industry jargon as ‘code min/max’).¹² This concept doesn’t prevent a builder from building beyond code, but it does prevent a local government from regulating beyond code. Notably, Vancouver is the only city in Canada with the authority to create its own Building Code ([Vancouver Building by-law](#)). This gives the City the authority to set energy code requirements higher than those set out by the province. Other local governments in Canada may have building by-laws (see: Ottawa, ON or London, ON in [Annex 1](#)) but these do not have the same far-reaching powers that Vancouver has.¹³

Methodology

The nature of this research project was to provide an initial scan of local government authorities and constraints in applying fossil fuel bans and accelerating electrification processes. The preliminary work completed in this report is intended to uncover areas for further research as subsequent phases of the project continue. Thus, the information within the report was researched at a high-level scan of legislation, primarily through local government websites, by-law documents, and primary-source news articles.

Each province and territory was devoted a limited amount of time, with time being allotted based on population size and activity-level of climate change initiatives undertaken based on cursory search. In addition, local governments were chosen for inclusion in this report based on capital city status, charter city status, activity-level of climate change initiatives, and if time allowed, population size).

Limitations

A number of limitations presented themselves throughout this project. Primarily, the time frame allotted (one month) for a jurisdictional scan of all Canadian local governments was extremely limited, thus breadth of the project research had to be limited as well. Second, due to the limited scope nature of the research project, information presented is high-level and the local government scan is not exhaustive. Third, as the time frame for project completion was limited and the research was preliminary, the research undertaken was

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Government of Ontario. “Building Regulation.” (last updated: May 2021).

<https://www.ontario.ca/document/ontario-municipal-councillors-guide/11-building-regulation>

solely conducted as a government literature and policies review and no interviews, surveys, or stakeholder outreach were conducted. Lastly, because of the subject matter, legislative review was required. As legal issues are nuanced and complex, research interpretation will ultimately require legal expertise for the final phase of research.

Opportunities & Challenges

In the initial project development three key opportunities and challenges were identified and were confirmed through the course of the project. These are the first two listed in opportunities and the first one in challenges below respectively. Subsequent opportunities and challenges were identified through the research phases of the project.

Overarching Considerations

1. Provincial and territorial orientation towards climate action and enabling local governments to act

Throughout this research, it became evident that if a provincial or territorial government (and constituents) was more inclined towards climate action (banning fossil fuels, passing climate plans, requiring strict energy codes etc.) then local governments would be more enabled to act within their respective authority. [Figure 1](#) demonstrates provincial and territorial orientation on willingness towards climate action, based on preliminary research:

Level 1: Acceptance on action for phase out fossil fuels and accelerate electrification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quebec, British Columbia, P.E.I
Level 2: Acceptance on action to accelerate electrification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nunavut, Yukon, Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland & Labrador
Level 3: Weak on action for fossil fuel bans and/or electrification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Brunswick, Northwest Territories
Level 4: Bans and/or electrification-averse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alberta, Saskatchewan

Figure 1

2. Policy Windows

Provincial and territorial and local government alignment on needed policy action is an extremely useful situation for a local government to find itself in, if it is seeking avenues to create by-laws for fossil fuel bans and/or electrification plans. That is not to say it is impossible without this alignment (as evidenced in the subsequent provincial/territorial breakdown). However, it does become an easier endeavour with provincial support and increasingly difficult with provincial roadblocks. At the least this alignment creates a wider policy window. In the coming year, there could be increased policy windows available as many local governments are holding elections, notably in British Columbia and Ontario, among others. Further, both Ontario and Quebec have general elections this year. Increased attention should be paid to the outcomes of these elections in the context of this research project's scope, as outcomes could greatly influence future directions of local government (and provincial) fossil fuel and electrification plans.

Key Opportunities

The scan of government literature and policies highlighted four promising areas of opportunity for a local government ban on fossil fuels and/or to accelerate electrification:

1. Vancouver Charter enabling of local building code:

Vancouver's Vancouver Charter gives the City the authority to design, implement, and enforce its own [Building By-law](#); currently the only city with the capacity to do so. Vancouver is able to set its energy efficiency requirements at stricter caps than the province sets. An area of opportunity for further research is to understand if there is any ceiling to this capacity as well as how the B.C. government could challenge Vancouver's authority in exercising local government authority through its building by-law. As part of gaining more insight into this it would be beneficial to understand the relationship between BC's Building Code and Vancouver's Building by-law and if these documents mostly overlap in specifications or if they diverge from each other. It would also be beneficial to determine if Vancouver's Building by-law could be replicated in other local governments, particularly in local governments that meet one or more of the opportunity criteria outlined here.

2. Montreal anti-solid fuel burning bylaw

Montreal introduced a [strict ban](#) on the burning of any solid fuel (including wood, coal, and pellets) in residences and businesses in all of Montreal's 19 boroughs, unless an inspection deems it allowable. This presents two potential opportunities. One, if the City can ban solid fuel burning, it could theoretically pass a ban on all fossil fuel usage. It should be noted that the province has already stated they are phasing out fossil fuel

usage, potentially negating the need for the local government to do so. Second, if Montreal is able to implement this ban in the form of a by-law, it may be possible to apply similar by-laws in other local governments across Canada particularly those that meet other opportunity criteria

3. Charter Changes for Charter Cities

Charter cities have unique opportunities for creating by-laws that other local governments cannot pass, because of expanded scope of powers. A potential area of opportunity could be to research how charter cities are able to receive expansion of jurisdictional authorities, including what special circumstances or policy windows must be present to do so. Historically, provinces and territories have been reluctant to move on implementing charter regulations for local governments (see: Calgary and Edmonton). A province or territory is also historically unlikely to expand powers within a charter city, unless there is great general public pressure to take action on an issue but the province or territory is unwilling to take on responsibility for implementing a solution to the issue and as such, passes authority to the local government to adjudicate over the issue (See: [Vancouver's empty homes tax](#)). In the context of climate change action, there may be increased opportunities for provinces and territories to expand their charter cities' authorities to allow provinces and territories to test out public reaction to stepped-up timelines for phasing out fossil fuels and accelerating electrification.

4. Local Government-owned utilities

A number of local governments across Canada own their own utility. Further research is needed for understanding the legal structures underlying the different constructs of local government-owned utilities. However, the preliminary scan indicates that it's likely that if a city controls its utility provider or solely regulates utility distribution, it could control the energy mix that is distributed throughout its jurisdiction. The preliminary scan, found in [Annex 1](#), records a number of local governments that own their utility for further exploration.

5. Novel approaches

In the absence of explicit authority for banning fossil fuels and/or accelerating electrification, the novel approaches some local governments have implemented, create potential opportunities for others. It's notable that novel approaches often lead to conventional practice (see: [Hudson, QC pesticide by-law](#)). The preliminary scan of provinces and territories and their local governments in [Annex 1](#), highlights some novel approaches to fossil fuel bans and electrification, that may be copied and implemented in other local governments, for further exploration.

Key Challenges

The preliminary government literature scan uncovered two broad challenges or roadblocks for local governments to ban fossil fuels and/or accelerate electrification:

1. Provincial and Territorial governments overriding policy

As noted in an [earlier section](#), local governments are creatures of their provincial or territorial government, and these senior governments determine the limits of local government authority. This creates challenges for the local government when the province or territory does not align with actions the local government is trying to achieve. Public opinion can heavily weigh in the decision of whether the province or territory decides to override local government policy or not. See: [Regina fossil fuel advertising](#) for an example of how this type of challenge has unfolded in practice.

2. Disunified City Council

When developing and implementing policy or by-laws, a disunified city council creates a difficult environment in which to create ground-breaking policy change; making it a major challenge to overcome both the structural and political challenges. For example, the City Council of Ottawa is made up of 23 councillors and the Mayor, representing 24 diverse wards, spanning both rural and urban areas. These councillors are often concerned with issues specific to their ward, making it structurally challenging to reach consensus on by-laws and other policy matters (see: [Ottawa and Toronto city council reductions](#)). The current City of Vancouver Council also faces the challenge of a disunified City Council but for political rather than structural reasons. Vancouver City Council is made up of councillors with very different political beliefs and agendas, leading to challenges in passing progressive, climate action (see: [Vancouver gas-free vehicle zones](#)).

Final Thoughts and Next Steps

Phase One of the SAFE Cities research project conducted a preliminary legislative scan of jurisdiction authority and constraints for local governments in Canada to engage in fossil fuel bans and accelerated electrification. This research can be found in [Annex 1](#). On the whole, the high-level scan found that, while a number of local governments have engaged in climate action policies, there is limited engagement in fossil fuel bans. The factors that have contributed to this lack of action are not possible to definitively determine from this research. However, initial research suggests that the perception by local governments of limited authority in this area (largely untested), provincial or territorial and public political

will, and disunified city councils all likely contribute to the lack of increased interest in fossil fuel bans within local governments in Canada.

For phase two of the research project, a number of priority-setting questions can be asked to determine where deeper research efforts should be placed:

- First: What level of support is there for fossil fuel bans and increased electrification from the local government’s provincial or territorial government? ([Figure 1](#))
- Second: Is the local government a Charter City or does it have powers equivalent to a charter city?
- Third: Does the local government own their own utility?
- Fourth: Does the local government have a clear majority of city council members united in acting for bold climate solutions?

The first question may be most critical due to the power provincial and territorial governments have or at the least, are perceived to have. Local governments within [Level 1 or Level 2 provinces or territories](#) would be the only candidates for High Priority action. From there, local governments with the most “yes” answers to the subsequent three questions, would be logical next steps for further research. [Figure 2](#) demonstrates an initial mapping matrix, based on the above questions, of local governments for further research:

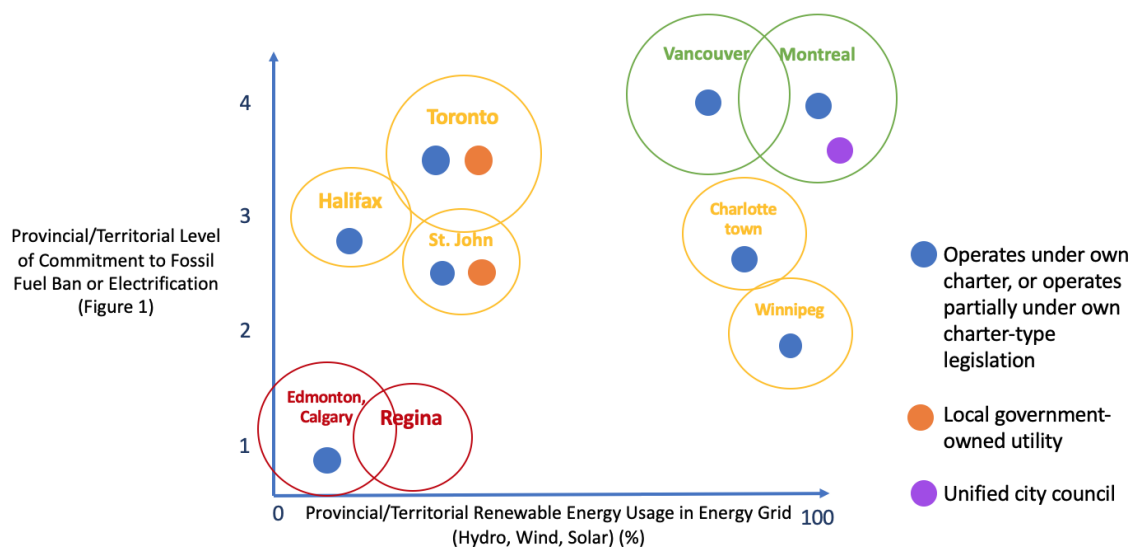


Figure 2.

Further to the mapping exercise, a priority table (Figure 3) has been provided to demonstrate both local governments for further investigation and significant research considerations for sense-making purposes in the final report, ranked as High, Medium, and Low Priorities:

1. High Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montreal, Vancouver
2. Medium Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toronto (specifically, what underlies the City Council inaction) • Within the Level 1 and 2 provinces from Figure 1, local governments with charter-like powers OR smaller local governments without a charter but with local government utilities
3. Low Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding Quebec provincial/local government relationship • Understanding local government-owned utilities within the context of the province they fall under (ex: legacy or modern or mix of the two)

Figure 3

Annex 1: Provincial/Territorial and Local Government Scan

1.1 British Columbia

- [Local Government Act](#): Primary legislation for regional districts and improvement districts, setting out the framework for structure and operations, as well as the main powers and responsibilities. Certain provisions of the Local Government Act also apply to local governments for matters not covered by the [Community Charter](#): provides the statutory framework for all local governments in B.C. except the City of Vancouver.
- Although B.C. represented about 29% of total natural gas production (2016) in Canada, hydro is the main electricity source utilized across the province (88%), it also uses biomass/geothermal (9%), and wind, natural gas, and petroleum (each around 1%).¹
- Under the [Hydro and Power Authority Act](#), BC Hydro has the authority to generate and distribute electricity to consumers, businesses, and the other utilities in the province. [BC Hydro](#) and [FortisBC](#) are the two largest electricity providers in B.C. BC Hydro is a regulated crown corporation and the main electricity provider, FortisBC, a regulated private company, provides electricity service to B.C.’s southern interior.² Some local governments (such as New Westminster) have their own electric utilities and there are also other private electric providers. All of B.C.’s utilities are regulated through the [British Columbia Utilities Commission \(BCUC\)](#) who is responsible for setting electricity rates that are fair and reasonable.³
- The [B.C. Energy Step Code](#): communities may voluntarily choose to adopt, in bylaws and policies. Local governments have authority to require or incentivize builders to meet one or more steps. In future, new homes will need to be built better than the current BC Building Code:
 - 20% more energy efficient by 2022, 40% more energy efficient by 2027, and 80% more energy efficient by 2032
 - [These local governments](#) have submitted their initial notification, indicating they have started to consult on the BC Energy Step Code (listed by date of submission).
- British Columbia’s [Bill 27](#) mandates that every local government in B.C, incorporate GHG emissions-reduction targets into their Official Community Plans (OCPs).
- BC’s [Zero-Emission Building Centre of Excellence \(ZEBx\)](#) is the only Canadian industry serving and solutions-neutral non-profit, focused leading-edge design and construction to support a low-carbon future.

City	Local Government Authority	Climate Plans	Specific ‘quirks’ / Novel examples	Additional Actions / Comments
Vancouver	Vancouver Charter While it makes specified provisions of the <i>Community Charter</i> and the <i>Local Government Act</i> apply to		VPB transition to zero emission maintenance equipment Responsible Investment Screening Process	

¹ “Main Electricity Sources in Canada by Province.” https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Md_mqy1lvu460wYxqs3s-j_4y_sFvSRoQgG31EZ3Wm4/edit#.

² “British Columbia.” Canada Energy Regulator. <https://www.cer-rec.gc.ca/en/data-analysis/energy-commodities/electricity/report/canadian-residential-electricity-bill/british-columbia.html?undefined&wbdisable=true>.

³ “Electricity and Alternative Energy.” Government of British Columbia. <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/electricity-alternative-energy>

	<p>Vancouver, most other local gov't legislation provisions don't apply.</p> <p>Building By-law - based on the B.C. Building Code and includes the "unique to Vancouver" By-law provisions regulating design and construction of buildings in the City.</p> <p>Symbolic ban on coal shipping and storage within city limits</p>			
<i>North Vancouver</i>	<p>Construction Regulation By-law, 2003, No. 7390 - has amendments for Enhanced Energy Performance and Low Carbon Pathways Under the BC Energy Step Code</p> <p>Oil Burner and Compressed Gas System Permit and Inspection By-law 1083</p>	<p>Carbon Reserve Fund - funds set aside annually for emissions reduction projects.</p>		
<i>Victoria</i>		<p>Official Community Plan Reduce GHG emissions by a minimum of 33% below 2007 level by 2020</p>		

1.2 Alberta

- [Municipal Government Act](#): governs all local governments' rights to by-laws across the province, except for the town of [Lloydminster](#) (which received its own charter when the Village of Lloydminster, AB and the Town of Lloydminster, SK [amalgamated](#)).
 - In addition to being governed by the MGA, in 2018, [Calgary](#) and [Edmonton](#) were each granted their own City Charter Regulation, after a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed by each city with the Government of Alberta to explore Charter status. These regulations contain policy tools that could potentially provide each city with increased authority or flexibility in areas such as administrative governance, assessment and taxation, city planning and environment. City Council, with input from residents and businesses, can decide which of the Charter policy tools are most appropriate for Edmonton.
- Electricity sources in Alberta are unique because of the province's abundance of oil, gas and coal. Together, coal and natural gas are responsible for 87% of the energy generation in the Alberta electricity market. As an illustration, electricity in local governments such as Edmonton and Calgary is mainly generated by natural gas.⁴
- [Electric Utilities Act \(1995\)](#): deregulated both natural gas and electricity in the province. As such, new prices for electricity are set each hour and the demand for electricity is matched with the lowest-priced supply. Having both natural gas and electricity deregulated, allows consumers in Alberta to choose where to obtain their energy from, allowing for competitive pricing.
- The [Alberta Utilities Commission \(AUC\)](#) is Alberta's investor-owned electric, gas, water utilities and certain local government-owned electric utilities to ensure customers receive safe and reliable service. The [Alberta Electric Systems Operator \(AESO\)](#): is a not-for-profit entity responsible for the planning and operation of the Alberta Interconnected Electric System.
- The [Clean Energy Improvement Program](#), a form of PACE, creates financing options for energy efficient upgrades for homeowners. local governments wishing to participate must pass a by-law and work with Energy Efficiency Alberta to develop and deliver the program to residents.
 - What makes CEIP different from other PACE-style programs is that the CEI charge is tied to the property and not the property owner. If the property is sold, the new owner assumes responsibility for repayment, while also enjoying the benefits of the upgrade(s).
 - Currently, CEIP is offered in the local governments of: Calgary, Canmore, Devon, and Rocky Mountain House.

City	Local Government Authority	Climate Plans	Specific 'quirks' / Novel examples	Additional Actions / Comments
Calgary	City of Calgary Charter Regulation (2018) Clean Energy Improvement Program Bylaw, C2021-1418 The Green Line (LRT) Project			
Edmonton	City of Edmonton Charter Regulation (2018)	GHG management plan 2019-2030	Office of Energy Management (OEM) - has training and pilot	

⁴ "Main Electricity Sources in Canada by Province." <https://energyrates.ca/the-main-electricity-sources-in-canada-by-province/>.

	By-law 17431 Energy Transition Climate Resilience Committee	Corporate Climate Leaders Program (CCLP) - to encourage and empower Edmonton corporations to achieve GHG reduction	programs for energy reduction strategies Small scale fuel switching for Parks and Roads Services equipment	
<i>Canmore</i>		Use of the Alberta Municipal Solar Program for public facilities and Household Solar Incentive Program		
<i>City of St. Albert</i>		Energy Conservation Action Plan (2012) - propelled solar projects for public buildings and electric buses		
<i>Okotoks</i>		Environmental Master Plan - commits to net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 Drake Landing Solar Community - master planned solar powered-neighbourhood		
<i>Red Deer</i>			Idle Free Zones Policy for city fleets	

1.3 Saskatchewan

- [The Municipalities Act](#), [the Cities Act](#), and [the Northern Municipalities Act](#): provide basic legislative framework for all of the province's local governments, and give local governments [Natural Persons Power](#).
- Saskatchewan has one of the most diverse electricity generation frameworks in Canada, providing at least six major sources of electrical energy: Coal and coke (49%), Natural gas (34%), Hydro (13%), Wind (3%).
- There are four energy providers in the province: SaskPower, SaskEnergy (sole regulator for natural gas), Saskatoon Light & Power, and Swift Current Electricity Services, the two latter being local government-owned.⁵

City	Local Government Authority	Climate Plans	Roadblocks	Specific 'quirks' / Novel examples	Additional Actions / Comments
Regina		City Council votes to become a renewable city by 2050	Fossil Fuel Advertising Ban Fails After Pressure from Province and Industry - In 2021, City Council informally adopted an amendment to ban fossil fuel companies from advertising with or sponsoring City events or buildings. Before it could become by-law, it received major backlash from oil and gas industry and Premier Moe issued a statement condemning the proposal. It later failed to pass.		Recipient of \$1.3M through federal Low Carbon Economy Fund for Landfill Gas Collection System
Saskatoon	By-law no. 9762 The Home Energy Loan Program (2021) - to encourage energy efficiency renovations	Climate Action Plan (2019) - GHG Emissions targets (2017): 40% reduction in emissions for City as a corporation by 2023 and a reduction of 80% by 2050, 15% reduction in broader	Climate Action Plan Progress Report: Increased National Building Code Requirements Delayed by Industry Stakeholders - The LECP recommends implementing local	Renewable Rides Program - brought 100% solar-powered electric vehicles to the Saskatoon CarShare Co-operative's fleet of cars. Ended in 2020.	

⁵ "Main Electricity Sources in Canada by Province." <https://energyrates.ca/the-main-electricity-sources-in-canada-by-province/>.

		<p>community emissions by 2023 and a reduction of 80% by 2050</p> <p>Low Emissions Community Plan - roadmap to reduce emissions</p> <p>Corporate Climate Adaptation Strategy - prepare and adapt to changing climate</p>	<p>government step code for Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional buildings, with targets to be net zero by 2036. Though no progress made by the City with industry stating no need to go beyond National Building Code.</p>		
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1.4 Manitoba

- [The Municipal Act](#): applies to all local governments within the province, except [Winnipeg](#).

- Spheres of jurisdiction 232(1): A council may pass by-laws for local government purposes respecting the following matters: (a) the safety, health, protection and well-being of people, and the safety and protection of property...
- Manitoba’s [Planning Act](#) requires all local governments to adopt a Development Plan that sets out environmental plans and policies for the city and directs sustainable land use and development in a planning area.
- Almost all of the electricity generated in the province comes from Hydro (97%), with Wind (2%), and Biomass/geothermal, Coal and coke, Petroleum, and natural gas (each around 1%).⁶
- [Manitoba Hydro](#) is a provincial Crown Corporation and one of the largest integrated electricity and natural gas distribution utilities in Canada. It is the sole provider of energy in the province, after it bought our Winnipeg Hydro in 2002. Manitoba Hydro also trades [electricity within four wholesale markets](#) in the Midwestern United States and Canada.
 - Manitoba Hydro is regulated through the [Public Utilities Board](#) and is subject to: the Manitoba [Clean Environment Commission](#); and [Manitoba Conservation and Climate](#).

<i>City</i>	<i>Local Government Authority</i>	<i>Climate Plans</i>	<i>Roadblocks</i>	<i>Specific ‘quirks’ / Novel examples</i>	<i>Additional Actions / Comments</i>
<i>Winnipeg</i>	Charter Act (2003) - provides broad local government powers, greater flexibility, and new authorities to address pressing community issues.	Transit Master Plan (2021) - includes bus electrification plan (ZEBs)	Transit cuts City report recommends parking rates downtown drop Building Code and Green Buildings plan (not updated since 2010-11)	Content of Standards by-law 255(2) : Council may establish standards, criteria, or zoning requirements respecting... (e) the efficient use of energy, including orientation of lots and parcels so as to obtain maximum benefit from solar energy.	

⁶ “Main Electricity Sources in Canada by Province.” <https://energyrates.ca/the-main-electricity-sources-in-canada-by-province/>.

1.5 Ontario

- The [Municipal Act, 2001](#) sets out rules for 443 of 444 Ontario local governments (the City of Toronto Act applies to the City of Toronto) and recognizes them as a responsible and accountable level of government. The Act gives local governments broad powers to pass bylaws and govern within their jurisdiction. The act also outlines requirements for local governments including:
 - Finance
 - Ex: Energy Planning 147 (1): a municipality may provide for or participate in long-term energy planning in the municipality (Long-term energy planning referred to in subsection (1) may include consideration of energy conservation, climate change, and green energy).
 - Bylaws
 - Ex: By-laws (2): (2) A single-tier municipality may pass by-laws respecting the following matters: 5. Economic, social and environmental well-being of the municipality, including respecting climate change.
- According to 2018 data by the [Ontario Energy Board \(OEB\)](#) (utilities regulator) the main electricity sources in Ontario are Nuclear energy (58%) and Hydro (24%). However, the province presents a very diverse grid of electricity sources: Wind (8%), Natural gas (6%), Solar (2%), and Bioenergy (0.5%)⁷
- [Energy Competition Act \(1998\)](#): deregulated the market for natural gas and restructured the electricity market. While consumers can choose what retailer to buy their electricity from, the transmission of electricity is still regulated.
 - Forced Ontario Hydro to be divided into 5 companies including Hydro One, which handles electricity transmission, Ontario Power Generation, which generates roughly half of the province’s electricity., and Independent Electricity Systems Operator (IESO), which is in charge of maintaining a balance between electricity supply and demand.⁸
- The three largest utilities in Ontario: [Hydro One](#), [Enbridge Gas](#), and [Union Gas](#).
- As Ontario local governments work to lower their GHG emissions and implement cleaner solutions, the Province recently launched their [Natural Gas Expansion Project](#) which consists of building new natural gas heating infrastructure to serve more customers and communities, including some that have been relying on electric heat until now. And it's making existing customers subsidize that expansion.
- A [number of local governments](#) in Ontario have written public statements calling on the Provincial Government to phase out gas-fired power production.

City	Local Government Authority	Climate Plans	Specific 'quirks' / Novel examples	Additional Actions / Comments
Toronto	City of Toronto Act (2006) Toronto Green Standard - sustainable design and performance requirements for new private and city-owned developments, with Version 4 coming into effect May 2022	TransformTO Net Zero Strategy (2021) - outlines pathway to net-zero by 2040 City Council adopts plan to achieve net-zero emissions at City-owned facilities	Sustainable Energy Financing Plan Revised Investment Policy to exclude fossil fuels from City's portfolio and actively invest in clean energy and climate solutions	

⁷ Main Electricity Sources in Canada by Province. <https://energyrates.ca/the-main-electricity-sources-in-canada-by-province/>.

⁸ "Why the Ontario Energy Market is Regulated." <https://energyrates.ca/ontario/ontario-energy-market-regulated/#:~:text=Electricity%20and%20natural%20gas%20deregulation%20in%20Ontario&text=While%20consumers%20can%20choose%20what,of%20electricity%20is%20still%20regulated.>

<p><i>Hamilton</i></p>	<p>Corporate Energy Policy (2020) - facilitate and monitor City-wide energy reduction targets</p>	<p>Energy reduction in energy intensity of City-owned facilities and operations of 45% by 2030 and 60% by 2050</p>	<p>Hamilton Renewable Power Incorporated (HRPI) - city-owned org that constructed and operates cogeneration facilities for renewable energy sources (first Ontario local government to build a generator for sustained green energy).</p> <p>Renewable natural gas-fuelled bus for public transit</p>	<p>List of financial incentives for home retrofits</p>
<p><i>Kitchener-Waterloo Region</i></p>		<p>TransformWR Strategy - 80% GHG emission reduction (from 2010 levels) by 2050</p>	<p>Climate strategy for WR (including emissions reductions) developed and executed by collaborative organization ClimateActionWR between local NGOs, community, and the local governments.</p>	<p>There are 2 levels of government in Waterloo Region (WR). The Region of Waterloo is the regional level of government, in charge of public health, community services, and waste mgmt (among others), while the local governments of Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge, and four townships preside over Building Codes, parks and rec programs, (among others). They share responsibility in areas such as zoning by-laws.</p>
<p><i>London</i></p>	<p>Building By-law (B-7) - includes required Energy Efficiency Design Summary and inspection fees attached to installation of solar panels and geothermal systems</p>		<p>Official Plan Ch. 15 Environmental Policies (By-law No. C.P. 1284-277) - includes policy for abandoned oil or gas wells.</p>	

<p><i>Ottawa</i></p>	<p>Building (By-law No. 2014-220) - includes required Energy Efficiency Design Strategy for new builds</p> <p>Transit Master Plan - includes the Light Rail Transit (OLRT) Plan</p>	<p>Climate Change Master Plan (2020) - includes reducing GHG emissions by 100% of 2012 levels by 2040</p> <p>Energy Evolution - energy transition strategy</p>	<p>Council commits \$2.6 million surplus from last year's Hydro Ottawa dividend to support Energy Evolution projects</p>	
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1.6 Quebec

- [Quebec Cities and Towns Act](#): governs every local government in the province, except for [Montreal](#).

- Ex: 29.14 Every municipality that enters into an agreement pursuant to section 29.13 has the necessary powers to meet the commitments and assume the responsibilities arising from the agreement.
 - The municipality may, in particular: (1) accept delegated powers for the management of land areas in the domain of the State, including the hydraulic, mineral, energy, forest and wildlife resources in those areas;
- Ex: Every municipality may, by by-law, impose a municipal tax in its territory, provided it is a direct tax and the by-law meets the criteria set out in the fourth paragraph.
 - The municipality is not authorized to impose the following taxes: (12) a tax in respect of energy, in particular electric power;
- The majority of electricity in the province comes from Hydro (95%), Wind (4%), Biomass and geothermal, Petroleum, and Natural gas (each around 1%).⁹
- All of Québec’s electricity is provided by [Hydro-Québec](#), a regulated, government-owned electricity generator, distributor and supplier. Since Québec is a regulated electricity market, all of the hydro rates in the province are approved by the [Régie de l’énergie](#), the provincial energy regulator.
- Natural gas in Québec, however, is deregulated. There are two natural gas distributors in Québec: [Énergir](#), (in 98% of the province), and [Gazifère \(in the Gatineau area\)](#). Both of them are regulated by the Régie de l’énergie. However, consumers can choose from a wide range of competitive natural gas suppliers in the province.
- [Petroleum Resources Act](#): to govern the development of petroleum resources on land and in bodies of water while ensuring the safety of persons and property, environmental protection and optimal recovery of the resource, in compliance with the law as to ownership of immovables and in compliance with the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets set by the Government.
 - At the provincial level, the Quebec government is facing a [lawsuit](#) over its ban on oil and gas productions. No new permits for exploration or drilling have been issued since Premier Legault’s government came to power in 2018. This is the first time the Act is being tested in court.

City	Local Government Authority	Climate Plans	Specific ‘quirks’ / Novel examples	Additional Actions / Comments
Montreal	Charter of Ville de Montréal, Metropolis du Québec By-law concerning GHG emission disclosures and ratings of large buildings (21-042) By-law concerning the occupancy of public property for the purposes of a gas network (14-016) By-law concerning solid-fuel-burning devices and fireplaces (15-069)	Montréal Climate Plan: Objective carbon-neutral by 2050	Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities - social contract confirming the city are committed to improving services, including in Environment and Sustainable Development	Montreal to ban oil furnaces by 2030 - no by-law yet

⁹ “Main Electricity Sources in Canada by Province.” <https://energyrates.ca/the-main-electricity-sources-in-canada-by-province/>.

	<p>By-law authorizing a loan of \$800,000 for the upgrading of the fuelling stations (19-020)</p> <p>By-law authorizing a loan of \$1,531,000 for the replacement of the automated fuel system (18-029)</p> <p>By-law authorizing a loan of \$500,000 for the replacement of the automated fuel system and the purchase of mechanical and specialized equipment (16-020)</p>			
<i>Gaspé</i>	<p>Gaspé passes water law to stop oil drilling near its wells and homes (2013)*Can't find by-law</p>			
<i>L'île d'Anticosti</i>			<p>Anticosti Island, near the mouth of the St. Lawrence River, was previously a key focus of hydrocarbon development interest but is now protected after receiving UNESCO world heritage status in 2018, due to its perfectly preserved fossils and sediment to be studied.</p>	
<i>Minganie Region</i>			<p>In 2021, the regional government of Minganie and the Innu Council of Ekuanitshit each adopted resolutions granting the Magpie River legal rights to live, exist and flow; the right to respect for its natural cycles; and the right to take legal action.</p>	

<i>Quebec City</i>	Charte de la Ville de Québec, Capitale Nationale du Québec *Difficult to interpret by-laws because French only			
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1.7 New Brunswick

- **Local Government Act:** governs every local government in the province, except for [St. John](#).
 - One purpose of the Act is to: (d) to foster the economic, social and environmental well-being of its community.
 - **Powers of local governments**
 - 6(1) Subject to this Act or any other Act, a local government has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person.
 - 6(2) A local government only has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person in respect of municipal purposes.
- New Brunswick has one of the most diverse electricity generation systems in Canada. Its power comes from at least seven different sources: Nuclear energy (30%), Hydro (21%), Wind (6%), Biomass and geothermal (3%), Coal and coke (21%), Natural gas (15%), and Petroleum (4%).¹⁰
- New Brunswick’s main utility provider is **NB Power**: a crown corporation governed primarily by New Brunswick’s [Electricity Act \(2013\)](#).
 - The Electricity Act recognizes three local government distribution utilities (the [Power Commission of the City of Saint John](#), the [City of Edmundston](#), and the [PerthAndover Electric Light Commission](#)); their powers, however, are limited in comparison to those of NB Power, and the New Brunswick regime seems designed on the whole to preserve NB Power’s monopoly on electricity generation, transmission, and distribution within the province.¹¹
- The [Energy and Utilities Board \(EUB\)](#) is an independent Crown Agency established to regulate the electricity and natural gas industries for the province. Under New Brunswick’s Electricity Act, the EUB has an obligation to ensure that rates and transmission tariffs set by NB Power are “just and reasonable”¹²
- The Climate Change and Energy Initiative: a program from the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick, to reinforce its efforts to advance in the Partners for Climate Protection program (PCP). The UMNBCCEI aims to offer support to members to realize their corporate and community GHG inventories and Local Action Plan, as well as integrate the QUEST Community Energy Planning approach.

City	Local Government Authority	Climate Plans	Specific ‘quirks’ / Novel examples	Additional Actions / Comments
St. John	An Act Respecting the Royal Chart of the City of St. John (1967)	Municipal Plan (2011) - includes policy plans for energy transition and Green Energy Development Municipal Building Energy Retrofit Project		Saint John Energy - wholesale energy provider, owned by the City - funding and implementing the Burchill Wind Project , the land which was re-zoned by the City

¹⁰ “Main Electricity Sources in Canada by Province.” <https://energyrates.ca/the-main-electricity-sources-in-canada-by-province/>.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Northup. “A Comparative Analysis of the Legislated Electricity Regimes in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.” East Coast Environmental Law. (2020). https://www.conservationcouncil.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/ECELNS_NBComparisonsSept2020.pdf.

<i>Fredericton</i>		Community Energy and Emissions Plan Corporate Energy and Emissions Plan - official plan not out yet The plans propose actions to reduce GHG emissions by 80% by 2050.		
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1.8 Nova Scotia

- [Municipal Government Act](#): governs all local governments in the province, except for [Halifax](#).
 - By-law regarding equipment charges: 81A (1) The council may make by-laws imposing, fixing and providing methods of enforcing payment of charges for the financing and installation of any of the following on private property with the consent of the property owner: (a) energy-efficiency equipment; and (b) renewable energy equipment.
- There are at least six Nova Scotia electricity sources: Coal and coke (64%), Wind (11%), Biomass and geothermal (2%), Natural gas (13%), Hydro, wave and tidal (9%), and Petroleum (3%).¹³
- [Nova Scotia Power](#) is a regulated electrical utility that provides 95% of Nova Scotia’s generation, transmission and distribution services. Under the [Public Utilities Act](#), Nova Scotia Power provides service to all areas of Nova Scotia except for the areas served by local government utilities.
- The [Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board \(UARB\)](#), regulates utilities in the province.
- In October 2021, [the Nova Scotia government tabled legislation](#) that would see coal-fired electricity generation phased out and 80% of the province's power coming from renewables by 2030. Nova Scotia Power president Peter Gregg said the utility expects to meet the 80% target largely through two renewable megaprojects, the Maritime Link and the Atlantic Loop.

City	Local Government Authority	Climate Plans	Roadblocks	Specific ‘quirks’ / Novel examples	Additional Actions / Comments
Halifax and Halifax Regional Municipality	Halifax Regional Municipality Charter By-law S-500 Respecting Charges for Energy Equipment - includes Solar City Program - offers financing to property owners to install a solar energy system.	Halifax Transit projects — the Rapid Transit Strategy, includes Electric Bus Proposal (goal to electrify more than 200 buses (over 50% of the fleet by 2028)).	Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee recommend Halifax Regional Council : 1. Approve additional energy measures beyond solar as part of deep energy retrofit pilot program; and 2. Approve deep energy retrofit pilot program, yet to be adopted into by-law by City Council, despite having legislative authority to do so under By-law S-500 , and the HRM Charter		Regional Municipality consists of Dartmouth, Halifax, the former Halifax County and Bedford areas - which have their own by-laws as well . Halifax regulates and utilizes the Cogswell District Energy System - transfer of thermal energy to new buildings.

¹³ “Main Electricity Sources in Canada by Province.” <https://energyrates.ca/the-main-electricity-sources-in-canada-by-province/>.

<p><i>Antigonish, Berwick, and Mahone Bay</i></p>				<p>Alternative Resource Energy Authority (AREA) - 100% local government-owned utility company formed in 2014 by the 3 towns. Owns and operates a 10-turbine Wind Farm</p> <p>In 2021, AREA agreed to manage a new solar garden project. Will allow customers who may not have ability to install solar panels on themselves, benefit from renewable energy.</p>	
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1.9 Prince Edward Island

- [Municipal Government Act](#): governs local governments in P.E.I, except for the capital city: Charlottetown, and the towns of Stratford and Cornwall, which are governed by the [Charlottetown Area Municipalities Act](#).
 - Scope of Municipal Utilities: Any municipality will have the ability to establish a municipal utility to provide water, sewerage services, public transportation, heat, waste heat, and other services or products for public consumption, benefit, convenience or use.
 - This does not include the ability to establish an electric utility, (restricted to Maritime Electric and City of Summerside Electric Utility)
 - Public or municipal utilities may be established as or included in a department of the municipality or may be established as a controlled corporation. Public utilities, which refer to those that provide water and sewerage service, will require a bylaw to set out the establishment, management and maintenance of the service. All other utilities that a municipality wishes to operate may also be established, managed and maintained by bylaw, with any municipal utility charges being set and imposed through a bylaw.
- Alongside B.C. and Manitoba, Prince Edward Island is one of the greenest provinces in Canada when it comes to electricity generation. Almost 100% of its electricity production comes from wind farms (98%) with Petroleum and Biomass/geothermal around 1%, respectively. P.E.I sources approximately 60% of its electricity from New Brunswick.¹⁴
- [Maritime Electric](#) owns and operates a fully integrated system providing for the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity to all of P.E.I, except for Summerside. It is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Fortis Inc. and operates under the provisions of the P.E.I [Electric Power Act](#) and the Renewable Energy Act.
- The [Island Regulatory and Appeals Commission](#) regulates provincial prices for gasoline, diesel, furnace oil, and propane.
- [Renewable Energy Act](#): Required utilities to acquire at least 15% of electrical energy from renewable sources by 2010 (Renewable Portfolio Standard). The province achieved this target. Currently about 25% of PEI's electricity consumption is sourced from on-island wind farms.
- [PC MLA proposes ban on oil heat in new PEI builds](#)

City	Local Government Authority	Climate Plans	Specific 'quirks' / Novel examples	Additional Actions / Comments
Charlottetown	Charlottetown Area Municipalities Act Zoning and Development By-law - outlines implementing of sustainable electrical and heating services Resolution passed to transition to a 100% renewable and carbon neutral city by 2050.	Community Energy Plan (2019)		

¹⁴ "Main Electricity Sources in Canada by Province." <https://energyrates.ca/the-main-electricity-sources-in-canada-by-province/>.

Summerside			Summerside could become electricity-independent by 2025	Only local government in P.E.I with ability to establish and operate utilities (Summerside Electric).
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1.10 Newfoundland and Labrador

- [Municipalities Act](#): governs all local governments in the province, except for [St. John's](#), [City of Mount Pearl](#) and [City of Corner Brook](#).

- Following in the footsteps of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, Newfoundland and Labrador’s main electricity source is water power (95%), Petroleum (2%), Natural gas (2)%, and Wind and Biomass/geothermal (around 1% each).¹⁵
- Generation and distribution of electricity is provided by two utilities, [Newfoundland Power \(NP\)](#) and [Newfoundland & Labrador Hydro \(Hydro\)](#).
 - Newfoundland Power, an investor-owned utility and subsidiary of [Fortis Inc](#) is the primary distributor of electricity on the island portion of the Province.
 - Hydro (and its subsidiary Nalcor Energy) is a provincial Crown corporation, with the mandate to generate and transmit electricity in the province, and to provide distribution and retail services to customers in Labrador
- All utilities in N.F.L are regulated by the [Public Utilities Board \(PUB\)](#). The [Electrical Power Control Act \(1994\)](#) directs the PUB to enforce government policy in relation to the electricity industry and details the policy.
- [Northern Strategic Plan for Labrador \(2007\)](#): an annual investment for an electricity rebate to reduce the cost of basic electricity consumption for Hydro residential customers in Labrador’s coastal rural isolated diesel and the Labrador Straits communities.

City	Local Government Authority	Climate Plans	Specific ‘quirks’ / Novel examples	Additional Actions / Comments
St. John’s	<p>City of St. John’s Act</p> <p>Residential Property Standards By-law - requirements for heating systems, fuel burning equipment, fire-places, chimneys, and related accessories. Have similar by-law for Commercial Building Property Standards.</p> <p>City adopts Corporate Climate Plan - includes achieving net zero by 2050 at the latest through a mgmt framework.</p>	<p>Geothermal and heat recovery systems: for City owned facilities.</p> <p>Riverhead Anaerobic Digester and re-use of biogas: reduces the need for the Riverhead facility to use heating oil.</p> <p>Robin Hood Bay Landfill Gas capture and destruction: allows the city to capture landfill gases.</p> <p>In development: Community Climate Plan - will present framework for adopting low carbon pathway.</p>	<p>City Act - restriction re fuel pumps: A gasoline or fuel oil pump for providing or servicing motor vehicles with gasoline or fuel oil shall not be erected or placed in or on a street or sidewalk in the city or in or on a street or sidewalk within 1.6 kilometres of the limits of the city.</p> <p>City Act - Fuel oil tax</p>	

1.11 Yukon

- [Municipal Act](#): governs all local governments in the territory.

¹⁵ “Main Electricity Sources in Canada by Province.” <https://energyrates.ca/the-main-electricity-sources-in-canada-by-province/>.

- While most electricity generated by Yukon Energy comes from hydro - [roughly 95%](#) - natural gas and petroleum (6%) sometimes powers homes, especially in the mornings and evenings during cold snaps. The territory presents one of Canada’s largest hydro resources with four hydro plants with a total capacity of 95 megawatts.¹⁶
- [Yukon Energy](#) is the publicly-owned, main generator and transmitter of electrical energy in Yukon. Yukon Energy works with its parent company, Yukon Development Corporation, to provide Yukoners with reliable, sustainable and cost-effective power.
- The [Utilities Board](#) regulates and sets rates of public utility in the province, under the [Public Utilities Act](#).

City	Local Government Authority	Climate Plans	Specific ‘quirks’ / Novel examples	Additional Actions / Comments
Whitehorse		Sustainability Plan (2015) - targeted a 10% decrease in CO2 emissions from 2014 levels by 2020,	Pilot Project Underway: The Yukon Conservation Society leading a 2-year pilot project (funded by NRCan) that will shift power usage to off-peak times and reduce the use of fossil fuels, with plans to outfit 40 homes with electric thermal storage units at a discounted rate. The project aims to reduce the use of diesel and also the use of heating oil and propane.	Province building battery storage facility near Whitehorse to provide new electrical source

1.12 Northwest Territories

- Has a number of legislative pieces that govern local governments:
 - [Cities Towns and Villages Act](#)

¹⁶ “Main Electricity Sources in Canada by Province.” <https://energyrates.ca/the-main-electricity-sources-in-canada-by-province/>.

- [Hamlets Act](#);
- [Tłı̨chǫ Community Government Act](#);
 - The Tłı̨chǫ Agreement was negotiated by the Dogrib Treaty 11 Council, the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT), and the Government of Canada. It is the first combined comprehensive land claim and self-government agreement in the Northwest Territories.
- [Charter Communities Act](#)
- In the Northwest Territories, hydro and oil play a major role in generating electricity. Together, these two sources represent about 86% of the territory’s electricity production: Petroleum 52%), Hydro (34%), Natural gas (13%), and Wind (1%).¹⁷
- Three companies distribute electricity to residents of N.W.T.: the [Northwest Territories Power Corporation](#), [Northland Utilities \(NWT\) Limited](#) distributes electricity to residents of Hay River, and [Northland Utilities \(Yellowknife\) Limited](#) distributes electricity to residents of Yellowknife. All of the companies are regulated by the [NWT Public Utilities Board](#).¹⁸
- In normal precipitation years, approximately 75% of N.W.T.’s electricity comes from hydroelectricity. In drier years, the territory relies on diesel generation to make up for the shortfall in precipitation. Diesel is the sole or primary electricity source for remote communities or industries that are not connected to one of NWT’s two hydro-based grids. A handful of communities have year-round road access while most others depend on a combination of ice-roads and air travel thus are still dependent on diesel generators as a primary power source.¹⁹

City	Local Government Authority	Climate Plans	Specific ‘quirks’ / Novel examples	Additional Actions / Comments
Yellowknife	In 2014, Council approved the Community Energy Plan for years 2015-2025 - Corporate target of 50% reduction of GHG emissions by 2025, using 2009 base. Community target of 30% reduction of GHG emissions by 2025, using 2009 base.			The Energy Plan includes the Green Energy Retrofit Program Study as well as a recent 2014 GHG and Energy Inventory .

1.13 Nunavut

- Has a number of legislative pieces that govern local government:
 - [Nunavut Planning Act](#)
 - [Cities, Towns and Villages Act](#)

¹⁷ “Main Electricity Sources in Canada by Province.” <https://energyrates.ca/the-main-electricity-sources-in-canada-by-province/>.

¹⁸ Northwest Territories. Canada Energy Regulator. <https://www.cer-rec.gc.ca/en/data-analysis/energy-commodities/electricity/report/canadian-residential-electricity-bill/northwest-territories.html?text=Electricity%20Provider&text=The%20Northwest%20Territories%20Power%20Corporation,electricity%20to%20residents%20of%20Yellowknife>.

¹⁹ Ibid.

- [Hamlets Act](#)
- [Nunavut Land Claims Agreement](#)
- [Nunavut Act](#)
- [Land Development Policy](#)
- [Municipal Lands Administration Policy](#)
- According to [NEB](#) data from 2016, the electricity generation grid in the province is 100% petroleum.
- Following Nunavut’s division from the Northwest Territories, the Nunavut Power Corporation took up the mandate to supply electricity to communities in the territory of Nunavut. Renamed [Qulliq Energy Corporation \(QEC\)](#) in 2003, this territorial corporation is 100% owned by the Government of Nunavut, and operates at arm’s length from the government, reporting to the territorial Minister responsible for QEC. QEC is the sole generator and distributor of electrical energy in Nunavut receiving all electricity needs by imported fossil fuel supplies.
- Each community in Nunavut has its own independent electricity generation and distribution system. There is no back-up grid. QEC is the only energy corporation in Canada without developed local energy resources or regional electricity transmission capability, creating a situation of high dependency on fossil fuel.
- [Ikummatiit](#) (2007): Nunavut’s strategy to create an energy system that is affordable, sustainable, reliable and environmentally responsible

<i>City</i>	<i>Local Government Authority</i>	<i>Climate Plans</i>	<i>Specific ‘quirks’ / Novel examples</i>	<i>Additional Actions / Comments</i>
<i>Iqaluit</i>		Sustainable Community Plan (2014) - describes a long-range (50-years) vision, goals, strategies and prioritized actions for the City and community leaders.		5 quick facts about fuel in Iqaluit