

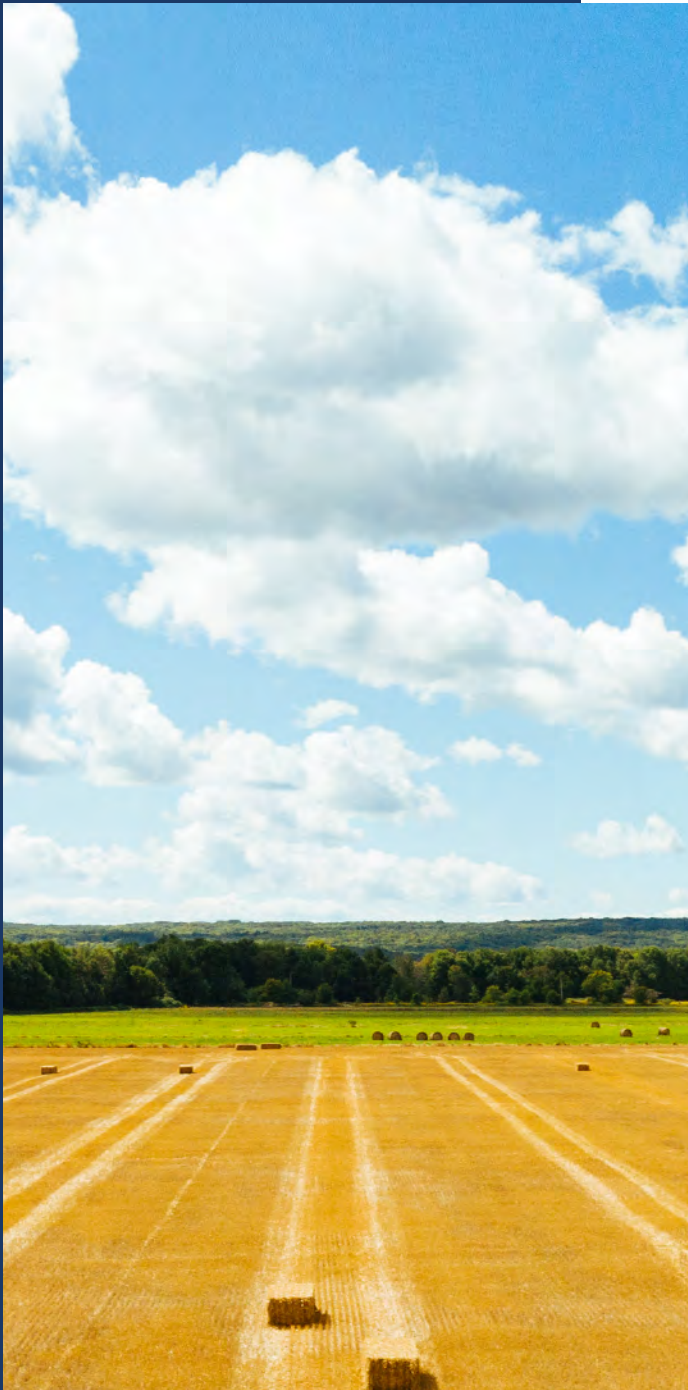
# CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

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August 2025







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# Message from CAO

Shawn Binns  
Township of Oro-Medonte  
Chief Administrative Officer

On behalf of the Township of Oro-Medonte, I am proud to introduce Oro-Medonte's first Climate Action Plan —a forward-looking roadmap shaped by evidence, engagement, and determination.

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This Plan is more than a checklist—it reflects our shared vision to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build a community that is not only more sustainable and resilient, but better prepared to adapt to change. The Plan is the product of collaboration across Council, staff, regional partners, and stakeholders — a testament to what we can accomplish when we align policy with purpose.

Built on sound data and grounded in a local lens, the Climate Action Plan identifies key actions to reduce emissions in municipal operations, embed sustainability into Township policies and procurement, enhance community resilience, and strengthen collaboration, to ensure climate initiatives are fiscally responsible.

Importantly, this Plan speaks to the strength of good governance. It's not just about environmental stewardship; this is however, certainly part of it. It is also about proactive planning, alignment with our strategic objectives, and risk management, and taking into consideration how our actions today impact tomorrow.

While the Climate Action Plan is a milestone, it is also the starting line. Moving from plan to implementation will take commitment, innovation, and teamwork. I am confident that together, we can deliver impact, demonstrate leadership, and continue building a community future generations will be proud of.





## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Township of Oro-Medonte acknowledges that we are situated on the traditional land of the Anishnaabek people, and ancestral territory of the Huron-Wendat. The Anishnaabek include the Odawa, Ojibwe and Pottawatomi nations, collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy.

It continues today as the home for diverse Indigenous Peoples including the historic Métis Community in Penetanguishene.

The Anishnaabek people continue to have an enduring relationship with this land, specifically the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, the Chippewa Tri-Council and the Williams Treaties First Nations.

The Huron-Wendat Nation also continues to pay respect and protect their ancestors and heritage on this land. We honour the Indigenous history and culture that has thrived for millennia in this territory and the Treaties that bind us together as partners in the spirit of a shared sustainable and prosperous future. We are all Treaty People.

Our commitment begins with acknowledging the Truth so that we can move forward together towards Reconciliation.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Township of Oro-Medonte has developed a Climate Action Plan (the Plan) to become a more resilient, innovative, and sustainable community. Developed through the Partners for Climate Protection's 5-Milestone Framework, the Climate Action Plan is grounded in field-validated data, staff expertise, and meaningful community engagement. The Plan's overarching goal is to reduce municipal greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions while supporting and enhancing municipal operations.

The Plan aligns with policies across all levels of government, ensuring that climate action is not only environmentally responsible but also supports broader objectives of good governance, operational efficiency, and long-term financial sustainability.

## QUICK FACTS

In **2023**, the Township of Oro-Medonte emitted an estimated 130,945 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (GHG).

- Community emissions accounted for 99% (129,211 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).
- Corporate (municipal operations) emissions accounted for 1% (1,734 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).

In **2024**, the Township has committed to reducing:

- Municipal GHG emissions by 10%
- Community GHG emissions by 5%

# The Climate Action Plan sets out 4 goals:



## GOAL 1

### **Reduce GHG Emissions in Municipal Operations**

Demonstrate climate leadership by reducing emissions from Township operations to achieve a 10% reduction in corporate GHG emissions.



## GOAL 2

### **Embed Climate Sustainability in Municipal Policy and Procurement**

Integrate climate sustainability considerations into municipal decision-making.



## GOAL 3

### **Build Community Resilience and Strengthen Collaboration**

Support residents and local organizations in adapting to climate impacts while building a resilient, innovative, and environmentally responsible community.



## GOAL 4

### **Ensure Climate Considerations are Financially Sustainable**

Protect finances, public assets, and economic growth while reducing financial risks and unlocking funding opportunities.

The implementation of the Climate Action Plan will continue to rely on the engagement and collaboration from Township staff and the Oro-Medonte community. Together, we can ensure a healthier, more vibrant Oro-Medonte for generations to come.



# INTRODUCTION

The Township of Oro-Medonte Climate Action Plan has been developed as a guiding framework to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (mitigation), strengthen climate resilience (adaptation), and promote sustainable development while meeting current operational needs and adapting to evolving community priorities. This Plan represents the Township's first formal step in climate action planning and sets the foundation for long-term resilience and sustainability.

## The Vision



To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build a resilient and sustainable community while supporting development, preserving the Township's rural character, and delivering high-quality services that meet current operational needs and adapting to evolving community priorities.

The Plan has been developed primarily through the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program, along with input from the community and Township staff.

The Plan also ensures alignment with policies across all levels of government, integrating local, provincial, and federal climate goals into local municipal strategies and actions.



**Federal Policy Alignment:** Canada's Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act commits Canada to net-zero emissions by 2050, with an interim target of 30% below 2005 levels by 2030.



**Provincial Policy Alignment:** Ontario Regulation 25/23 supports the Province's climate goals by mandating broader public sector organizations to develop and maintain energy conservation and demand management plans, and to report annual energy usage through the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager system.



**County of Simcoe Policy Alignment:** The 2023 County of Simcoe Corporate Climate Action Plan (CCAP) sets interim and 2050 emissions reduction targets for the County and maps out a clear pathway to reach these targets.



**Township of Oro-Medonte Policy Alignment:** The Township 2024-2027 Strategic Plan is a roadmap that outlines the Township's vision for the future and steps that will be taken to achieve success. The Strategic Plan priorities are financial sustainability, community engagement, a balanced approach to respectful and responsible development, community safety, and strengthened operational capacity. Likewise, the Township's 2024 Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Plan commits to a goal of reducing energy use and GHG emissions across municipal operations.



# Climate Change in Oro-Medonte

Extreme weather events and the increase in significant weather declarations, including the March 2025 ice storm, have disrupted daily life in the Township of Oro-Medonte, damaged infrastructure, and strained municipal services and budgets. Recent events and emerging trends underscore the pressing need for local action.

## Observed and Projected Climate Risks and Hazards



**Extreme Weather Events:** The March 2025 ice storm and other recent events have caused widespread infrastructure damage and service disruptions. Storms are becoming more frequent and intense, requiring updated emergency preparedness and resilient infrastructure planning.



**Flooding:** An increasing concern in Oro-Medonte, driven by rising annual precipitation—projected to grow from 992 mm to 1,047 mm by 2040 and reach 1,083 mm by 2070 according to [Climatedata.ca](https://climatedata.ca)—as well as more frequent and intense weather events. It can occur in several forms:

- Heavy rainfall, which overwhelms drainage systems and leads to urban flooding.
- Riverine flooding, affecting areas near streams, rivers, and Lake Simcoe.
- Snowmelt flooding, caused by rapid thaws in late winter and early spring.

These events pose risks to roads, homes, properties, and municipal infrastructure. To address these vulnerabilities, the Township is prioritizing upgrades to stormwater systems, implementing green infrastructure, and integrating flood risk into land use planning and engineering design standards.

# Climate Change in Oro-Medonte



**Drought:** While Oro-Medonte might be seen abundant with water resources, drought conditions are becoming more likely due to shifting precipitation patterns. Climate projections show longer dry periods between intense rain events, which can:

- Stress local water supplies and ecosystems.
- Increase wildfire risk.
- Impact agriculture and landscaping.

Water conservation, drought-tolerant landscaping, and sustainable groundwater management practices are essential to building resilience to drought.



**Heavy Snowfall & Snow Events:** Oro-Medonte experiences significant snowfall each winter and lake-effect snow, snow squalls, and blizzards, which are expected to remain a concern.

These events can:

- Disrupt transportation and emergency services.
- Increase maintenance costs for snow clearing and road safety.
- Cause power outages and structural damage.

Climate change may also lead to more freeze-thaw cycles, which can degrade roads and infrastructure.



**Heatwaves and Rising Temperatures:** According to [Climatedata.ca](https://climatedata.ca), the number of days above 30°C is projected to nearly double by 2040 and quadruple by 2070. Heatwaves will become longer, more frequent, and more intense, posing risks to public health, especially for vulnerable populations.



# Climate Change in Oro-Medonte



**Tornadoes:** The risk of tornadoes is rising, particularly during the summer months. These powerful storms can cause sudden and severe damage to homes, infrastructure, and natural landscapes. As climate change contributes to greater atmospheric instability, our area is experiencing an increased likelihood of tornado activity. Strengthening emergency preparedness, investing in early warning systems, and adopting resilient building practices are essential steps to reduce the impact of tornado-related hazards.



**Wildfire Smoke and Air Quality:** Events like the 2023 Ontario/Quebec wildfires have shown how wildfire smoke can degrade air quality across the region, increasing respiratory health risks for children, seniors, and individuals with asthma.

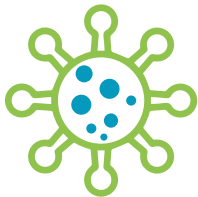


**Water Quality and Algae Blooms:** Warmer temperatures and altered precipitation patterns are contributing to harmful algae blooms, such as those observed annually in Lake Simcoe and Bass Lake. These blooms threaten aquatic ecosystems, recreational water use, and potentially drinking water sources.

# Climate Change in Oro-Medonte



**Invasive Species:** Climate change is accelerating the spread of invasive species like phragmites, emerald ash borer, oak wilt, and giant hogweed, which threaten local ecosystems and public safety.



**Vector-Borne Diseases:** A warming climate is expanding the range of ticks and mosquitoes, increasing the risk of Lyme disease and West Nile virus.

As extreme weather events increase in frequency and severity, the Township must be ready to safeguard residents, visitors, the natural environment, municipal infrastructure, and essential services. These risks demonstrate that the Township is exposed to multiple, interconnected climate hazards that affect infrastructure, ecosystems, public health, and the local economy.



# Climate Action in Oro-Medonte

**In June 2024, Township of Oro-Medonte Council approved joining the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program, demonstrating municipal environmental leadership and a commitment to advancing climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts.**





# Addressing climate change requires a dual approach

## ADAPTATION

Taking proactive measures to prepare for and respond to the ongoing and future effects of climate change, ensuring resilience for communities, infrastructure, and the natural environment.

## MITIGATION

Reducing GHG emissions to minimize future climate impacts and contribute to a more sustainable environment.

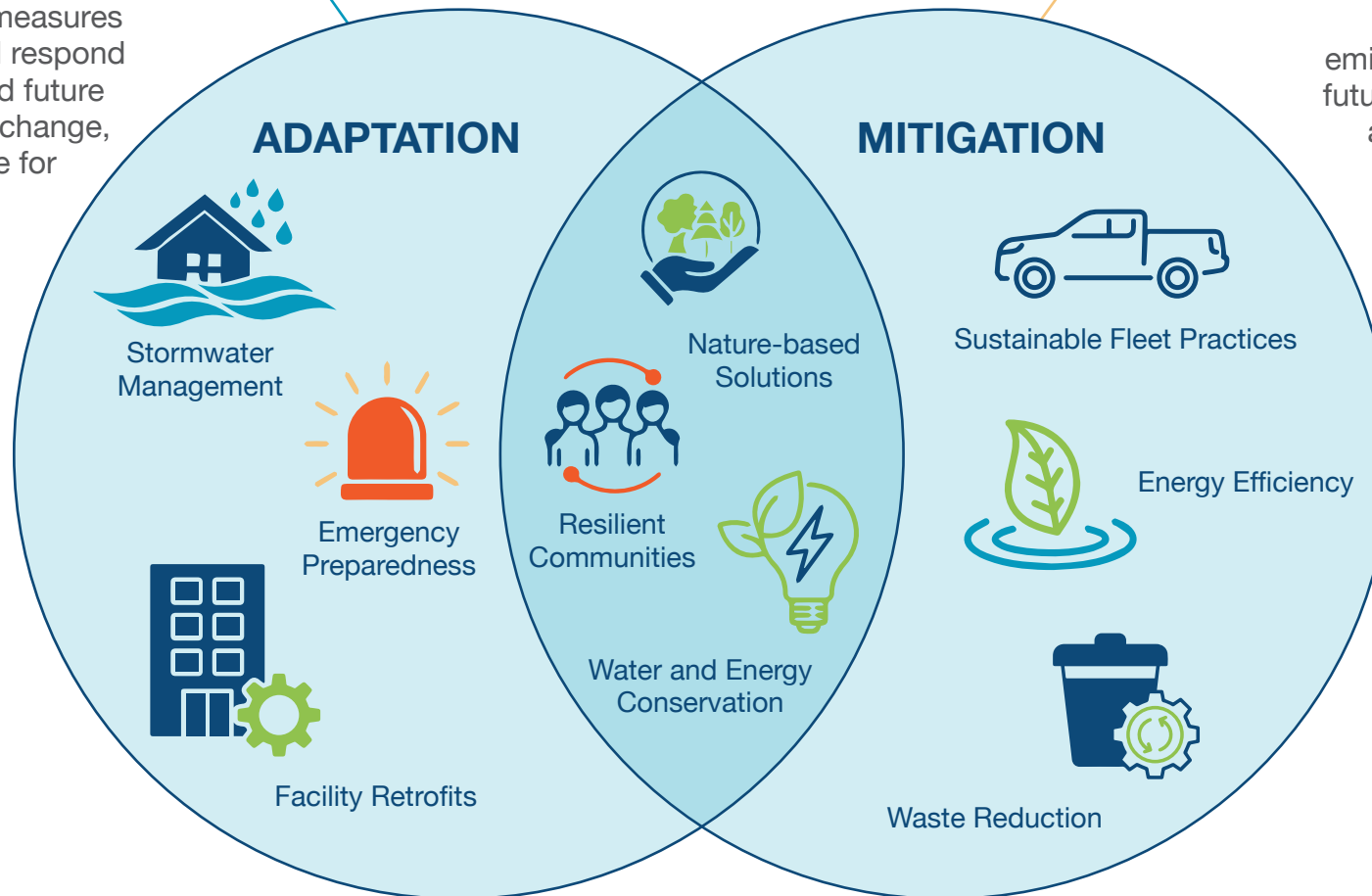


Figure 1. Climate Adaption and Mitigation



The Township of  
Oro-Medonte's  
Climate Action Plan  
benefits a wide range  
of stakeholders  
by promoting  
sustainability and  
enhancing  
community resilience.



#### **RESIDENTS**

Improved quality of life, safer infrastructure, and better preparedness for climate-related events.



#### **MUNICIPAL STAFF AND COUNCIL**

Clear data to guide decision-making, budgeting, and policy development.



#### **LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Opportunities to align with sustainability goals and access support for green initiatives.



#### **FUTURE GENERATIONS**

A more resilient, sustainable, and livable community.

The Plan integrates both adaptation and mitigation strategies into Oro-Medonte's climate goals.

## Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program

The PCP program is a national network of over 400 municipalities with the shared goal of taking action against climate change and reducing local greenhouse gas emissions. The PCP program provides municipalities support to reduce local GHG emissions and improve the quality of life for residents in their communities.

The program is administered by Local Governments for Sustainability Canada ICLEI (formally referred to as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and consists of a Five-Step Milestone Framework that guides members on how to take action against climate change by reducing emissions.



Figure 2. Partner's for Climate Protection 5-Milestone Framework

# MILESTONE 1

In August 2024, the Township of Oro-Medonte successfully completed Milestone 1 of the PCP Program's Milestone Framework, which included creating a GHG baseline emissions inventory. Establishing a GHG inventory and baseline is a critical first step in climate action planning. This step helps identify the largest sources of emissions, sets realistic reduction targets, and tracks the effectiveness of mitigation efforts over time.

The Greenhouse Gas (GHG) baseline emissions inventory is a comprehensive accounting of all greenhouse gas emissions produced within the Municipality over a defined period. It includes emissions from sources like buildings, transportation, waste, and municipal operations. During this step, GHG emissions were calculated using the PCP Milestone tool.

The baseline emission inventory revealed that in 2023, the Township of Oro-Medonte emitted an estimated 130,945 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e. More specifically,

Community GHG Emissions accounted for 99% (129,211 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).

Corporate GHG Emissions accounted for 1% (1,734 tCO<sub>2</sub>e).

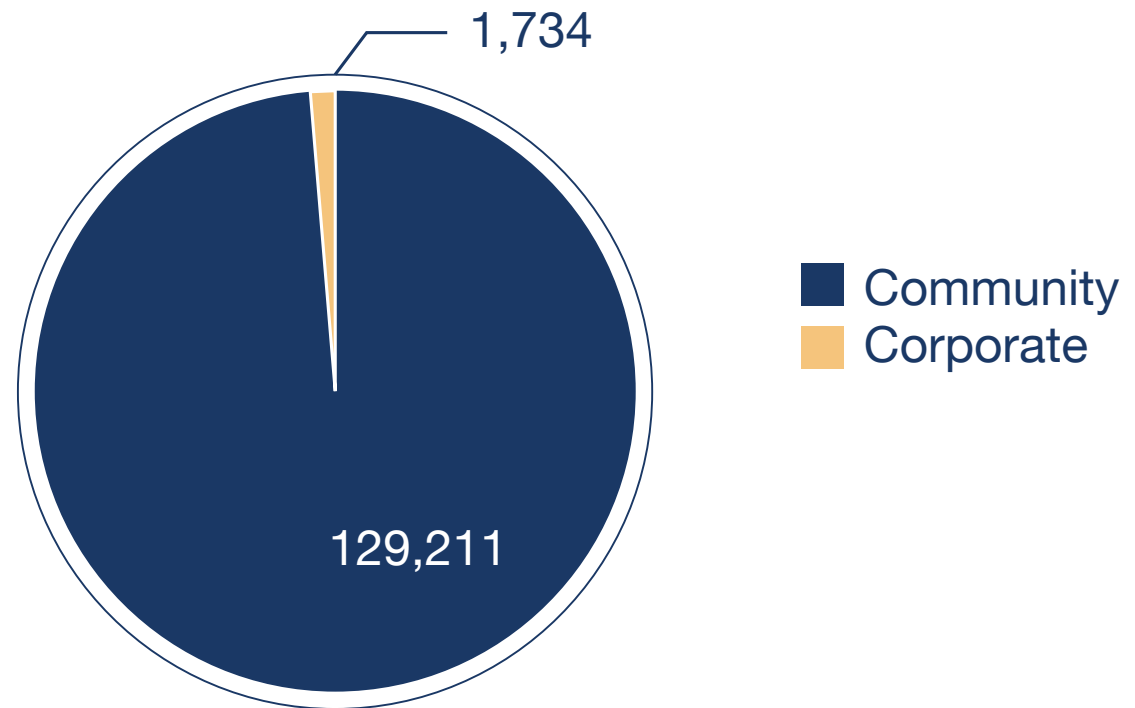
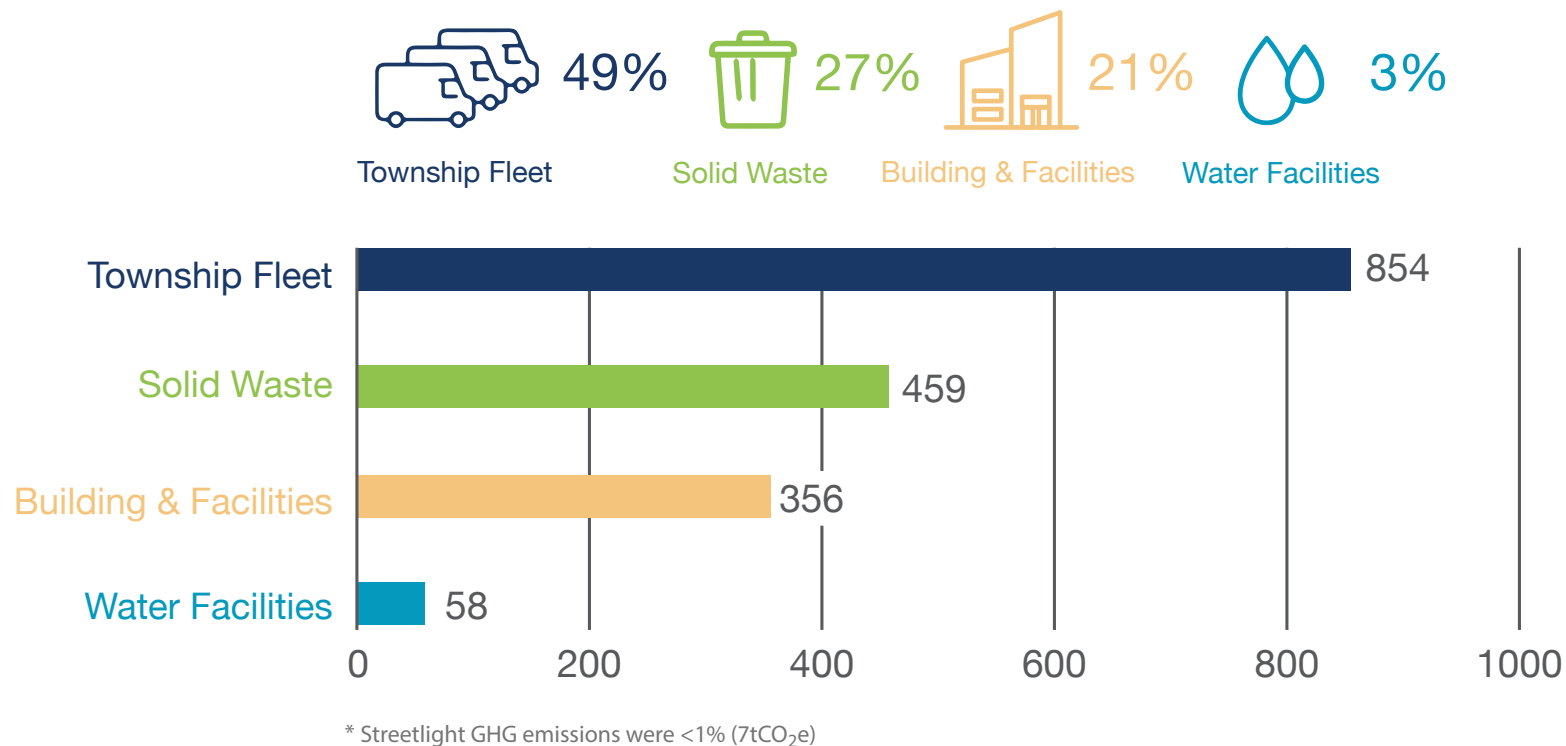


Figure 3. Total Community Emissions 2023 (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)



Corporate GHG inventory focused on emissions from municipal operations which are a subset of community emissions. In 2023, the Township of Oro-Medonte conducted an internal audit of utility bills to assess corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions across five sectors: Township Fleet, Solid Waste, Buildings and Facilities, Water Facilities and Streetlights\*.

The results of the inventory revealed the following.



Corporate GHG emissions = 1734 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

Figure 4. Corporate GHG Emissions (% and tCO<sub>2</sub>e)

The data reviewed confirmed that in the absence of a formal climate protection program, the Township has actively been reducing greenhouse gas emissions through effective management practices and operational decisions that naturally aligned with sustainability efforts.

# MILESTONE 2

To achieve Milestone 2 of the PCP Program, the Township of Oro-Medonte modelled Business-as-Usual (BAU) scenarios and conducted a public and staff engagement campaign to shape the Climate Action Plan, and establish GHG reduction targets. Community and municipal staff input was essential to ensure the Plan's reduction targets align with local values, priorities, and practical insights, while setting realistic and impactful climate goals.

BAU modelling completed for Oro-Medonte illustrates future GHG emissions if no climate action is taken and assumes a 0.5% annual growth rate over a 10-year period (to 2033) for both community and corporate sectors.

The results of the BAU modeling revealed the following for community and corporate emissions.

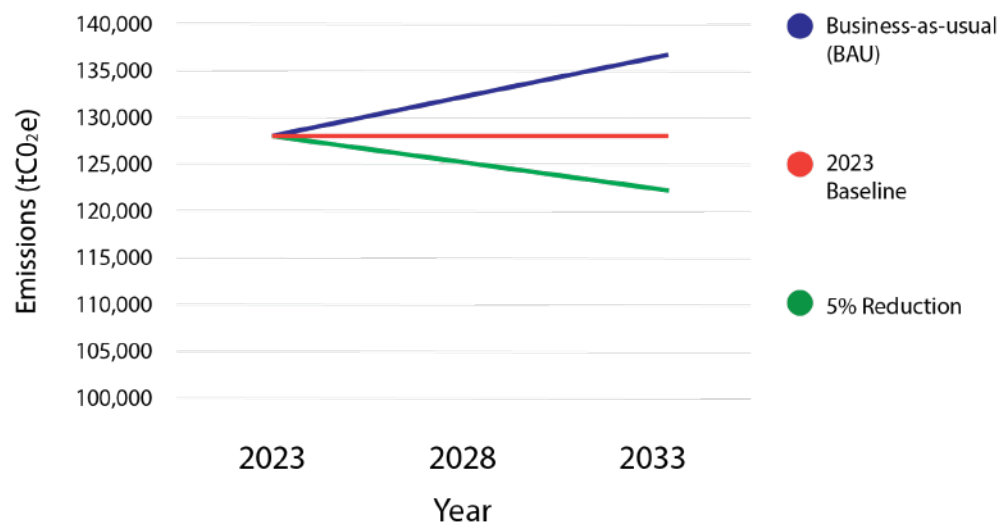


Figure 5. Community business-as-usual and reduction target

Under BAU, community emissions are expected to rise by 5% to 135,726 tCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2033. Based on the engagement campaign and data in the baseline emission inventory, Oro-Medonte's Council endorsed a 5% GHG reduction target to be achieved by 2033.

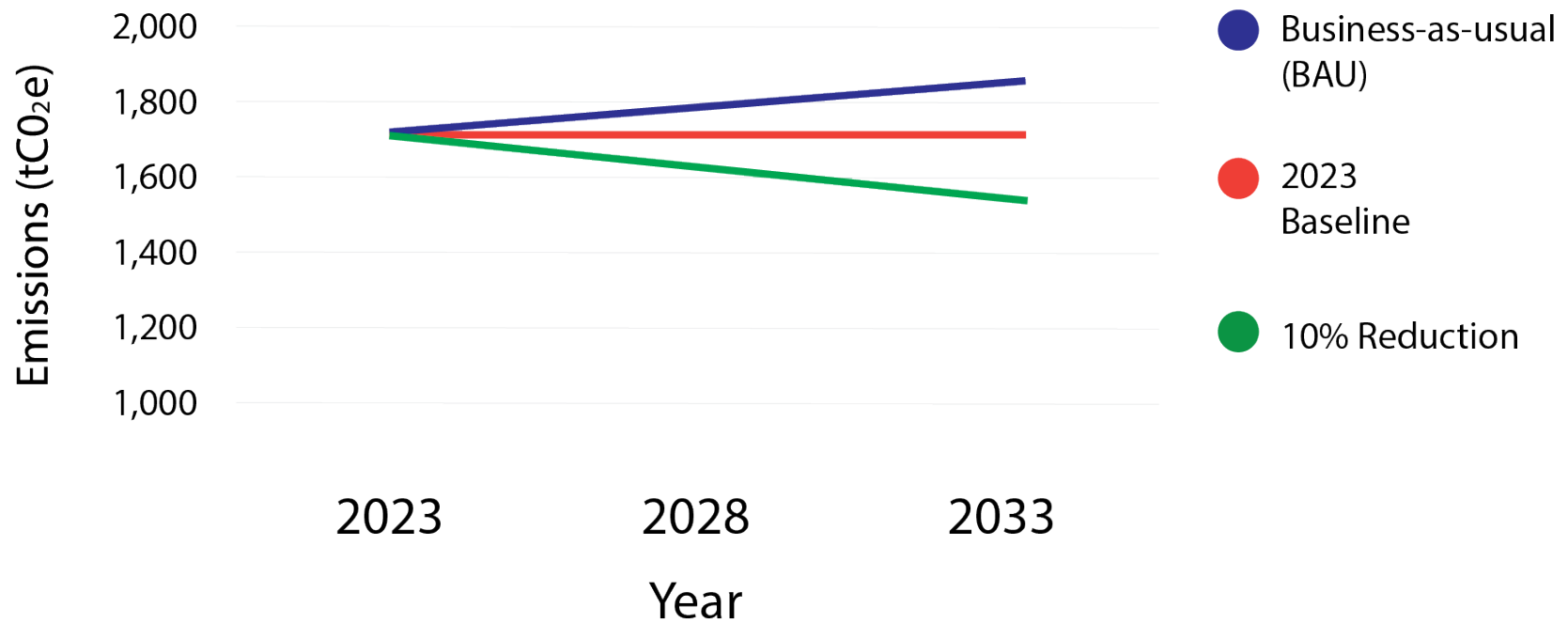


Figure 6. Corporate business-as-usual and reduction target

Under BAU, corporate emissions are expected to rise by 5% to 1,814 tCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2033. Based on the engagement campaign and the data in the baseline emission inventory, Oro-Medonte's Council endorsed a 10% GHG reduction target to be achieved by 2033. These targets reflect the Township's commitment to climate action and sustainability while integrating feedback from residents and staff.



## MILESTONE 3

Development of the Township of Oro-Medonte Climate Action Plan is part of Milestone 3 within the PCP program. This Plan serves as a roadmap for the Township's efforts in climate mitigation and adaptation, identifying climate risk and hazards, guiding strategies to reduce GHG emissions, and enhancing community and corporate resilience to climate impacts.

## MILESTONE 4

Implementing the Climate Action Plan, through Township of Oro-Medonte Council endorsement, will advance Milestone 4 of the PCP Program. Formal Council endorsement will allow staff to advance the initiative, implementing the recommended goals and actions outlined in the Climate Action Plan.

## MILESTONE 5

The final step in the PCP Program milestone framework is for the Township to evaluate progress toward the emission reduction goals set in Milestone 2 and reassess the strategic direction of the Climate Action Plan developed in Milestones 3. Milestone 5 is expected to be completed in 2030 as part of the Township's performance evaluation and reporting process.



# GOAL 1

## Reduce GHG Emissions in Municipal Operations

Demonstrate climate leadership by reducing emissions from Township operations to achieve a 10% reduction in corporate GHG emissions.

Objectives	Action	Department Collaborators	Start time	Implementation Timeline	Action Type
Enhance energy efficiency and resource use through targeted retrofits and facility-level energy management—aligned with the 2024 Conservation and Demand Management Plan	Install automated controls for interior lighting where feasible.	Operations	In-progress	Short-term	Mitigation
	Upgrade indoor lighting systems to energy-efficient LEDs.	Operations	In-progress	Short-term	Mitigation
	Upgrade outdated and inefficient heating and cooling systems in older buildings with high-efficiency HVAC units or smart, automated temperature controls that are both environmentally sustainable and cost-effective, where feasible.	Operations	2025/On-going	Long-term	Mitigation
	Replace office equipment with ENERGY STAR or other energy-efficient models when needed.	Corporate Services	2025/On-going	Long-term	Mitigation
	Upgrade park and field lights to LEDs with automated control.	Operations	In-progress	Short-term	Mitigation
	Conduct energy audits for individual municipal facilities to identify opportunities for improved efficiency.	Operations/ Environmental Services	In-progress	Short-term	Mitigation
	Retrofit municipal buildings to ensure resilience against extreme weather (e.g., improved insulation, generators).	Operations	In-progress	Short-term	Adaptation
	Conduct building envelope assessments to identify insulation and air leakage issues.	Operations/ Environmental Services	2025/On-going	Mid to Long-term	Mitigation
Identify and pursue opportunities to reduce waste	Conduct solid waste audits in all municipal buildings and facilities.	Operations/ Environmental Services	2025	Short-term	Mitigation
	Launch a staff education campaign on energy-saving behaviors and proper waste sorting.	Environmental Services	2025	Short-term	Mitigation
	Install water bottle filling stations at public and municipal facilities where feasible.	Operations	2026	Short-term	Mitigation
Explore opportunities to encourage sustainable municipal fleet practices	Create dashboards for real-time monitoring of fuel usage, idling, and route adherence.	Operations	In-progress	Mid-term	Mitigation
	Conduct and implement automated route scheduling systems where feasible to reduce fuel consumption and idle time.	Operations	In-progress	Mid-term	Mitigation
	Integrate automated controls for salt and sand distribution to minimize environmental impact.	Operations	In-progress	Short to Mid-term	Mitigation
	Review emerging fleet technology for emission reductions and operational efficiency.	Operations	On-going	Long-term	Mitigation
	Purchase hybrid vehicles where feasible.	All Departments	On-going	Long-term	Mitigation



### Implementation Timeline Legend

Short-term: within the next 12 months

Mid-term: 12-24 months

Long-term: 24-48 months



# GOAL 1

## Reduce GHG Emissions in Municipal Operations

Demonstrate climate leadership by reducing emissions from Township operations to achieve a 10% reduction in corporate GHG emissions.

Objectives	Action	Department Collaborators	Start time	Implementation Timeline	Action Type
Promote water conservation and energy efficiency across all municipal and water facilities	Improve efficiency, facility performance, and resource use at water facilities.	Environmental Services	On-going	Mid-term	Mitigation
	Install low-flow faucets with sensors and automatic shut-offs at municipal facilities where feasible.	Operations	2025/2026	Short-term	Mitigation
	Install rain gauges/weather stations to help better understand local water usage and climate patterns across the Township.	Operations/ Environmental Services	2025	Mid to Long-term	Mitigation & Adaptation
	Install rain gardens, bioswales, and permeable pavements where feasible to naturally absorb and filter stormwater, and reduce flood risk.	Environmental Services	2026/2027	Long-term	Mitigation & Adaptation
	Promote community water conservation initiatives.	Environmental Services	On-going	Short-term	Mitigation & Adaptation
Consistently monitor and report to Council and Staff	Assign a staff member or team to collect and complete annual updates of utility data.	Operations/ Environmental Services/ Finance	In-progress	Mid-term	Mitigation
	Analyze year-over-year data to measure progress toward the 10% GHG reduction goal.	Environmental Services	In-progress	Mid-term	Mitigation
	Include the co-benefits of Climate Change Action Projects in annual reports.	Environmental Services	2025/On-going	Short to Long-term	Mitigation & Adaptation
	Share results with Council and the public to demonstrate transparency and accountability.	Environmental Services	2025/On-going	Short to Long-term	Mitigation & Adaptation



### Implementation Timeline Legend

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## GOAL 2 Embed Climate Sustainability in Municipal Policy and Procurement

Integrate climate sustainability considerations into municipal decision-making.

Objectives	Action	Department Collaborators	Start time	Implementation Timeline	Action Type
Incorporate GHG reduction targets and climate change considerations into Township documents and policies	Integrate climate change considerations into staff reports and Township documents and policies.	All Departments	2025/On-going	Mid-term	Mitigation
	Consider municipal assets for climate vulnerability and review maintenance schedules, service levels, life cycle management, and other risk considerations.	Finance/All Departments	2026	Long-term	Mitigation
	Align climate sustainability with land-use planning and development policies (Official Plan, Engineering Design Standards).	Development Services	On-going	Mid to Long-term	Mitigation
Incorporate sustainable procurement concepts into the procurement By-law	Consider lifecycle cost analysis in procurement decisions to account for long-term environmental impacts.	Finance	In-progress	Short-term	Mitigation
Incorporate sustainability into corporate decision making	Consider climate impact assessments in the planning and evaluation of major capital projects, ensuring alignment with climate goals where feasible.	All Departments	2026	Mid-term	Mitigation & Adaptation
	Provide staff training on sustainable procurement and climate-conscious decision-making and operations.	Environmental Services	2025/2026	Mid-term	Mitigation
	Engage, educate, and support departments in identifying opportunities to reduce emissions and improve sustainability in their operations.	Environmental Services	In-progress	Short-term	Mitigation



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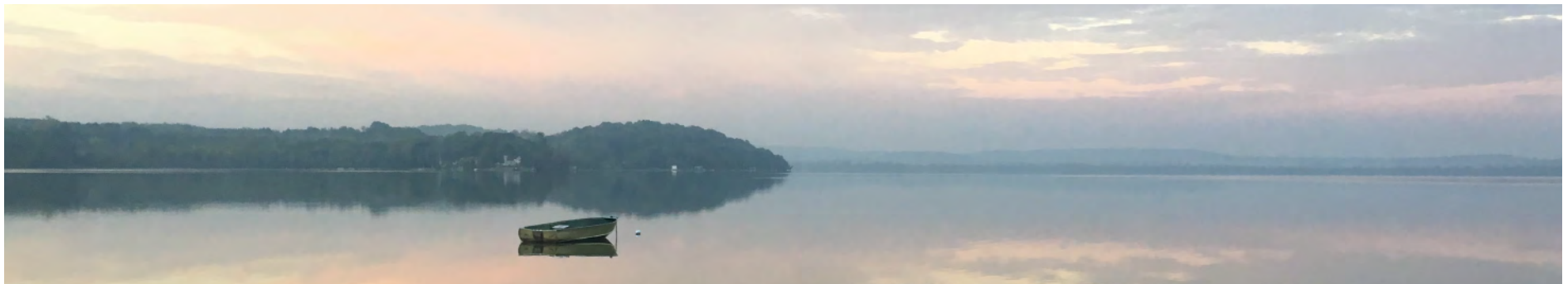


## GOAL 3

# Build Community Resilience and Strengthen Collaboration

Support residents and local organizations in adapting to climate impacts while building a resilient, innovative, and environmentally responsible community.

Objectives	Action	Department Collaborators	Start time	Implementation Timeline	Action Type
Educate the community in climate literacy and emergency preparedness	Share corporate energy use updates and climate messages including energy retrofit opportunities for the community through social media and Council Highlights newsletters.	Corporate Services	In-progress	Mid-term	Mitigation & Adaptation
	Create and maintain a dedicated webpage on the Township website to share climate goals and achievements, with regular updates to ensure relevance.	Environmental Services/ Corporate Services	In-progress	Short-term	Mitigation & Adaptation
	Partner with schools, libraries, and community centres to host community workshops and webinars about climate risks and how to reduce GHG emissions.	Environmental Services	2025/2026	Mid-term	Mitigation & Adaptation
	Explore third party emergency notification systems.	Fire and Emergency Services	In-progress	Mid-term	Adaptation
	Establish designated warming centres for winter and cooling centres for summer.	Fire and Emergency Services	2026	Long-term	Adaptation
	Elevate emergency preparedness information and follow a more rigid structure during emergency management.	Fire and Emergency Services	2025	Short-term	Adaptation
	Promote household emergency kits and communication plans.	Fire and Emergency Services	2025/2026	Short-term	Adaptation
Conduct a vulnerability and risk assessment for climate change to identify climate-related vulnerabilities and inequities within the Township	Assess climate hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities using regional climate models and projections.	Environmental Services	2025/2026	Short-term	Adaptation
	Develop a risk matrix to prioritize vulnerabilities based on likelihood and impact.	Environmental Services	2025/2026	Short-term	Adaptation
	Incorporate climate related hazards into existing Township HIRA assessments and emergency planning.	Fire and Emergency Services	2025	Mid-term	Adaptation
	Recommend and develop adaptation strategies and prioritize actions based on feasibility and risk level.	Environmental Services	2025/2026	Mid-term	Adaptation



### Implementation Timeline Legend

Short-term: within the next 12 months

Mid-term: 12-24 months

Long-term: 24-48 months





## GOAL 3

# Build Community Resilience and Strengthen Collaboration

Support residents and local organizations in adapting to climate impacts while building a resilient, innovative, and environmentally responsible community.

Objectives	Action	Department Collaborators	Start time	Implementation Timeline	Action Type
Collaborate with community and regional partners, including post-secondary institutions and environmental organizations, to support emissions reductions, climate action, environmental stewardship, equity, sustainable development, and emergency preparedness	Review options for community collaboration.	Environmental Services	On-going	Short to Long-term	Adaptation
	Support student-led sustainability projects through mentorship, funding, or access to municipal data and facilities.	All Departments	In-progress	Mid-term	Adaptation
	Establish partnerships with local colleges, universities, and technical institutes to support research, innovation, and pilot projects focused on low-carbon solutions.	All Departments	In-progress	Mid-term	Adaptation
Promote Nature-based solutions – green infrastructure and environmental protection, conservation, and community habitat restoration	Collaborate with conservation authorities, local environmental associations, and partner organizations to advance environmental restoration, protection, and conservation projects.	Environmental Services	In-progress	Short to Long-term	Adaptation
	Join the Bee City program administered by Pollinator Partnership Canada.	Operations	In-progress	Short-term	Adaptation



### Implementation Timeline Legend

Short-term: within the next 12 months

Mid-term: 12-24 months

Long-term: 24-48 months



## GOAL 4

### Ensure Climate Considerations are Financially Sustainable

Protect finances, public assets, and economic growth while reducing financial risks and unlocking funding opportunities.

Objectives	Action	Department Collaborators	Start time	Implementation Timeline	Action Type
Support sustainable green economic development	Collaborate with the development community on adopting voluntary guidelines for sustainable development.	Development Services	On-going	Long-term	Mitigation & Adaptation
	Support eco-tourism initiatives and local food systems that align with environmental goals and boost the local economy.	Corporate Services	On-going	Long-term	Mitigation & Adaptation
Review funding availability and opportunities for climate initiatives	Conduct routine funding scans to identify current and upcoming climate-related funding programs (e.g., FCM's Green Municipal Fund, federal/provincial grants, private sector opportunities).	All Departments	In-progress	Short-term	Mitigation & Adaptation
	Report annually on funding pursued, received, and leveraged for climate action projects.	All Departments	On-going	Mid-term	Mitigation & Adaptation



#### Implementation Timeline Legend

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Long-term: 24-48 months





## PERFORMANCE EVALUATION & REPORTING

The Township of Oro-Medonte will track climate action progress through annual performance evaluations and reporting on the goals and actions outlined in the Climate Action Plan. Specific progress will also be measured against the Climate Action Plan's targets for reducing GHG emissions.

In 2030, the Township will conduct a formal re-evaluation of the Plan. This review will consider legislation changes, technological advancements, evolving staff expertise, and local data. Based on this evaluation, staff will recommend the most strategic path forward—whether that involves updating the current Plan, developing a new five-year roadmap, or establishing a longer-term 20-year strategy.

This consistent and structured evaluation and reporting approach ensures that Oro-Medonte remains accountable and adaptive in its climate initiatives.



## LOOKING FORWARD

The Township of Oro-Medonte Climate Action Plan marks a critical step toward a more sustainable, resilient, and resource-efficient future. By reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving energy efficiency, and proactive planning, the Township is not only addressing the urgent challenges of climate change, but also lowering operational costs, enhancing service delivery, and strengthening long-term financial sustainability.

This Plan lays the foundation for responsible and sustainable growth, supporting environmental stewardship and ensuring a safe and healthy environment for current and future generations. It will remain a living document, guided by data, community input, and emerging opportunities, to support the Township in adapting, innovating, and thriving in the face of a changing climate.



# APPENDIX

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## Key Terms

**Adaptation:** Taking proactive measures to prepare for and respond to the ongoing and future effects of climate change, ensuring resilience for communities, infrastructure, and the natural environment.

**BAU (Business-as-Usual) Scenario:** A prediction of future emissions if no new climate actions are taken, based on current trends.

**Climate:** The long-term average of weather patterns—such as temperature, precipitation, and wind—typically measured over a period of 30 years or more in a specific region. Climate helps describe what kind of weather is normal for a location over time.

**Climate Change:** A long-term shift in global or regional climate patterns. Human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial processes are driving present-day climate change. These changes result in rising global temperatures, altered precipitation patterns, and more frequent and intense extreme weather events.

**Co-benefits:** Positive social, economic, and environmental changes resulting from climate policies or actions aimed at reducing climate risks, GHG emissions, or both.

**CO<sub>2</sub>e (Carbon Dioxide Equivalent):** A way to combine all greenhouse gases into one number by comparing their warming effect to carbon dioxide.

**Community GHG Inventory:** A report that adds up all emissions from residential homes, businesses, vehicles, and waste in a community.

**Corporate GHG Inventory:** A report that tracks emissions from municipal operations like buildings, vehicles, and public services. It's part of the community inventory.

**Extreme Weather Event:** A severe or unusual weather occurrence that is significantly different from the typical weather pattern for a region and time of year, such as heatwaves, heavy rainfall, ice storms, droughts, hurricanes, and blizzards. These events can cause major disruptions to communities, infrastructure, and ecosystems.

**Greenhouse Gases (GHGs):** Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere and are necessary to keep Earth warm; however, excess amounts can cause climate change and warming. Examples include CO<sub>2</sub>, methane, and nitrous oxide.

**Mitigation:** Reducing GHG emissions to minimize future climate impacts and contribute to a more sustainable environment.

**Resilience:** The ability of communities or systems to recover from climate-related events like storms or heat waves.

**Sustainability:** Using resources in a way that meets today's needs without harming the ability of future generations to meet theirs.



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