

ANNUAL REPORT

CALGARY CLIMATE HUB

www.calgaryclimatehub.ca

2022

CALGARY
CLIMATE
HUB



OVERVIEW

CALGARY CLIMATE HUB

VISION & MISSION

Vision: Calgary is a leader on climate action.

Mission: We educate and empower Calgarians to become active climate citizens.

ABOUT THE HUB

The Calgary Climate Hub is a volunteer-led, non-profit organization that unites a diverse group of Calgarians committed to working together to support meaningful local action on climate change.

We represent a variety of communities, industries, cultures and causes. We believe that a broad and diverse range of Calgarians and organizations need to be engaged on the climate crisis to develop impactful solutions that fit our unique political and economic circumstances.

We are part of the Climate Reality Project Canada's national network of climate hubs. Over the past year, we have helped make climate an election issue and successfully advocated for Calgary to adopt a target of net-zero GHG emissions by 2050.

THE TEAM

CALGARY CLIMATE HUB

Board members:

Joan Lawrence (Co-chair)
Rob Tremblay (Co-chair)
Marie Donohue (Secretary)
Yvan Beaubien (Treasurer)

Directors-at-large:

Dr. Joe Vipond (Co- Founder)
Kelley Robins
Gerald Wheatley
Sabrina Grover
Deepak Dayal
Reverend Tony Snow
Heather Addy, PhD
Sara Roosebloom

Contractors:

Angela McIntyre - Director
Daniel Smithies -
Volunteer/Administrative
Coordinator
Steve Bentley - Digital Content
Producer
Heather Morigeau - Project
Manager, Forests for Calgary
Renee Kirby - Community
Organizer (jointly with CACG)
Mike Byerley (jointly with Arusha)

Node Leaders:

Communications Node:

Kelley Robins (Co-chair)
Marisa Barber (Co-chair)

Mobilize Node:

Bob Morrison (Chair)

Nature Node:

Rob Miller (Co-Chair)
Sandra Mills (Co-Chair)
Heather Addy

HR Node:

Joan Lawrence
Pamela Scott

Youth/Fridays for Future:

Mackenzie Cumming (Co-
representative)
Stephanie Oloniyo (Co-
representative)

Eco-Elders:

Janet Gourlay-Vallance
(Chair/Leader)

Events Node:

Kevin Vibat

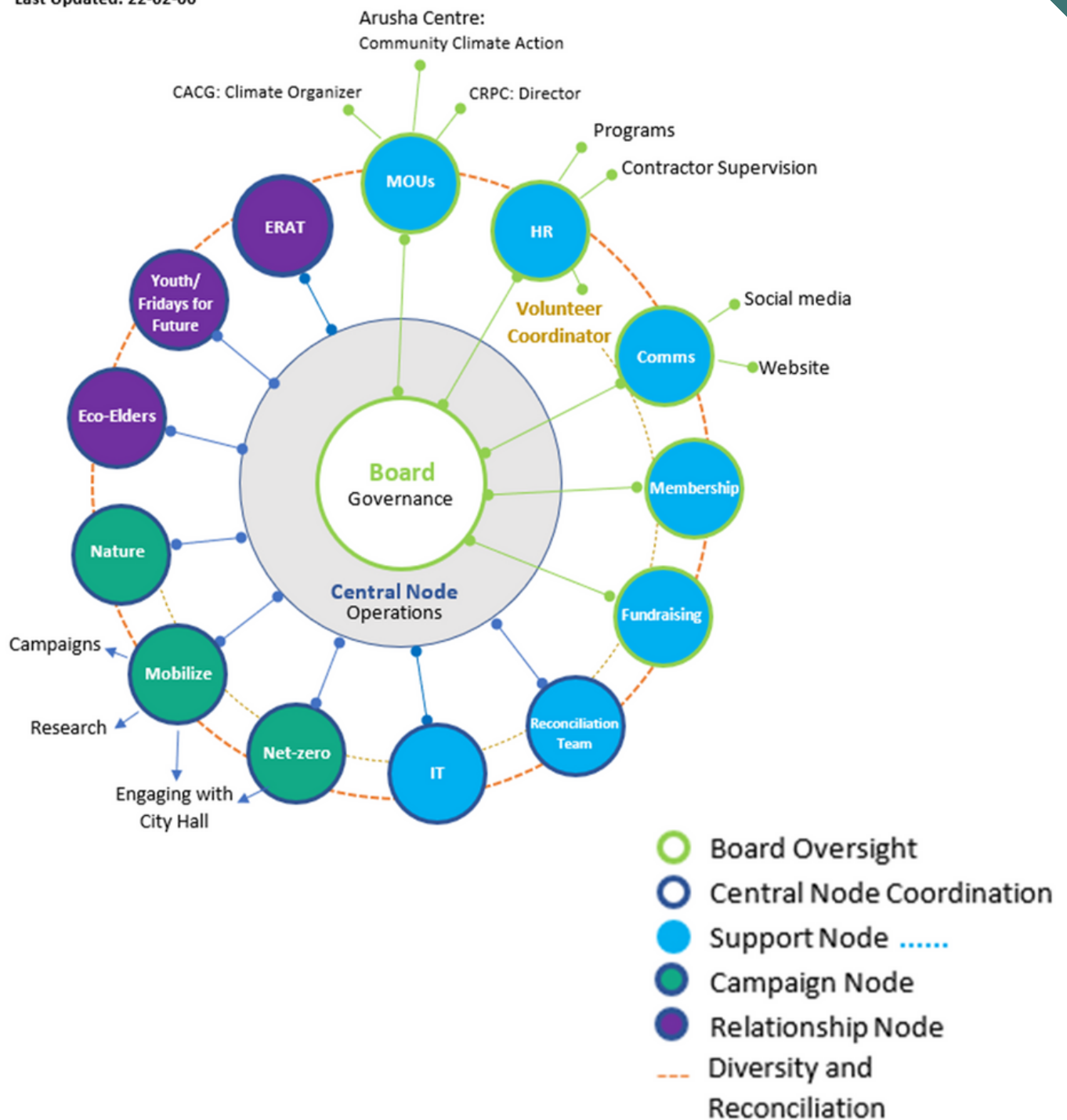


THE TEAM

CALGARY CLIMATE HUB

CCH Organizational Chart

Last Updated: 22-02-06



Message from Joan Lawrence

Co-Chair of the Calgary
Climate Hub

I regret that I will not be able to join you at the AGM this year as my son is graduating that night and I must be with him. If I could duplicate myself, I would. This is a familiar feeling, and one I know that many of you share: there is so much to do, and so little time. If only there were more of us to go around.

But guess what? There *are* more of us. And there will be still more of us in the year ahead. The work that the Hub has done, that you have done as Hub members and volunteers, has accomplished what once seemed impossible: We have helped make it acceptable to talk about climate change in Canada's oil capital. More than talk about it--we have made it acceptable to do something about it.

On a snowy night in November of 2019, I stood on a cold porch waiting to find out if I would be invited in to join the Board of the Calgary Climate Hub. At the time, I had only a very basic understanding of climate change, a limited awareness of what municipal-level climate action might look like, and no idea at all of the huge challenges the pandemic would bring. What I did have was time on my hands, and a sense of urgency.

When I crossed that threshold, what I found was others who shared my sense of urgency, who were willing to let me take chances and make mistakes, and gave generously of their time to help me learn. Over my past two years as Co-chair I have been given so many learning opportunities: how to talk to a city councillor, how to chant at a demonstration, how to write an MOU, how to chair a meeting, how colonization is at the root of climate change.

I will be forever grateful to the amazing people I have met. Working alongside you has been a tremendous privilege. I would particularly like to recognize my Co-chair, Rob Tremblay. Rob, you work so hard and have such an enormous impact. Thank you for your dedication and support.

It's normal for people to come and go in an organization, whether they are members or volunteers. The thing about climate change is, you don't stop caring and working on it even if you leave. The Hub has created many tiny spokes, some as small as a single person, who are spreading the message that the climate emergency is real, that it is caused by our actions, and that we can do something about it right here in our own community. That taking action with and for each other changes not only our climate, but also ourselves.

There is still so much to do. There are so many more people doing it. We can help each other.

Thank you for everything,

Joan Lawrence,
Departing Co-chair

Message from Robert Tremblay

Co-Chair of the Calgary
Climate Hub

New to the Hub was levelling up our capacity with our wonderful new-in-2022 Director Angela McIntyre and Volunteer Coordinator Daniel Smithies joining our stalwart resident climate communicator Steve Bentley. They brought creativity, professionalism and, critically, dedicated time in pursuit of our mission to make Calgary a climate leader. Notably we launched the Climate Lens podcast.

Additionally, new leaders such as Rob Miller and Heather Addy came into frame to lead our Forests for Calgary initiative to plant tiny forests around Calgary, especially in areas underserved by our current tree canopy.

My focus within the Hub has typically been on our advocacy to city hall. In this regard we did more than I have ever seen and focused on two major points of advocacy: the updated Calgary Climate Strategy and the 2023 Four Year Budget. We both strategized and mobilized.

We authored numerous positions such as eight one-page style position papers outlining what we thought should be in the Climate Strategy on topics from electricity to land-use and a “budget platform” outlining our desired budgetary measures to fund the Climate Strategy. Using these pieces, we built relationships with and advocated directly to councillors as both items went through council.

We mobilized hundreds of Calgarians to speak to councillors through emails, private meetings and presentations to council in order to push our collective positions stronger climate action from the City. We were successful in lobbying key councillors for the passage of the Climate Strategy, with key amendments supporting net-zero by 2035 electricity. Critical to this effort was a Day of Action in which we organized group meetings between our members and 8 out of 14 councillors to speak to the importance of a climate strategy with a strong vision, all on the same day. We also secured further funding for climate action in the budget, with an additional \$40M for cycling infrastructure amended into the budget in response to over 40 speakers mobilized by the Hub and partners demanding more for the climate. Partnerships were key to our efforts with Calgary Alliance for the Common Good, Bike Calgary, Project Calgary, Alberta Wilderness Association and Action Dignity coming to mind.

Looking forward to next year, I am keen to see our advocacy continue and focus on bringing new leaders forward to scale up our capacity. I believe that what isn't asked for isn't considered, and I am keen to see us continue to ask why we can't have a city that shows more leadership on addressing the defining issue of our time: climate change.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CALGARY CLIMATE HUB

WHAT HAPPENED IN 2022

In 2022 the members of the Calgary Climate Hub stood shoulder to shoulder in pursuit of making Calgary a leader on Climate Action. We advocated for better municipal policies and the proper budget to support those policies. We spoke at City Hall, we planted trees, we rode bikes, we sang songs, we chanted, and we rallied.

At the heart of all this work, we supported the individuals who want a little less conversation and a little more action please.

We have been actively advocating for policies and actions that address climate change, such as promoting renewable energy, reducing emissions from the oil and gas sector, and supporting the 5A Transportation Network (Always Available for All Ages and Abilities).

The Forests For Calgary Project is a step towards Environmental Justice, an attempt to address the inequality of the tree disbursement across Calgary by planting trees in communities that need them the most.

In addition to these accomplishments, the Calgary Climate Hub has been active in engaging with the community through our book club, networking events, climate partnerships, and education.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your tireless efforts and showing up to make a difference. This work isn't easy but it's easier knowing we aren't alone. One of the memories I hold dear from 2022 is the line of 125 volunteers on a hill, passing trees hand to hand, to plant in a valley. Dr. Joe Vipond took a look at me and he said "I think you're crying." He was right. I was.

Angela McIntyre
Director



DIGITAL CONTENT

CALGARY CLIMATE HUB



THE CLIMATE LENS



THE CLIMATE LENS PODCAST

Created in spring of last year with our first show in July and our latest show airing April 20th of 2023, the Climate Lens has become a new means of tying the biggest, hottest climate and climate-adjacent news stories on the planet to Hub-specific initiatives right here in Calgary. Topics ranged from a multi-episode deep-dive on urban sprawl versus smart-growth, November Calgary budget activism, COP27, the energy transition in Alberta, our upcoming provincial election and more.

A CLIMATE OF CHANGE

AACOC NUMBERS:

Views of ACOC content including initial zoomcast, Facebook Live and Youtube recordings come in at close to 15k with an overall reach of nearly 70k. Between comments, liking, sharing etc, ACOC content over the 2022 - 2023 spring span has been engaged with just over 1200 times.



Low Carbon Cities Canada (LC3) @LC3Canada · Apr 11

"...Find yourself something like a @ClimateHubYYC and plug into it, meet up with other people that are smart and care about the right things..." Great message on the importance of connection and action.



Messages From Our Partners

Calgary Alliance for the Common Good

The first year of work on the Calgary Foundation Climate Organizing grant focused on education, training and dialogue, conducting research and bringing together experts to create a range of possible scenarios for a just transition while knitting together partners for action. The leaders we worked with and trained were able to use their training to take action to support the City of Calgary in adopting the Calgary Climate Strategy: Pathways to 2050, which was successful in July 2022. Research and action after the adoption of the Climate Strategy shifted to addressing the four-year budget cycle to ensure that funding was allocated to the Climate Strategy pathways in November 2022. Through collaboration, shared research and discourse across diverse organizations and community groups, 128 people registered to speak to the city council and successfully secured over \$128 million in funding for transit, active infrastructure, and the arts in November 2022.

As we move into year two, focus will be on continued relationship building among local stakeholders, training leaders within CCH to set strategic priorities, and establishing Climate Strategy implementation monitoring and research to inform action in holding decision-makers accountable.





Climate Partners with Arusha

- Program designed and implemented
- Invitations sent to multiyear Climate Hub contact list of “Climate Activations” and “Climate Conversation” attendees with multiple invitations to join Climate Partners, access Climate Action Grants. -Participants in Climate Partners: 23 (Cohort #2 not completed as planned)
- Climate Partners with community association contact established: 17
- Climate projects funded: five (three additional projects pending final submission)

Project Conclusions:

- Proved participant willingness to meet for 20 hours over three months and commit to climate projects.
- Relationships and support established with Federation of Calgary Communities and City of Calgary, with support for CA-focussed approach.
- Diversity of climate-relevant themes: equity, transport, food, software, policy, etc. - participant solidarity is developed when individuals trade ideas on the connections between climate-related projects.
- Evening and weekend schedules are required.
- Value of 'culmination' event to finalize project proposals.



THE NUMBERS

CALGARY CLIMATE HUB

HOW ARE WE ADDING UP?



203 Volunteers



134 Current Members



34 Donors

49 Events



5930 Attendees



1824 Facebook Followers



1890 Instagram Followers



193 Youtube Subscribers

29 Media Stories



THANK YOU JOAN

CALGARY CLIMATE HUB



Joan Lawrence is stepping down from her role as Co-chair from the Calgary Climate Hub, but the legacy of work and processes she put in place is strong.

During Joan's time as Co-chair of the Board, she has brought a wealth of knowledge, expertise, and passion to our organization. Her contributions have helped us to develop and expand our programs, engage with the community, and advocate for climate-friendly policies and actions. Her leadership and guidance have been instrumental in our efforts to make a positive impact on the environment and build a more resilient city.

Joan, the Calgary Climate Hub would like to express our deepest gratitude for your time, dedication and contributions as Co - Chair of the Board. We are truly grateful for your service and commitment to our mission of empowering Calgarians to take action on Climate change.

THANK YOU



Joan Lawrence
Co-chair



Kelley Robins
Comms Node Co-chair



Sabrina Grover



Wendy Mendes,
PhD

Outgoing Board Members

"We aeronauts of the spirit! All those brave birds which fly out into the distance, into the farthest distance it is certain! somewhere or other they will be unable to go on and will perch on a mast or a bare cliff face and they will even be thankful for this miserable accommodation! But who could venture to infer from that, that there was not an immense open space before them, that they had flown as far as one could fly! All our great teachers and predecessors have at last come to a stop and it is not with the noblest or most graceful of gestures that weariness comes to a stop: it will be the same with you and me! But what does that matter to you and me! Other birds will fly farther."

Friedrich
Nietzsche

THANK YOU!

To all of our wonderful volunteers,

Since I took on the role of volunteer coordinator, I've been consistently impressed with the number of Calgarians who are willing to put up their hand and volunteer with the Hub. Despite living in a place that is considered unfriendly to the climate cause, our volunteers have demonstrated that there is a large group of citizens who are willing to act on climate issues, to advocate for climate policies that are just and equitable, and to volunteer their time to build toward a thriving, sustainable future for everyone in Calgary.

Thank you to those volunteers who have made buttons, spoken to people at events, carried a sign or a banner, planted a tree, helped organise an event, or even just spread the word about the Hub's efforts and aspirations. Our climate community is growing stronger because of your efforts and I am incredibly thankful to have had the chance to work with you this year.

Thank you all,

Daniel Smithies

Volunteer / Administrative Coordinator

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Grant Support



Event Support



Financial Support



PARTNERS



IN-KIND SUPPORT

