


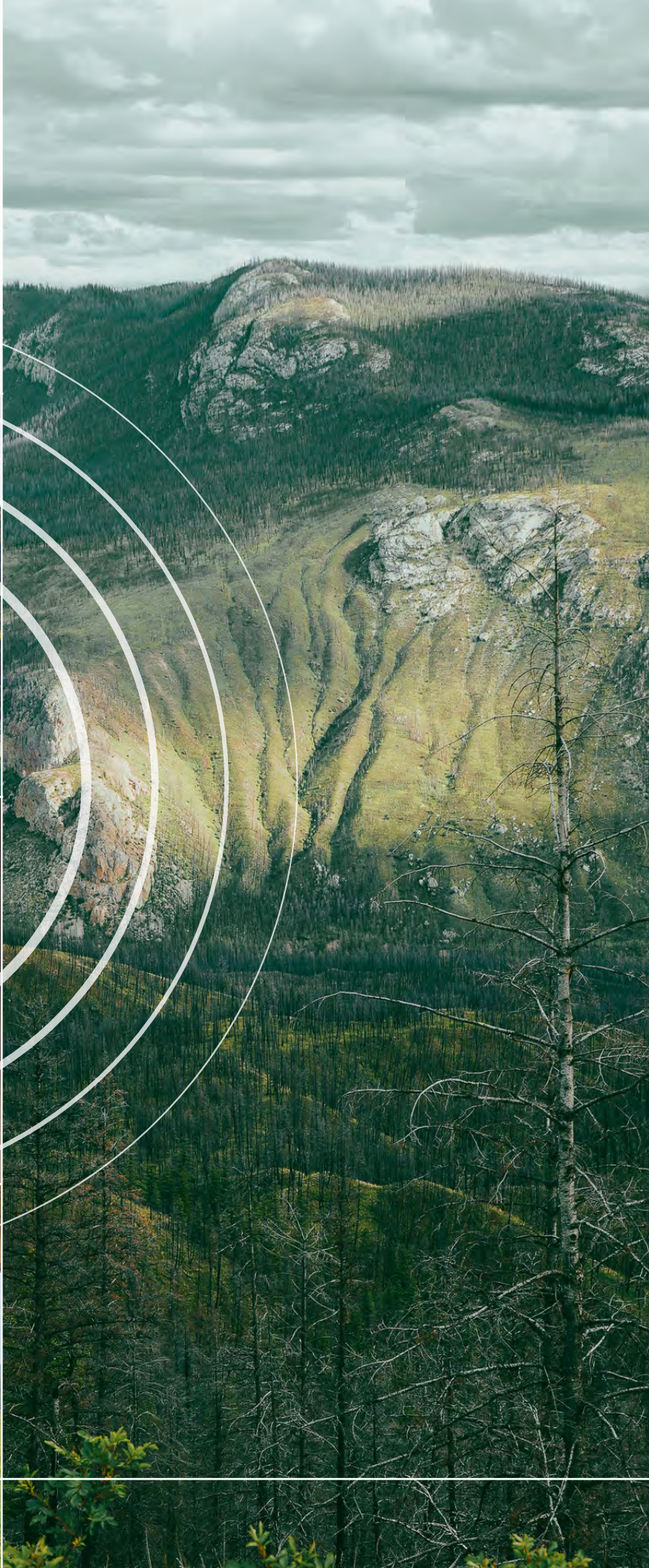


**ecotrust  
canada**

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# Gathering

**Annual Report 2022**



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## Mission

Building an economy that provides for life.



## Vision

A society where all people are able to enjoy healthy lives and livelihoods, are culturally grounded, connected to their environment, and working for the collective benefit of both current and future generations. We know that our economy can be structured to achieve these things.

## Approach

We are building on our 28-year history of partnering with rural, remote, and Indigenous communities to create economic solutions that advance social and environmental well-being. Our innovative, on-the-ground approach focuses on Climate Innovation, Indigenous Homelands, Community Fisheries, Community Energy, and Food Systems initiatives.

## ○ Message from the Board Chairs

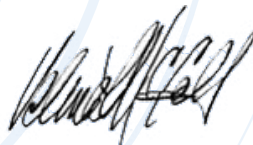
In 2022, Ecotrust Canada enjoyed the benefits of once again being able to gather in person to renew the close professional and personal ties that fully flourish when we are together. It was true of our organization, as well as our community partnerships across Canada — in coming together we grew stronger, bolder, more creative, and more determined than ever to succeed.

We took stock of our vision this year and our future direction, along with our commitments to Reconciliation, all through the lens of strategic planning. We reviewed where we have made important strides in our commitment to co-creating innovative place-based economies with rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in Canada. We have clarified our programmatic priorities around our five central initiatives — Climate, Energy, Fisheries, Food, and Housing — each of which resonate with the needs and priorities of the communities we work with. We also developed our first ever [Reconciliation Framework](#). In everything we do, we seek economic solutions that are more sustainable, resilient, and equitable, and our planning work continues to reflect this as we prepare to release our next five-year strategic plan later in 2023.

We are invigorated by the work of 2022 and the joy and creativity of gathering again in person. We look ahead to 2023 as a year to deepen the implementation of our work, to [prove the possible](#).



Jacqueline L. Koerner  
CO-CHAIR



Velma McColl  
CO-CHAIR



## ○ President's Message

In the summer of 2022, the North Coast of British Columbia was the site of a much-needed and long-anticipated gathering, as the rivers of the region were once again teeming with sockeye salmon. Meanwhile, Ecotrust Canada was also returning to rural, remote, and Indigenous communities where we gathered with our partners and once again worked side by side to **build an economy that provides for life**.

This was also a year that our organization was able to come together in person to plan, strategize, learn, and celebrate. And indeed, there has been much to celebrate. A quick look at our accomplishments in 2022 includes,

- Our partnering with the Metlakatla First Nation in launching a **Regenerative Ocean Farm** that provides sustainable livelihoods, food security, and new entrepreneurial opportunities for the Metlakatla people and surrounding communities.
- Undertaking technical training and certification for local community members as **energy advisors** and heat pump technicians, helping them step into new futures in the green energy sector.
- The launching of the **Indigenous Housing and Homelands Toolkit**, which supports First Nations in meeting their housing needs in ways that are culturally appropriate and meaningful to their communities.
- Authoring the *First Nations Carbon* discussion paper with the BC Assembly of First Nations. The report, **published online**, provides First Nations with insights on their rights with respect to carbon, and how carbon finance can work for them and the planet.
- In response to the record-breaking **sockeye salmon return** on the Skeena River, our North Coast fisheries team worked around the clock in three different sockeye fisheries, supporting nearly 50 fishing vessels from July to August. The effort was essential to meeting the data-collection needs of our local commercial and Indigenous fisheries partners, as well as the federal government.
- As part of our strategic planning process, we developed Ecotrust Canada's **Reconciliation Framework**, which articulates the structural, policy, and everyday changes that we will make at our organization to advance Indigenous Reconciliation.

These and many more achievements are further described in this annual report. Additionally, this year, we have added **appendices** that describe our progress towards meeting programmatic objectives and goals. In the coming years, watch for continued improvements in how we develop our approach to impact evaluation.

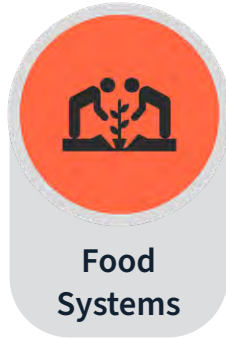
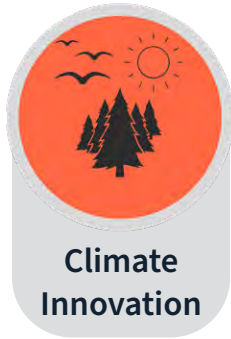
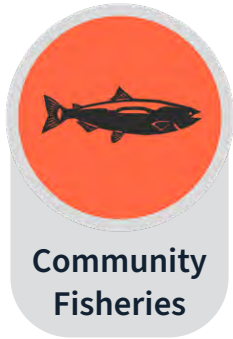
I wish it was safe to say that last summer's sockeye runs on the North Coast were a "new normal," or that the abundance was shared evenly across Canada. Unfortunately, this is not the case, and such events are increasingly the exception, not the rule. Nonetheless, we are grateful for where and when these great gatherings take place. They also highlight the imperative that we work even harder to cultivate the conditions by which nature and people can come together to create a more abundant, diverse, and equitable future.



Chuck Rumsey  
PRESIDENT AND CEO



# ○ Highlights



The Energy Advisor Training Program launched in the spring with seven Indigenous participants.

Working with the Regional District of Mount Waddington, we helped design a program that will bring residential home energy upgrades to 100–200 households in the region annually.

Installed 436 heat pumps across four communities, which has led to \$11 million in cost savings for homeowners and eliminated 20,000 tonnes of greenhouse gasses.

Authored a *First Nations Carbon* discussion paper with BC Assembly of First Nations.

Landed a five-year agreement with the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund, a 10-year, \$1.4 billion federal program to directly invest in nature to achieve climate impact and address biodiversity loss

Provided technical support to ~120 crab harvesters to acquire fishing licences.

18 fisheries monitoring jobs in the Five Nations Fishery provided for local community members on the South Coast of Vancouver Island.

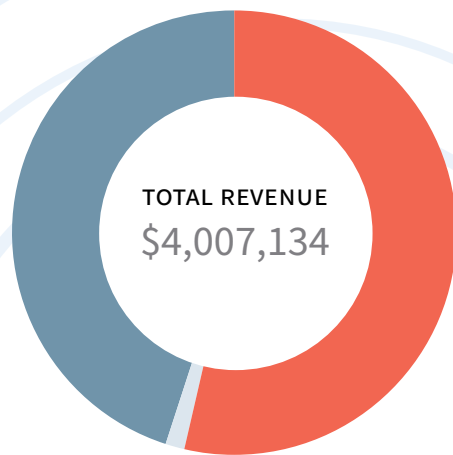
340kg of produce grown, donated to various individuals and organizations in Prince Rupert, BC and surrounding area.

Harvested **1,560lb of kelp**, which was distributed to Metlakatla members and the local community and incorporated into local food products like sourdough bread and beer.

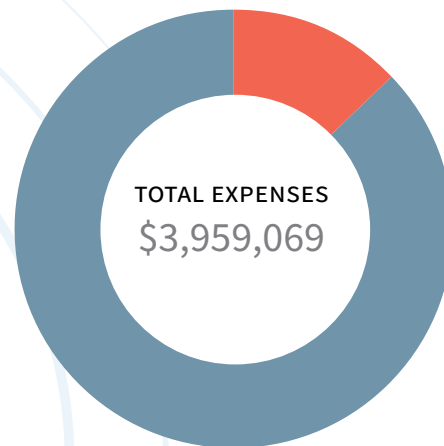


# 2022 Financial Summary

This year's Annual Report summarizes our programs and some of the key stories that encapsulate the opportunities and challenges, as well as partners and people, involved with our work. In addition, we have also included a more extensive set of **appendices**, which take a closer look at program impacts, as measured against our internal goals. In the coming years, we expect to further refine and expand this approach to evaluation and learning.



- Fee for Service: \$1,798,187
- Grants & Contributions: \$2,149,098
- Investment Income: \$58,780



- Programs: \$3,444,852
- Administration: \$514,217

Expenses by Program		
Community Fisheries	\$1,229,300	31%
Food Systems	\$588,570	15%
Community Energy	\$470,971	12%
Climate Innovation	\$374,790	9%
Indigenous Homelands	\$267,734	7%
Strategy and Community Development	\$286,924	7%
Administration	\$514,217	13%
Communication, IT and Social Enterprise	\$207,345	5%
Fundraising and Business Development	\$19,218	0.50%



2022  
IMPACT  
CHART

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

# Community Fisheries

## About the Program

Our vision is for resilient fishery systems where fisheries and marine resource use meet the immediate social and economic needs of society without compromising ecological integrity or the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Adjacent communities are the critical locus of action and stewardship; they co-manage and are the primary benefactors of their fishery resources.

### **Our work falls across three core strategies including:**

1. Advancing fisheries policy to better serve the social, cultural, and economic needs of fish harvesters, First Nations, and coastal communities on the Pacific Coast of Canada.
2. Enhancing community capacity for fisheries monitoring and management.
3. Creating transparency around Illegal, Underreported, and Unregulated Fishing (IUU).



## Providing data collection for one of the largest Skeena sockeye salmon runs in recent history

In 2022, the North Coast of BC saw a record-breaking sockeye salmon return on the Skeena River. Returns were estimated at about 4.3 million fish, the highest numbers the North Coast has seen in almost 15 years. Many people in the industry had to gear up and work overtime to meet the sudden demands of the gillnet fishery while it was open.

Our North Coast fisheries team, based in Prince Rupert, BC, on Coast Ts'msyen Territory, stepped up to the task and provided dockside and at-sea monitoring services for fish harvesters as they hauled in their nets or offloaded their catch. The team worked around the clock in three different sockeye fisheries. They saw nearly 50 fishing vessels from July to August to ensure that we met the data-collection needs of our local commercial and Indigenous fisheries partners and the federal fisheries data standards.



**The return of sockeye salmon this year was great for coastal communities in BC. The wild salmon industry employs over 6,600 people made up of over 4,000 fish harvesters and crew and provides approximately 2,600 positions in the salmon processing sector in BC.**





## Creating a compass for fisheries policy change through research, analysis, and consultation

In 2022, Tasha Sutcliffe, our senior policy advisor, shared [compelling testimony](#) with FOPO on the value of including social sciences in the Department of Fisheries and Oceans' decision-making process. Then, our director of fisheries, Racheal Weymer, travelled to Newfoundland for the fourth World Small-Scale Fisheries Conference. She presented the need for the federal government's Blue Economy Strategy to create and support policies that protect and enhance local economic benefits and build more sustainable socioecological systems in coastal fishing communities. In the fall, the fisheries policy team travelled to Italy as part of the Slow Fish Canada delegation, an International Slow Food Conference. Our team hosted a workshop on how to protect local food systems from rampant corporatization and vertical integration — focusing on the socioeconomic impacts on local seafood availability, fishing

communities, and healthy ecosystems. We dug into what has worked (and not worked) in Canada, and how like-minded groups doing small local projects around the world can make an impact.

Much of our policy work involved supporting the [Fisheries for Communities Network](#). The Network is a grassroots movement working to ensure the many values of BC fisheries flow to the people on the water, on the dock, and in adjacent communities. Last year, we supported the Network in developing its new website, and we began gearing up for the third Fisheries for Communities Gathering in 2023. The gathering brings together over 150 First Nations leaders, fish harvesters, industry associations, NGOs, academics, policy experts, and federal politicians. It's essential that this diverse group of stakeholders meets to find a consensus, ensuring we create the compass for the sustainable future of West Coast fisheries policy.

## Collaborating with Ha'oom Fisheries Society and the Five Nations Fishery to strengthen fisheries monitoring and management systems

From the West Coast of Vancouver Island, our South Coast team works on the traditional territory of the Ahousaht Nation and Ehattesaht, Mowachaht/Muchalaht, Hesquiaht and Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations — or the Five Nations. The team supports the implementation of commercial rights-based fisheries for the Five Nations based on their inherent and constitutionally protected Indigenous Right to harvest and sell fish.

In 2022, we hired a new fisheries project coordinator and deployment supervisor for the Five Nations Fishery Monitoring Program. [Shelby Huebner](#) is from Ahousaht Nation and has previously worked as a dockside monitor and fisheries liaison in the Five Nations Fishery. Her local knowledge of the region, the fish harvesters, and data collection made her a perfect fit for our mission.

Last year, the team conducted two training courses, resulting in 18 federally designated monitors. These local dockside monitors collected fisheries data with care and respect, following the rules and regulations set by the Five Nations and federal government.





“Since 2017, Ecotrust Canada has delivered monitoring services to Ha’oom Fisheries Society. Working with the Five Nations and Ha’oom Fisheries Society, Ecotrust Canada has developed a monitoring program that reflects the unique composition and nature of the Five Nations Fisheries. The five Nations value this relationship and see it as integral to the implementation of their fishery.”

– Howie Wright, Executive Director,  
Ha’oom Fisheries Society

## Creating transparency around Illegal, Underreported, and Unregulated Fishing

Our principal investigator, Dyhia Belhabib, founded the online fisheries platform [Spyglass](#), the largest international public database of information on illegal crimes committed at sea by vessels and their companies. With over 7,400 entries in the Spyglass database, marine enforcement agencies, governments, journalists, and researchers have open access to transparent data that can help improve a country’s ability to protect its waters, local livelihoods, and the well-being of coastal communities.

In 2022, Dyhia shared her expertise on illegal fishing, maritime crime, and socially just conservation and enforcement globally. In Southeast Asia, she offered Illegal, Underreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing training to enforcement agencies in the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, and Vietnam. She was invited by the World Bank Inspection Panel to conduct accountability research on small-scale fisheries in Togo, West Africa. She also published a paper in *Science Advances* on crime transversality, which describes the links between two or more crimes as they happen at sea. By analyzing over 8,000 incidents, she uncovered links between different types of crimes in the fishing sector and what would be the likelihood of crimes happening together. Her paper revealed the need for more inter-agency collaborations as individual agencies typically specialize in one category of crimes.





## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

# Climate Innovation

## About the Program

Our Climate Innovation program exists to build, use, and communicate climate finance tools to empower rural, remote, and Indigenous communities to achieve community priorities for the land. It's our assertion that this approach will ultimately lead to land use decisions and stewardship that will benefit local people and improve biodiversity health, while significantly increasing the power of carbon-rich landscapes to contribute to global climate change mitigation.

### **Our work is applied across the following four strategies:**

1. We engage all rights holders and stakeholders to advance establishment of carbon finance projects.
2. We work directly with Indigenous communities to support successful forest carbon offset projects that increase options for less extractive economic development on the land.
3. We develop and deliver tools to quantify the climate impact of nature-based climate solutions, spurring increased Canadian government investment in nature.
4. Enable (alongside [Blockchain for Climate Foundation](#)) the issuance and exchange of climate mitigation outcomes at the global level and demonstrate how Canada could best integrate blockchain technology to support climate action at home.

## Growing potential for Indigenous-led carbon projects

There is a growing interest among Indigenous communities and Nations interested in developing land-based carbon projects that respect and affirm Indigenous Rights. We have partnered with the BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) to explore this potential, and in 2022, project manager Michelle Connolly authored the *First Nations Carbon* discussion paper with BCAFN. The report, [published online](#), provides information on carbon, First Nations' rights with respect to carbon, how carbon offsets work, and how First Nations can benefit from them. The information was then shared in a session with BCAFN, the Coastal First Nations Great Bear Initiative, the Government of British Columbia, and the Assembly of First Nations.

To help First Nations explore opportunities in their territories, we are also developing the First Nations Carbon Toolkit. The toolkit will be a free educational resource built for First Nations communities in BC interested in learning more about carbon, climate change, and developing land-based carbon offset projects, while exercising First Nations' inherent and constitutionally protected title and rights. The online toolkit will be released in the summer of 2023.





## Building policy pathways to carbon finance

Contributing to provincial and federal policy development in Canada enables our Indigenous partners to have carbon finance pathways to get their projects off the ground. Our policy work also allows us to keep a pulse on the development of key carbon finance regulations on a provincial, national, and international level, which is critical to help us advise our partners and envision the future.

In 2022, Ecotrust Canada was selected to support Environment Climate Change Canada (ECCC) in building tools for the new federal Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund. This is a 10-year, \$1.4 billion program to directly invest in nature to achieve climate impact and address biodiversity loss.

The creation of this federal initiative was significantly influenced by Ecotrust Canada's policy outreach from 2018 to 2021 when we proposed the concept of a Forest Carbon Economy Fund.

We have a five-year agreement with the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund supporting our work to 1) deliver capacity-building tools for communities to understand and better engage with the fund; 2) develop project applications and reporting tools that support the selection of the most effective projects and accurately report their climate impact; and 3) directly work with community applicants to develop their Nature Smart Climate Solutions fund backed project.





## Supporting climate action in Northeast Superior Ontario

For over 10 years, we've been partners with Wahkohtowin Development, an organization owned and managed by First Nations in Ontario's Northeast Superior region. Together, we co-launched the Northeast Superior Chief's forum in 2012 for five First Nations in Ontario to build a conservation economy. In 2022, we worked with Wahkohtowin on developing a project proposal that the First Nations of the region can use to influence forest companies and the provincial government to adopt more climate-friendly forest projects in the 1.5-million-hectare Missinaibi forest. Our work with our partner is constantly evolving based on Wahkohtowin's needs. In 2022, we focused on conducting information sessions on climate and carbon stewardship for Wahkohtowin's youth Guardian Program.



“BC and Canada are the only place worldwide where we are implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), which must include provisions for upholding First Nations’ rights to free prior and informed consent, sovereignty and self-determination as well as distinctions-based recognition of governance.

BCAFN has been exploring options on how to support First Nations carbon offset projects aligned with UNDRIP. We believe that land-based carbon offsets led by Indigenous peoples could represent a real opportunity to address climate change while dealing with other urgent issues, including biodiversity loss and the economic injustice that First Nations have historically experienced in this Province and often continue to experience. We are proud to partner with Ecotrust Canada to advance this work, and we look forward to the innovative tools that are being developed through our project together.”

– Regional Chief Terry Teegee



## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

# Food Systems

## About the Program

Our Food Systems program partners with local communities to address food insecurity, improve food sovereignty, and increase local food access in Prince Rupert and the Pacific Northwest of BC. Through this effort, we seek to contribute to a collaborative, vibrant, and innovative local food economy built by and for communities in the North Coast and Skeena Bulkley Valley regions.

### **We pursue our Food Systems work across the following two strategies:**

#### **1. Grow**

- Urban agriculture: maintain urban farm in downtown Prince Rupert.
- Regenerative Ocean Farming: launch of a regenerative ocean farm that supports marine livelihoods and a community food program with Metlakatla First Nation and GreenWave.

#### **2. Community Convening**

- Policy change: Build political will to enable the City of Prince Rupert to enact policy change in line with their own Official Community Plan.
- Collaboration with area growing programs and food producers to increase community interest and investment in local food systems.
- Connect with community members and local food knowledge holders in various ways to learn and engage in knowledge sharing to enhance food literacy and collective capacity.



## The Regenerative Ocean Farm's first year

### **A pathway to sustainably harvest and sell kelp and shellfish in Northwest BC**

Off the coast of Northwest BC, in Metlakatla waters, kelp and scallops grow in a nascent Regenerative Ocean Farm (ROF). After two years of research, we secured funding and formed partnerships with Metlakatla First Nation and GreenWave, a non-profit that trains and supports ocean farmers, to build a sustainable community regenerative ocean farm that will one day sell seafood to local and provincial markets, improve food access to over 12,000 community members, while creating training and education opportunities for emerging regenerative ocean farmers throughout the North and Central Coast of BC.

In 2022, our first year, we planted two long lines of kelp alongside an existing scallop operation. Combining kelp with shellfish is transforming the conventional aquaculture operation into a regenerative one. In the spring, we harvested 1,560lbs of kelp, which was distributed to Metlakatla members and the local community and incorporated into local food products like sourdough bread and beer. For example, the Wheelhouse Brewing Company brewed two batches of *latissimi* Gose beer for a total of 3,400 litres, each batch used 5kg of kelp. The excess kelp from the harvest will be brewed into 900lbs of seaweed fertilizer available for local growers the following spring. In the fall of 2022, the ROF team planted 5,000 metres of sugar and winged kelp for the 2023 season that will be licenced to distribute to community members and local markets.

## Recovering “ghost gear”

Lost or abandoned industrial infrastructure and fishing gear, known colloquially as “ghost gear,” is a major risk to ocean health, as well as to the coastal fishing communities on the North Coast of BC. In addition to being a significant navigational hazard, ghost gear threatens to entangle whales, other marine mammals, and sensitive fish species. In 2022, in partnership with Metlakatla’s Aquaculture crew, we began a massive effort to reclaim and recover ghost gear from a former scallop farm operation that was no longer in operation. Recovery efforts resulted in a total of 22,300kg of ghost gear removal, including 13,300kg of waste, and approximately 9,000kg of material to be stored onsite for reuse or future recycling.



“It’s nice using my boat and safety skills in a new way, learning how to make kelp farming practices safer and easier to work and sharing that with the crew. It’s a chance to teach and learn.”

– Henry Clifton, Captain, Metlakatla Development Corporation, Regenerative Ocean Farm



## Urban farm's last year in its downtown location

The Sndoyntga Lax Kx'een ada Maxłaxaala urban farm was established in 2021 as an experiment to revitalize a vacant space in Prince Rupert's downtown core to grow fresh produce for those in need, and to invite the community of over 12,000 people to plant, grow, harvest, cook, and preserve fresh and local foods.

In 2022, we developed a partnership with the local school district and Farm to School BC. Complementing the schools' growing programs, we collaborated with regional food experts and farmers, and together offered educational workshops with students on planting garlic and growing seeds for a fledgling [Northwest BC seed library](#). The

local high school generously gave us access to their heated greenhouse, and we were able to more than double the amount of produce we grew in the first season. In 2021, using only our downtown farm's greenhouse, we grew 130kg of produce, and in 2022, we grew 340kg using the two greenhouses. We donated most of the fresh produce to those in need of healthy foods, including Metlakatla's community, a senior's housing centre, a youth centre, an Indigenous friendship centre, and the local settlement centre for newcomers.

Despite this success in the urban farm's second season, we hit two roadblocks



that are leading to the closure of the program. The first challenge has been securing a permanent location for the urban farm. The leased property where the beds and greenhouse were established was never meant to be permanent. In 2022, we explored options with the City of Prince Rupert and we were unable to acquire a space that suited the size and scope of the urban farm before we ended our downtown lease. After the fall harvest, we found a solution with the school district, and we moved the greenhouse and beds to one of the school lots to be shared with the students and the community at large. We are especially grateful to Metlakatla Development Corporation who generously forgave the costs of the lease while we searched for a permanent location. Without their contribution, we would not have been able to produce food in 2022. The second challenge involved finding sustainable funding to support the management of the urban farm. The silver lining here is that as we progressed in this work, we realized that all around us new community growing and gardening initiatives, many Indigenous-led, were emerging in the region. We concluded that it was time for us to step aside and let existing resources and capacity flow directly to these local organizations. Indeed, we are thrilled to have played a role in helping catalyze this work and look forward to others leading the way from here.



## Discovering there's an appetite for a local market

In August, we teamed up with two community organizations and the local craft brewery to host a seaside pop-up market in Prince Rupert, BC, on Coast Ts'msyen Territory. Outdoor markets are not common in Prince Rupert, where there are more rainy days than sunny ones. But since the weather didn't stop the urban farm from flourishing, we decided to test out an event for ourselves. We wanted to offer the community an opportunity to buy fresh, locally grown, and harvested produce, as well as other local products, like craft beer made with help from the Regenerative Ocean Farm. Proceeds from the vendor fees went back into the high school's food program and was donated to Oots'n Reconnection, a Ts'msyen organization that brings youth out on the land and water.

Twenty-seven vendors signed up to take part in the pop-up market. Over 92.5kg of local produce was sold, such as cucumbers, zucchini, peas and beans, and tomatoes. With a non-stop lineup, the two bakers

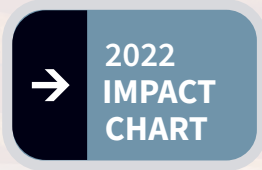
sold their goods within the first hour. More than 250 residents came to the market, despite the rain and wind, and shared their reflections with Tourism Prince Rupert, who handed out surveys. When asked what stood out, they said things like: "It is a fantastic idea. Love the fresh produce, baked goods, and collaboration with surrounding communities" and "really impressed with the local agricultural products." There was an overwhelming response from residents saying they would shop at a permanent outdoor market.

The pop-up market would not have run so smoothly without the volunteers, vendors, musicians, local farmers, harvesters, and craft brewers! We learned from this event that it takes a village to host an outdoor market and cooperative weather to encourage higher attendance. In 2023, we will test the success of one more pop-up market before a more permanent one is established.









## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

# Indigenous Homelands

## About the Program

The long-term goal of our Indigenous Homelands program is to increase the number of Indigenous groups advancing alternative systems-based approaches to housing and lands governance, in ways that are culturally, environmentally, and economically resilient — approaches that directly address community goals around self-determination and the need for healthy, sustainable, and culturally appropriate homes. We advance self-determination and territorial self-governance of Indigenous groups by working in partnership to implement innovative solutions that strengthen the social, economic, and institutional connections between Indigenous housing and lands governance.

### **In this work we pursue the following four strategies:**

1. We build long-term and comprehensive partnerships with Indigenous groups.
2. We develop alternative ways to implement, monitor, and evaluate housing and lands governance.
3. We identify practical ways to operationalize local values into economic and governance processes.
4. We create publicly available knowledge products that can easily be accessed and utilized by Indigenous groups and those working with them.



## Addressing challenges and seeking solutions at the T̓silhqot̓'in Nation housing retreat

While housing challenges are pervasive and similar across many Indigenous communities in BC and Canada, the solutions required must arise from the communities themselves if they are to be successful. In this spirit, we've partnered with the T̓silhqot̓'in National Government to help tackle their specific housing challenges. The T̓silhqot̓'in Nation is comprised of approximately 4,000 people across the six communities of Yunešit̓'in, Tl'etinqox, ʔEsdilagh, T̓sideldel, Tl'esqox, and Xenigwet̓'in, located west and north of Williams Lake in the Central Interior of British Columbia. The T̓silhqot̓'in are leading the way in enacting new Indigenous institutions to govern their lands in line with their traditional laws and values, which supports the T̓silhqot̓'in vision for an economic future, including the creation of a self-determined housing system.

In 2022, the Indigenous Homelands team led the planning and facilitation of a two-day T̓silhqot̓'in Nation housing retreat, with select representatives from the six T̓silhqot̓'in communities and the T̓silhqot̓'in National Government. This engagement aimed to build upon the findings of previous [Housing Solutions Labs](#) (a structured, community-driven approach to identify challenges, test ideas, and evaluate the potential for housing solutions) carried out over the spring/summer of 2021.

The housing retreat represented the first opportunity to bring housing representatives together from all six of the communities to address the challenges faced to date with implementing an investment strategy and to collectively develop solutions toward a long-term Nation-level approach to T̓silhqot̓'in housing.



## Launching the Indigenous Housing and Homelands Toolkit

In July of 2022, we shared the [Indigenous Housing and Homelands Toolkit](#) on our website. The toolkit is designed to support First Nations in exploring how to address housing in ways that are culturally appropriate and meaningful to their communities. There are 10 downloadable modules and worksheets, as well as a contact form if you need to reach out to our team.

Our goal over the next year is to share the toolkit with Indigenous leaders, governments, and councils and housing managers within the 200 distinct First Nations in BC and beyond, as well as to expand the toolkit with new modules as needed. This toolkit has the potential to reach approximately 200,000 Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia who have open access to its modules and learning materials.



“Six Tšilhqot'in communities were here, and it brings me back to my Grandpa who would always tell me it doesn't matter if you're from Yunešit'in, Xeni Gwet'in, Tl'etinqox, ʔEsdilagh, Tšideldel, or Tl'esqox — we are Tšilhqot'in. We are one of the strongest Nations in the world, and people know us for it. So it was amazing for us to get together like this and work together.”

– Ashley Quilt, Housing Manager, Yunešit'in First Nation, took part in the first Tšilhqot'in Nation housing retreat



## Developing a new partnership with the Nuxalk Nation

In 2022, the Indigenous Homelands team visited the Nuxalk Nation, in Bella Coola, on the Central Coast of BC, to discuss a new partnership in exploring and implementing solutions that address housing and homelands challenges. We were able to synthesize quantitative data about the amount of residential units on-reserve, including the amount in need of repair, and the required number of units needed to accommodate all Nuxalk individuals and families who wish to return home.

Following our visit, we prepared a report to provide an overview and foundation for the Nuxalk Nation to develop a housing ecosystem strategy. The report offers a comprehensive and practical plan for addressing housing needs in conjunction with individual and collective goals for cultural, social, ecological, and economic self-determination.

To help grow this relationship and better support our housing work with the T̓silhqot̓in Nation, we hired Carrigan Tallio as our new regional coordinator. Carrigan is a former housing manager from the Nuxalk Nation who is passionate about finding innovative ways to improve housing on reserve.





## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

# Community Energy

## About the Program

Having access to affordable clean energy should not be a luxury in Canada. Yet, rural, remote, and Indigenous communities often face energy costs that are up to three times the Canadian household average. Our Community Energy program is committed to a future in which energy justice is achieved in Canada — where everyone has affordable access to essential home energy services while living in comfortable, healthy homes. This transition will also catalyze a future in which communities use localized, climate safe, and resilient energy systems.

### **We are employing the following 5 strategies to bring about this transition:**

1. Implementing home energy retrofits in BC communities that advance energy security, health, and climate resilience.
2. Using effective public education, policy development, and advocacy campaigns on energy security and energy justice to bring about changes to government policy, specifically those related to energy pricing, rebate programs, and retrofit financing.
3. Localizing project benefits through education, training, and regional planning.
4. Enabling community leaders to implement retrofit projects by sharing meaningful resources and providing training and support.
5. Supporting community aspirations around place-based energy systems and energy sovereignty.

## Home energy retrofits with Indigenous communities

In 2022, we continued partnering with Indigenous communities experiencing energy affordability challenges, including the Hupacasath, Haítzaqv (Heiltsuk), Quatsino, and 'N̄amgis First Nations. This community-led work seeks to advance deep retrofit projects that can effectively address the root causes of energy insecurity, which is when families face difficulties accessing adequate energy services for their homes, leading to negative effects on their health and well-being. In remote regions, energy insecurity also involves transporting costly diesel fuel through ecologically sensitive areas. In our retrofit work, we primarily work with electric **heat pumps**. They can reduce energy bills, cut greenhouse gasses and fuel reliance, improve the health and safety of a home by reducing instances of mould and inefficient heating systems, and they have a cooling feature, which we have learned is necessary for a changing climate.

By moving households off inefficient heating systems, like oil furnaces or baseboard heaters, to electric heat pumps, communities are collectively realizing millions of dollars in energy cost savings for their residents, while contributing to community health and resilience. In total, we have installed 436 heat pumps across four communities, which has led to \$11 million in cost savings for homeowners and eliminated 20,000 tonnes of greenhouse gasses. This is **equivalent** to removing 4,451 gas-powered passenger vehicles off the road for one year.



“I love this heat pump. In the winter, it keeps me nice and warm, and in the summer, the air conditioner keeps me nice and cool, especially during the heat waves. It’s a good investment that our band has made for us.”

– Yvonne Lawson, Received a New Heat Pump for her Home in the Haítzaqv Nation



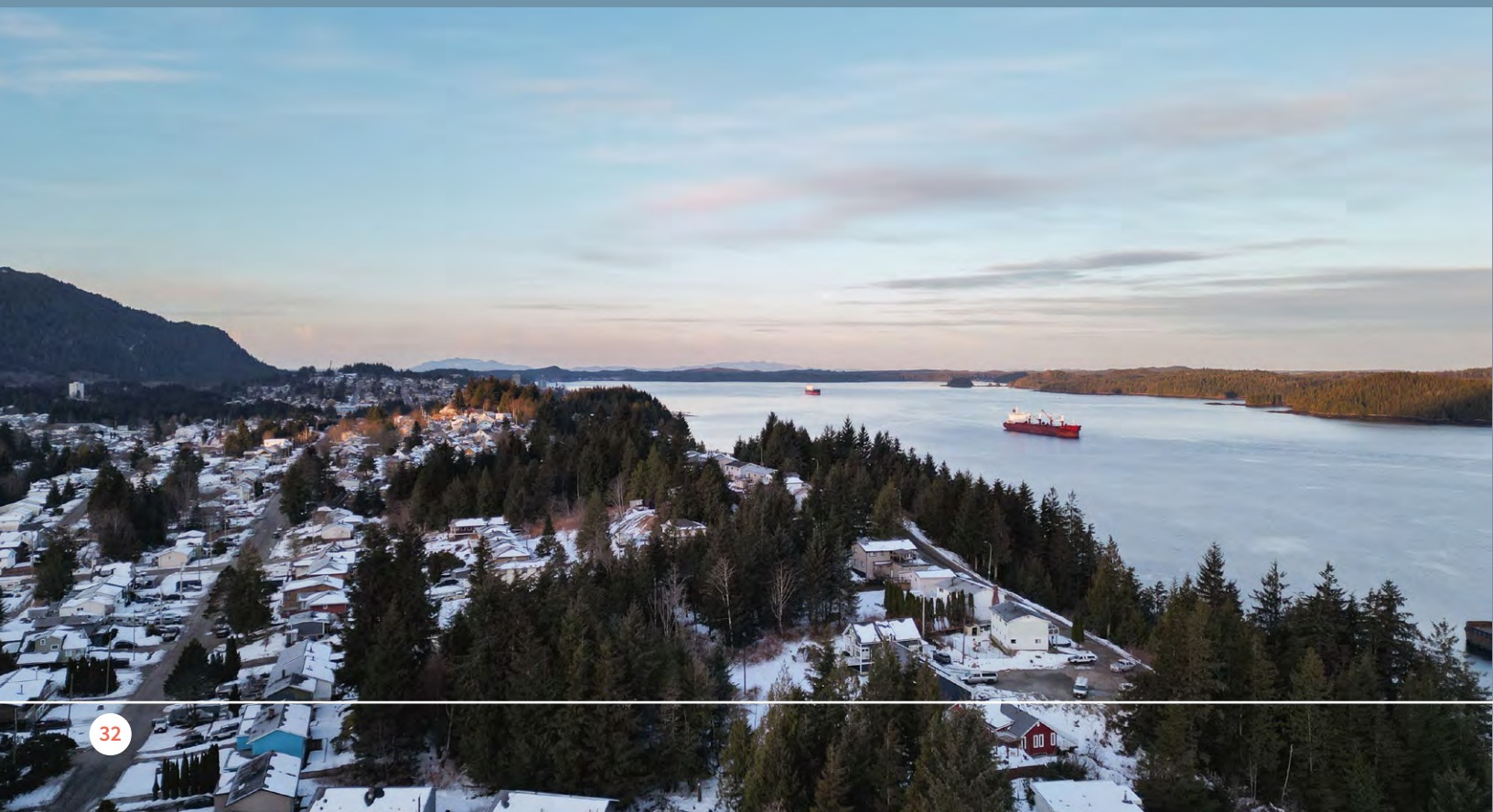
## Striving for energy justice through policy engagement

In BC, there are over 270,000 households facing energy insecurity as a daily reality, meaning they lack affordable access to basic energy services that contribute to their quality of life. Rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in the province are hit particularly hard, with some communities spending up to three times the provincial average to heat their homes. Despite the scale of this problem, the BC government has no unified, clear policy direction for addressing energy insecurity.

What is needed is a shift to equitable electrification and enable deeper retrofits for low- and moderate-income households, or those experiencing energy insecurity. That's why we've joined a network of anti-poverty and climate justice partners, to work extensively with government.

Our joint recommendations delivered to the government in November 2022 were instrumental in affecting policy changes to end incentives for natural gas furnaces and boilers, responsible for approximately 7.6 megatonnes of emissions in BC.

Again, with our partners, we delivered another set of recommendations to the BC Government on replacing the Customer Crisis Fund, a program for customers facing a temporary financial emergency, and other opportunities to strengthen bill protections for lower-income customers. Following our submission, the government has committed to keeping the fund around in its current form but hasn't announced what they're planning to do yet in terms of changes and improvements.







“I’ve always had an interest in trying to save the environment and there’s no better way to do that than to help improve the energy efficiency of homes. This program will give more homeowners access to grants and rebates to upgrade their homes and make them more energy efficient.”

- Tara Lindenberger, Energy Advisor Training Program Participant, Coast Ts'msyen Territory (Prince Rupert, BC)

## Developing supportive ecosystems through education, training, and regional planning

Introducing clean, energy-efficient heating and cooling systems in homes in rural and Indigenous communities involves a full ecosystem approach. We are working with local and regional governments on the Central and North Coast of British Columbia to systematically review and develop strategies to address financing and capacity-building gaps. One shortfall is that these regions are critically underserved by energy advisors and heat pump technicians. We have been supporting local people in receiving technical training and certification, so they can step into green energy jobs and work directly on the projects our partner communities need them for, such as the heat pump project in Wágłísł̓a (Bella Bella, BC).



In 2022, with funding from Natural Resources Canada, Ecotrust Canada recruited, trained, and mentored Indigenous Peoples from rural communities across Coastal BC to become certified Energy Advisors. Energy Advisors are certified professionals who gather data from a house and use a software program that provides valuable information about the home’s energy performance and how it can improve. Their assessment helps unlock up to \$6,000 in government rebate programs for undertaking energy retrofits.

The Energy Advisor Training Program launched in the spring with seven Indigenous participants. The first in-person class training was in Port Hardy, within the traditional territory of the Kwakiutl First Nations, and six months later, they met on Coast Ts'msyen Territory in Prince Rupert, BC, to conduct their first home energy audits, with support from their trainers. While the program is designed to be adaptive to work with the participant’s strengths, not everyone has been able to commit to the training. Our goal is to have at least four Energy Advisors pass their certification in 2023.

## Equipping regions with data and recommendations

To help municipal and regional governments develop solutions and pathways for residential energy-efficient retrofit programs, we completed two feasibility studies for the qathet Regional District (Powell River, BC) and for the Regional District of Mount Waddington (RDMW) on North Vancouver Island. These studies explored retrofit opportunities, barriers, and financing options for residents in each region.

In the RDMW, we built on the feasibility study by designing a program that will bring residential home energy upgrades to 100–200 households in the region annually. Expanding our support, we formed a partnership with the City of Prince Rupert to find funding and coordinate a feasibility study in 2023. The study will help us find ways to make home energy upgrades easier and more affordable for residents living on Coast Ts'msyen Territory in Northern BC.



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# Community Fisheries Impact Chart






Green means work is on track to create desired outcome



Yellow means work is on track but delayed for creating desired outcome



Red means work is not on track to create desired outcome and a renewal of strategy needs to be considered, or the program is "on hold," due to external constraints and circumstances

ANNUAL GOAL	PARTNER / COMMUNITY / STAKEHOLDER	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	DID WE ACHIEVE THE GOAL?
Successful fisheries monitoring program delivery for the Five Nations Fishery	Five Nations fish harvesters Ha'oom Fisheries Society Five Nations Fishery Leadership Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Delivered monitoring and observer services for the Five Nations. Worked with Ha'oom Fisheries Society to ensure monitoring services are being delivered in a culturally appropriate manner.	EC monitored all offloads for the Salmon, Groundfish and Gooseneck Barnacle fisheries for the Five Nations Fishery in 2022. EC hired 18 local community members as observers, in Gold River, Zeballos, and Tofino. EC observers were available for a total of 305 days over the course of the fishing season. Exceeded our Coded Wire Tag targets by 17%, for Suuhaa (Chinook) landings occurring in Tofino. Conducted 2 observer training courses.	Harvesters were able to fish, supporting more financial security in the communities where they live. 18 monitoring jobs provided for local community members. In 2022, the South Coast monitoring team had a 50% staff retention level, and a total of 9 observers returned for the season.	Yes, we continued to meet the needs of fish harvesters by providing the monitoring program for the Five Nations Fishery. 
Successful fisheries monitoring program delivery for the Area A Crab Association	Area A Crab Association Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Area A harvesters Teem Fish Monitoring	Delivered effective electronic monitoring services. Delivered effective biosampling and softshell at-sea observer services.	5 biosampling trips were conducted. 10 softshell surveys were conducted, 5 occurred in the Hecate Strait and 5 in McIntyre Bay. Employed 4 local community members. Provided technical support to ~120 crab harvesters to acquire fishing licences. Local hub for harvesters.	Local community members had consistent employment and increased financial stability. Harvesters played an active role in collecting fisheries data for the purposes of fisheries management. Sense of connection and community felt between fish harvesters, community members, and staff.	Yes, we achieved what we set out to do for the Area A Crab Association. 
Monitor North Coast Salmon Fishery	North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society (NCSFSS) Metlakatla First Nation Lax Kw'alaams Area C Harvest Committee DFO Prince Rupert community members	Delivered monitoring and observer services to partners/clients Ensured monitoring services are being delivered in a culturally appropriate manner	Over the course of 30 days, EC staff monitored the Area C Commercial Gillnet fleet, NCSFSS, Lax Kw'alaams, and Metlakatla Demonstration Fisheries, inclusive of at-sea monitoring, biological sampling, and dockside monitoring. During the 30-day fishing season, three monitors worked nearly 300 hours on the docks of Prince Rupert / Port Edward or at-sea monitoring the Area C Gillnet Fleet, seeing nearly 50 vessels. Hired 3 returning observers. EC observers were available for a total of 30 days over the course of the fishing season.	There was a record-breaking <b>sockeye salmon return</b> on the Skeena River in 2022 – estimated at about 4.3 million fish, the highest numbers the North Coast has seen in almost 15 years. 2022 North Coast sockeye returns were important to community members. In British Columbia, the wild salmon industry employs over 6,600 people made of over 4,000 fish harvesters and crew, and provides approximately 2,600 positions in the salmon processing sector.	Yes – super challenging season, though! A lot of learnings. 

ANNUAL GOAL	PARTNER / COMMUNITY / STAKEHOLDER	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	DID WE ACHIEVE THE GOAL?
Build support to improve West Coast fisheries licencing policy	TBuck Suzuki Foundation Fisheries for Communities Commercial Fishing Caucus Native Fishing Association UNIFOR/ UFAWU Slow Fish Canada Slow Fish USA Slow Food Skipper Otto Nature United Codfather's Seafood Market CPAWS West Coast Environmental Law (WCEL)	Produce reports and media that support communities and harvesters pressing for fisheries policy reform.  Produce reports and media that support communities and harvesters pressing for fisheries policy reform.  Encourage DFO to track and make ownership and socio-economic outcomes of fisheries licence ownership more transparent.  Begin independent research on licence valuation and beneficial ownership.  Strategic engagement with Coastal Marine Strategy partners (Provincial).  Began planning Fisheries For Communities Gathering for February 2023.	Gave <b>compelling testimony</b> with FOPO on the value of including social sciences in the DFO's decision-making process.  Presented on the federal government's Blue Economy Strategy at World Small Scale Fisheries Conference.  Hosted 1 workshop on how to protect local food systems from rampant corporatization and vertical integration at the International Slow Food Conference.  Supported the Fisheries for Communities Network in developing its <b>new website</b> .	A sense of hope built among fish harvesters and people living in coastal communities due to the momentum gained to bring that value of our marine resources back to the people on the deck, on the dock and in coastal communities.  DFO sent out a survey to assess beneficial ownership of BC fishing licences.	Progress has been made toward improved fisheries policy on the West Coast of Canada for the benefit of active fish harvesters and coastal communities. We will help facilitate a gathering in February 2023 to determine a more defined and specific policy ask now that the conditions for policy change have improved.  





# Climate Innovation Impact Chart






Green means work is on track to create desired outcome



Yellow means work is on track but delayed for creating desired outcome



Red means work is not on track to create desired outcome and a renewal of strategy needs to be considered, or the program is "on hold," due to external constraints and circumstances

ANNUAL GOAL MUST BE MEASURABLE	PARTNER / COMMUNITY / STAKEHOLDER	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	DID WE ACHIEVE THE GOAL?
Provide participant communities with high-quality, accurate and supportive tools	Various community audiences Squamish Nation	Knowledge sharing and report writing on natural climate solutions and exploring possibilities for BC First Nations communities.  Feasibility assessment exercise for communities with a distinct land-based potential project.	1 joint presentation with British Columbia Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) on the First Nations Carbon Portal Website.  Published 1 " <a href="#">First Nations Carbon: A BCAFN Discussion Paper</a> "  Completed 1 feasibility assessment for the Squamish Nation	Attendees at the First Nations Gathering for Climate Change engaged in rich and reflective <b>conversations</b> surrounding Natural Climate Solutions for protecting sacred landscapes and generating revenue, its applicability, as well as concerns.  Readers of the paper gain clarity on carbon, First Nations' rights with respect to carbon, how carbon offsets work, and how First Nations can benefit from them.	Yes, our research presentations are equipping communities with the information they need to develop, communicate, and fund their projects.  
Support the development of government structures for investment in the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund (NCSF) with maximum climate, community, and biodiversity benefits.	Environment Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	Develop educational and capacity-building content.  Propose improvements to NCSF application-related documents.  Support communities to examine carbon finance pathways for their potential NCS/NCSF projects.  Began improving the NCSF application form, GHG emissions calculators, reporting framework, good practice guidance, etc.	A <a href="#">toolkit focused on Natural Climate Solutions</a> .	Communities feel supported with the right resources and tools to prepare a strong NCSF application.	This is a five-year project to continue improving NCSF and related work. We are progressing on schedule and will observe the full outcomes of our work in the years to come.  
Empower First Nations communities to lead successful carbon offset projects for enhanced sovereignty through the development of the First Nations Carbon Portal.	British Columbia Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN)  Various participating communities	Develop capacity-building content to support community readiness to deploy forest carbon offset projects.  Host engagement sessions.	Develop the Forest Carbon Community Toolkit that focuses on forest carbon offset projects in BC.  Developed 1 Project Idea Note (PIN) builder as an "all-in-one" project document template for communities planning forest carbon projects.  Develop <a href="#">a website</a> to house the toolkit, the PIN, and other related resources on forest carbon.	Communities feel equipped with the information needed to critically evaluate potential forest carbon projects, including saying 'no' to projects that don't align with community interests.  First Nation governments, band councils, Land Guardians Band Councils and department staff feel welcome and encouraged to use the toolkit and PIN builder through the First Nations Carbon Toolkit to explore the feasibility of forest carbon projects.  <a href="#">See quote from Regional Chief Terry Teegee</a>	We successfully completed the first draft of the Forest Carbon Community Toolkit by December that will contribute to the First Nations Carbon Portal.  



# Food Systems Impact Chart







Green means work is on track to create desired outcome






Yellow means work is on track but delayed for creating desired outcome



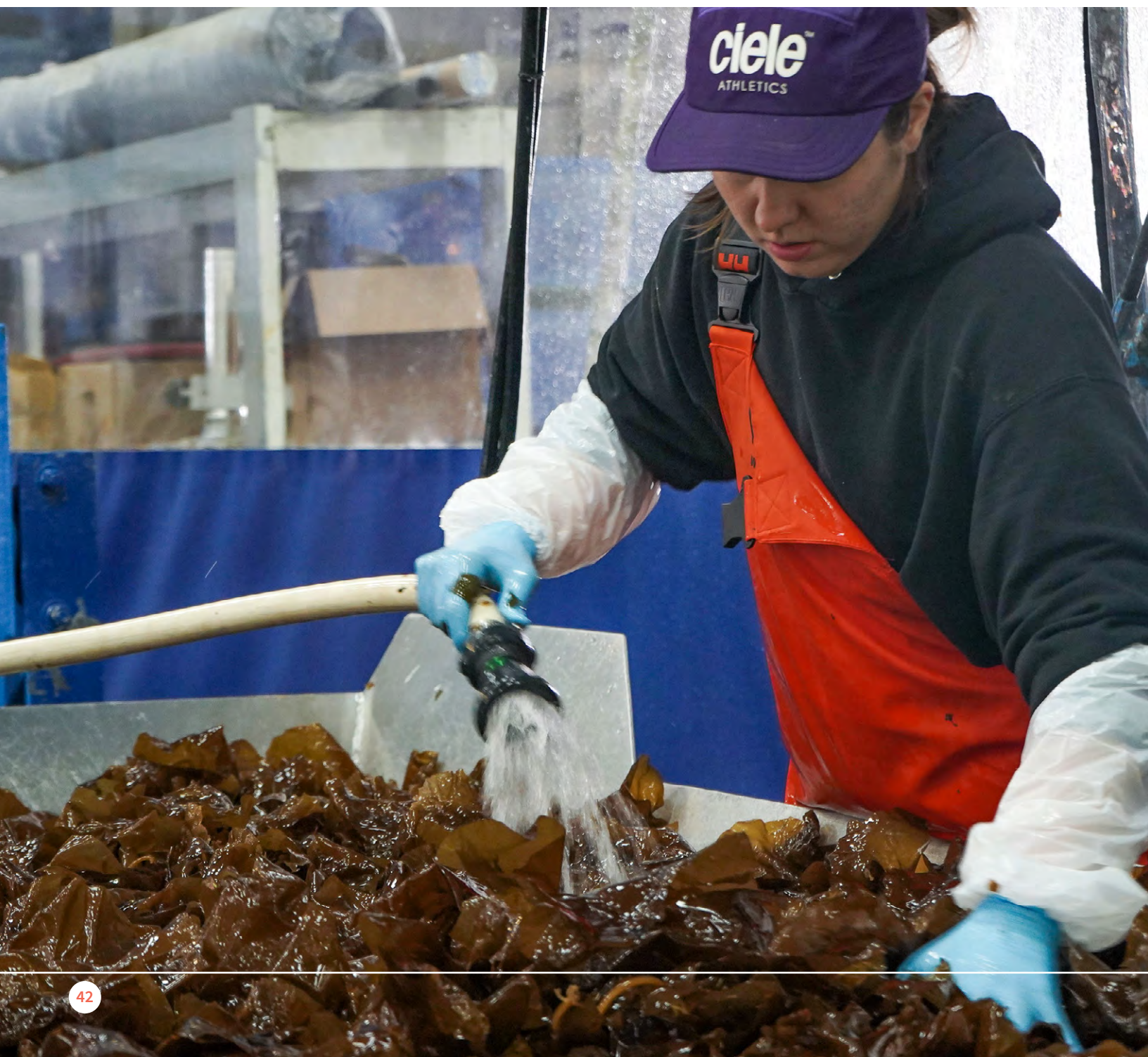
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ANNUAL GOAL	PARTNER / COMMUNITY / STAKEHOLDER	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	DID WE ACHIEVE THE GOAL? EX?
Expand output and donation from Kaien Island Urban Farm	Metlakatla Development Corporation (MDC), City of Prince Rupert	Urban agriculture	340kg of produce grown, donated to various individuals and organizations in Prince Rupert and the surrounding area.	5 community organizations received donations (Hecate Strait Settlement Society, Community of Metlakatla, K'oomtk Youth Centre, Cedar Village Housing Society, Friendship House), along with many individuals and smaller groups who visited the garden throughout the season.	Yes, an increase of 100kg of produce grown and donated, from 140kg in Year One to 340kg in Year Two using two greenhouses, one on the urban farm, and one at Charles Hays Secondary School. 
Strengthen collaborative community growing programs	Charles Hays Secondary School (CHSS), École Roosevelt Elementary School, Conrad Elementary School	School garden collaboration	Seedling donation: 4 community organizations received donations throughout season. Produce donation: 100kg of produce grown at CHSS garden, donated as well as sold through farmers' market pop-up. Gardening workshops: 5-6 gardening workshops held with classes at various schools in various age ranges.	CHSS garden and greenhouse brought to life, which wasn't on the curriculum otherwise. Elementary school gardens received support throughout the growing season.	Yes. Collaboration grew as evidenced by seedling donation, produce donation, and the invite to return the following season. 
Establish a Northwest Seed Library	Short Season Seeds, Farm to School BC	Establishing the Northwest Seed Library	15 varieties of regionally adapted seeds grown out and returned to seed library, 2 seed saving workshops helped: seed growing and seed saving, 4 school gardens across 3 Northern BC communities took part.	Workshops taught seed saving to school classes and community members across Northwest BC, and area where seed saving currently happens on a mostly informal basis. A positive way to engage students in the gardening process.	Yes and No. Seed library was established with a sustainable amount of seed stock. Required moving the library to the Terrace Public Library, and a workforce needs to be established to make the project sustainable. 
Host a Pop-up market to test the viability of a permanent community market	Hecate Strait Employment Development Society Tourism Prince Rupert Wheelhouse Brewery	First of two farmers' market pop-ups.	250 market visitors, 24 vendors.	Showed strong desire and support for a permanent market by the citizens of Prince Rupert. Showed strong support from a wide array of vendors in Prince Rupert and surrounding area.	Yes. Positive metrics and engagement from the community. Built momentum for the second pop-up and a subsequent permanent container market. 



ANNUAL GOAL	PARTNER / COMMUNITY / STAKEHOLDER	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	DID WE ACHIEVE THE GOAL? EX?
Increase regenerative kelp production in alignment with Metlakatla values and stewardship goals	Metlakatla Development Corporation (MDC) Metlakatla Stewardship Society Greenwave Cascadia Seaweed	Harvested, processed, and stored kelp. Collected local sorus tissue from two kelp species. Traveled to Bamfield to learn and operate nursery technology and practices. Applied for commercial licences. Project development and research on supportive conditions for Indigenous-led ROF Ongoing maintenance of active scallop farm sites and infrastructure (Naden Islets & Pike island).	Harvested 1,560lb of kelp. Produced 2km of kelp seed line for local use. Outplanted 2,000 metres (could see 10 times the yield) of sugar and winged kelp for the 2023 season. Employed 5 full-time staff at Metlakatla Development Corporation and Ecotrust Canada. MFN Guardian and 1 Metlakatla Stewardship Society staff participated in kelp outplanting.	MDC and Ecotrust mariculture capacity has increased with more skills and knowledge around outplanting, growing, harvesting and processing kelp.	Somewhat. We won't see the full results of our efforts until 2023. 
Develop viable kelp products for local markets	Metlakatla Development Corporation Wheelhouse Brewery Sourdough YPR	Experimented with primary processing methods. Participated in harvest with Rising Tide and Cascadia Seaweed on Vancouver Island to learn about harvesting methods. Connected with and toured multi-use food hubs in Vancouver (Commissary Connect) and Port Alberni (The Dock+). Connected with various actors who are using, selling or developing products with kelp, including Canadian Kelp (Bamfield- food products) UBC (B12 development from alginates), Barnacle Foods (Alaska based food producer), Beaver Meadow Farms (cattle feed), Cascadia Seaweed (foods, biostimulants, agrifeed), Canadian Pacifico Seaweeds	Wheelhouse Brewery sold out 3,400 litres of latissimi Gose beer. Sourdough YPR created Special edition kelp powered sourdough bread. Stored product for 900lb of liquid seaweed fertilizer to be brewed in spring 2023.	Community awareness and support for kelp products increasing. Wheelhouse has requested more kelp in 2023, Coast Mountain Community College has requested to bring their culinary program out to the Ocean Farm. Farms in Skeena/Bulkley valley region showed interest in kelp as a soil amendment. Began to identify initial, easy entry kelp products to focus on (fertilizer) while continuing to perform R&D on food products.	Somewhat. We won't see the full results of our efforts until 2023. 
Strengthen supporting conditions for ROF on the North Coast	Metlakatla Stewardship Society Metlakatla Development Corporation OceanWise Rugged Coast Restoration Society	Ongoing discovery conversations and idea development with Ts'msyen Nations and other coastal First Nations and organizations. Kelp restoration research project with OceanWise and MSS conceptualized and planning begun. Build relationships with kelp and shellfish actors (i.e. Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre, Nova Harvest among already noted organizations)	5 Social Media posts on Instagram, reaching 940 accounts, with 77 engagements. Kelp restoration project agreement with OceanWise. Team has determined 5 supporting conditions that will enable a ROF movement on the North Coast and have submitted 4 funding applications in collaboration with partners.	New emergent partnerships and supportive projects such as developing a regional hatchery, shellfish testing lab and processing facility are on the horizon. More community groups and nations are engaged and interested in project development. Increased interest and capacity being built to collect data and understand the broader impacts of kelp farming.	Somewhat. We won't see the full results of our efforts until 2023. 

ANNUAL GOAL	PARTNER / COMMUNITY / STAKEHOLDER	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	DID WE ACHIEVE THE GOAL? EX?
Restore abandoned scallop farm sites	Metlakatla Development Corporation	126 days spent cleaning up abandoned ghost gear from farm sites, and performing regular farm and vessel maintenance.	42,000kg of waste disposed of from farm sites and land-based aquaculture facility, 13,300kg of which was waste, and 9,000kg stored onsite for reuse or recycling.  Salvaged 162 nets of juvenile scallops to grow out to market size (approximately 40,000 scallops).	Ghost gear partially cleaned at Wolfe tenure site and mostly cleaned Digby tenure site, leading to safer waterways, work sites and more space to pursue new mariculture opportunities.  Local businesses supported: Northwest Fuels, Seasport, Rupert Disposal, Marinex, Tenaquip, Bridgeview Marine, Franes Construction Ltd, Chucky's Labour Services.	In progress. So much more needs to be done.  ●





# Indigenous Homelands Impact Chart





Green means work is on track to create desired outcome



Yellow means work is on track but delayed for creating desired outcome



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ANNUAL GOAL	PARTNER / COMMUNITY / STAKEHOLDER	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	DID WE ACHIEVE THE GOAL? EX?
An increase in the number of Indigenous groups utilizing integrated, systems-based approaches to housing, land use and community economic development processes.	T̓silhqot̓'in National Government (TNG) Yunešit̓'in Nuxalk Nation	Carried out a <b>Housing Retreat</b> and delivered a report that detailed the T̓silhqot̓'in Housing System.  Further developed monitoring and evaluation tools with Yunešit̓'in First Nation.  Visited Nuxalk Nation to develop an understanding of the Nuxalk housing system.	Approximately 30 people representing the T̓silhqot̓'in National Government of the six communities of Tl'etinqox, ʔEsdilagh, Yunešit̓'in, T̓sideldel, Tl'esqox and Xeni Gwet̓'in, participated in a two-day housing retreat workshop led by Indigenous Homelands (IHL).  Produced a report on findings and a roadmap for the TNG Housing Retreat, which is being used as the basis for housing strategic planning within TNG.  Delivered updated and streamlined housing monitoring and evaluation tools for Yunešit̓'in.  Delivered a Housing Ecosystem Overview report with Nuxalk Nation that will be used as the basis for project planning and support moving forward.	Increased sense of solidarity between the T̓silhqot̓'in communities and with the T̓silhqot̓'in National Government.	Indigenous groups utilizing systems-based approaches increased by 1 (Nuxalk) in 2022 but our work is in early stages.  
Facilitate, develop, and implement one alternative institutional framework for Indigenous housing and lands governance.	Xeni Gwet̓'in First Nation	Carried out research to elaborate Xeni Gwet̓'in values and principles and how these might apply to a culturally appropriate land tenure regime premised on T̓silhqot̓'in Aboriginal Title.  Carried out a comprehensive and broad-based research program investigating Indigenous housing governance and land tenure opportunities.  Began researching and drafting the Forest to Frame guide for First Nation communities.	Delivered 1 presentation to Xeni Gwet̓'in and the Title Transition Table outlining previously articulated values and principles, and their potential application to new land tenures.  Published an online and <b>interactive toolkit</b> offering numerous modules related to Indigenous housing and lands governance, available on the Ecotrust Canada website, accessible to more than 200 First Nations in BC and beyond.  65 website visits to the toolkit.  Forest to Frame report drafts completed and due to be released in early 2023.	Supported an alternative way for Xeni Gwet̓'in to begin to think about Title and Land Governance, leading to continued research and development along these lines.  Increased knowledge and awareness of alternative housing and lands governance options for Indigenous communities in British Columbia and Canada.  Increased awareness for alternative housing needs-based forestry models, which connect forests to frames.	We have achieved the development phase of this work, but the actual implementation will take time.  

ANNUAL GOAL	PARTNER / COMMUNITY / STAKEHOLDER	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	DID WE ACHIEVE THE GOAL? EX?
Enable regional coordination and collaboration on housing and lands governance, Indigenous supply chains, and consultation and consent decision-making systems in at least two regions.	Tl'etinqox, ?Esdilagh, Yunešit'in, Tšideldeł, Tl'esqox and Xenı Gwet'in	Carried out the TNG Housing Retreat, which brought together six different Tsilhqot'in communities.  Started research examining a housing supply chain cooperative in Southwest Yukon.	Produced a <b>housing retreat</b> findings report.  Convened an Indigenous Advisory group that is a first step toward regional coordination on housing for First Nations in the Southwest Yukon.	Increased coordination and unity across all six Tsilhqot'in communities.	TNG and Southwest Yukon are on a path toward developing innovative regional collaboration and coordination on housing and land governance; however, both are at the early stages and have not fully operationalized their strategies. Our team will continue to support both regions in furthering and formalizing this work.  ●
Develop new partnerships and strengthen existing ones.	Champagne and Aishihik First Nations  Kluane First Nation Community Development Corporation  White River First Nation Nuxalk Nation	Developed a formal relationship with Nuxalk Nation.  Developed an Indigenous Advisory Group with three Southwest Yukon First Nations.  Developed a working relationship with Xenı Gwet'in.	Partnership agreement with Nuxalk Nation  Research contract in place with Xenı Gwet'in.  Signed Indigenous Advisory Group Terms of Reference.	Indigenous Homeland's network of partners and practitioners has grown throughout 2022.	Although we developed new partnerships, some existing relationships (e.g. Yunešit'in and TNG) are not being strengthened enough.  ●





# Community Energy Impact Chart





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ANNUAL GOAL MUST BE MEASURABLE	PARTNER / COMMUNITY / STAKEHOLDER	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	DID WE ACHIEVE THE GOAL? EX?
Directly advance energy security in communities that face uniquely high energy cost burdens.	Heiltsuk Nation Quatsino First Nation 'Namgis First Nation	Supported fundraising and project implementation across community projects.	191 heat pump retrofits installed across partner communities. 155 home energy evaluations completed by certified Energy Advisors.	Roughly \$5.1 Million in estimated cost savings from 2022 installations alone, and \$11.5 Million in total impact from retrofits to date (household impact).  8,700 tonnes of CO2eq will be eliminated over the lifetime of equipment installed in 2022; 21,700 tonnes of total GHG reductions from all projects to date.  Positive health impacts are also expected due to the new ability to heat and cool homes appropriately, as well as improved air circulation and ventilation in some homes (based on external research).  Households benefit from air conditioning, providing safety and comfort during extreme heat events.	Yes, through community projects and household retrofits.  
Shift the policy environment from one that holds people in energy insecurity to one that enables households to realize energy security.	Households across British Columbia facing high energy cost burdens.  Low- and moderate-income households.  Coalition partners and allied organizations.	Led a <b>joint submission</b> to the BC Government's Energy Affordability Working Group.  Engaged with policymakers directly approximately 6 times, as well as through BC Hydro regulatory and low-income advisory committees.  Engaged coalition to advocate effectively to policymakers about the need for stronger income-qualified retrofit programs and bill protections.  Engaged media about the need for new programs.  Initiated planning for Home Energy Justice Forum (event in April 2023).	Improved low income and tenant-focused efficiency programming was included in the BC Energy Minister's <b>mandate letter</b> .  British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) reform was included in the BC Energy Minister's mandate letter.	Low- and moderate-income households across BC are expected to receive enhanced support for retrofits.  Changes to legislation governing BCUC would support BC in more effectively achieving its poverty reduction and climate action goals.	Making progress but more formalized or legislated reform is still needed.  

ANNUAL GOAL MUST BE MEASURABLE	PARTNER / COMMUNITY / STAKEHOLDER	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUTS	OUTCOMES	DID WE ACHIEVE THE GOAL? EX?
<p>Enable households in rural communities to accelerate their transition to affordable, clean home energy systems.</p>	<p>Regional District of Mount Waddington (RDMW)            qathet Regional District (City of Powell River)            City of Prince Rupert</p>	<p>Community Efficiency Studies with Community and Regional Partners.            Energy Advisor (EA) training with Indigenous candidates from across Coastal BC.</p>	<p>2 Community Efficiency Financing (CEF) Feasibility studies completed and published with <b>RDMW</b> and <b>Powell River</b>.            RDMW Design study completed, implementation funding applied for.            CEF Feasibility study with Prince Rupert is ready to begin.            EA candidates have not yet passed the first exam. They're working toward full certification in 2023.</p>	<p>Partner regions are equipped with clear data and clear recommendations about options to move forward with financing and capacity-building programs across their communities.</p>	<p>This is a multi-year project that will see more conclusive outcomes (greater economic security, improved health outcomes, and reduced pollution and fossil fuel) in 2023.</p> 



# Learnings

## Community Fisheries

### Learnings

- Struggled with staffing for the North Coast sockeye fishery and South Coast summer fisheries monitoring programs. Returns were much higher than we anticipated for the North Coast, which required additional staff to monitor offloads at the docks and at-sea monitoring, and the workload for the South Coast fisheries have been steadily increasing over the years.
- Attempted to host a fisheries policy event for Members of the Legislative Assembly (politicians in the BC Government) in November, but the new BC Premier was elected, and the Legislative Assembly was given time off. Due to this unexpected closure of the Legislative Assembly, we were forced to cancel our event and lose the planning and coordination hours.
- The revolution in fisheries must include joy and pleasure — why are we doing all this work if not for a better life? We need to prioritize incorporating more joy into this work.

### What will we change as a result?

- In 2023, we are focusing on providing more stable and supportive employment to our part-time fisheries observer staff. In 2023, we plan to offer two senior observers' full-time roles for their coordination and supervision skills in the South Coast fisheries monitoring programs.
- We redistributed tasks and responsibilities across the fisheries program, focusing on relieving stress on the fisheries monitoring and policy teams by way of reducing overtime, increasing workflow, and maximizing skill and knowledge sets. One aspect of this redistribution was ensuring that the administrative burden of our corporate and individual designations does not lie on our North and South Coast monitoring project and program managers.
- When hosting a fisheries policy event, plan to have the event during times when there isn't a government change.
- Incorporate joy into the work by connecting with the team more — sharing more joyful experiences. Shifting to a four-day work week. Have more staff to lighten individual loads. We still need to connect in person as a team.

# Climate Innovation

## Learnings

- **Project management:** Throughout 2022, Climate Innovation had multiple ongoing projects with different deadlines to manage. We recognized the importance of a more comprehensive project management strategy, staying more organized, and being diligent in managing our time and resources.
- **Partner relations:** We recognized that different partners have different levels of capacity and interests. We recognize the value of a strong and trusting relationship with our partner organizations and communities can greatly enhance the outcome of the project, as well as our impact. It is also important to allocate extra time to work collaboratively with our partners.
- **Knowledge sharing:** We recognized that when key team members leave, they could take with them key working knowledge, project insights, and progress, especially if they had been the key holder of that relationship. If the information is not captured and shared with other team members effectively, it could significantly impact the progress and project continuity.

## What will change as a result?

- In 2023, as we proceed with ongoing projects that we are deep in the works with, and preparing for taking on new work, we understand the need to incorporate these learnings into our future work.
- We are using a new online project management tool to manage existing projects, the status of key deliverables, upcoming deadlines, and prospects.
- We understand that we need to proactively manage our relationships with our partners and continue to create space for conversation and areas of improvement and make sure that we are supporting the shared aspirations of the partnership.
- We continue to have a project relationship lead who is responsible for different projects, but we also have dedicated team member(s) who is/are in supportive roles to the lead. The expectation of the lead is not to be the sole person responsible for the delivery of the project but to remain as the point contact and keep everyone on track with the key outputs or deadlines that are upcoming. Communications and updates with our partners are shared with the team. In our most recent example, we created “Nations profiles” for each partner community we work with, and a place to store all relevant information about them. A priority is to make sure that knowledge of



partners and projects is shared within the team, rather than sitting with one person. Another experiment is creating data rooms to store emerging and working research on a topic or organization, accessible to the entire team.

## Food Systems

### Learnings

#### COMMUNITY GARDENING

- Need to learn the ins and outs of the municipal process. With greater understanding and more forward-thinking processes, we would possibly have more effectively relocated the urban farm and created new community gardens.
- Don't spread efforts too thin, focus on aspects of the program that are working, and what collaborators are showing up for. A collaboration that fizzled: City of Prince Rupert. Collaboration that grew: School District 52 in Prince Rupert.
- A project will be more sustainable over the long term with greater buy-in from community members and organizations — don't try to carry the load yourself!

#### REGENERATIVE OCEAN FARMING

- Change doesn't happen overnight. The scope of work and timelines that we set for ourselves were too ambitious and didn't take into account how long it takes to become in good relationship with the community and partners. 2022 became about building a foundation rather than taking off to the races.
- The best-laid plans don't survive contact with reality. In our first year, so many things changed, and areas of growth that we thought should be prioritized didn't work or fell flat, while other areas (such as hatchery development) appear now to be critical to our path forward.

### What will change as a result?

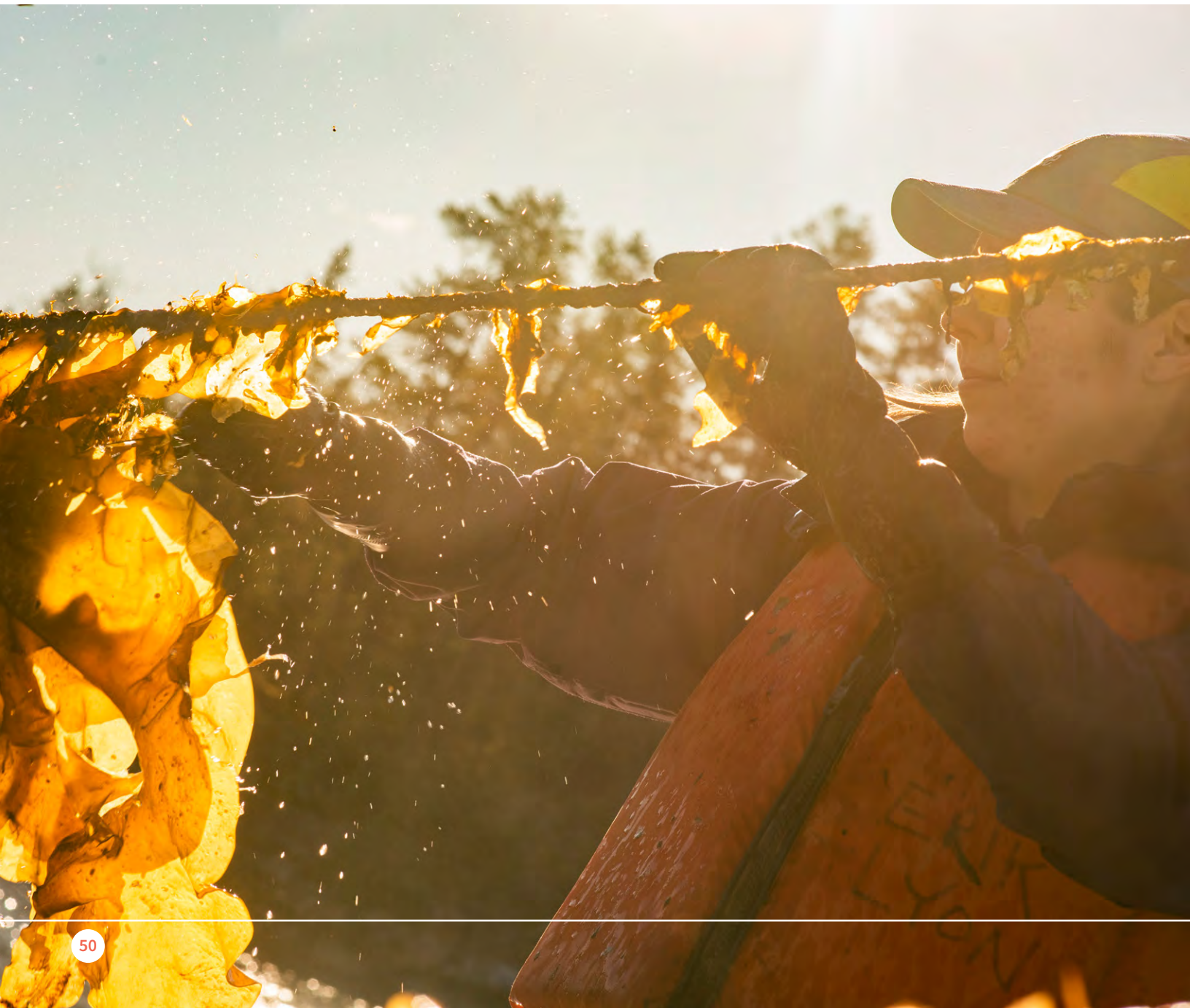
#### COMMUNITY GARDENING

- Dig deep into Official Community Plan and similar public documents (Redesign Rupert: Prince Rupert 2030) to glean language and planning specific to food systems to better meet the City at their stated goals. Start the process early and be persistent.
- Foster the relationships that are established. Show up and do the dirty work consistently, and then move on to growing and expanding the collaboration.

- Is urban agriculture the path forward? Should we be pursuing other strategies/avenues? Hydroponics, expanded aquaculture, food rescue, etc.

### **REGENERATIVE OCEAN FARMING**

- In 2023, our team will be bringing in as many new partners as possible. With each partnership, we will strengthen our collective capacity and desire to see the Regenerative Ocean Farm a success.
- In 2023, we will be approaching the project more like a startup — flexible, nimble, and responsive — we will experiment as much as possible and take an iterative, design-thinking approach.



# Indigenous Homelands

## Learnings

- Long-term commitment to partnerships, even during times of dormancy, is key to building strong relationships that lead to impactful projects and change.
- Homelands is still in a growth stage, and much of the community-based work remains broad and all-encompassing. This has its advantages, but it also can lead to uncertainty about how Homelands can support a specific challenge. Work needs to continue to determine where and how Homelands provides focused value and support to First Nations partners.
- Having a regional coordinator is critical in the communities where Homelands works, but there needs to be greater attention to keeping that person involved and engaged.

## What will change as a result?

- Leadership has changed in IHL, and with this a different set of skills and focus areas will help guide IHL to determine its niche and role, but still with a focus on system-based decolonial governance models.
- IHL will more clearly identify its mission, expertise, and program offerings, to better assess aligned projects and to be able to provide more clarity on our work to potential partners and funders.
- The IHL team will grow, with more unity, communication, and transparency, as well as more capacity to take on larger long-term projects.
- Attention will be given to building more core funding for IHL, so that we can better support our partner communities' goals on a long-term basis.

# Community Energy

## Learnings

- We focused on established regulatory pathways for policy change — and the regulatory calendar kept getting pushed and then cancelled.
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) funding process (for Community Efficiency Financing projects) is repetitive, slow, and time-consuming, making it very challenging to maintain momentum to project execution across local electoral cycles.

## What will change as a result?

- We are focused more on collaborating with a wider range of aligned groups and building relationships directly with policymakers and political leaders in government.
- We are diversifying our partnerships for our regional capacity-building work to include Natural Resources Canada as a valued partner going forward.
- We see an opportunity to deepen our work in the Northwest Area of the province, where natural gas rates are considerably higher and there appears to be strong interest among communities in this region.





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