

NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION
COMMISSION DE LA CAPITALE NATIONALE

No.	2018-P137
To	Board of Directors
Date	2018-09-18

For DECISION

Subject/Title

Sustainable Development Strategy, 2018–2023, National Capital Commission

Summary

- The NCC's Sustainable Development Strategy, 2018-2023 adopts the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy framework and aims for compliance with relevant federal goals, targets and milestones.
- It includes six principles and thirty-five actions grouped under ten of the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy goals relevant to the NCC.
- It focuses on making the Capital Region inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; taking action to combat climate change and its impacts; conserving lakes and rivers; protecting, restoring and promoting the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems; sustainably managing forests; and halting and reversing land degradation and biodiversity loss.
- It also contributes to improving the well-being of all residents and visitors in the Capital Region.
- Through the implementation of this strategy, the NCC will act as a leader jointly with its regional partners to move beyond merely greening NCC operations and toward a more sustainable Capital Region.

Risk Summary

- NCC falls short in achieving the actions that have been set and which contribute to the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy.

Recommendation

- That the NCC Sustainable Development Strategy, 2018–2023 be approved.

Submitted by:

Daniel Champagne, Executive Director, Capital Planning Branch

Signature

1. Strategic Priorities

- The Plan for Canada's Capital 2017-2067 has three strategic directions all related to sustainability: the Meaningful Capital; a Picturesque and Natural Capital; and a Thriving and Connected Capital.
- For the 2018–2019 to 2022–2023 planning period, three strategic directions will guide the NCC as it delivers its mandate to continue to build a dynamic, sustainable, inspiring and thriving Capital Region.
 - Strengthen relations with the community, Indigenous peoples and all orders of government to foster an inclusive and meaningful National Capital Region.
 - Conserve and celebrate natural assets, cultural landscapes and built heritage under the NCC's stewardship to ensure a picturesque and natural capital.
 - Plan, develop and improve the NCC's assets such that they contribute to a thriving, connected and sustainable capital that inspires Canadians.
- The Federal Sustainable Development Strategy is the Government of Canada's primary vehicle for sustainable development planning and reporting. It sets out sustainable development priorities, establishes goals and targets, and identifies actions to achieve them.

2. Authority

Section 3.2.1 of the NCC By-laws

3. Context

- The NCC's Environmental Strategy 2009-2017 expired on March 31, 2018. Seventy-four percent of the objectives were met.
- On June 19, 2017, the federal government introduced Bill C-57 proposing amendments to the Federal Sustainable Development Act. Changes include a shift in focus from planning and reporting to results, broader departmental participation, and strengthened accountability, including annual departmental reporting to parliamentary committees.
- While not bound by the Federal Sustainable Development Act, the NCC contributes to the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy.
- The NCC adopted the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy framework and aims for compliance with relevant federal goals, targets and milestones.

4. Options Analysis

- The NCC's Sustainable Development Strategy 2018-2023 includes six principles and thirty-five actions grouped under ten of the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy goals relevant to the NCC.
- It directly contributes to ten out of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- It focuses on making the Capital Region inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; taking action to combat climate change and its impacts; conserving lakes and rivers;

protecting, restoring and promoting the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems; sustainably managing forests; and halting and reversing land degradation and biodiversity loss.

- It also contributes to improving the well-being of all residents and visitors in the Capital Region.
- Through the implementation of this strategy, the NCC will act as a leader jointly with its regional partners to move beyond merely greening NCC operations and toward a more sustainable Capital Region.

5. Financial Details

- Human and financial resources will be discussed in detail through the drafting of the implementation plan.
- Twenty-two out of the thirty-five actions may be implemented without additional financial resources (Appendix 2).
- Additional financial resources are required to implement 13 actions (Appendix 2). We currently estimate that \$2,125,000 would be required over five years.
- Several actions offer potential for cost savings. Other actions offer potential for revenue generation.

6. Opportunities and Expected Results

- Aligning with the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy ensures that the NCC's environmental objectives and programs remain relevant and timely and provide a visible and transparent reporting mechanism for tracking the NCC's progress toward sustainability goals. It also means that the NCC will be well positioned if it becomes a designated entity under the Federal Sustainable Development Act.

7. Risks and Mitigation Measures

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Planned Response
NCC falls short in achieving the actions that have been set and which contribute to the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy	Medium	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dedicated human and financial resources must be identified for the implementation of the strategy.• Review the NCC's Sustainable Development Strategy on a three-year cycle.

8. Consultations and Communications

- Internal and external consultations were held to gather ideas on the actions and the targets of the strategy. In total, 32 percent of NCC staff (148 participants), 30 regional stakeholders and more than 650 members of the general public contributed to the strategy. The Public and Stakeholders Consultation Report, 2018 is available in Appendix 3.
- The NCC has reached out but has not yet had a dialogue with Indigenous communities regarding the Sustainable Development Strategy.
- A workshop was held with the Board of Directors to discuss their vision for a greener capital region and seek their input on the proposed actions for this strategy.
- The NCC works with and attends regular meetings with the Federal Sustainable Development Office.

9. Next Steps

- An implementation plan will be prepared in the fall 2018, including identifying the human and financial resources required to implement this strategy.
- A first progress report will be presented to the Board of Directors, regional partners and the general public in spring 2019.

10. List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Sustainable Development Strategy 2018-2023, National Capital Commission (available on NCC website)

Appendix 2 – Tables of estimated cost for the actions of the Sustainable Development Strategy 2018-2023, NCC (available on NCC website)

Appendix 3 – Public and Stakeholders Consultation Report, 2018 (available on NCC website)

11. Authors of the Submission

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NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION
COMMISSION DE LA CAPITALE NATIONALE

Sustainable Development Strategy

2018–2023



Canada

We protect our precious legacy, the natural and cultural heritage of the National Capital Region. We work with community partners for a green and inclusive region. We value the health and well-being of all residents and visitors. We take action on climate change, build resilient infrastructure, protect natural capital, promote sustainable agriculture and safe communities, and connect Canadians with nature.



About the NCC

The Role of the NCC

The National Capital Commission (NCC) is a federal Crown corporation with a broad mandate to build a dynamic and inspiring capital that is a source of pride and unity for Canadians and a legacy for future generations. The NCC fulfills this mandate through its roles as long-term planner of federal lands, principal steward of nationally significant public spaces, and creative partner for development and conservation.

Three strategic directions guide the NCC as it delivers its mandate via the [Plan for Canada's Capital, 2017–2067](#):

- Strengthen relations with the community, Indigenous peoples and all orders of government to foster an inclusive and meaningful National Capital Region.
- Conserve and celebrate natural assets, cultural landscapes and built heritage under the NCC's stewardship to ensure a picturesque and natural capital.
- Plan, develop and improve the NCC's assets such that they contribute to a thriving, connected and sustainable capital that inspires Canadians.

Under the Plan for Canada's Capital, 2017–2067, various master plans and demonstration plans identify more detailed policies for specific areas of the NCC's mandate, including the Greenbelt, Gatineau Park, the core area of the Capital and urban lands. The actions in this strategy support the broader plans that pertain to these areas.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE CAPITAL

The NCC acknowledges that the Capital Region, in which it carries out its mandate, is situated on ancestral lands of the Algonquin nation. The NCC values Indigenous heritage and knowledge, and commits to continue working collaboratively with local Indigenous communities to build a sustainable Capital Region.





The NCC's Assets

The NCC manages a diverse portfolio of assets, including the following:

- 1,700 properties
- almost 1,400 buildings, including approximately 300 residential and 150 commercial buildings
- six official residences, including the residence of the governor general of Canada and the official residence of Canada's prime minister
- 13 urban parks
- Gatineau Park (361 km²)
- the Greenbelt (200 km²)
- 300 kilometres of pathways
- 125 kilometres of parkways
- 145 bridges
- the Rideau Canal Skateway

Natural Capital

Much of the land in the NCC's care is green space—and much of it in its natural state—consisting of forests, wetlands and fresh water, as well as agricultural lands and urban parkland. These lands and the ecosystem services they provide are invaluable to the Capital Region. Not only do they contribute direct monetary benefits, such as from wood and agricultural products, but they also provide important value in benefits that are

not measured according to traditional market metrics. These benefits include air quality control, water filtration, climate regulation, carbon storage, wildlife habitat and erosion control.

In December 2016, the NCC completed the [first valuation of the Capital Region's natural capital](#), in partnership with scientists at the Université du Québec and the David Suzuki Foundation. The study analyzed the ecosystems on NCC lands, and determined their value based on the variety and importance of the ecosystem services they provide, which is as follows:

- wetlands (\$59,394/ha/year)
- urban forests (\$9,352/ha/year)
- rural forests (\$4,183/ha/year)
- prairies and grasslands (\$3,338/ha/year)
- croplands (\$1,363/ha/year)
- freshwater systems (\$137/ha/year).

In total, the economic value of all natural and cultivated NCC green space averages \$332 million per year. Non-market ecosystem services, such as habitat for biodiversity, waste treatment, disturbance prevention and global climate regulation, account for the major share of this total value. As the principal steward of federal lands and the associated natural capital in Canada's Capital Region, the NCC is uniquely placed to play a leading role in building a greener capital to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Capital Region.

Canada's Federal Sustainability Framework

The Government of Canada aspires to reduce its carbon footprint, promote environmentally responsible economic growth, protect and restore ecosystems, and ensure that Canadians flourish in clean and healthy environments. Its [Federal Sustainable Development Strategy](#), a whole-of-government strategy, outlines the actions to be taken by the Government of Canada to move toward its vision: Canada is one of the greenest countries in the world and our quality of life continues to improve.

This federal strategy commits to key sustainable development principles which include the precautionary principle; ecologically efficient use of natural, social and economic resources; transparency and accountability; public participation; reconciliation; “polluter pays” principle; integration; and intergenerational equity. It focuses on 13 aspirational, long-term goals:

- Effective action on climate change
- Low-carbon government
- Clean growth
- Modern and resilient infrastructure
- Clean energy
- Healthy coasts and oceans
- Pristine lakes and rivers
- Sustainably managed lands and forests
- Healthy wildlife populations
- Clean drinking water
- Sustainable food
- Connecting Canadians with nature
- Safe and healthy communities

While not currently required to report on the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy, the NCC is voluntarily adopting the strategy's framework. Through its mandate, the NCC already contributes to 10 of the 13 long-term goals, and believes that the National Capital Region—the seat of the Government of Canada—has an important role to play in greening Canada's Capital.

THE GREENING GOVERNMENT STRATEGY

Greening government operations is a way of supporting Canada's sustainability goals. The Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat's Centre for Greening Government leads efforts to ensure that Canada is a global leader in government operations that are low-carbon, resilient and green. The [Greening Government Strategy](#) includes commitments on reductions of greenhouse gas emissions from government operations; green building practices for its real estate portfolio; low-carbon mobility solutions; climate change adaptation measures for federal assets, services and operations; green procurement; and the adoption of clean technologies and green products and services. The NCC has adopted many of these goals.

*“Canada is one of the greenest countries in the world,
and our quality of life continues to improve.”*

Federal Sustainable Development Strategy

2030 United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development

In 2015, United Nations member states adopted the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), which includes 17 sustainable development goals and 169 targets. They are the result of an extensive consultation process involving millions of people around the world. The Sustainable Development Goals provide the global framework for sustainable development for the next 15 years. They integrate social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, and include peace, governance and justice elements.

The NCC's Sustainable Development Strategy supports the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. It directly contributes to 10 Sustainable Development Goals, with an emphasis on making the Capital Region inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; taking action to combat climate change and its impacts; conserving lakes and rivers; protecting, restoring and promoting the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems; sustainably managing forests; and halting and reversing land degradation and biodiversity loss. The NCC is also committed to contributing to positive human health and well-being outcomes.

Read more about the NCC's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals in the sections entitled "The NCC's principles" and "The NCC's actions."



The NCC's Accomplishments So Far

The NCC has a long tradition of environmental protection within Canada's Capital Region. Its first environmental strategy, entitled *Building a Greener Capital (2009–2017)*, was built on this tradition, and had ambitious targets for environmental action in five areas: reducing waste, protecting biodiversity, preventing pollution, leading in environmental practices and combatting climate change. Many accomplishments were recorded under this strategy between 2009 and 2017. For more information, read the [Final Environment Report](#). Here are a few highlights.

Reducing waste

An 87 percent reduction in the amount of waste sent to landfill from the Rideau Canal Skateway was recorded since 2010–2011. Green demolition practices were used to keep 93.7 percent of the waste from 70 demolition projects out of landfills.

Protecting biodiversity

The NCC has taken many steps to better protect biodiversity. All 28 of its identified high-value ecosystems and habitats—or 58 percent of the land managed by the NCC—were designated as conservation lands under the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) protected area categories. In addition, over 775 hectares of lands were purchased in Gatineau Park and the Greenbelt. To ensure the health of these ecosystems, the NCC has monitored 11 biodiversity indicators on its lands, and funded research through its Natural Resources Research Program, issuing over 360 research permits since 2009.

Preventing pollution

The NCC has worked hard to identify and secure its contaminated sites, having secured 45 percent of them. The NCC also banned the use of cosmetic pesticides on its lands.



Leading in environmental practices

The NCC completed a number of green building projects. A major renovation of the Dome Building at Rideau Hall was LEED® certified Silver, and the new building at 7 Clarence Street was built to LEED® Gold standards. It also built a net-zero energy and carbon neutral service building at Vincent Massey Park, a solar-powered service building at Hog's Back Park, and a geothermal heating and cooling system at the Moore Farm.

Various actions contributed to sustainable mobility. The NCC added 20 km of pathways to the Capital Pathway network, created 15 park-and-cycle parking lots, and produced a regional cycling network map in partnership with the City of Ottawa, Ville de Gatineau, Ottawa Tourism and Tourisme Outaouais. The NCC also implemented a shuttle bus service to Gatineau Park during the Fall Rhapsody program to reduce the number of cars in the Park at this time.

Combatting climate change

The NCC has reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by 15.4 percent since 2011. These reductions were the result of several energy-efficiency initiatives at Rideau Hall and the replacement of 34 percent of the NCC fleet with more energy-efficient vehicles.

Between 2009 and 2017...



776.5

hectares of land in Gatineau Park and the Greenbelt were purchased.



58%

of NCC lands were designated high-value ecosystems and habitats.

45%



of the NCC's contaminated sites were secured.

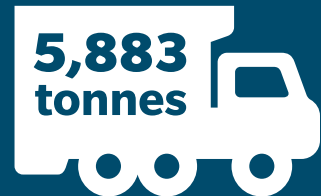
1 major renovation was certified



Greenhouse gas emissions were reduced by



compared with a 2011–2012 baseline year.



of demolition waste were diverted from landfill.

The waste diversion rate on the Rideau Canal Skateway increased by

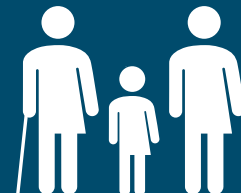


65.4%

34%



of the vehicle fleet was replaced with more energy-efficient vehicles.



A minimum of

175,000

people participated in conservation education programs and activities.

Moving Forward From the Previous Environmental Strategy

It is important for the NCC to lead by example and to adopt new and challenging targets. It is also important to build on the foundation of success established with its first environmental strategy. The NCC will do this by ensuring that environmental practices implemented as a result of the first strategy continue to be part of everyday NCC operations, and by strengthening those objectives that require further work.

Carry-over indicators

In some cases, environmental strategy objectives were so successful that they have become business as usual and are a great source of pride for NCC staff. This is the case with waste management on the Rideau Canal Skateway and the NCC's green demolition practices. In addition, environmental management practices are now incorporated into all NCC maintenance contracts, and partners hosting events on NCC lands are asked to divert the waste generated during the event from landfill sites.

Advancing the green agenda

Some objectives from the first environmental strategy that were successfully implemented require the NCC to take one step further. For example, the NCC will turn its green procurement guidelines into a policy. It will also revisit and strengthen its pesticide policy. In addition, instead of simply seeking sources of renewable energy, the NCC will seek to create renewable energy by assessing the potential for renewable energy projects on its lands and in its buildings. In the case of waste reduction, the NCC has had success with event and office waste, and will now tackle waste from its public areas and NCC-owned buildings.

Some actions that were included in the first NCC environmental strategy as open-ended objectives will be strengthened with the addition of a number of new, more specific targets. For example, the NCC will put more emphasis on implementing best practices in water quality management by identifying, stabilizing and restoring degraded shorelines and establishing riparian corridors. It will also do more to deliver educational programs, develop partnerships for urban food, improve accessibility to NCC green spaces, purchase low- or zero-emission vehicles, and install electric vehicle charging stations on NCC lands.

Aligning with federal priorities

Some objectives where progress has been made will be updated to reflect new federal government targets. Such is the case with the NCC's greenhouse gas emissions reduction target. This strategy sets out a number of actions that will help to achieve the NCC's new emissions target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. Some actions include conducting energy audits, implementing methods and guidelines for greenhouse gas reduction on NCC lands and in NCC buildings, and connecting buildings to a district energy system. These objectives take the place of LEED® building code targets, which proved to be somewhat limiting, given the vast diversity of the NCC's building and renovation projects.

By reflecting on successes and areas for improvement from the first strategy, the NCC can ensure that no previous commitments go unaddressed, and make a seamless transition into a new era of sustainability in the Capital Region.

*We have a strong tradition of
environmental stewardship,
and we want to do more.*

A New Journey Begins: Sustainable Development Strategy, 2018–2023

The NCC Sustainable Development Strategy provides a focused and innovative agenda for environmental leadership in Canada's Capital Region, and serves as an overarching element to be included in all of the NCC's plans, strategies, policies and operations.

Not only does this strategy aim to protect our natural and cultural heritage, it will also contribute to improving the health and well-being of all residents and visitors in the National Capital Region.

Partnerships for regional sustainability

Creating sustainable communities requires collaboration across political and geographical boundaries, as well as knowledge and expertise from various disciplines. The NCC brings together

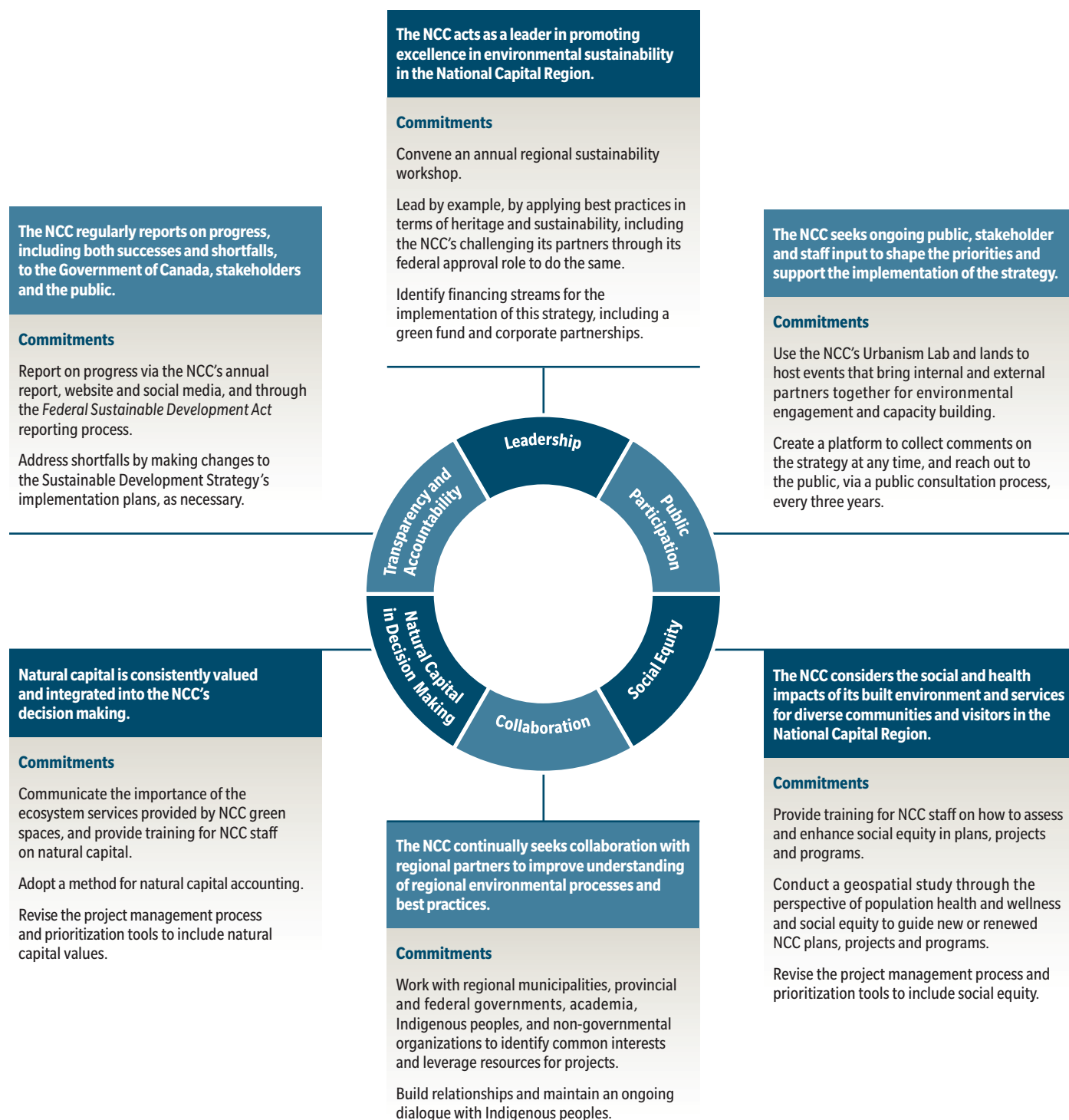
conservation groups, active mobility advocates, energy conservation experts, urban planners and ecology organizations, as well as its partners at the City of Ottawa, Ville de Gatineau and other levels of government to gather ideas and implement projects in order to address important challenges and opportunities in the region. Through the implementation of this strategy, the NCC will act as a leader jointly with its regional partners to move beyond merely greening NCC operations and toward a more sustainable Capital Region.

Improving the built environment for human health

The built environment has many impacts on the health and wellness of Canadians. Health outcomes are often influenced by the interaction between individuals and their social and physical environment. Examples of some physical and social determinants of human health include access to the natural environment, the quality of the built environment, aesthetic elements, transportation options, physical accessibility, access to healthful food, and safety from toxic substances and extreme weather events. Many of the actions included in this strategy have the potential to positively influence these determinants of human health.

The NCC's principles

This strategy is founded on six principles which define how the strategy is implemented. These principles are intended to send a clear message about the way that the NCC wants to do business. The NCC pledges to implement the commitments identified under each principle by 2023 and to report on progress annually.





The NCC's actions

Thirty-five actions have been identified to be completed by 2023. They call for the NCC to innovate and to improve the way it does business. They are presented under the 10 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy goals relevant to the NCC.



This symbol identifies those actions that are to be implemented in collaboration with regional partners.

1 Effective action on climate change



A low-carbon economy contributes to limiting global average temperature rise to well below two degrees Celsius, and supports efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Climate change has been called one of the greatest threats to human health, the economy and the environment. Effective action on climate change means moving toward a low-carbon economy and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions, while increasing our prosperity. Adaptation—also key in dealing with climate change—is about making smart, informed, forward-looking decisions to improve resilience in the face of change. The Government of Canada has committed to a very aggressive target to support global climate change efforts and aims, by 2030, to reduce Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent, relative to 2005 emission levels.

NCC ROLE

By virtue of its legislated federal planning mandate, as well as through its ownership of lands and infrastructure, such as bridges, parkways and corridors, and multi-use pathways, the NCC can influence urban redevelopment, intensification and mobility in the region and encourage sustainable behaviour.

The NCC will work with its partners to better understand impact, vulnerability and risk from a changing climate to increase the region's resiliency. By working together, the NCC and its partners can minimize damage to assets and infrastructure that could be affected by climate change impacts such as flooding, more frequent and severe wildfires, pest outbreaks, and extreme weather events.

THE NCC'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By implementing the actions outlined below, the NCC supports the following Sustainable Development Goals:



2018–2023 Actions to support effective action on climate change

ACTION	INDICATOR	TARGET	DEADLINE
1.1 Promote sustainable transportation and mobility in the National Capital Region.	Renewal of the Capital Pathway Strategic Plan completed	-	2019
	Renewal of the Parkways Policy completed	-	2020
	Renewal of the regional sustainable transportation and mobility strategy completed	-	2023
1.2 Promote the development of surplus NCC brownfield sites and sites adjacent to transit nodes, consistent with NCC plans.	Hectares of sites under contract for remediation and development	23	2023
1.3 Evaluate the risk of climate change impacts on NCC assets, programs and services, and develop a climate change adaptation and resiliency plan.	Completion of a research study for the Rideau Canal Skateway	-	2019
	Completion of a research study for NCC assets, programs and services	-	2020
	Completion of the climate change adaptation and resiliency plan	-	2022
	Percentage of projects that integrate climate change adaptation	100%	2023
1.4 Install electric vehicle charging stations at NCC parking lots.	Number of electric vehicle charging stations on NCC properties	10	2021

2 Low-carbon government



The Government of Canada leads by example by making its operations low-carbon.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The Government of Canada is committed to leading efforts to combat climate change, while also contributing to the economy. To do its part, the government has set its medium-term target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from federal government buildings and fleets at 40 percent below 2005 levels by 2030, and by 80 percent below 2005 levels by 2050. Federal investments in cleaner energy and in energy efficiency have already reduced greenhouse gas emissions from federal operations by 28 percent from 2005 levels.

NCC ROLE

As Canada addresses the challenge of climate change, the NCC will ensure that its future investments reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which will lead to cost savings. The NCC owns a large amount of property, including 1,367 buildings such as houses, office buildings, official residences, visitor centres, warehouses, barns, schools and outbuildings that use a significant amount of energy and water. Many of these buildings are heritage assets which the NCC strives to conserve and protect as they fulfill the interrelated economic, cultural, social and environmental principles of sustainable development.

In the 2016–2017 fiscal year, the NCC generated 1,864 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, and has reduced scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 15.4 percent compared with a 2011–2012 baseline year. Greener standards for retrofits, rehabilitation and construction, energy efficiency, and the inclusion of new sources of renewable energy will help reduce the carbon footprint of the NCC's assets.

The NCC takes many steps to reduce the amount of solid waste generated on its lands. In addition to reducing waste produced in its offices and implementing green purchasing guidelines, the NCC ensures that waste from the Rideau Canal Skateway and commercial leases is recycled and composted. The NCC encourages partners hosting events on its lands to divert waste generated during the event from landfill sites. Green building demolition practices also require waste sorting and diversion.

THE NCC'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By implementing the actions outlined on page 15, the NCC supports the following Sustainable Development Goals:





2018–2023 Actions to support a low-carbon government

ACTION	INDICATOR	TARGET	DEADLINE
2.1 Undertake energy audits of residential, commercial and official residences buildings.	Percentage of NCC-owned energy-consuming buildings audited	75%	2021
2.2 Integrate a greenhouse gas emissions analysis into renovation and construction projects considering best practices guidelines for heritage buildings and sites.*	Adoption of a greenhouse emissions analysis methodology	-	2020
	Percentage of projects integrating greenhouse gas emissions analysis	75%	2021
	Percentage reduction in tonnes of CO ₂ equivalent from scope 1 and 2 emissions, compared with 2005 baseline	40%	2030
2.3 Track energy and water consumption and greenhouse gas emissions of NCC buildings and lands, including new leased facilities and renewed leases.	Percentage of NCC-owned energy and water-consuming buildings tracked in ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager	75%	2019
	Percentage reduction in tonnes of CO ₂ equivalent from scope 1 and 2 emissions compared with 2005 baseline	40%	2030
2.4 Adopt minimum energy- and water-efficiency standards for renovations and construction on NCC land, including for heritage buildings.	Adoption of minimum energy- and water-efficiency standards	-	2021
	Percentage reduction in tonnes of CO ₂ equivalent from scope 1 and 2 emissions, compared with 2005 baseline	40%	2030
2.5 Purchase zero-emission or hybrid vehicles for the fleet.	Percentage of new light-duty fleet vehicle purchases that are zero-emission or hybrid vehicles	75%	2023
	Percentage reduction in tonnes of CO ₂ equivalent from scope 1 and 2 emissions compared with 2005 baseline	40%	2030
2.6 Launch a green purchasing policy for services and goods.	Adoption of green procurement policy, which includes life cycle analysis	-	2020
2.7 Invest in measures to support low-carbon forms of transportation to reduce emissions from employee commuting and business travel.	Tracking of emissions from business travel by NCC staff and executives	-	2020
	Percentage increase of staff commuting trips that are taken using low-carbon forms of transportation	10% compared with 2012 baseline	2023
	Percentage increase of local staff business trips that are taken using low-carbon forms of transportation	10% compared with 2012 baseline	2023
2.8 Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill from public areas and NCC operations.	Percentage of diverted waste from building demolition on NCC lands	90%	2018
	Percentage of diverted waste from the activities associated with the Rideau Canal Skateway	80%	2018
	Percentage of diverted waste from the NCC's offices	60%	2019
	Percentage of diverted waste from major events on NCC lands	50%	2019
	Percentage of diverted waste along the Rideau Canal corridor	60%	2023

* [Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada](#) and [Building Resilience: Practical Guidelines for the Sustainable Rehabilitation of Buildings in Canada](#)

3 Modern and resilient infrastructure



Modern, sustainable and resilient infrastructure supports clean economic growth and social inclusion.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

With the increasing impacts of climate change, climate-resilient infrastructure that protects Canadians will become more important to sustain economic, environmental and social well-being. While all infrastructure funding will play a role in supporting sustainable development, federal green infrastructure funding will be a priority, especially in projects such as water and wastewater systems, and climate-resilient infrastructure like flood mitigation systems. Thus, by the end of 2025–2026, the Government of Canada will have invested \$20 billion in green infrastructure initiatives that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve climate-resilience and environmental quality.

NCC ROLE

The NCC is the caretaker of many of the region's unique natural and cultural landscapes and built assets. Climate change and environmental impacts like flooding represent challenges in maintaining these assets. The NCC can play a vital role in enhancing the resilience of its assets through its long-term planning and stewardship functions with respect to federal lands, as well as through the federal land use, design and transaction approval process.

THE NCC'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By implementing the actions outlined below, the NCC supports the following Sustainable Development Goals:



2018–2023 Actions to support modern and resilient infrastructure

ACTION	INDICATOR	TARGET	DEADLINE
3.1 Adopt stormwater management guidelines to reduce impacts on water quality and quantity.	Adoption of stormwater management guidelines	-	2019
	Percentage of new projects that apply stormwater management guidelines	100%	2023
3.2 Assess the flood risk for NCC operations and assets located in the 100-year and 350-year flood plains.	Completion of flood risk assessment	-	2020





4 Clean energy



All Canadians have access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The type of energy produced and the amount of energy consumed have significant impacts on local air quality and global concentrations of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. Fossil fuels are damaging to public health and the natural environment, and all levels of government recognize the importance of energy conservation and its link to public health and environmental well-being. Canada is committed to achieving a low-carbon economy. Clean electricity systems and clean technology are keys to achieve the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy's long-term goal of providing all Canadians with a source of affordable, reliable and sustainable energy. In addition to reducing Canada's greenhouse gas emissions, a cleaner energy system will provide benefits such as increased climate-resilience and decreased impacts on land and wildlife species, as well as improvement of human health.

NCC ROLE

To achieve this goal, there is a need to accelerate the development and adoption of renewable energy and other clean energy technologies, while reducing the overall demand for energy by using it more efficiently. The NCC's carbon footprint derives primarily from the use of electricity and natural gas by the various building and land portfolios. Thus, there is an opportunity to lower its carbon footprint through the consumption of energy from renewable sources, as well as by installing clean and renewable energy systems on NCC lands.

THE NCC'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By implementing the actions outlined below, the NCC supports the following Sustainable Development Goals:



2018–2023 Actions to support clean energy



ACTION	INDICATOR	TARGET	DEADLINE
4.1 Assess the renewable energy potential of NCC land and buildings to increase the proportion of renewable energy systems.	Completion of the assessment of renewable energy potential	-	2020
4.2 Facilitate the connection of federal and NCC-owned buildings to the Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) district energy system.	Number of planned federal and NCC-owned building connections to the PSPC district energy system	Increased number of connected buildings*	2023

* Target to be defined with regional partners.

5 Pristine lakes and rivers



Clean and healthy lakes and rivers support economic prosperity and the well-being of Canadians.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Lakes and rivers across Canada sustain a rich variety of plants and animals, supply drinking water to millions of Canadians, provide opportunities for swimming, boating and recreational fishing, and support economic activities such as tourism, commercial fisheries, agriculture and shipping. Many lakes and rivers have been impacted by water contamination and the introduction and spread of invasive alien species. The Federal Sustainable Development Strategy defines two major axes of intervention for its medium-term targets: reduce nutrient pollution to lakes and rivers, and restore lake and river ecosystems.

NCC ROLE

This goal of the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy is of particular importance for the NCC, since the numerous shorelines, lakes and waterways—such as the Ottawa, Gatineau and Rideau rivers—represent some of the Capital Region’s most significant

natural features. The NCC is also responsible for the quality of water for swimming at various beaches. The NCC has a dual responsibility toward this goal, since it is responsible for many parks, farmlands and natural environments which, if not carefully managed, can contribute to water pollution and the degradation of aquatic ecosystems.

THE NCC’S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By implementing the actions outlined below, the NCC supports the following Sustainable Development Goals:



2018–2023 Actions to support pristine lakes and rivers



ACTION	INDICATOR	TARGET	DEADLINE
5.1 Prioritize and restore degraded shorelines along watercourses and lakes on NCC lands to improve ecosystem integrity.	Identification and prioritization of degraded shorelines	-	2019
	Completion of an assessment of threatened archaeological legacy on NCC shorelines	-	2021
	Percentage of high-priority shorelines stabilized and restored	25%	2023
5.2 Continue to protect shoreline vegetation zones within leased properties.	Percentage of new leases with riparian protection measures for shoreline vegetation	100%	2023

Sustainably managed lands and forests



Lands and forests support biodiversity and provide a variety of ecosystem services for generations to come.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Canada's natural spaces provide habitat for wildlife and ecosystem services that are essential to our well-being, such as filtering our air and water and storing carbon dioxide. Forests are fundamental to the cultural, recreational and spiritual values of Indigenous peoples and settler Canadians. Two of the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy's medium-term targets are relevant to the NCC. The first one is to ensure that, by 2020, at least 17 percent of terrestrial areas and inland water are conserved through networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures. The second one is to maintain or improve the condition of 90 percent of ecological integrity indicators in national parks by 2019.

NCC ROLE

Lands and forests are subject to great pressures from human activity. The NCC manages over 10 percent of the lands in Canada's Capital Region, which totals over 600 km². This makes the NCC the region's largest land manager, thus it has a responsibility to sustainably manage its lands and forests.

The NCC is responsible for the management of a vast green space network which includes Gatineau Park (361 km²), the Greenbelt

(200 km²), urban parks and green spaces along the parkways. This network, while protecting sensitive ecological elements, cultural landscapes, and archaeological and built heritage, also provides direct monetary benefits such as from agricultural products. It also provides benefits not measured according to traditional market metrics such as air quality control, water filtration, climate regulation, carbon storage, wildlife habitat and erosion control.

In addition, the NCC contributes to the sustainability of Canada's lands and forests under its jurisdiction through a number of initiatives that seek to enhance scientific knowledge related to natural spaces, manage the spread of invasive species and protect species at risk.

THE NCC'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By implementing the actions outlined below, the NCC supports the following Sustainable Development Goals:



2018–2023 Actions to support sustainably managed lands and forests

	ACTION	INDICATOR	TARGET	DEADLINE
	6.1 Adopt and implement a forest strategy that considers natural and cultural heritage values, and focuses on urban tree protection.	Adoption of a forest strategy	-	2019
		Number of trees planted	100,000	2022
	6.2 Control the spread of invasive plant species, in collaboration with regional stakeholders.	Adoption of a coordinated approach	-	2020
	6.3 Promote the connectivity of ecosystems and natural habitats in the National Capital Region.	Identification of potential corridors on NCC lands and on lands near and adjacent to NCC lands	-	2023
	6.4 Renew the Corporate Natural Resources Action Plan, which supports projects that expand knowledge of biodiversity health on NCC lands.	Renewal of the Corporate Natural Resources Action Plan completed	-	2018
		Number of projects completed under the Corporate Natural Resources Action Plan	15	2022

7 Healthy wildlife populations



All species have healthy and viable populations.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Healthy plant and animal populations and habitats are important parts of biodiversity. They make up ecosystems that benefit Canadians through valuable services such as climate regulation, providing food and medicines, and pollinating crops. However, plant and animal species and their habitats are threatened by human activities, urban development, invasive alien species, pollution and climate change. The Federal Sustainable Development Strategy's medium-term target is that, by 2020, species that are secure remain secure, and populations of species at risk listed under federal law exhibit trends that are consistent with recovery strategies and management plans.

NCC ROLE

As the manager of more than 10 percent of the lands in the Capital Region, with several high-value ecosystems and natural habitats, the NCC is in a unique position to contribute to Canada's protection and conservation of wildlife populations. A total of 28 high-value

ecosystems and natural habitats have been identified on lands managed by the NCC—and represent 58 percent of those lands. At present, the NCC estimates that its lands shelter approximately 200 species at risk. In addition, there are some concerns over other species which may not be listed as being at risk provincially or federally, but for which human activities on NCC lands pose a potential threat. Bird collisions with buildings and wildlife mortality on roadways are two examples relevant to the NCC.

THE NCC'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By implementing the actions outlined below, the NCC supports the following Sustainable Development Goals:



2018–2023 Actions to support healthy wildlife populations

ACTION	INDICATOR	TARGET	DEADLINE
7.1 Adopt bird-friendly standards for building design, including landscaping and lighting, for federal buildings and lands.	Adoption of bird-friendly design standards	-	2019
	Percentage of new projects that apply bird-friendly standards	100%	2023
7.2 Acquire and analyze ecological land classification data to identify and protect habitat of potential species at risk.	Completion of data acquisition and analysis for designated natural areas	-	2021
	Completion of data acquisition and analysis for other natural lands	-	2023
7.3 Create a pollinator habitat landscape program.	Adoption of pollinator habitat guidelines	-	2020
	Hectares of new pollinator habitat	Increased number of hectares*	2022
7.4 Develop guidelines to minimize wildlife mortality on roadways.	Completion of a research project to inform decision making regarding the impact of roads on wildlife	-	2023

* A baseline will be measured.



Sustainable food



Innovation and ingenuity contribute to a world-leading agricultural sector and food economy for the benefit of all Canadians.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Canada's food system provides safe and healthy food for Canadians, and contributes to our economy. Conserving our natural environment and protecting freshwater and soil quality will help ensure that our food system continues to provide access to safe and healthy food in the longer term. One of the medium-term targets of the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy is that, by 2030, agricultural working landscapes provide a stable or improved level of biodiversity and efficient management toward water and soil quality for food production.

NCC ROLE

The NCC supports sustainable food production on its lands, and contributes to a healthy regional food system, while supporting the local economy. The NCC manages approximately 90 farms (market gardens, dairies, and crop and livestock farms) located primarily in the Greenbelt, but also on urban lands. Of these, 26 produce food for the region. These farms are living symbols of the natural and cultural landscapes that provided the foundation for much

of Canada's inhabited areas. They also provide an opportunity to ensure that residents in the Capital Region have access to locally sourced, sustainable and healthy food, and that biodiversity is protected on farmlands.

The NCC also has a role to play in encouraging decreased energy and chemical inputs and waste outputs, while positively contributing to natural system processes and working toward a "work within nature" principle to provide local food with strong community involvement.

THE NCC'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By implementing the actions outlined below, the NCC supports the following Sustainable Development Goals:



2018–2023 Actions to support sustainable food



ACTION	INDICATOR	TARGET	DEADLINE
8.1 Create a campaign to promote the consumption of local food produced on NCC lands.	Launch of a locally produced food campaign	-	2020
8.2 Develop a food strategy for urban lands to complement the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Strategy .	Completion of a food strategy	-	2022
	Number of partnerships for implementing the urban food strategy	5	2022
8.3 Enhance the conservation and quality of soil and water resources.	Number of projects implemented that apply best management practices, are pilot or research projects, and include data acquisition and analysis of soil health and quality	5	2023
8.4 Diversify farmlands covered by monoculture farming operations, and increase regional food production on existing Greenbelt farmlands.	Completion of an assessment of the food produced on NCC lands (type, quality and quantity, currently and potentially)	-	2020
	Number of hectares of existing Greenbelt farmlands converted for regional food production	200	2021

9 Connecting Canadians with nature



Canadians are informed about the value of nature, experiencing nature first-hand, and actively engaged in its stewardship.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Connecting with nature has recognized benefits for humans. It can improve physical and mental health, support children's development and provide opportunities for spiritual growth. In addition, nature-based tourism and activities also provide regional economic benefits. The Federal Sustainable Development Strategy's medium-term target is to maintain or increase by 2020 the number of Canadians who get out into nature—for example, by visiting parks and green spaces—and increase participation in biodiversity conservation activities relative to a 2010 baseline.

NCC ROLE

The NCC's green space network, including Gatineau Park and the Greenbelt, offers unique places where nature and people come together. The Capital Pathway network, representing over 200 km




of multi-use pathways, connects people to these green spaces and provides opportunities for them to spend time outdoors. Preserving this cultural experience is important for the NCC, which can support this goal by expanding opportunities for people to connect to nature and getting involved in conservation initiatives.

THE NCC'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By implementing the actions outlined below, the NCC supports the following Sustainable Development Goals:



2018–2023 Actions to support connecting Canadians with nature

ACTION	INDICATOR	TARGET	DEADLINE
 9.1 Develop new partnerships with local organizations to deliver programs and initiatives that engage and educate citizens about nature and biodiversity conservation on NCC lands.	Number of volunteers, participants and visitors in NCC parks, farms and green spaces	Increased number of volunteers, participants and visitors*	2020
 9.2 Promote greater accessibility of Capital parks and green spaces by public transit.	Completion of assessment of green space accessibility and proposed recommendations to increase accessibility by public transit	-	2021
 9.3 Work with partners and the private sector to install new bike share locations in NCC urban green spaces.	Number of new bike share locations	Increased number of bike share locations*	2022

* Targets to be defined with regional partners.

10 Safe and healthy communities



All Canadians live in clean, sustainable communities that contribute to their health and well-being.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The federal government is committed to ensuring that Canadians live in clean and safe environments. Among other measures, this means improving air quality, protecting Canadians from harmful substances, and managing and remediating sites that have been contaminated over the years. Under this goal, the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy aims to remediate 599 of the highest-priority sites under the [Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan](#) by 2019–2020.

NCC ROLE

To prevent the pollution of lands, groundwater and surface water, the NCC applies strict environmental standards to operations and practices on its lands, which also contributes to ensuring safe and healthy communities. For example, the NCC adopted a pesticide policy to control the use of pesticides for cosmetic purposes on its lands.

The NCC manages 1,367 buildings, and implements a program to identify and assess buildings where pollutants such as asbestos and lead-based paint may be present. Contaminated sites on NCC lands are a legacy of the region's industrial activities in the past century. The NCC continues to manage a significant decontamination program at its 1,578 contaminated sites.

THE NCC'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

By implementing the actions outlined below, the NCC supports the following Sustainable Development Goals:



2018–2023 Actions to support safe and healthy communities

ACTION	INDICATOR	TARGET	DEADLINE
10.1 Remediate the highest-priority sites on NCC lands, under the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan.	Hectares of remediated land	1.5	2023
10.2 Assess alternatives to the use of chemical pesticides on NCC lands with a view to revising existing policies and practices.	Completion of an assessment of pesticide use on NCC lands	-	2020
	Revision of NCC pesticide policy completed	-	2022

Glossary

Climate change adaptation: Adjusting decisions, activities and thinking because of observed or expected changes in climate, in order to reduce harm or take advantage of new opportunities.

Biodiversity: The full range of animals, plants and other living things, and the places where they live on the planet.

Brownfield site: Abandoned, idle or underutilized commercial or industrial property where past actions have caused environmental contamination, but which still has potential for redevelopment or other economic opportunities. Brownfields are typically located in urban areas.

Carbon footprint: The total set of carbon-containing emissions (mainly CO₂) caused directly and indirectly by an individual, organization, event or product.

Clean energy: Renewable, nuclear, and carbon capture and storage technologies, as well as demand reduction through energy efficiency.

Conservation land: Land specially designated by federal, provincial/territorial or local bodies to protect fragile or important ecosystems, habitats and species at risk.

Contaminated site: Areas of land that contain chemical substances (e.g. heavy metals or petroleum products) that may pose a hazard to human health or the environment, or that exceed the levels set out in policies and regulations.

District energy system: A system made up of central plants that heat buildings with hot water or steam and cool buildings with chilled water. The water circulates through underground pipes connected in a loop. This process uses less energy and is more efficient than having equipment in each individual building.

Ecological integrity: A condition in which the natural components of an ecosystem—including physical elements, diversity of species and habitats, and ecological processes—are likely to persist.

Ecosystem: A unit of interdependent organisms that share the same habitat.

Ecosystem services: Services that humans derive from ecological functions such as photosynthesis, oxygen production and water purification.

Energy efficiency: Refers to how effectively energy is being used for a given purpose. For example, performing a similar function or providing a similar (or better) level of service with less energy consumption on a per unit basis is considered an improvement in energy efficiency.

Geothermal: Energy captured from the heat stored beneath the earth's surface or from the absorbed heat in the atmosphere and oceans. In the first instance, geothermal energy can be captured from naturally occurring underground steam and used to produce electricity. In the second instance, heating and cooling can be achieved by taking advantage of the temperature differential between outside air and the ground or groundwater.

Green demolition: The process of dismantling a building in such a way as to ensure that as many of its elements as possible can be recycled or reused, rather than sent to landfills.

* Definitions sourced from the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy, the NCC's Final Environment Report (2016–2017), the NCC's natural capital document, the Public Health Agency of Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Public Services and Procurement Canada, and the Government of Ontario.

Greenhouse gas: Gases such as nitrous oxide (N₂O), methane (CH₄) and especially carbon dioxide (CO₂) that accumulate in the atmosphere and act to retain atmospheric heat, thus contributing to climate change.

Green infrastructure: Infrastructure that protects communities and supports Canada's ongoing transition to a clean growth economy.

Green procurement: An approach to business purchasing in which the environmental impacts of goods and services, in addition to price and quality, play an important role in purchasing decisions.

High-value ecosystem or habitat: An ecosystem or habitat that is considered important for the maintenance of biodiversity because it has some combination of the following characteristics: a large diversity of species, habitat for species at risk and/or migratory species, and intact natural processes likely to support increased genetic diversity.

Natural capital: Natural resource stocks, land and ecosystems, which provide an array of resources and flows of ecosystem services necessary for life on earth.

Protected area: A clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.

Renewable energy: Energy derived from sources that are either inexhaustible, such as the sun (solar energy), wind or waves (tidal energy), or that can be naturally replenished before being exhausted, such as biomass and river flow (hydroelectric power).

Resilience: The ability of a social or ecological system to absorb disturbances while retaining the same basic structure and ways of functioning, the capacity of self-organization, and the capacity to adapt to stress and change.

Secured site: A contaminated site where all necessary study, remediation and other risk management actions have been taken, consistent with the designated use of the site.

Social equity (or social justice): Refers to the concept of a society that gives individuals and groups fair treatment and an equitable share of the benefits of society. In this context, social justice is based on the concepts of human rights and equity. Under social justice, all groups and individuals are entitled equally to important rights such as health protection and minimal standards of income.

Species at risk: Plant or animal species with special status at the federal or provincial level because it is vulnerable to extinction. Species may be listed as being of special concern, threatened, endangered, extirpated or extinct.

Stewardship: Management of resources in such a way that they can be passed on with integrity to future generations.

Stormwater: Rainwater, snowmelt or other form of precipitation that has contacted the ground or any surface.

Stormwater management: A process that deals with the component of the urban surface runoff that is or would be collected by means of separate municipal storm sewers.

Sustainable development: Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Waste diversion: The reduction, reuse and recycling of waste, leading to a reduction of waste being sent to the landfill.

Get Involved

Everyone in the National Capital Region has a role to play to build a greener and more sustainable National Capital Region. Whether you're involved in the local business community, active in your neighbourhood or interested in greening your own home, your efforts are essential to our shared success.

Stay Connected

Please visit our [Sustainable Development Strategy web page](#), where you will find more information about our baselines and progress made. We welcome any and all feedback as to how the NCC's sustainability efforts might be strengthened or improved upon.

For more information, to learn more or to get involved in this work, please contact us at

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NCC Sustainable Development Strategy, 2018–2023

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APPENDIX 2: TABLES OF ESTIMATED COST FOR THE ACTIONS OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2018-2023, NCC

Table 1: Actions with no incremental cost

- No incremental hard cost has been identified for 22 out of the 35 actions and they can be implemented through existing reference levels.
- Some human resources are likely to be required but reallocated from current efforts.
- Four actions could potentially generate substantial savings or revenue.

Actions	Potential Savings or Revenue
1.2 Promote the development of surplus NCC brownfield sites and sites adjacent to transit nodes, consistent with NCC plans.	Substantial
2.2 Integrate a greenhouse gas emissions analysis into renovation and construction projects considering best practices guidelines for heritage buildings and sites.	Substantial
2.4 Adopt minimum energy- and water-efficiency standards for renovations and construction on NCC land, including for heritage buildings.	Substantial
2.5 Purchase zero-emission or hybrid vehicles for the fleet.	Substantial
1.3 Evaluate the risk of climate change impacts on NCC assets, programs and services, and develop a climate change adaptation and resiliency plan.	-
2.3 Track energy and water consumption and greenhouse gas emissions of NCC buildings and lands, including new leased facilities and renewed leases.	-
3.1 Adopt stormwater management guidelines to reduce impacts on water quality and quantity.	-
5.2 Continue to protect shoreline vegetation zones within leased properties.	-
6.1 Adopt and implement a forest strategy which considers natural and cultural heritage values, and focuses on urban tree protection.	-
6.2 Control the spread of invasive plant species, in collaboration with regional stakeholders.	-
6.4 Renew the Corporate Natural Resources Action Plan, which supports projects that expand knowledge of biodiversity health on NCC lands.	-
7.2 Acquire and analyze ecological data to identify and protect habitat of potential species at risk.	-
7.3 Create a pollinator habitat landscape program.	-

APPENDIX 2: TABLES OF ESTIMATED COST FOR THE ACTIONS OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2018-2023, NCC

Table 1 (continued)

Actions	Potential Savings or Revenue
7.4 Develop guidelines to minimize wildlife mortality on roadways.	-
8.1 Create a campaign to promote local food produced on NCC lands.	-
8.3 Enhance the conservation and quality of soil and water resources.	-
8.4 Diversify farmlands covered by monoculture farming operations, and increase regional food production on existing Greenbelt farmlands.	-
9.1 Develop new partnerships with local organizations to deliver programs and initiatives that engage and educate citizens about nature and biodiversity conservation on NCC lands.	-
9.2 Promote greater accessibility of Capital parks and green spaces by public transit.	-
9.3 Work with partners and the private sector to install new bike share locations in NCC urban green spaces.	-
10.1 Remediate the highest-priority sites on NCC lands, under the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan.	-
10.2 Assess alternatives to the use of chemical pesticides on NCC lands with a view to revising existing policies and practices.	-

APPENDIX 2: TABLES OF ESTIMATED COST FOR THE ACTIONS OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2018-2023, NCC

Table 2: Actions with an incremental cost

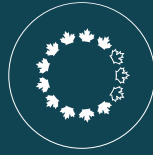
- Additional resources are required for the implementation of 13 out of the 35 proposed actions. Existing reference levels are insufficient to ensure the completion of the actions listed below.
- An estimated total of \$2,125,000 would be required over the next five years.
- Four actions could potentially generate savings or revenue.
- Some actions could be financially supported through future partnerships.

Actions	Estimated Incremental Cost	Potential Savings or Revenue
2.7 Invest in measures to support low-carbon forms of transportation to reduce emissions from employee commuting and business travel.	\$25,000	Minor
3.2 Assess the flood risk for NCC operations and assets located in the 100-year and 350-year flood plains.	\$50,000	Substantial
4.1 Assess the renewable energy potential of NCC land and buildings to increase the proportion of renewable energy systems.	\$50,000	Minor
4.2 Facilitate the connection of federal and NCC-owned buildings to the Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) district energy system.	Unknown	Minor
1.1 Promote sustainable transportation and mobility in the National Capital Region.	\$100,000	-
1.4 Install electric vehicle charging stations at NCC parking lots.	\$100,000	-
2.1 Undertake energy audits of residential, commercial and official residences buildings.	\$500,000	-
2.6 Launch a green purchasing policy for services and goods.	\$50,000	-
2.8 Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill from public areas and NCC operations.	\$50,000	-
5.1 Prioritize and restore degraded shorelines along watercourses and lakes on NCC lands to improve ecosystem integrity.	\$1,000,000	-
6.3 Promote the connectivity of ecosystems and natural habitats in the National Capital Region.	\$100,000	-
7.1 Adopt bird-friendly standards for building design including landscaping and lighting for federal buildings and lands.	\$50,000	-

APPENDIX 2: TABLES OF ESTIMATED COST FOR THE ACTIONS OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2018-2023, NCC

Table 2 (continued)

Actions	Estimated Incremental Cost	Potential Savings or Revenue
8.2 Develop a food strategy for urban lands to complement the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Strategy	\$50,000	-



NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION
COMMISSION DE LA CAPITALE NATIONALE

Renewal of the NCC's Sustainable Development Strategy

PUBLIC & STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION REPORT
SPRING 2018

Canada

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I - Project description

A. Background

The NCC's first environmental strategy "Building a Greener Capital" came up for renewal in March 2018. A first set of internal consultations was held in early 2017 to collect ideas for the new strategy's goals. In June 2017, a first set of external consultations was held with the same objective. The report is available [here](#).

At the same time, a bill was tabled in Parliament that proposed amendments to the *Federal Sustainable Development Act* (FSDA), which would extend responsibility for implementing the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy (FSDS) and enable a whole-of-government approach to environmental sustainability.

Although it is not proposed that the NCC be required to report on progress toward the FSDS, it will do so on a voluntary basis in order to align and comply with federal priorities and goals. Thus, the NCC's new environmental strategy will be a Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS) that is in step with FSDS goals, targets and milestones, while remaining true to the ideas collected during the consultation process.

B. Plan objectives

Launch a Sustainable Development Strategy for the NCC in September 2018.

II. Public consultation process

A. Overview

As part of Phase 1 of the project, a first round of in-person public consultations was held in June 2017 with stakeholders and members of the general public. Drawing upon the input received during this phase and the overarching goals of the FSDS, the NCC developed a set of concrete actions geared toward fostering greater environmental sustainability in its operations.

In Phase 2 of the project, the NCC held both in-person public consultations with stakeholders and an online consultation with members of the general public to solicit feedback on the content of the new strategy. This report presents the results of the second consultation phase.

Objectives

The objectives of the second round of public consultations were as follows:

- Provide stakeholders and members of the general public with an opportunity to identify those items that are most important to them from among the 34 actions outlined in the Sustainable Development Strategy, and prioritize them accordingly.
- Provide stakeholders and members of the general public with an opportunity to evaluate and comment on the content of the overall strategy.

a. Date and time

In-person consultation with stakeholders:

- May 1, 2018

Online survey:

- June 21 to July 12, 2018

b. Format

The public consultation consisted of an in-person stakeholder workshop and an online public survey.

B. Consultation procedure and tools

a. Stakeholder workshop

At the start of the workshop, NCC staff presented an overview of the draft 2018–2023 Sustainable Development Strategy, and responded to questions from the audience. Stakeholders were then invited to participate in a prioritization exercise that prompted them to identify those areas in which the NCC should focus its efforts. Each participant was provided with a budget of \$100 in play money, and was asked to distribute these funds among the 34 actions outlined in the strategy.

After the prioritization activity, stakeholders engaged in a discussion during which staff solicited additional ideas and comments about the strategy's content. A follow-up survey was also sent to all participants; it aimed to identify new or existing partnership opportunities that could help the NCC implement the Sustainable Development Strategy. Participants were also asked to provide any additional feedback that they may have had at that time.

b. Online public survey

The online survey was divided into two sections. In the first section, respondents were invited to participate in a multi-step prioritization exercise. For each of the 10 overarching goals in the strategy, respondents were asked to select up to two actions that were the most important to them. Respondents were then presented with a list of all of the actions they had selected in the 10 previous questions, and were asked to select up to three that were the most important to them.

In the second section, respondents were invited to read the Sustainable Development Strategy and rate their satisfaction with its content on a five-point Likert scale (very dissatisfied; dissatisfied; neutral; satisfied; very satisfied). Respondents were also prompted to provide any additional feedback in an open-text box.

C. Invitation and promotion

An email invitation was sent using Public Affairs distribution lists, which include the following stakeholders:

- Interest groups, user groups and environmental groups
- Residents' associations
- Individuals

Messages were also posted on the NCC's social media accounts (Facebook and Twitter), soliciting the participation of all interested members of the public. A paid digital advertising campaign was also launched on Facebook, Google, and both the *LeDroit* and *Ottawa Citizen* websites.

D. Participants

a. Stakeholders

Twenty-three individuals who represented federal departments, municipalities and non-government organizations participated in the in-person stakeholder consultation.

b. Survey respondents

A total of 622 people provided responses to the full online survey.

III. Stakeholder and public consultation highlights

- The three actions that received the largest share of budget allocation from stakeholders were the following:
 1. Promote the development of a regional sustainable transportation strategy. (7%)
 2. Control the spread of invasive plant species with regional stakeholders. (6%)
 3. New development, re-development, re-urbanization, linear development and stormwater management retrofits on federal lands will provide volume control for storm water runoff. (6%)
- Sixty-two percent of survey respondents were either satisfied or very satisfied with the content of the Sustainable Development Strategy, while 9% were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.
- The three actions that were identified by the largest share of survey respondents from the public consultation as being most important were the following:
 1. Promote sustainable transportation and mobility in the National Capital Region. (34%)
 2. Prioritize and restore degraded shorelines along watercourses and lakes on NCC lands to improve ecosystem function. (24%)
 3. Create a pollinator habitat landscape program. (20%)

IV. Analysis of results and main comments received

A. Stakeholder workshop

Prioritization activity

The fictitious funds were distributed quite evenly by stakeholders across the 34 actions, with only one not receiving any budget allocation. The actions that received the largest share of funds were the following:

1. Promote the development of a regional sustainable transportation strategy. (7%)
2. Control the spread of invasive plant species with regional stakeholders. (6%)
3. New development, re-development, re-urbanization, linear development and stormwater management retrofits on federal lands will provide volume control for stormwater runoff. (6%)
4. Adopt a standard regarding building design and landscaping to reduce bird collisions on federal lands. (5%)
5. Identify and protect ecological corridors on lands near, adjacent to and on NCC lands. (4%)
6. Increase food production on existing NCC farmlands. (4%)
7. Develop new partnerships with local organizations to deliver programs and initiatives that engage and educate citizens about nature and biodiversity conservation on NCC lands. (4%)
8. Evaluate the risk of climate change impacts on NCC assets, programs and services through a research study, and launch a climate change adaptation and resiliency plan. (4%)

For a complete overview of the budget distribution, see Figure 1.

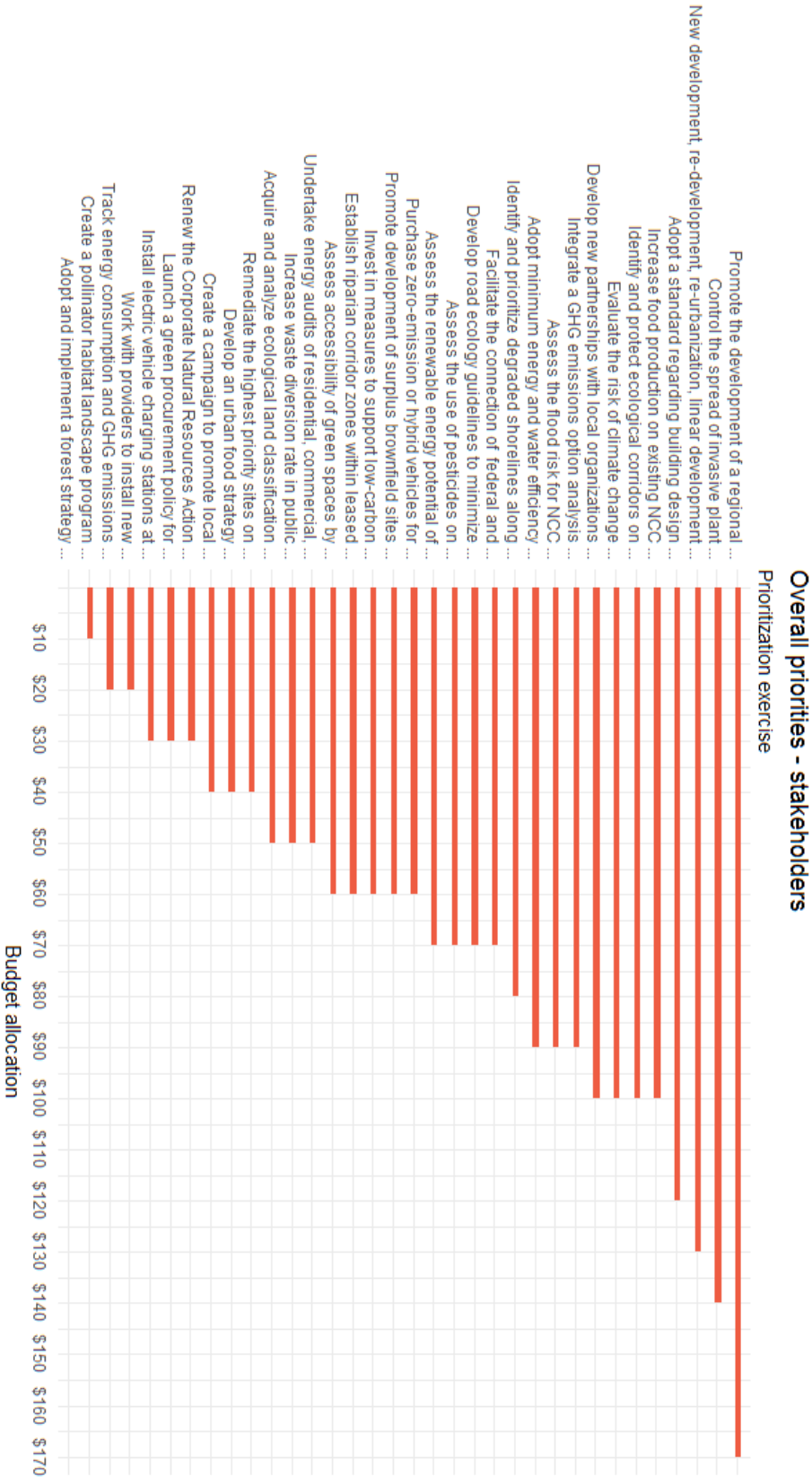


Figure 1

Discussion

Below is a summary of the key suggestions provided by stakeholders during the post-activity discussion.

- Improve the link between the six guiding principles and 10 actions.
- Indicate the amount of funds, time and additional resources required for each action, as well as the potential revenues or savings in future prioritization exercises (e.g. public online consultation).
- Strengthen and prioritize partnerships:
 - Establish more partnerships with governmental agencies, the cities, non-profits, community groups and residents.
 - Specify current partners of the SDS and the actions that have or need partnerships.
 - Identify common research projects with partners and stakeholders.
 - Access different funds and leverage resources through partnerships with non-profit and non-governmental organizations.
- Engage and gather input from youth, especially when developing programs and initiatives that engage and educate citizens about nature and biodiversity conservation.
- Monitor tree canopy cover in urban areas to improve urban tree protection, and use canopy cover as an indicator for the forest strategy.
- Consider the protection of wetlands in the stormwater management action, and consult with nearby homeowners when restoring damaged wetlands.
- For the actions that consist of assessments, stakeholders encourage the NCC to go further than the assessments by committing to the implementation of some actions to continuously improve results
 - For instance, after assessing the use of pesticides on NCC lands, reduce or eliminate the use of these pesticides.
- Incorporate heritage protection in the low-carbon government action.
- Ensure frequent and open communication about the strategy and establish strong governance practices.

Follow-up survey

Stakeholders identified the following partnership opportunities that could help the NCC implement the Sustainable Development Strategy and build a greener National Capital Region:

- Partnerships with local organizations to deliver conservation programs and initiatives
- District energy connections
- Shoreline restoration
- Climate change adaptation
- Forest strategy

Stakeholders also indicated that they would like to be kept informed about the progress of the strategy. They indicated the following formats and frequencies for receiving this information:

- An email once per quarter
- Brief, small stakeholder meetings every 6 to 12 months
- A 5- to 10-minute update each quarter at a public meeting (NCC Board or otherwise)
- Meetings or presentations once a year, potentially following major milestones

B. Online public survey

Prioritization exercise

The prioritization exercise allowed respondents to indicate which of the 34 actions were most important to them. While the most frequently selected actions within the 10 separate goals garnered majority support (*see Table 1 and Appendix I*), preferences were more evenly distributed across all 10 groups (*see Figure 2*).

Table 1: Most frequently selected actions by goal

Effective action on climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Promote sustainable transportation and mobility in the National Capital Region. (80%)
Low-carbon government	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Adopt minimum energy- and water-efficiency standards for renovations and construction on NCC land, including for heritage buildings. (46%)
Modern and resilient infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Adopt stormwater management guidelines to reduce impacts on water quality and quantity. (78%)
Clean energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assess the renewable energy potential of NCC land and buildings to increase the proportion of off-grid renewable energy systems. (67%)
Pristine lakes and rivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Prioritize and restore degraded shorelines along watercourses and lakes on NCC lands to improve ecosystem function. (80%)
Sustainably managed lands and forests	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Promote the connectivity of ecosystems and natural habitats in the National Capital Region. (57%)
Healthy wildlife populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Create a pollinator habitat landscape program. (57%)
Sustainable food	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Diversify farmlands covered by monoculture farming operations, and increase food production on existing Greenbelt farmlands. (70%)
Connecting Canadians with nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop new partnerships with local organizations to deliver programs and initiatives that engage and educate citizens about nature and biodiversity conservation on NCC lands. (68%)
Safe and healthy communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assess alternatives to the use of chemical pesticides on NCC lands with a view to revising existing policies and practices. (63%)

When asked to identify the three most important actions from among those that mattered most to them, respondents most frequently selected the following:

1. Promote sustainable transportation and mobility in the National Capital Region. (34%)
2. Prioritize and restore degraded shorelines along watercourses and lakes on NCC lands to improve ecosystem function. (24%)
3. Create a pollinator habitat landscape program. (20%)

Only 2% of respondents indicated that the issues most important to them were not addressed in the Sustainable Development Strategy.

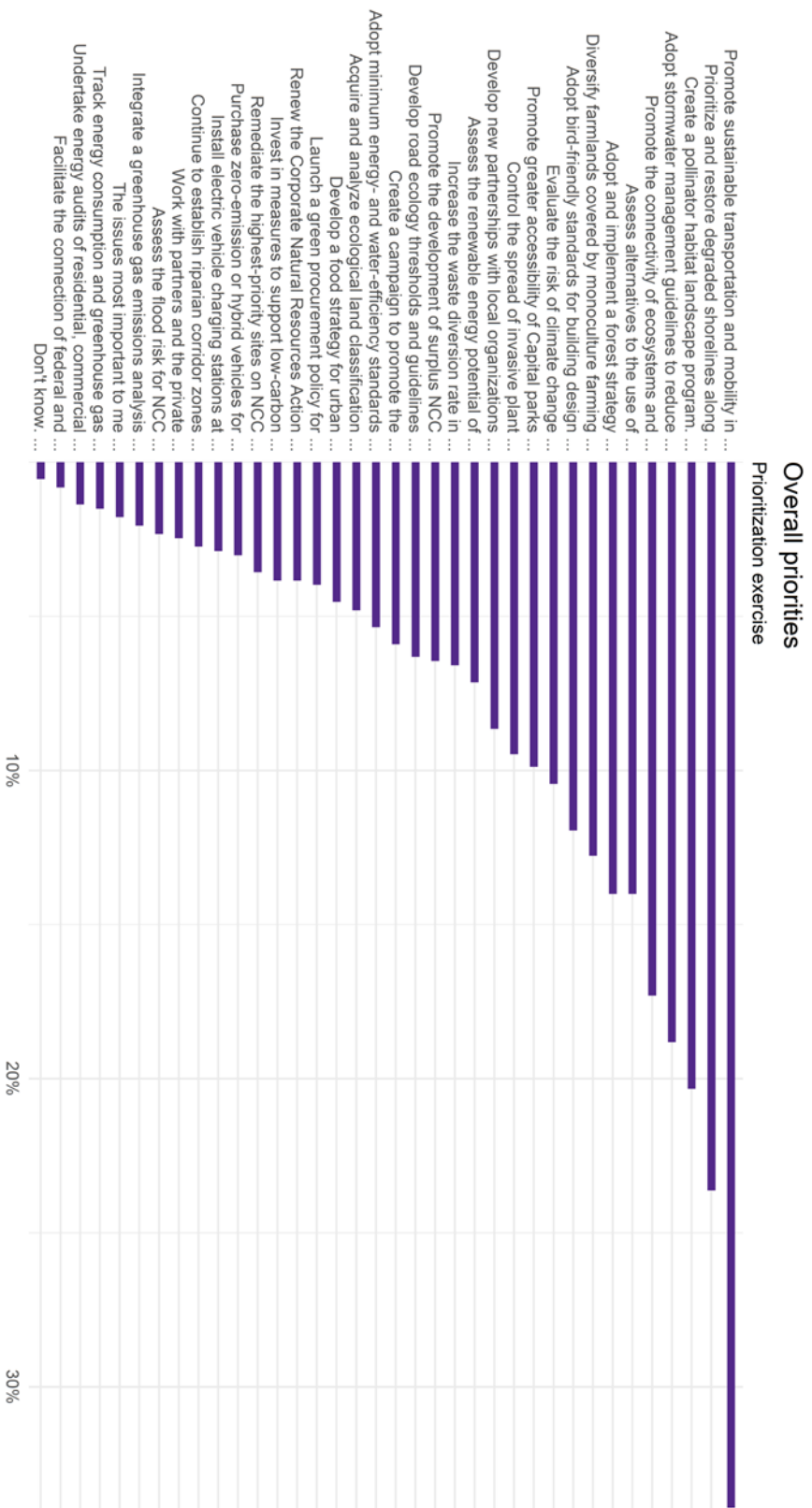
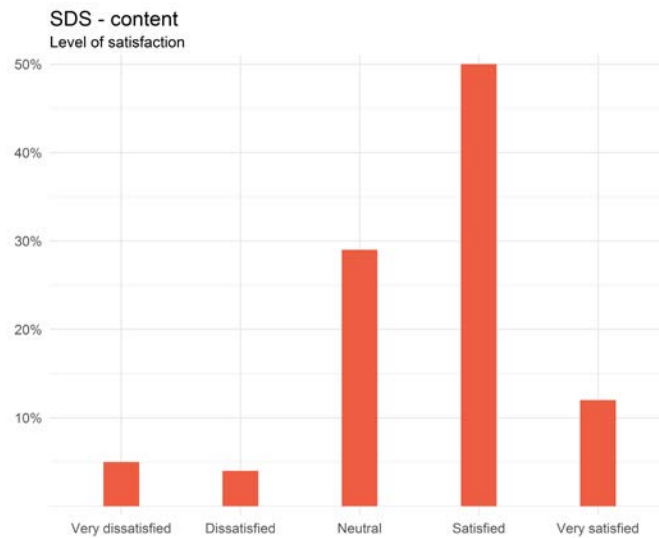


Figure 2

Satisfaction

Among those who responded to the survey, 17% had already read the Sustainable Development Strategy; 43% had not read it prior to starting the survey, but did so before proceeding; and 40% indicated that they did not wish to read the strategy. Among those who read the strategy, a majority (62%) were either satisfied or very satisfied with its content, while 9% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied (see Figure 3).

Figure 3



Comments

Feedback provided by respondents was varied and, in certain cases, extremely detailed. The section below summarizes the comments regarding the most frequently occurring themes in the feedback. Less common, but nevertheless actionable items are addressed in the next section, entitled “Integration of results.”

Outreach and partnerships

A number of respondents recommended that greater emphasis be placed on partnerships and collaboration with a range of local organizations, primarily with municipalities, federal departments and communities adjacent to NCC lands. Respondents noted that many issues included in the strategy could be more productively tackled by integrating the NCC’s approach with that of local partners who share similar aims. Respondents also expressed a desire to see more public engagement and education around the issues covered by the SDS.

Development and conservation

Several respondents expressed their opposition to development on NCC lands, and stressed the importance of protecting areas such as Mud Lake, Gatineau Park and the Greenbelt from commercial activity and unsustainable use.

Engagement with Indigenous peoples

Some respondents indicated that they would like to see more engagement with local Indigenous peoples regarding the actions outlined in the strategy.

Waste reduction

A number of respondents suggested that the NCC take more direct action to reduce waste overall (in particular the use of plastic, Styrofoam and other non-biodegradable materials) and to encourage recycling and composting on its properties.

Local food and agriculture

Several respondents highlighted their support for initiatives geared toward the growth and promotion of farming operations on NCC lands, and included concrete measures to further this goal. Others indicated that they would like to see the use of chemical pesticides banned on NCC properties.

Light pollution

Some respondents expressed an interest in seeing the issue of light pollution addressed in the strategy.

Technical content

A number of respondents felt that the language used in the strategy made it difficult for the average reader to understand its contents. Respondents remarked on the use of highly technical terms such as “riparian” or acronyms such as “PSPC.” Some respondents also suggested that the strategy be written more compellingly, with a view to framing actions and principles in a more relatable manner for non-technical audiences.

Examples of comments received

Topic	Sample comment
Outreach and partnerships	Would like to see linkages to local governments (city in particular), as a number of these initiatives could likely be better addressed collaboratively, as the city and NCC land are intimately connected.
	I do think that educating the public is a big part of making this work. I really think that it needs to be a bigger part of the strategy.
	Public outreach or information programs on the effects of animal agriculture and/or factory farming.
Development and conservation	Protection of conservation areas such as Mud Lake. We must not confuse improved public access to green spaces with protection of high-risk areas. The public should be diverted from increased traffic through sensitive areas.
	I didn't see any clear message that the NCC intends to extend the road

	closures on the parkway and in Gatineau Park so pedestrian and cyclists can enjoy the park all day and multiple days per week. In addition, reducing the days and times that cars have access to the park is an easy way to reduce the risk to wildlife on the roads and exposure to pollution (e.g. noise, exhaust); especially during key breeding and migration times in the spring and fall.
Engagement with Indigenous peoples	Amazing that there is a land acknowledgement re: Indigenous lands. However, more specificity around collaboration with Indigenous peoples is needed. There is no involvement with Indigenous organizations to plan and implement the strategy. After all, the NCC is located on unceded Algonquin territory.
Waste reduction	Reduction of plastic pollution should be added to the action items, for example banning of single-use plastic on NCC/federal lands. Waste diversion: need more information on how the NCC proposes to reduce waste. Suggestions: education about issues with single-use plastics; elimination of plastic straws, cutlery, etc. at NCC facilities.
Local food and agriculture	Would like to see additional consideration of food forests and other sustainable, resilient food systems (e.g. permaculture) that can serve the local community and increase access to local foods and provide food security. Support for community and allotment gardens on NCC land. Support for organic agriculture and small- and medium-scale organic farming on Greenbelt lands.
Technical content	I think you could have explained your strategic objectives in more accessible language so that I could really consider the options and contribute more meaningful answers. I don't think the average person would be able to prioritize this list without more context and explanation. Some of the wording was not clear. Words that you use at the NCC may not be clear to the public. For those taking the survey, they may either guess or select "I don't know." Neither of those choices helps you.
Pesticides	A ban on all pesticides and herbicides in agricultural production and moderate usage of (or a ban on) antibiotics in cattle feed.
Light pollution	The implied definition of "pollution" only pertains to the chemical pollution of land, water and air. The non-chemical pollution (sound and light) is not addressed in this draft. Environmental practices refer primarily to reducing energy use (buildings and transportation). However, focusing only on energy is causing significant impact on other aspects of the environment. Reducing energy used for outdoor lighting is resulting in re-lamping with "white-light LEDs," which has a profound impact on wildlife and human health. The more progressive approach is to reduce the outdoor lighting (shielding, reduced brightness, and adopting "zero-blue" light and dimming in late evening). These measures save significantly more energy than just converting from current lights to LEDs.

V. Integration of results

Based on the feedback received from respondents as part of the online public survey, we have made the following amendments to the Sustainable Development Strategy.

1. Review the language.

In order to make the report more accessible, we have edited the strategy with a view to limiting the use of technical terms and enhancing the overall clarity of the document. We have also added a detailed glossary to define those technical terms whose use is necessary in the document.

2. Highlight partnerships for regional sustainability.

In order to better communicate opportunities for collaboration that the SDS team intends to explore, a new section has been added on page 9 of the strategy. It outlines these opportunities and identifies the actions whose implementation the NCC intends to spearhead in partnership with other organizations. A commitment has also been added under the leadership principle to “convene an annual regional sustainability workshop.”

3. Implement a ban on single-use plastic.

Based on the feedback regarding the reduction of plastic pollution and the promotion of zero-waste lifestyles, we have added an additional indicator to action 2.8, “Reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill from public areas and NCC operations,” that references waste diversion in NCC offices. With the addition of this indicator, the team feels that the collection of five indicators under this action will be a more effective approach than banning plastics on NCC lands.

4. Add details regarding action on light pollution.

Given that light pollution will be addressed in the bird-friendly design standards, we have added an explicit mention of this in the strategy under action 7.1, “Adopt bird-friendly standards for building design, including landscaping and lighting, for federal buildings and lands.”

5. Consult Indigenous peoples.

In response to comments regarding consultation and partnership with Indigenous communities, we affirm a commitment to actively seeking opportunities to engage Indigenous communities during the implementation of the actions in this strategy.

6. Add information about natural capital.

We have added information about natural capital and the ecosystem services provided by NCC lands on page 3, under the “About the NCC” section, to clarify the role of the NCC in managing sustainability in the Capital Region.

7. Set a deadline for implementation of climate change adaptation strategies.

In order to ensure that implementation of the strategies identified in the climate change adaptation plan begins within the time frame of the Sustainable Development Strategy, we have added an indicator, “Percentage of projects that integrate climate change adaptation (100% by 2023),” under action 1.3, “Evaluate the risk of climate change impacts on NCC assets, programs and services, and develop a climate change adaptation and resiliency plan.”

8. Pesticides

In response to the comments regarding the need to eliminate the use of pesticides on NCC lands, we have referenced the existing ban on the cosmetic use of pesticides on NCC lands under goal 10.

9. Clarify the relationship to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

In order to clarify how the strategy’s actions and indicators relate to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) outcomes and targets, we have revised the SDG section on page 5.

10. Clarify the NCC’s role in sustainable transportation.

In order to clarify the NCC’s role in sustainable transportation, we have provided additional details on this subject on page 13.

VI. Next steps

The comments received during the online public consultation were reviewed and incorporated into the final version of the Sustainable Development Strategy, which will be presented to the Board of Directors on September 18, 2018.

VII. Appendix 1: Online survey

Welcome!

The National Capital Commission (NCC) is developing its 2018–2023 Sustainable Development Strategy, and we would like your input. Based on extensive consultation with NCC staff, regional stakeholders and the general public, we have identified 34 actions under 10 overarching goals to be completed by 2023. These actions will push us to innovate and improve the way we do business, as we work to continue building a greener Capital Region. Your input will help us to focus our efforts among these actions.

In the following sections, you will have the opportunity to indicate, for each of the Sustainable Development Strategy's 10 overarching goals, up to two actions that are the most important to you. At the end of this exercise, you will be presented with a list that contains all of the actions you selected, and you will be asked to identify three actions that are the most important to you overall.

Effective action on climate change

Please select a maximum of two actions that are the most important to you, from among the options below.

1. Promote sustainable transportation and mobility in the National Capital Region.
2. Promote the development of surplus NCC brownfield sites and sites adjacent to transit nodes, consistent with NCC plans.
5. Evaluate the risk of climate change impacts on NCC assets, programs and services, and develop a climate change adaptation and resiliency plan.
6. Install electric vehicle charging stations at NCC parking lots.
7. None of the actions above are important to me.
8. Don't know.

Low-carbon government

Please select a maximum of two actions that are the most important to you, from among the options below.

1. Undertake energy audits of residential, commercial and official residences buildings.
2. Integrate a greenhouse gas emissions analysis into renovation and construction projects considering best practices guidelines for heritage buildings and sites.

3. Track energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions of NCC buildings and lands, including new leased facilities and renewed leases.
4. Adopt minimum energy- and water-efficiency standards for renovations and construction on NCC land, including for heritage buildings.
5. Purchase zero-emission or hybrid vehicles for the fleet.
6. Launch a green procurement policy for services and goods.
7. Invest in measures to support low-carbon forms of transportation to reduce emissions from employee commuting and business travel.
8. Increase the waste diversion rate in public areas and NCC operations.
9. None of the actions above are important to me.
11. Don't know.

Modern and resilient infrastructure

Please select one action that is the most important to you, from among the options below.

1. Adopt stormwater management guidelines to reduce impacts on water quality and quantity.
2. Assess the flood risk for NCC operations and assets located in the 100-year and 350-year flood plains.
4. None of the actions above are important to me.
5. Don't know.

Clean energy

Please select one action that is the most important to you, from among the options below.

1. Assess the renewable energy potential of NCC land and buildings to increase the proportion of off-grid renewable energy systems.
2. Facilitate the connection of federal and NCC-owned buildings to the Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) district energy system.
3. None of the actions above are important to me.
4. Don't know.

Pristine lakes and rivers

Please select one action that is the most important to you, from among the options below.

1. Prioritize and restore degraded shorelines along watercourses and lakes on NCC lands to improve ecosystem function.
2. Continue to establish riparian corridor zones within leased properties.
3. None of the actions above are important to me
4. Don't know.

Sustainably managed lands and forests

Please select a maximum of two actions that are the most important to you, from among the options below.

1. Adopt and implement a forest strategy that considers natural and cultural heritage values, and focuses on urban tree protection.
2. Control the spread of invasive plant species, in collaboration with regional stakeholders.
3. Promote the connectivity of ecosystems and natural habitats in the National Capital Region.
4. Renew the Corporate Natural Resources Action Plan, which includes the improvement of biodiversity health on NCC lands.
5. None of the actions above are important to me.
6. Don't know.

Healthy wildlife populations

Please select a maximum of two actions that are the most important to you, from among the options below.

1. Adopt bird-friendly standards for building design and landscaping for federal buildings and lands, to reduce negative impacts on birds.
2. Acquire and analyze ecological land classification data to identify and protect habitat of potential species at risk.
3. Create a pollinator habitat landscape program.
4. Develop road ecology thresholds and guidelines to minimize wildlife mortality on roadways.
5. None of the actions above are important to me.

6. Don't know.

Sustainable food

Please select a maximum of two actions that are the most important to you, from among the options below.

1. Create a campaign to promote the consumption of local food produced on NCC lands.
2. Develop a food strategy for urban lands to complement the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Strategy.
3. Diversify farmlands covered by monoculture farming operations, and increase food production on existing Greenbelt farmlands.
4. None of the actions above are important to me.
5. Don't know.

Connecting Canadians with nature

Please select a maximum of two actions that are the most important to you, from among the options below.

1. Develop new partnerships with local organizations to deliver programs and initiatives that engage and educate citizens about nature and biodiversity conservation on NCC lands.
2. Promote greater accessibility of Capital parks and green spaces by public transit.
3. Work with partners and the private sector to install new bike share locations in NCC urban green spaces.
4. None of the actions above are important to me.
5. Don't know.

Safe and healthy communities

Please select one action that is the most important to you, from among the options below.

1. Remediate the highest-priority sites on NCC lands, under the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan.
2. Assess alternatives to the use of chemical pesticides on NCC lands with a view to revising existing policies and practices.
3. None of the actions above are important to me.

4. Don't know.

Your priorities

Listed below are your answers from question 1 to 10. Among these, which three are the most important to you overall?

1. Promote sustainable transportation and mobility in the National Capital Region.
2. Promote the development of surplus NCC brownfield sites and sites adjacent to transit nodes, consistent with NCC plans.
3. Evaluate the risk of climate change impacts on NCC assets, programs and services, and develop a climate change adaptation and resiliency plan.
4. Install electric vehicle charging stations at NCC parking lots.
5. Undertake energy audits of residential, commercial and official residences buildings.
6. Integrate a greenhouse gas emissions analysis into renovation and construction projects considering best practices guidelines for heritage buildings and sites.
7. Track energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions of NCC buildings and lands, including new leased facilities and renewed leases.
8. Adopt minimum energy- and water-efficiency standards for renovations and construction on NCC land, including for heritage buildings.
9. Purchase zero-emission or hybrid vehicles for the fleet.
10. Launch a green procurement policy for services and goods.
11. Invest in measures to support low-carbon forms of transportation to reduce emissions from employee commuting and business travel.
12. Increase the waste diversion rate in public areas and NCC operations.
13. Adopt stormwater management guidelines to reduce impacts on water quality and quantity.
14. Assess the flood risk for NCC operations and assets located in the 100-year and 350-year flood plains.
15. Assess the renewable energy potential of NCC land and buildings to increase the proportion of off-grid renewable energy systems.
16. Facilitate the connection of federal and NCC-owned buildings to the Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) district energy system.
17. Prioritize and restore degraded shorelines along watercourses and lakes on NCC lands to improve ecosystem function.
18. Continue to establish riparian corridor zones within leased properties.
19. Adopt and implement a forest strategy that considers natural and cultural heritage values, and focuses on urban tree protection.
20. Control the spread of invasive plant species, in collaboration with regional stakeholders.

21. Promote the connectivity of ecosystems and natural habitats in the National Capital Region.
22. Renew the Corporate Natural Resources Action Plan, which includes the improvement of biodiversity health on NCC lands.
23. Adopt bird-friendly standards for building design and landscaping for federal buildings and lands, to reduce negative impacts on birds.
24. Acquire and analyze ecological land classification data to identify and protect habitat of potential species at risk.
25. Create a pollinator habitat landscape program.
26. Develop road ecology thresholds and guidelines to minimize wildlife mortality on roadways.
27. Create a campaign to promote the consumption of local food produced on NCC lands.
28. Develop a food strategy for urban lands to complement the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Strategy.
29. Diversify farmlands covered by monoculture farming operations, and increase food production on existing Greenbelt farmlands.
30. Develop new partnerships with local organizations to deliver programs and initiatives that engage and educate citizens about nature and biodiversity conservation on NCC lands.
31. Promote greater accessibility of Capital parks and green spaces by public transit.
32. Work with partners and the private sector to install new bike share locations in NCC urban green spaces.
33. Remediate the highest-priority sites on NCC lands, under the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan.
34. Assess alternatives to the use of chemical pesticides on NCC lands with a view to revising existing policies and practices.
35. The issues most important to me are not addressed in the strategy.
36. Don't know.

Thank you for taking the time to share your priorities with us. In the final section of the survey, we will ask you to provide general feedback on the Sustainable Development Strategy as a whole.

Have you read the draft copy of the 2018–2023 Sustainable Development Strategy on the NCC's website?

1. Yes, I have read it.
2. No, but I would like to read it now. (link to follow on next page)
3. No, and I do not wish to read it at this time.

How satisfied are you with the 34 actions identified in the 2018–2023 Sustainable Development Strategy?

1. Very satisfied
2. Satisfied
3. Neutral
4. Dissatisfied
5. Very dissatisfied

In your view, is anything missing or unclear in the 34 actions identified in the 2018–2023 Sustainable Development Strategy? Please provide your answer in the box below.

You can access the draft copy of the Sustainable Development Strategy by clicking [here](#). The document will open in a new tab. Once you have read it, please return to complete the survey.

How satisfied are you with the content of the 2018–2023 Sustainable Development Strategy?

1. Very satisfied
2. Satisfied
3. Neutral
4. Dissatisfied
5. Very dissatisfied

In your view, is anything missing or unclear in the 2018–2023 Sustainable Development Strategy? Please provide your answer in the box below.