

NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION **COMMISSION DE LA CAPITALE NATIONALE**

Renewal of the NCC's Environmental Strategy

Board of Directors September 12, 2017



Background

- Environmental strategy 2009–2017: an internally driven, voluntary approach
- Expires on March 31, 2018
- Supports the incorporation of environmental concerns into policies and practices
- Created organization-wide targets



Review of the Current Strategy

- Relevant and aligned with NCC's mandate
- Fosters a sense of responsibility for the environment among staff
- 16 out of 23 objectives achieved
- Results reported annually



Review of the Current Strategy

- Should be integrated with other corporate planning processes
- Roles and responsibilities not systematically identified
- Lack of dedicated budgets
- Shorter timeframe needed





Consultations

- February 2017: 148 staff shared their ideas
- June 6-7, 2017: 40 regional stakeholders and members of the general public participated in workshops and an open house
- Majority of the ideas aligned with the goals of the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy 2016–2019



Federal Sustainable Development Act

- Bill C-57 tabled on June 19, 2017 by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change
- Proposes amendments to the Federal Sustainable Development Act
- Brings the total number of federal organizations from 26 to more than 90
- NCC to be subject to the Federal Sustainable Development Act





Implications for the NCC

- Adjusting from voluntary strategy to compliance and reporting
- Adopt the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy framework
- Contribute to **relevant** Federal Sustainable Development Strategy goals, targets and milestones
- Integrate into corporate planning and reporting



Federal Sustainable Development Strategy







Federal Sustainable Development Strategy

Effective action climate change

Low-carbon government

п

5

Pristine lakes and rivers

oceans

Clean growth

Modern and resilient infrastructure

Clean energy

Sustainably managed lands and forests

Healthy coasts and



Healthy wildlife populations

Clean drinking water





Sustainable food

Connecting Canadians with nature

Safe and healthy communities



Effective Action on Climate Change



Target:

- Reduce by 30% Canada's GHG emissions by 2030 Currently:
- NCC lands host scientific research on climate change
- NCC provides and improves regional active transportation network

Ideas:

• Climate change adaptation plan for the NCR





Low-Carbon Government



Target:

• Reduce GHG emissions from federal buildings and fleets by 40% by 2030

Currently:

- Geothermal heating and cooling system at Rideau Hall
- Retrofit program for residential and commercial buildings

Ideas:

- Carbon neutral/positive 24 Sussex and Gatineau Park Visitor Centre
- Implement and support district energy projects





Sustainably Managed Lands and Forests



Target:

- 17% of terrestrial areas and inland water conserved Currently:
- Corporate Natural Resources Stewardship Action Plan
- All high-value ecosystems and habitats designated conservation lands

Ideas:

- Apply a natural capital model to decision-making
- Create citizen science programs to improve scientific research, data collection and education





Sustainable Food



Target:

- Ensure safe and accessible food supply Currently:
- Work with partners to increase sustainable food production in the Greenbelt and urban lands
- Lease to Just Food Ottawa supports local farmers, education and outreach

Ideas:

• Promote innovation and sustainable practices





Connecting Canadians with Nature



Target:

• Increase the number of Canadians that get to nature and increase participation in conservation activities

Currently:

- NCC offers facilities and infrastructure for outdoor activities
- Outdoor experience programs for youth and new Canadians

Ideas:

- Make outdoor experiences on NCC lands more accessible for all (such as shuttles to green spaces)
- Develop additional programs to engage schools, clubs and citizens







Risks

- Adequate budget and resources
- Falling short in our contribution to Federal Sustainable Development Strategy targets
- Staff and stakeholders buy-in



Next Steps

- September 2017: Engage a sustainability consultant
- Fall 2017: Internal consultations for future actions contributing to the FSDS 2016-2019
- Winter Spring 2018: External consultations on the renewed strategy and creation of a communication plan
- Summer 2018: Launch of the NCC's new Sustainable Development Strategy



Next Steps

- 2018 onward: Implementation, monitoring and tracking results
- 2018 and 2019: Voluntary annual reports
- 2020: NCC's Sustainable
 Development Strategy tabled to
 Parliament



