

### 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

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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



