

ORGANIZATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY



ENGINEERS &
GEOSCIENTISTS
BRITISH COLUMBIA

BACKGROUND

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Climate change represents one of the most urgent environmental and socio-economic challenges facing society today. In British Columbia, it is already reshaping our landscapes and impacting our infrastructure, with increasing wildfire frequencies, intense precipitation and flooding, coastal erosion, warmer temperatures and prolonged drought, underscoring the critical need for immediate, comprehensive and multi-faceted action.

Climate change is a critical public safety concern. Engineers and Geoscientists BC must take action to fulfill its regulatory mandate of protecting the public interest, in accordance with the *Professional Governance Act* (PGA). Under the PGA, Engineers and Geoscientists BC has an obligation to support registrants in addressing changes to practice environments and other emerging issues, including those related to climate change.

As an organization, we are committed to addressing emissions and resilience within our operations and understand the opportunity and obligation to support registrants in doing the same.

Through the **2022–2027 Strategic Plan** and **Climate Change Action Plan**, Engineers and Geoscientists BC is committed to advancing climate action as part of our public interest mandate. Our **Climate Change Position Statement**, updated and formally endorsed by the Board in February 2025, encourages registrants to consider both the impacts of their work on the climate and the impacts of climate change on their work to deliver sustainable solutions.

This Organizational Climate Change Strategy (the Strategy) advances Engineers and Geoscientists BC’s strategic vision by seeking to uphold public trust in the professions, advancing future-ready professional practice, and fostering cross-sectoral collaboration. It also reinforces our broader commitment to social responsibility by addressing the connections between equity, diversity and inclusion, Truth and Reconciliation, sustainability, and climate action.

Effective climate action must uphold Knowledge Systems held by Indigenous Peoples—the longstanding stewards of the land that is now called British Columbia. This approach aligns directly with best practices in Truth and Reconciliation efforts, acknowledging historical injustices. Engineers and Geoscientists BC will continue to explore how to uplift Indigenous Knowledge Systems to develop sustainable solutions.

The development of this Strategy was shaped by extensive engagement with staff, and by targeted outreach to registrants—including those working in climate-related areas of practice as well as the broader registrant community—through interviews, surveys, and other engagement methods.



VISION

This Strategy is rooted in Engineers and Geoscientists BC’s Climate Position Statement (February 2025), which articulates our long-term vision and clarifies our regulatory role in addressing climate change:

Safeguarding the public interest by enabling pathways for engineering and geoscience professions to advance a sustainable, equitable, and climate-resilient future.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

THIS STRATEGY AIMS TO ACHIEVE
THE FOLLOWING OVERARCHING GOALS:



GOAL 1

Lead by example

through operational initiatives that advance climate action and resilience, inspiring others to act through our corporate sustainability commitments



GOAL 2

Support registrants

in effectively reducing emissions, managing climate risk and integrating sustainability in professional practice by utilizing the full range of regulatory tools

Each goal is supported by three actionable objectives which represent the desired outcomes of the strategy. The organization will report on the progress made in achieving the strategic goals and objectives annually. We will also periodically assess if the goals have been met and update the Strategy to reflect new direction as appropriate.



An online tracker will provide transparency on the progress of this strategy to registrants.

GOAL 1

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Engineers and Geoscientists BC will take action to improve its own emissions profile and ability to be resilient to climate change. The following objectives serve to guide Engineers and Geoscientists BC staff to embed climate action into our organizational culture and operations and provide leadership to encourage organizational change for registrant firms.

OBJECTIVE 1.1: **Reduce Operational Emissions**

Engineers and Geoscientists BC will demonstrate leadership in reducing operational emissions by aligning our approach with internationally recognized best practices such as measuring and disclosing emissions, setting science-based reduction targets and developing a roadmap to achieve them. By taking transparent, credible and proactive steps to reduce our emissions, we not only fulfill our social responsibility commitments but also model an example of the climate-conscious operations we encourage across the engineering and geoscience professions.

OBJECTIVE 1.2: **Enhance Operational Resilience**

Just as registrants are required to consider the impact of climate change on their work, Engineers and Geoscientists BC needs to consider the likely threats that climate change will pose to our own operations. We will demonstrate leadership in enhancing

operational resilience by regularly assessing the existing and potential future risks to our facilities, systems, and services. This includes embedding climate considerations into business continuity and infrastructure planning to adapt to future climate conditions. By taking anticipatory steps to safeguard our operations, we reinforce our ability to serve the public interest under changing conditions.

OBJECTIVE 1.3: **Embed Climate Action into Organizational Culture and Governance**

Climate change and sustainability will be integrated as appropriate into strategic planning, decision-making processes, and corporate governance practices to ensure adequate resources are allocated for implementation. Clear procedures will provide staff with training and direction to appropriately address climate change and sustainability in their work. By aligning our values, systems, and leadership with climate goals, we highlight that climate action is a shared responsibility.

GOAL 2

SUPPORT REGISTRANTS

Engineers and Geoscientists BC will clarify the responsibilities of registrants to address climate change in their work and support them in achieving their responsibilities through practice-relevant programs and tools.

OBJECTIVE 2.1: **Provide Guidance and Resources**

Providing guidance and support to registrants through continuing education is a key mandate of the organization. It helps registrants stay up to date on the latest advances in their areas of expertise and to maintain the high standards expected of them. Engineers and Geoscientists BC will revisit and expand the guidance and resources available to individual and firm registrants to empower them in considering climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience as well as sustainability in their professional practice. The resources provided will cover a broad range of topics and sectors, recognizing the various industries and areas of practice of our registrants.

OBJECTIVE 2.2: **Expand Collaboration with External Organizations**

By fostering cross-sectoral collaboration, Engineers and Geoscientists BC will strengthen support for registrants by sharing knowledge and resources, aligning efforts with broader professional and industry standards, and

coordinating action in response to climate change. This includes collaboration with organizations that inform professional practice and help advance equity across BC and Canada. It also includes collaboration with Indigenous organizations and Nations in a respectful and mutually beneficial manner. Collaborative approaches may involve leading efforts, providing technical and regulatory support, or partnering strategically with other organizations on climate change and sustainability initiatives.

OBJECTIVE 2.3: **Build Skills in New and Future Registrants**

To advance future-ready professional practice, Engineers and Geoscientists BC will provide climate change and sustainability guidance to prospective and new professional engineers and geoscientists. By embedding awareness from the outset, they will be equipped with the skills needed to have a positive impact on climate change and sustainability as early in their careers as possible.



ENGINEERS &
GEOLOGICISTS
BRITISH COLUMBIA

VERSION 1.0, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

© 2025 ENGINEERS AND GEOLOGICISTS BRITISH COLUMBIA.
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.