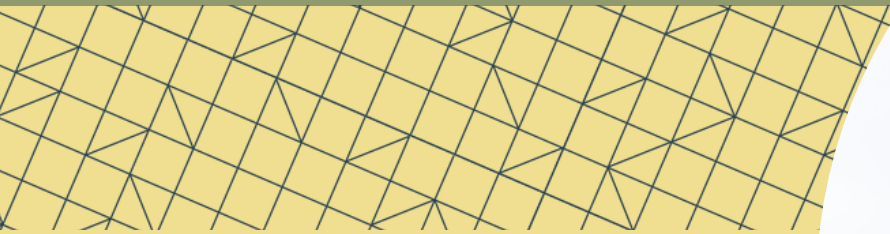


IMPACT REPORT 2021-2024



COMMUNITY CLIMATE TRANSITIONS

Prepared by Natasha Pei



IMPACT REPORT 2021-2024: COMMUNITY CLIMATE TRANSITIONS

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Many thanks to our sponsors



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Three years of collaboration shows growing community capacity and an emerging movement to mitigate and adapt to climate change through local partnerships.

Since 2021, Tamarack’s Community Climate Transitions (CCT) has been using a collective impact approach to build the capacity of communities to adapt to and mitigate climate change at a local level.

To date, 73 communities from across Canada and one in the U.S., both English and French speaking, have participated in CCT’s interactive learning and action Cohorts. They are learning about multi-sector approaches to advancing just and equitable climate transitions and putting ideas into practice locally.

Members have collaborated with diverse partners in their own communities and networked with like-minded individuals across North America. They have learned from experts and peers, shared resources, successes and challenges; and have used their learnings and relationships to leapfrog to deeper impact and an accelerated pace of change.

CCT member outcomes 2021-2024

Past and present CCT members have reported 82 instances of change since engaging in the network. These include broader public, non-profit and political support for environmental activities; increasing capacity amongst residents, associations and organizations to lead climate change actions; changes in policies; and a small but growing number of impacts for the environment.

Reported Changes	Instances of Change (#)
Community Leadership and Capacity: Launched or advanced a collaborative initiative together	23
Community Leadership and Capacity: Grew partners, deepened relationships and/or trust, increased collaboration	14
Awareness and Will Raised: General community	12
Awareness and Will Raised: Increased general community will/ behaviour change	9

Awareness and Will Raised: Increased political will/ behaviour change	5
Community Leadership and Capacity: Increased human resources (i.e. staff, volunteers)	5
Systems Change: Policies	4
Community Leadership and Capacity: Increased financial resources or submitted collaborative funding proposal	3
Impact: For the environment	3
Community Leadership and Capacity: Built or mobilized physical infrastructure for collaboration	2
Systems Change: Practices	2
Systems Change: Relationship Dynamics – Collaboration on multiple issues	1

Tamarack’s CCT network is a field catalyst for change.

These changes are the result of *many* people in each community partnering towards a common climate change goal. Tamarack has also played an important role in most instances. On average, members ranked Tamarack and the CCT network’s contributions to their community changes as a 4/5 (1 = no contribution; 5 = the primary driver of the change). Common ways that Tamarack and the CCT network helped to catalyze change in communities, included:

- Persuaded, engaged, connected or helped members to persuade, engage or connect local stakeholders in their own communities to support climate actions (6)
- Seeded an idea or provided a new framework (5)
- Helped apply an idea to the local context or provided practical examples (5)
- Inspired and boosted confidence of members to persevere in their work (4)
- Offered advice and troubleshooting to overcome specific local challenges (3)
- Provided financial support or helped to find more financial support for their work (2)
- Built changemaker skills (1)

CCT will continue to align changemakers, accelerate the pace of change and amplify results in 2024 and beyond.

Ways in which CCT is committing to evolve support for member communities and learners include:

1. **A Roadmap** – Developing a sample journey for members to map the phases of collaboration, identify milestones, establish a baseline, and track their progress.
2. **TEN Guide** – Producing a guide summarizing evidence-based ideas, examples, and resources for advancing climate equity through collaboration.
3. **Community Innovation Fund** – Providing funds for members to build capacity to seed, sprout or scale a community innovation or other niche initiatives.
4. **Single Membership** – Merging Tamarack’s four learning networks into a single membership which will better integrate issues and learning around poverty reduction, building youth futures, building belonging, and climate transitions.
5. **Regional Approach** – Investing in connecting and strengthening ties between members in specific regions, with funders and provincial/territorial governments.
6. **Peer Matching Pilot** – Matching members with one another based on their collaborative’s phase of development, topics of interest, and local context.
7. **Community Contributions Fund** – Providing stipends for people with lived experience of climate injustice to engage and to lead place-based climate work.
8. **Policy and Systems Change** – Identifying the most impactful policy and systems levers or assets that Tamarack and CCT can contribute to the climate movement.

The first three years of CCT have primarily focused on building or strengthening relational infrastructure in member communities. The ability to collaborate across sectors and leverage the many assets that exist in a community is the foundation of creating change.

Early results being reported by members are promising. Change at scale often takes several years and sustained investment to achieve; so, while the local and national landscape continue to change, Tamarack is committed to working in partnership with communities through the ups and downs of changemaking, and to being a voice and support for community-led climate transitions.

Success stories

Central Kootenays have spent one year building relationships and deepening trust amongst partners from multiple sectors. On a scale of 1-7, they moved from a 3 (sharing information) to a 6 (systematic collaboration on a shared goal, with shared resources and shared decision-making).

As a result of this trust and relationships, the collaborative is getting ready to launch a low-energy multi-modal active transportation network, which will support the community to reduce their collective carbon emissions.

Prince Edward Island is empowering the next generation to become resilient to climate change and to take environmental action. They have engaged students of one school, in nearly every grade from K-9, in environmental learning and activities in the classroom and through extracurriculars.

Since September 2023, they have run 10 initiatives providing age-appropriate learning and have sampled approximately 25-30% of students' attitudes towards climate change and action. Their goal is to get students interested in climate issues or activities, who can help make climate action 'cool' and get their peers interested as well.

The collaborative is also engaging parents, teachers and 20 community organizations within the school's district, to create an environment supportive of young people acting on climate change.



Photos: Members at a 2024 planning session in PEI.

INTRODUCTION

This three-year impact report captures progress of Community Climate Transitions (CCT) members that are using a community-wide approach to achieve just and equitable climate transitions, aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It dives into collective outcomes and into 13 community change stories, exploring impact at three levels: capacity building of changemakers, community-level results, and the growth of a movement. It also demonstrates the role of a [field catalyst](#) in 'getting to impact'.

This report is for climate transition organizers and advocates, funders, and decision-makers to get a sense of the impact that multi-sector climate collaboratives can have in cities and communities. It aims to inspire more residents, associations, organizations and municipalities to imagine the scope and scale of change that may be possible in their communities, and to join the movement toward just and equitable climate transitions for all.

ABOUT TAMARACK'S COMMUNITY CLIMATE TRANSITIONS (CCT)

Community Climate Transitions (CCT) is a movement of 40+ collaboratives across Canada (and one in the USA) that are advancing local climate action and equity in their communities. Launched in 2021, CCT builds the capacity of local changemakers across all sectors – municipalities, non-profits, community groups, businesses and more – to collaborate for transformative change.

CCT supports communities to advance all of the SDGs, with a particular emphasis on the goals associated with equity (no poverty, zero hunger, good health and wellbeing, gender equality, decent work, and reduced inequalities) and climate change (sustainable cities and communities, affordable and clean energy, and responsible consumption and production). Multi-solving approaches are at the core of CCT's work, recognizing that the deep interconnections between the environmental, social, and economic challenges we face require holistic solutions.

The inspiration for CCT came from Tamarack's successful model of supporting place-based collaboratives on issues of poverty, belonging and youth. Tamarack and McConnell Foundation commissioned research in 2019 into the place-based climate ecosystem that noted several gaps that Tamarack was well positioned to fill:

- (1) Much of the existing city-level climate action was either municipally led or community led, rather than multi-sectoral;

- (2) Efforts focused narrowly on either mitigation *or* adaptation; and
- (3) Equity and social outcomes were often missing from climate plans that exclusively focused on environmental outcomes.

It became clear that Tamarack had a role to offer around place-based collaboratives that bring together the assets of government at all levels, civil society, business, academics, and individuals with lived/living experience of climate change, poverty, and inequality. Thus, in 2021, Tamarack introduced CCT.

Core CCT Activities

- **Climate Transitions Cohort:** A one-year learning and action journey for changemakers from municipalities, community organizations and resident groups to build their capacity to develop and implement community plans for a just and equitable climate transition. Cohort members explore the foundations for developing a shared vision for local climate action, mobilizing multi-sectoral leadership and deepening civic engagement.
- **Innovation Fund:** Financial support for Cohort members to seed or support innovative projects. The first round of funding was launched in 2023 for [six projects](#).
- **Communities of Practice (CoPs):** Convening peers to explore topics of interest and learn from one another as well as experts.
- **Coaching:** Tamarack's consulting directors curate tailored sessions for members to tackle their most pressing challenges and localize community change tools and approaches to progress toward their goals. Coaches carry deep experience in collective impact, collaborative governance, community engagement, community innovation, evaluating impact, communications strategy, sustainability, and equity and belonging.
- **Publications:** Sharing best practices, lessons learned and tools for community change.
- **Webinars, workshops and national gatherings:** Events that inspire, educate, support capacity building and new connections between changemakers.
- **Community Contributions Fund:** Financial support for collaboratives led by equity-deserving groups to access CCT's offerings, and for CCT members to increase their engagement with equity-deserving groups.



Over the past three years, CCT has served as a [field catalyst](#) for community-led climate transitions. It has facilitated greater coordination between local governments and community groups, fostering alignment in their climate actions. Through strategic partnerships with governments, funders and other partners, CCT has amplified successful policies and practices within communities, while also identifying and addressing challenges that require additional support. By convening learning cohorts and providing case studies, guides, coaching, and webinars, CCT has accelerated the pace of change and enabled communities to learn from one another, facilitating a leapfrog effect. Additionally, CCT has played a critical role in galvanizing more communities to join the movement.

OUR FRAMEWORK FOR CHANGE

CCT's framework for change articulates the belief that community leadership (e.g., knowledge, skills, connections, resources) is the foundation for change. When communities have the capacity to collaborate and respond to chronic and acute challenges, it creates the conditions for many cascading outcomes.

We believe there are three core areas of change that community change leaders must use their knowledge, skills, connections and resources to influence. These are:

- **Building awareness and will:** Educating and raising awareness of the public, other community influencers, and the people who make decisions; and building the *commitment* of people to doing things differently based on this knowledge.
- **Niche innovations:** Creating, delivering and scaling innovative programs, projects and pilots that provide direct benefits to individuals, families and/or the environment.
- **Systems change:** Changes to policies, practices, resource flows, relationships and connections, power dynamics and mental models; these provide change at-scale and change the game rather than helping people 'beat the odds.'

Figure 1, below, represents this framework.



The Tamarack Institute supports the Sustainable Development Goals

LEARNING COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

CCT Member Network

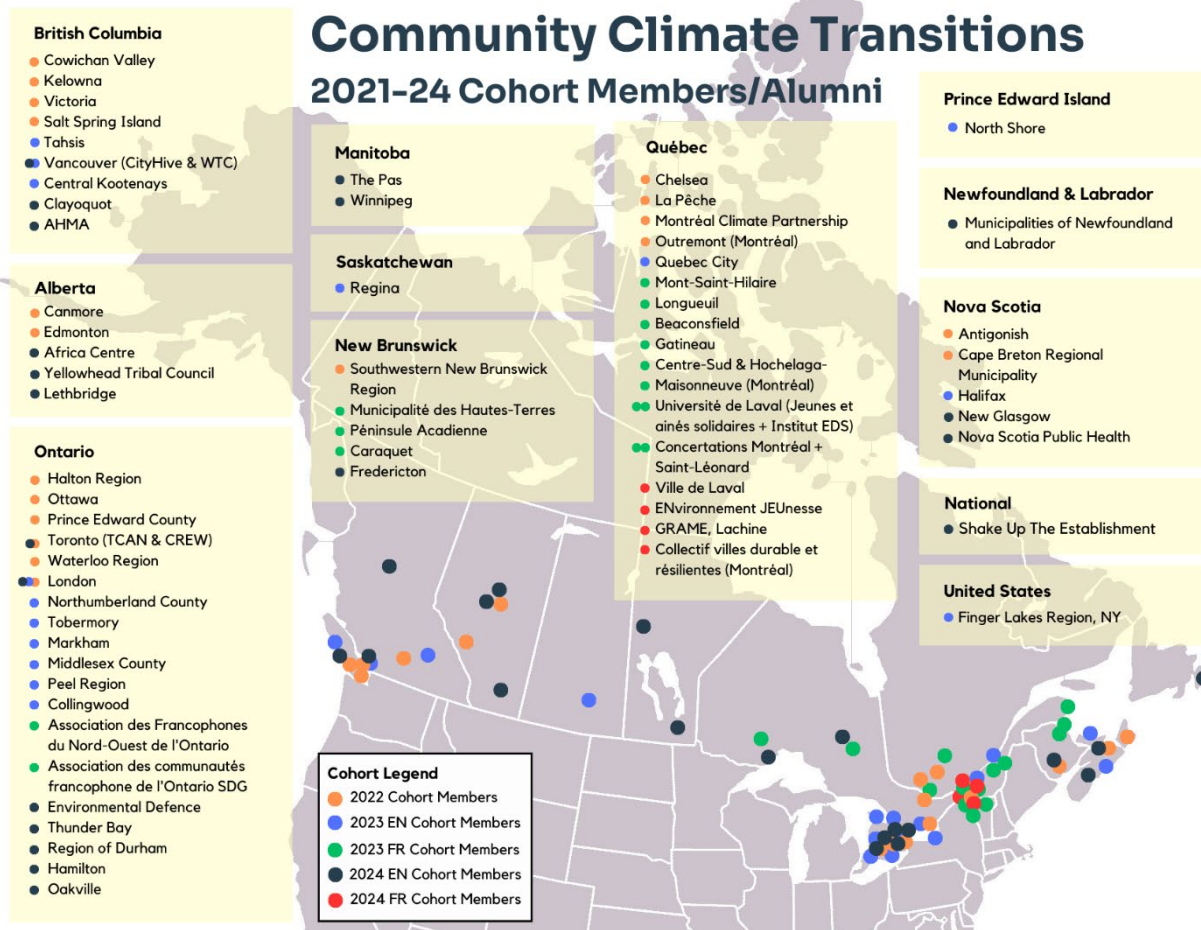
The first step toward building community leadership and capacity is creating a support network of peer learners and experts. As a field catalyst, Tamarack has drawn together a diverse network comprised of both French and English members, an American member, and communities large, small and rural across Canada that want to increase community collaboration for climate transitions. As of March 2024:

- Seventy-three communities (both current members and alumni) have taken part in the network.
 - 19 members joined in Year 1 (2022 – English).
 - 30 members joined in Year 2 (2023 – French and English).
 - 24 members joined in Year 3 (2024 – French and English).
- Forty-three communities are current members (2024 cohort members and alumni), representing all 10 Canadian provinces and one American state.

- Distribution is 21% French/bilingual and 79% English-speaking members.
- The make-up of the member network is:
 - 42% are led by grassroots community groups or local non-profits;
 - 28% are led by fully multi-sector collaboratives;
 - 14% are led by municipalities;
 - 11.5% are led by national or provincial non-profits, municipal associations or health authorities;
 - 4.5% are led by Indigenous organizations.
- Twenty-two members (31%), past and present, have developed plans and are implementing them.
- Seventeen of thirty-seven members, from Year 2 and returning members from Year 1, responded to CCT's evaluation, either through survey, interview or both. Of those respondents, 93% have reported either a major or minor change in their community in the last two years.
- 80% of respondents ranked Tamarack and the CCT network's contributions to their local change(s) as either a 4 – "important" or 5 – "very important" in making it happen.

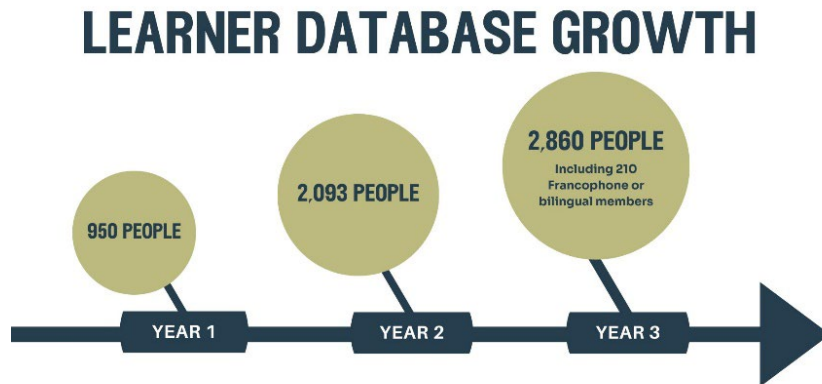


Figure 2, below, represents all 73 Cohort members/alumni across Canada.



CCT Engagement and Resource Development

CCT draws on the themes from working with members to offer support to a much broader audience of learners who are not formally network members. As of March 2024, the database of learners grew from 950 to 2,860 people.



CCT Learning Community by the Numbers



Working in Partnership

From its inception, CCT has been deeply committed to working in partnership with others. Examples of collaborative projects include:

- **Climate Caucus, Clean Air Partnership, Climate Reality Project Canada and David Suzuki Foundation:** Co-hosting an 8-part webinar series [Increasing Affordability Through Municipal Climate Action](#), which covered a range of topics including buildings, energy, transportation, waste, food security, nature-based solutions, and governance.
- **QUEST Canada:** Partnered on their [Equitable Engagement project](#) to incorporate equity, diversity and inclusion principles into their community energy programming.
- **Community Foundations of Canada:** Delivered a workshop and wrote a publication for community foundations on developing an organizational climate plan.
- **Energy Mix:** Serving on their [Cities and Communities Digest](#) Advisory Board to help inform content and dissemination strategies.



- **Canadian Red Cross:** Partnering on a [Youth Climate Action](#) Program and Innovation Fund.
- **Apolitical:** Helped develop an online course, [Centering Equity in Climate Action](#), and partnered to increase its uptake among Canadian practitioners and municipal leaders.
- **Federation of Canadian Municipalities:** Hosted a Collaboration and Trust Workshop at the 2022 Sustainable Communities Conference.
- **Low Carbon Cities Canada, The Atmospheric Fund and Centre for Social Innovation:** Partnered two years in a row to offer the [Multi-Solving Challenge](#) to Tamarack members.
- **SDSN Canada:** Co-hosting the monthly SDG Localization Community of Practice.
- **Alliance2030:** Participating as a core partner of Alliance2030, a coalition of Canadian organizations and institutions committed to implementing the SDGs in Canada and abroad.

In addition, in 2022 CCT formed an [Advisory Group of 11 climate and equity leaders](#) to provide strategic guidance and advice on new funds and initiatives, policy priorities, evaluation, and other areas.

CCT Cohort Member Outcomes



"It's great to hear and learn from our peers. That's what's working most for me. I've learned a lot listening to others and their progress and have been able to take away ideas that could work for my initiative."

-CCT Member



Members from Cohorts 1 and 2 reported several different types of changes that resulted over the last two years. Some finally "tipped" in 2022 or 2023, meaning the lead-up to change happened over a longer period and the change finally manifested in the last one to two years; others reported change that was initiated and resulted all in one year.

The building of trust, deepening of relationships, and broadening of connections or collaboration between people and organizations were the most reported types of change *across* communities. One member reported that their partnerships had



deepened to the point that they began collaborating on issues aside from the CCT initiative.

The most common outcome was launching (or advancing) a collaborative initiative together. The third most common was raising awareness in the general community of climate change issues and/or actions people can take to support climate change efforts. Many of these two types of instances were reported by just a few communities who, after broadening and deepening engagement with partners, succeeded with seeding, amplifying or running multiple initiatives, leading to the principle: *collaboration moves at the speed of trust*.

A few members also reported positive behaviour changes among municipal and other local leaders, and an increase in awareness and support from the broader community.

Several communities focused on creating required pre-conditions for change (a sense of urgency in the community, dedicated leadership and resources), with a few beginning to report direct benefits to the environment. It is our understanding that it is the relationships, awareness and will, resources, and community leadership, that lead to change at scale.

On the following page is a table featuring reported changes, with colours corresponding to the impact areas in Figure 1 on page 10.

Impact Report 2021-2024: Community Climate Transitions

Reported Changes	Instances of Change (#)
Community Leadership and Capacity: Launched or advanced a collaborative initiative together	23
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Awareness and Will Raised: Increased general community will/ behaviour change	9
Awareness and Will Raised: Increased political will/ behaviour change	5
Community Leadership and Capacity: Increased human resources (i.e. staff, volunteers)	5
Systems Change: Policies	4
Community Leadership and Capacity: Increased financial resources or submitted collaborative funding proposal	3
Impact: For the environment	3
Community Leadership and Capacity: Built or mobilized physical infrastructure for collaboration	2
Systems Change: Practices	2
Systems Change: Relationship Dynamics – Collaboration on multiple issues	1



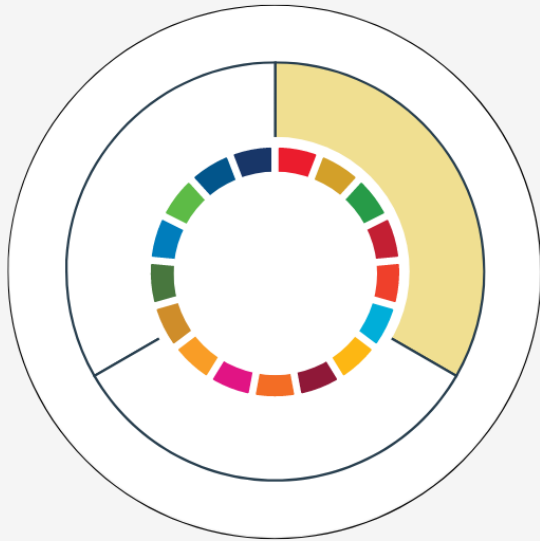
COMMUNITY STORIES OF CHANGE

The following stories highlight several examples of how CCT Cohort members of Year 1 (2022) and Year 2 (2023) are initiating, aligning, accelerating and/or amplifying just climate transitions at the local level through collaboration. These stories celebrate the hard work and early successes of multiple partners in each community. This section of the report articulates how these collaboratives have contributed to change in their communities, as well as the level of contribution they feel Tamarack and the CCT network have added to catalyzing results.

The stories are organized into the following four sections, which correspond to the following four categories, which are pulled from Figure 1, found on page 10:

1. Building Awareness and Will
2. Community Leadership
3. Niche Innovations
4. Systems Change





CCT MEMBER OUTCOMES

Building Commitment and Changing Behaviour Amongst the Public and Decision-Makers

Building Awareness and Will

Several CCT members are creating a receptive environment for climate transitions or climate mitigation efforts. They are building awareness and going one step further to support people, influencers and decision-makers make a commitment to do things differently, as a key step in behaviour change.



“[Tamarack] provided opportunities for the community to come together and learn from each other and make connections across social groups.”
-CCT Member

Increased Political Support to Advance Work: Halifax, NS

Kjipuktuk (“The Great Harbour”)

The community of Halifax helped secure funding for the municipal climate action plan, which in turn has galvanized local climate collaborations and an ecosystem mapping project forward.

Though the [HalifACT plan](#) was approved by council in 2020, it was drastically underfunded for two years in a row, due to competing budget demands and the impact of COVID-19. The community estimates that in 2022, only six of the 17 councillors would have supported adequate funding for the plan and thus it would not have passed. However, three councillors reached out

to the community for support, and a broad coalition of community, environmental organizations, and council succeeded in getting 15 of 17 councillors to vote in favour of fully funding the plan. This allocated \$412,000 for staff – who are engaging more with the community to build relationships and advance key climate objectives – as well as \$20.7M for building retrofits, adaptations, and more to implement the plan.

Initiatives they used to influence councillors included:

- Creating a diverse coalition of community members who care about climate transitions;
- Collaborating with three city councillors to identify ‘fence-sitting’ councillors;
- Mobilizing a targeted awareness campaign in the districts of councillors who were thought to be ‘on the fence’;
- Hosting letter-writing workshops to support individuals in writing personalized letters to their councillors;
- Creating a backgrounder document with FAQs, quick facts, stats, and potential soundbites for community members, organizations, and businesses;
- Developing a social media presence for the advocacy work; and
- Presenting to influential organizations on the HalifACT plan, local climate change issues, and the impact that funding the plan could have.



“Participation in the Community Climate Transitions Cohort significantly increased our knowledge and toolbox of information for Town staff to draw upon as we move through the process of developing a (community-wide) Climate Change Action Plan. The program also strengthened an existing relationship between the Town and a local climate change volunteer organization.”

-CCT Member



In total, Council received approximately 250 letters, many phone calls, and about half a dozen presentations by diverse constituents and community groups. Councillors specifically attribute their change in mindset to: a) hearing directly from their own constituents, b) the personalized nature of the letters they received, and c) hearing from a *diversity* of people and organizations about the issue rather than just the “usual suspects”. Many of the people contacting council were doing so for the first time, as they had never felt equipped to do so before.

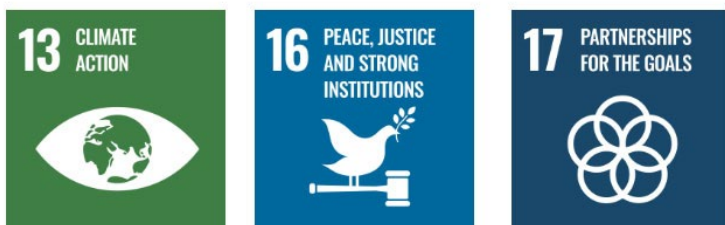
The municipal plan mobilized an influx of energy and resources into local climate work that have expanded the playing field and made the need to understand the local players essential.

The HRM Climate Ecosystem Mapping Project, led by the community, will address this shift, with

the aim of illuminating the extensive network of climate actors across Halifax Regional Municipality. The project will capture what is happening across the ecosystem and what gaps exist, offer insights into their areas of focus and reach within the municipality, highlight organizational or community need, and cultivate partnerships for climate work.

Member ranking of CCT's contribution: 4/5 – “Tamarack has been a big contributor to the ecosystem mapping initiative that is helping us ramp up our work. Tamarack’s convening of the national Cohort calls seeded the idea when Toronto member (Toronto Climate Action Network) presented about their own network mapping project, and Manager of Communities’ one-on-one follow up helped to apply the project idea to our [Halifax] context. Coaching with Consulting Directors helped to identify and overcome the over-saturation of disconnected climate actors, lack of capacity on the coordination team, and duplication of efforts. Tamarack connected us to others working in the local climate space with introductions and funding support to host an in-person gathering and provided \$2,000 in funding through the Community Innovation Fund for the mapping work.”

Cohort: 2 (EN)



Authentic Community Engagement: La Pêche, QC

Outaouais (“To Trade”)

The community worked with Municipalité de La Pêche to create a [Community Commission on Climate Action](#). This Commission is leading a community-engaged effort to develop recommendations for the municipality’s climate action plan. This plan is the third milestone in the municipality’s involvement with the Partners for Climate Protection program delivered by Federation of Canadian Municipalities and ICLEI, in which La Pêche will:

- Identify their GHG emissions baseline (both individual and municipal emissions);
- Set an emissions reduction target;
- Create a strategy to reduce their emissions; and
- Implement the strategy and achieve the target.

[La Pêche Coalition for a Green New Deal](#) seeded the idea of a Community Commission generating the plan’s recommendations with a municipal councillor during his election campaign, who followed through with his promise, and got the approach approved by council after being elected. The community and municipality have traditionally worked in parallel silos



on climate change, but the formation of the Commission and its success in strengthening relationships with the municipality signals that the municipality is taking community organizing seriously. This work has the potential to unlock many community assets and increased capacity, including human resources, knowledge, skills, and networks.

Member’s ranking of CCT’s contribution:

4.5/5 – “Tamarack’s advice, inspiring speakers, practical examples, written resources, and one-on-one coaching on community engagement helped us better understand how to build partnerships and work across organizations that have different realities (e.g., context and constraints of the municipality), which has

deepened our relationships and ability to work together. As well, the equity-based strategies and approaches for community engagement that we learned from Tamarack were very influential when designing the community engagement strategy and activities for the Commission; the engagement activities were very successful (high turnout, diversity of participants, positive feedback) and we credit Tamarack’s approaches for that success.”

Cohort: 1



Creating a Multi-Solving Mindset: Tobermory, ON

Traditional territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation

Tobermory’s Community Hub at [The Meeting Place \(TMP\)](#) is raising awareness of the connections between climate change and the inequitable impacts it has on people living with low-income, as well as on the viability of a multi-solving approach that can address both issues simultaneously.

TMP’s decision to focus on multi-solving is related to two unique factors of the community. The first is income insecurity. Tobermory is known for being a destination for tourists, vacationers, and retirees, but is also home to many seasonal workers who are precariously employed and rely on Employment Insurance (EI) in the off-season. Second, while strong home ownership rates are an asset on the Northern Bruce Peninsula – including Tobermory – with approximately 92% of residents



“The resources, teaching, networking, coaching sessions and incredibly sensitive and personal responsiveness of Tamarack (not to mention the world class resources) have helped us gain confidence and endurance ... Being part of the Tamarack network and focusing on what is possible has kept me positive and proactive.”

-CCT Member



owning their own homes, there is also a higher-than-average number of residential buildings in substandard condition. With buildings being the second highest source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions on the Peninsula and household emissions being a large component of this, the Community Hub is starting to make connections between housing, inequity, and climate change as it looks at ways to increase impact across these areas.

One example that shows readiness for a mindset shift in the community is their incorporation of climate issues into a Housing Forum that TMP collaboratively organized with Sources of Knowledge in fall 2023. While there were initial concerns from partners about integrating climate into a planned panel on housing, organizers successfully

advocated that any discussion of innovation in housing development should include information on energy affordability, as everyone is interested in saving money. The final agenda included both issues, and the change was due in part to the level of trust and influence that had been established among partners.

The 40-50 people who attended the forum heard from five panelists on housing and climate, including a young local entrepreneur who is committed to building affordable rental housing and designing for energy efficiency. Participants shared positive feedback on the presentation, indicating that it was well received. Organizers suspect that many people in the community weren't aware of the multi-unit building project or of the interconnections between climate and housing needs.

Member's ranking of CCT's contribution: 5/5 – “During TMP's participation in the Climate Transitions Cohort in 2023, hearing from community and climate change experts and experiencing encouragement from and connection with like-minded individuals beyond their own community has been very valuable. One of my big takeaways from the cohort has been the message that community change is complex, and that climate action is a huge community commitment. Tamarack and the network of changemakers have provided rural organizations like TMP Tobermory with the confidence to keep taking this message into the community through building relationships and with refreshed strategies.”

Cohort: 2 (EN)



Changing Mindsets: Peel Region, ON

Treaty Lands (14 & 19) and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit

Peel Region is building momentum for climate transition within the municipality. Through their participation in Tamarack's Climate Transitions Cohort, they have been exploring how to engage and empower internal and external stakeholders in response to the climate emergency, recognizing that everyone has an important role to play.

Building on tactics shared through the Cohort, Peel Region has employed a variety of climate change engagement initiatives that inspire change and reach a range of people. For example, they ran "[Cooking with Christine](#)" which streamed a professional chef instructing hundreds of Peel Region staff on how to make low-carbon, healthy, mostly vegan meals in the style of several different cultures. With approaches like this, they are drawing in a diversity of perspectives from across departments who may not otherwise attend a session or read information dedicated solely to the climate or the environment. They are also making connections between people's existing interests (e.g., cooking) and small tangible environmental actions, which provide an on-ramp into the climate conversation.

They are also using a multi-solving approach with a goal of embedding climate transition or mitigation efforts into the core work of many Peel Region departments. They are educating departmental leaders on the types of changes their departments can make that would positively impact people and the planet. For instance, upgrading their affordable housing standards to include housing people in energy efficient buildings. Following Tamarack's presentation to [Peel Climate Change Partnership](#) on the cohort's activities, Partnership members reported feeling more confident about what can be achieved at the community-level.

Member's ranking of CCT's contribution: 3/5 – "The Cohort learning has been adapted and applied to engaging internally within the Region, which has had some success. CCT Director, Laura Schnurr, made a presentation to the Peel Climate Change Partnership (including Peel Region department leads) which helped them feel more confident about what could be achieved at the community level and in understanding how they could contribute to the plan, despite climate not being their primary focus."

Cohort: 2 (EN)



Empowering Youth Climate Action Using a Whole-of-Community Approach: PEI

Epekwithk ("Something Lying In The Water")

Prince Edward Island (PEI) advocates are raising awareness focused on one school ecosystem – children, parents, and teachers – to support the next generation in becoming resilient to climate change and empowered to take positive environmental actions. They aim to make climate resiliency “cool” by teaching about the environment in empowering ways and diffusing climate action language among student peers – who are the most influential people in a child’s life from Grades 6-9.

Gulf Shore Consolidated School in North Rustico is home to 280 students from Kindergarten through Grade nine (K-9) along the North Shore. Between their recent experiences with Hurricane Fiona and the fear-based messaging in the media, there is awareness of climate change, but eco-anxiety and paralysis often prevents action. The NSCaR (North Shore Climate Action for Resilience) Collective collected baseline data on student attitudes towards climate change and action (sampling 25-30% of school children so far) and will track changes in mindset over time.

The NSCaR Collective received a \$100K grant from the province’s Climate Challenge Fund, which helped them hire a part-time Coordinator from the University of Prince Edward Island’s (UPEI) Environmental Studies Program. This Coordinator’s role is to create capacity and space for student-led advocacy and leadership on climate change. Since September 2023, the Collective and the Coordinator have implemented 10 initiatives targeting different learning needs of K-9 students, as well as parents and teachers. These range from learning about invasive plant species, to re-planting trees lost to Hurricane Fiona with National Parks Canada, to writing letters of advocacy for a school community garden and learning about food insecurity.

Nearly every K-9 student has been part of at least one initiative. Twenty parents have learned about the concept of two-eyed seeing and that Western science is not the only way to understand the world. Two teachers are leading art projects on environmental themes and are creating an Environmental Club, and they have begun to engage with the Science Department through sponsoring environmental projects at the annual Science Fair.

Finally, the PEI collaborative is engaging stakeholders in the 13 communities that feed into Gulf Shore Consolidated School in order to build a whole community that is receptive and nurturing of climate actions. They identified 40 stakeholders from across sectors (e.g., entrepreneurs, fire



At least three organizations, who were already supportive of environmental actions, but not sure how to take action, changed their practices or policies based on information the Collective presented. For instance, Lennon House, who provides housing and support to people living with addictions and mental health challenges, conducted an energy audit which has resulted in actions to reduce use of fossil fuels (e.g., installing heat pumps in four resident cottages). They are now saving money and reducing emissions. The organization has indicated that during the next hurricane, some clients may be ready to offer support to residents taking shelter at the Lion’s Club, rather than being on the receiving end of support.

Member’s ranking of CCT’s contribution: 4/5 –

“Sessions have been helpful, particularly for an Artistic Director who found the National Gathering inspiring and said it helped her feel confident and empowered that they’re moving in the right direction. Tamarack staff members – CCT Director Laura Schnurr and CCT Manager of Communities Kieran Maingot – also met with the Secretariat of Climate and Energy, whose mandate is to meet with staff responsible for climate change in each government department but was missing a link to the community despite having a community-engaged mandate. Tamarack was able to show us what other communities are doing across the country on climate change, which has pushed us to engage with the community.”

Cohort: 2 (EN)

“CCT provided frameworks and networking opportunities that were instrumental in fostering our community’s collaborative relationships. The CCT Network’s structured approach to shared learning and its emphasis on collective impact were particularly beneficial.”

-CCT Member



CCT MEMBER OUTCOMES

Building Community Leadership Capacity

Community Leadership

Several members have been focused on building the foundations for community-led climate action and climate transitions. This includes making connections, and building or deepening relationships, trust, and cross-sector collaborations. Examples are included below.



Building the Pre-Conditions for Collective Impact: Toronto, ON

Tkaronto ("Where the Trees Stand in the Water")

In the last year, Toronto has been building the community's readiness to adopt a collective impact approach. Their progress is significant because of how large and complex Toronto is. The city needs a wide-spread community climate transition plan, but to be successful, collective members feel they need certain pre-conditions in place, including resources, infrastructure and plentiful leadership dedicated to the strategy.

Drawing on the assets of current partners, they have raised seed funding from the City of Toronto and other sources and have organized the Centre for Social Innovation (CSI) as the fiduciary recipient. The Toronto Climate Action Network (TCAN) hires and manages staff as the backbone, and Canadian Community Challenge (CCC) leads an art project in the Malvern neighbourhood. The art project has done outreach, built awareness and fostered a sense of

urgency for climate action among neighbourhood residents, engaging 1,000 people to date. With this additional capacity, the Toronto coalition used several tools ([Kumu](#), [Datawrapper](#) and [Google Maps](#)) to map climate change actors and initiatives across the city, and collaboratively developed a Plan-on-a-Page based on the [Tamarack tool](#). These actions have clarified their understanding around what a 5-year collective impact initiative could do.

Member’s ranking of CCT’s contribution: 4/5 – “The initiative could not have happened without Tamarack introducing the Climate Transitions Cohort. This provided the initial spark where the City of Toronto connected with grassroots organizations and associations. We also hosted a local meet-up as part of CCT’s National Gathering, which helped expand our network. Since the initial connection and seeding of the idea, we’ve been more self-sufficient in carrying out our activities.”

Cohort 1



Building Collaborative Leadership: Central Kootenays, BC

Traditional territory of the Ktunaxa, Sinixt, Syilx, and Secwepemc people.

The Central Kootenays, BC, are building social capital among partners to reduce their transportation-related emissions. Over the course of 2023, a small group of partners significantly deepened their relationships with one another, developed more trust, and established better understanding and comfort in working together. On a [scale](#) of 1-7 (1= competition and 7 = integration), they report moving from a 3 (sharing information with each other but working and making decisions in silos) to a 6 (systematic collaboration on a shared goal with shared resources and decision-making).

Establishing this deeper level of collaboration is their first step in being able to use a collective impact approach to reduce their emissions as a community. As a result of this trust building, partners are preparing to launch a low-energy transportation network that will support collaboration between funders, local institutions, and other community actors to implement several actions identified by the public. This includes, for example, building infrastructure to increase multiple active modes of transportation.



Coaching with Co-CEO, Danya Pastuszek, has helped to build the case for collaboration within a region of diverse stakeholders and rightsholders. Over several sessions, the team has strategized

how to best galvanize meaningful collaboration and shared accountability around a multi-modal transit strategy. Most recently, sessions have supported planning for an in-person event that will define a container for this work and encourage the region’s municipalities, non-profits, communities, and businesses to meet in the middle and work together.

Member’s ranking of CCT’s contribution: 5/5 – “Tamarack has helped to foster community relationships and emphasized collective impact as an approach.”

Cohort 2 (EN)



“We have been focusing on the concept of “Nature for Healing”. Throughout my experience with Tamarack and the greening health collaborative, I’ve enjoyed learning about the intersection of health and environment and how we can consider that intersection in our existing projects.” -CCT

Member





Catalyzing Citizen Action: Centre-Sud and Hochelaga-Maisonneuve, Montreal, QC

Tiohtià:ke (“where the currents separate/meet”)

Residents of the Centre-Sud and Hochelaga-Maisonneuve neighborhoods have come together, in the last two years, as the [Effervescence citoyenne](#) collective, which supports socio-environmental neighbourhood transformations. Made up of approximately 25 residents, the Collective has operated without a budget nor a specific place to meet, and have organized activities such as block parties, distribution of zines, and posting a calendar of community activities.

In the last year, at the invitation of the transition team of the Community Development Corporation (CDC), the Tamarack Cohort brought together one of the members of this citizen collective, as well as the managers of the Société écocitoyenne de Montréal (SEM) and Chez Émilie Maison d’Entraide Populaire.

The CCT cohort has enabled them to get to know one another better and establish a small core team to discuss their goals and collaborative projects. Chez Émilie is now transforming a part of its premises into a lab for socio-ecological transition, while SEM is providing human resources and other in-kind support.

Several Effervescence members are developing personal projects linked to the issue of climate transition, in addition to being part of the Effervescence collective. The citizen who participated in the cohort, for example, is developing a new game, “J’habite ici, 1h pour faire partie de la solution à la crise du logement” (I live here, 1 hour to be part of the solution to the housing crisis), which will raise citizens’ awareness about what they can do about the housing crisis. Players take on the challenge together by sharing their local knowledge (e.g., the neighbourhood’s housing assets), assessing options, and making the right choices for individuals and the community. They hope to play the game with as many community groups as



possible, and to test the extent to which community groups and associations can jointly support a citizen initiative on an urgent and complex socio-environmental issue such as housing. The game has been officially supported by the Community Development Corporation's (CDC) Housing Committee and will soon be played at Chez Émilie.

Member's ranking of CCT's contribution: 3.5/5 – "Learning systems-thinking and the asset-based community development method have been important references for our operations, and we now have a common knowledge base from which to work together. Thanks to the Tamarack cohort, a core group of citizens committed to climate transitions has formed with the managers of SEM and Chez Émilie, two regular partners of the CDC. Our participation in shared learning allows us to have more open discussions with them on supporting citizen-led socio-environmental actions."

Cohort 2 (FR)



Connecting Leaders for Change: Multiple Organizations Working Across Quebec

Non-profit leaders from across Quebec working at the provincial, national and international levels – David Suzuki Foundation (Réseau Demain le Québec), Mères au front, Equiterre and ENvironnement JEUnesse – initiated a Community of Practice (CoP), *communauté de pratique en mobilization citoyenne*, that will help organizations across Quebec mobilize citizens on climate change.

As Quebec experiences the impacts of climate change through flooding, forest fires, extreme heat, and more, they see a need to work together to mobilize citizens for a socio-ecological transition.

While the partners previously knew of one another and would meet in different contexts, there had not been a designated space to facilitate discussions between organizations that mobilize citizens. As such, they created a CoP to improve their organizing.

Forming the CoP has moved them one step closer towards collaboration. On a [spectrum](#) of 1-7 (1= competition and 7= integration), they moved from a 2 (co-existing), where they would hear about each other's activities through public media or word-of-mouth, to a 3 (communicating), where there is systematic information-sharing. By exploring who is doing what and where there are synergies, they may also spark a project they can collaborate on (level 4).

So far, representatives from 10 organizations have attended the CoP's first meetings and another 30 organizations are part of the broader network receiving updates. They have built an

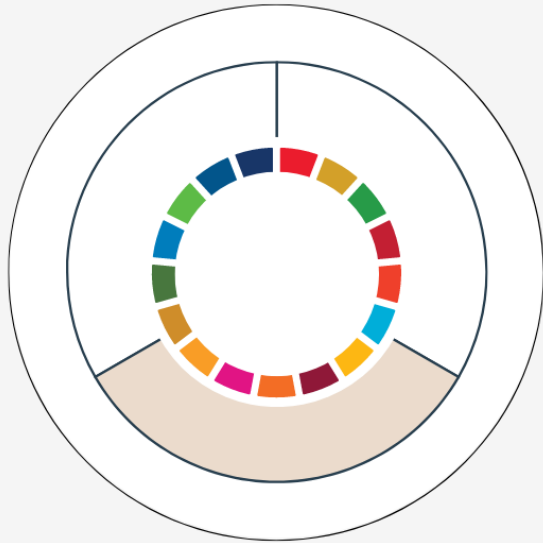
online forum where they chat and ask questions, and share ideas, information and resources. At least one person has specifically mentioned that they have used a tool that they found through these partners.

The CCT Cohort has supported people from different organizations, who didn't know each other very well, to come together on a regular basis and form bonds. They have collaboratively developed a vision, held strategic discussions, and have scoped and started the CoP.

Member's ranking of CCT's contribution: 2.5/5 – “While the homework assignments and Cohort calls were helpful, they were more geared towards developing a ‘social-ecological transition plan’. As this was never our goal, the content was less relevant. We likely would have achieved the same results (creating a CoP with vision and objectives) without participation in CCT.”

Cohort: 2 (FR)





CCT MEMBER OUTCOMES

Sparking Innovative Projects

Niche Innovations (Programs, Projects, Services)

A couple members are bringing partners across sectors together to generate many innovative ideas that they can self-organize around and implement. The result of the collaboration is number of new initiatives, though there are many positive ripple effects for people and environment that the partners are just beginning to track.



Seeding Changes: Bow Valley, AB

Îjathibé othmâga

Biosphere Institute of the Bow Valley started the collective impact project, [Accelerate Climate Action \(ACA\)](#), by bringing together an Advisory Table of approximately 20 members and hosting two large community gatherings in 2022 and 2023.

ACA's first gathering had 80 people attending to connect with other students, municipalities, and representatives from industry, non-profits, and tourism. They seeded ideas for four climate actions that are either currently being implemented or have concluded. These include:

- **Buildings:** Organized the first annual 'Building for Sustainability' symposium in November 2023 with the Bow Valley Builders & Developers Association, educating 170 people on building for climate mitigation, adaptation, and affordability. As a result of the symposium, they are launching an initiative to help real estate agents and contractors learn more about sustainable buildings and how they can incorporate it in their practice. They plan to host a similar symposium in 2024.
- **Renewable Energy:** Seven PhD and master's students from the University of Calgary toured multi-family homes in the Bow Valley area and conducted a technology feasibility assessment for geexchange heating and cooling systems, taking into account the area's unique geological setting, climate conditions and building layouts. Geexchange is more efficient than traditional 'energy efficient' systems on the market and could reduce utility bills by 30-40%. Canmore Community Housing is looking to invest in geothermal for 1,300 affordable housing units. This would not have happened without the work of the students.
- **Waste Reduction:** By 2030, the Town of Canmore aims to reduce construction waste by 50%. Project partners explored how to divert construction, renovation, and demolition waste from the landfill by creating new ways of separating waste on construction sites. ACA piloted the use of bulk material containers to collect waste from hard-to-reach construction sites or those with limited onsite space for large roll-off bins. They used a portable crane to collect smaller loads on a regular basis, which went to *Cleansweeps* for manual sorting prior to shipping to the landfill. One home builder diverted 11.68 tonnes of wood, metal and drywall from the landfill, for a diversion increase from 11% to 48% due to the program; and a second green builder diverted 1.3 tonnes of wood for a diversion rate of approximately 49% by the end of the pilot.
- **Nature-Based Solutions:** Supporting municipal partners and community stakeholders to understand, appreciate, and apply nature-based solutions to environmental challenges.



Members of Bow Valley's Accelerate Climate Action initiative share ideas at a community gathering in 2023. Photo credit: Maryn Simrak.

This first gathering also focused on the circular economy, inspiring ACA to support cafés in Banff to offer reusable cups for customers to borrow and return, helping businesses adhere to Single Use Item Bylaw 468 which restricts use of a variety of single use items. The program is growing and currently has ten participating café and restaurant locations in Banff, and is soon expanding to Canmore, Alberta.

ACA’s second gathering hosted 68 attendees to connect, be inspired, and seed solidarity. This gathering created more collaborative capacity in the community. They created a Theory of Change, developed a vision for change, and collectively identified barriers to climate action and opportunities (“bridges”) for change. ACA will now adopt these opportunities and use them as their direction for action. Thirty-two gathering participants committed to individual changes in behaviour, of which research estimates approximately 60% will follow through.

Member’s ranking of CCT’s contribution: 4/5 – “This model of working together is out there, and other organizations exist in the ecosystem that we could have partnered with, but Tamarack really supported our thinking throughout the process. Tamarack was open to sharing any and all resources that could advance our work, and the connection with the Town of Canmore to go through the process together as peer learners and allies was very valuable. We also received a grant from Innoweave to hire Liz Weaver, Tamarack’s Co-CEO and Consulting Director, to help us create a Theory of Change and deepen relationships with potential funders to support the long-term sustainability of our collective impact initiative”.

Cohort: 1



Catalyzing Changes: London, ON

Traditional territory of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Attawandaron Nations, with specific treaties to the area: the Two Row Wampum Belt Treaty of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy/Silver Covenant Chain; the Beaver Hunting Grounds of the Haudenosaunee NANFAN Treaty of 1701; the McKee Treaty of 1790, the London Township Treaty of 1796 (Treaty 6), the Huron Tract Treaty of 1827, with the Anishinaabeg, and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum of the Anishnaabek and Haudenosaunee.

[Climate Action London](#) broadened relationships and built trust with the City of London, London Environmental Network, Reforest London and other partners through their joint participation in the Climate Transitions Cohort in Year 1, which created more capacity in the community to take on climate initiatives, catalyzing actions and outcomes in Years 2 and 3. On a 1-7 [scale](#) (1= competition; 7 = integration), they advanced from a 4 (cooperation) to a 6 (collaboration). While they were already cooperating on small projects, the Cohort supported them to deepen collaboration with partners, aligning on the “Greening Health Collaborative”. As of 2024, there is

one new spin-off project that is bringing diverse sectors together in support of the environment, four projects that are more aligned with London's Climate Emergency Action Plan, plus one policy change aimed at reducing carbon emissions.

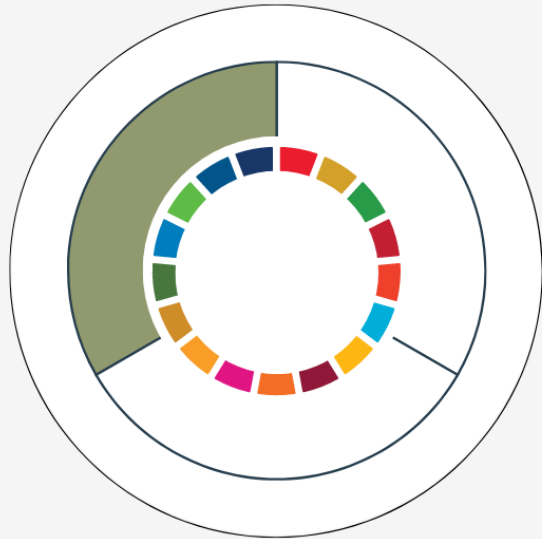
Examples of initiatives that have been launched or aligned as a result of Climate Action London's conversations, include:

- 1) **London Greening Health Collaborative** – Bringing together partners from health, climate, and academic sectors to advance work on climate transitions and planetary health. The Collaborative's project, Connecting Londoners to Nature for Healing, is working with Dr. Egide Kalisa, Assistant Professor of Environmental Health, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry at Western University, to help the group identify areas with poor air quality in London and explore the relationship between air quality, poor academic performance and overall health. Results will inform the collaborative's plan for reducing air pollution in and around the schools and surrounding areas. Other projects for 2024, that are informed by and inform Climate Action London, include advocating for London as a [National Urban Park](#), EarthFest 2024, and Greening Health Pension Plans
- 2) **Greening Sacred Spaces: London Chapter** – Acting on the Municipality's information that faith groups were among the least connected to the City's climate plan, Climate Action London is galvanizing faith groups to be sustainability role models. The group found spaces in neighbourhoods in need of greening and did outreach that brought together Indigenous people and people from Jewish, Muslim, and Christian faiths for an inter-faith tree planting, as well as for the winter solstice to celebrate the changing of the seasons.

Further, the annual [Earthfest](#) that Climate Action London supports has grown from 350 people in 2022 to 2,000 in 2023; and they were featured as one of 34 global case studies on co-creating sustainability as part of the [GOGREEN research project](#). Climate Action London is a relatively new group that is having cascading effects, because the relationships they have formed have amplified the number of different actors contributing to climate actions. They continue to look to the future at how they can *accelerate* the pace of change.

Member's ranking of CCT's contribution: 4/5 – "Tamarack has given us the confidence to scale what we were doing and has helped to catalyze change. Tamarack's CCT cohort is what initially inspired our small group to reach out to organizations and associations across the city to align and collaborate on climate action, and has provided language to describe things we were already doing. Tamarack also put us in touch with the researcher who wrote up our story as a global case study on co-creating sustainability. The opportunity for [one of] us to sit on the [national] CCT Advisory Group has further informed our local work and vice versa."

Cohort: 1 & 2 (EN)



CCT MEMBER OUTCOMES

Policy Change

Systems Changes

Two members are targeting policy changes that can be made at the local government level that will positively impact people and the environment on a broad scale.



Public Transit Improvements: London, ON

Traditional territory of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Attawandaron Nations, with specific treaties to the area: the Two Row Wampum Belt Treaty of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy/Silver Covenant Chain; the Beaver Hunting Grounds of the Haudenosaunee NANFAN Treaty of 1701; the McKee Treaty of 1790, the London Township Treaty of 1796 (Treaty 6), the Huron Tract Treaty of 1827, with the Anishinaabeg, and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum of the Anishnaabek and Haudenosaunee.

London’s recent public transit budget increase was a bittersweet win for [Climate Action London](#) and partners.

Their campaign for expanded transit service was a result of the [Sustainability Summit](#) that the group hosted in January 2024. The Summit brought together 55 people representing 11 organizations to collectively identify the community’s climate priorities. From a list of 86 Business Cases (cases for funding support) presented in the municipal budget, gathered by the core team from the City of London’s Chair of Finance, Summit participants selected their top four priorities. Transit was a top issue and they felt it would also be widely supported by other groups across the city, as London’s growth out-paces all other cities in Ontario and is the fourth fastest-growing Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) in Canada, while infrastructure fails to keep pace.

Climate Action London launched a petition on social media, collecting 200 signatures in one week to accompany their submission and presentation to City Council. They recommended supporting London Transit Commission’s request to expand the transit system to support the growing population and reduce carbon emissions – 25,000 conventional service hours at a cost of nearly \$10.4M over four years – and got five major media outlets to attend their press conference. Service hours had been reduced year-over-year to the point that normal operations were being funded from reserves, which had been depleted. Climate Action London succeeded in nudging Council to increase service hours by 18,000 hours over four years. Responding to requests for greater accessibility, the collective also supported the lobby to increase Para-Transit, which was approved for 38,000 new service hours over four years. The downside was a reduction in spending on the City’s climate plan implementation by \$6M to fund the transit increase.

Member’s ranking of CCT’s contribution: 4/5 – “The collaborative skills we built and approaches we learned through the Cohort encouraged us to open-up the Sustainability Summit to a much broader audience, which ultimately led to informing the City of London’s 4-year budget on transit.”

Cohort: 1 & 2 (EN)



Increasing Food Self-Sufficiency: Péninsule Acadienne, NB

Kespe'kewaq (The Last Land)

[Imaginons la Peninsule acadienne autrement](#) (IPAA) has collaborated with government partners to implement two new local policies and an innovative project to foster food self-sufficiency in the region. In New Brunswick, nearly all food consumed is imported and there is very little land

available for agriculture. Farmland that is useable is increasingly attracting industrial-sized farms that use it for monocropping, such as wild [blueberries](#), and there are fewer small-scale producers with diverse crops to meet local food demand.

Small-scale farming offers advantages for food security and climate change adaptation: production is generally intended for local consumption rather than export, is carried out close to consumers, and often requires less machinery/chemical inputs. For this reason, it is important to increase the number of small-scale producers.

What this means is that existing government policies are outdated and no longer support current needs. By collaborating with the Municipality of Caraquet, NB and the Acadian Peninsula Regional Service Commission, which oversees all municipal development plans in the region, the community has been developing three new initiatives with the municipality of Caraquet:

- **Creation of an agriculture policy** – Fostering the municipality’s food security by promoting alternative models of agriculture that are not focused solely on maximizing product outputs, which typically provide a variety of crops, use fewer synthetic chemicals and less machinery, reduce noise and odour issues for residents, and whose food is distributed locally to increase the region’s food self-sufficiency.
- **Agricultural zoning** – Creates a system whereby all available local land is mapped, evaluated and zoned to identify parcels of land most suitable for small-scale farming. This will prevent losing farmland to real estate or other types of industrial development.
- **A project to grow small-scale farming** - Working with a group of 4-5 farmers, the collaboration is centered around learning more about small-scale local food production, identifying challenges, opportunities, and supports needed, establishing a plan for recruiting more farmers, and creating a farmers’ cooperative.

The pilot in Caraquet is serving as a learning opportunity for a nearby community, giving this approach the potential to be adapted and scaled-out to other municipalities in the region.

Member’s ranking of CCT’s contribution: 2.5/5 - “The initiative was already in progress upon joining the CCT cohort. The personalized meetings with coaches were the most useful part. They enabled us to better understand the theoretical concepts discussed in the CCT Cohort meetings, and to apply them concretely to our approach.”

Cohort 2 (FR)

WHAT'S NEXT

While Tamarack's CCT continues to build the movement for place-based climate partnerships and members turn learning into action in their communities, it was also equally important to reveal what barriers to learning or impact exist for member communities. The challenges below represent themes that arose during member interviews, through survey responses and in group discussion. They will inform the priority actions of Tamarack and the CCT network going forward.

Challenges & Aspirations	Actions
<p>Time and capacity constraints and the need for targeted and focused support</p> <p>Members expressed having limited capacity to engage with the many resources Tamarack offers.</p> <p>There is a desire to have more support with navigating all the tools and resources at members' disposal and to help to identify a path forward.</p>	<p>Roadmap – CCT will work with members and other Tamarack teams to co-develop a sample journey map to support groups as they move through the many phases of collaborative change. The journey map will support members to identify critical milestones, establish a baseline to track progress, and be efficient and effective in navigating their change processes with limited resources.</p> <p>TEN Guide – CCT will release a 10 Guide on advancing climate equity through place-based collaboration that will bring together evidence- and experience-based ideas, examples, and resources out there on leading this type of work.</p>
<p>Limited funds</p> <p>There is limited funding available to support local community-led climate work, particularly core, multi-year backbone support required for collective impact initiatives. This is a challenge both for those starting out and for more established collaboratives.</p>	<p>Community Innovation Fund – CCT will support members to pilot and grow local projects by launching a second round of the Community Innovation Fund in 2024. Funding will be offered at the seed, sprouting and scaling levels, and will be aimed at building capacity for community innovation or testing a niche initiative that is traditionally harder to fund. These funds will help members to leverage additional funding in cases where matched funding may be required.</p>
<p>Regional partnerships and collaboration</p> <p>Members are keen to connect and collaborate with other place-based partnerships in their communities and regions, whether they are working on climate specifically, or on a set of interconnected issues.</p>	<p>Single Membership – CCT will work with other Tamarack learning networks to develop a single membership which will better integrate the issues and learning opportunities around poverty reduction, building youth futures, building belonging, and climate transitions.</p>

	<p>Regional Approach – CCT will increase its focus on regional networks, investing more in strengthening ties between members in a specific region (e.g., province or district), both between CCT members and with other Tamarack members more focused on poverty, belonging and/or youth. Within a given region, CCT will aim to bring members together to identify and pursue opportunities for regional collaboration, while engaging funders and provincial/territorial governments to build momentum, and a receptive environment for communities to do their work.</p>
<p>Peer learning Members are seeking more opportunities for deep learning with/from peers from other communities who are at a similar stage of the collaborative work.</p>	<p>Peer Matching Pilot – CCT will pilot a mentorship program which will match members with one another based on their collaborative’s phase of development, individual learning styles, experience, and local contexts.</p>
<p>Centering Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Justice and Reconciliation (EDIJR) Members have asked for Tamarack to centre EDIJR more in the learning agenda and ways of working.</p>	<p>Community Contributions Fund – In addition to Tamarack’s commitment to become an anti-racist organization and the internal EDIJR journey, CCT will create a Community Contributions Fund that will provide stipends for people with lived/living experience of climate injustice to engage in the members’ collaboratives and to lead place-based climate work.</p>
<p>Policy and systems change Members have asked for Tamarack and CCT to play a more prominent role in advocating for policy and systems change.</p>	<p>Policy and systems change – Tamarack will engage CCT members, learners and partners in identifying which policy and systems levers or assets Tamarack and the peer CCT network can lend to the climate movement that would be most impactful. The Regional Approach will also include policy and systems change advocacy.</p>
<p>Policy and systems change Members have asked for Tamarack and CCT to play a more prominent role in advocating for policy and systems change.</p>	<p>Policy and systems change – Tamarack will engage CCT members, learners and partners in identifying which policy and systems levers or assets Tamarack and the peer CCT network can lend to the climate movement that would be most impactful.</p>

	The Regional Approach will also include policy and systems change advocacy.
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GET INVOLVED

Individuals and organizations inspired by the actions and outcomes in this report, are invited to get involved in CCT's next steps. Consider:

1. **Becoming a CCT member** – Cohorts are assembled each calendar year and may be led by multi-sector coalitions, grassroots resident-led groups, municipalities, non-profits or others. Reach out to laura@tamarackcommunity.ca to inquire about membership.
2. **Donating to the Community Contribution Fund** – This fund supports equity deserving individuals and groups to participate in collaborative climate efforts in their communities and share in the learning that Tamarack provides.
3. **Following CCT** – Become part of the movement by [keeping up to date](#) with the latest ideas, news, resources, and skill-building workshops or webinars.
4. **Participating in the policy agenda** – Amplify the network's policy priorities by using shared language when posting about or discussing policies that CCT is advocating for.
5. **Building awareness and will for the community-led climate transitions approach in your own community** – Share the forthcoming TEN Guide and other resources in the Tamarack library to build a receptive environment for collaborative climate action to occur. Every voice is powerful!

Our understanding of change is that it moves at the speed of trust. The early years of organizing collective impact or multi-sector strategies are about building strong foundations, with relational infrastructure being essential. This is especially important for communities where pre-existing collaboration or relationship habits and structure are minimal. Change at scale often requires a minimum of five to ten years, as well as sustained investment in the issue.

Tamarack's CCT network is a field catalyst that can help align actors within a given place as well as across communities and up to different levels of government; accelerates the pace of change; and amplifies the results. It is committed to working in partnership with communities for the long-haul, through the ups and downs of changemaking, and over multiple years. Tamarack will remain a consistent support for community changemakers and voice for community-led climate transitions.