



# Biannual Briefing Note

**Date:** November 25, 2013

**Issued by:** Daniela Fisher

**Agency:** Public Member

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## Description

Each member of PGAIR is requested to provide a biannual update on implementation activities related to the Phase III Plan. Please identify your agency's relevant activities (existing and planned) in the template provided. The information from these reports will be posted on the PGAIR website. Briefing note due dates:

- November 12, 2013
- May 13, 2014

## 2016 PM 2.5 Goal

- A 40% reduction from all significant sources;
- A daily average not to exceed 25 micrograms per cubic meter of air; and
- An annual average of 5 micrograms per cubic meter of air.

## Questions

**What have you done in the last 6 months? Does the action address a goal and/or strategy from the Phase III Plan? If yes, please list the goal and/or strategy.**

I have held the Public Member position on PG AIR since November 2011. During the last six months, I have taken actions both professionally and personally to work toward improving air quality in the Prince George airshed. First, I have sat on the PG AIR Executive (as Secretary) and, in that capacity, have attended monthly executive meetings where I have received updates, and provided direction, on the implementation of programs and projects under the Phase III Air Quality Management Plan and the day-to-day operations of PG AIR. Second, I have sat (as member) on the PG AIR Education and Awareness Working Group (EAWG) and, in that capacity, have attended most monthly EAWG meetings and have assisted the group work towards its mandate of educating and raising public awareness of local air quality issues. Third, I attended, on behalf of PG AIR, the Sustainability and Legacy Summit held on October 10 at the University of Northern BC, where I engaged with members of government, businesses, and the public to inform, explore and discuss strategies and actions to improve local air quality before (and beyond) the 2015 Canada Winter Games.

Finally, on a personal level, I have taken small actions to reduce my impact on local air quality (and serve as an example of small actions that citizens can take to reduce their impact), including driving a hybrid vehicle (and employing eco-driving strategies such as trip planning, accelerating gently and not speeding), not idling unnecessarily, and using a shovel (rather than a motorized snow blower) for residential snow removal.

The actions set out above address a goal and/or strategy from the Phase III Plan both generally and specifically. Namely, my actions on the PG AIR Executive assist the implementation of the Phase III Plan generally, while my actions on the EAWG, at the Sustainability and Legacy Summit and personally address the following Phase III goals and strategies:

- Research, Education and Coordination
  - Goal: a community that is well informed and aware of air quality issues, trends, and actions for improvement.
    - Strategy 2: Facilitate... events that promote and encourage clean air practices
    - Strategy 3: Improve awareness of air quality issues and potential solutions; and
- Transportation
  - Goal: Reduce emissions from vehicles (including personal)
    - Strategy 1: Reduce vehicle idling

**What are you planning to do in the next 6 months? Does the action address a goal and/or strategy from the Phase III Plan? If yes, please list the goal and/or strategy.**

In the next six months, I plan to continue to take actions both professionally and personally to work toward improving local air quality. First, I plan to volunteer (at the Annual General Meeting in November) to continue to sit on the PG AIR Executive (as Secretary) and, in that capacity, to attend executive meetings and provide direction on the annual priority list/work plan (under the Phase III Plan) and the implementation of programs and projects thereunder. Second, I plan to continue to sit as a member of the EAWG and to assist the group organize and carry out projects and programs, including preparing an annual report on air quality and initiatives, designed to educate and raise public awareness of local air quality. Third, I plan to attend any relevant conferences or workshops and to explore with PG AIR staff ways to engage with citizens (such as through social media) on local air quality issues. Finally, on a personal level, I will continue to work towards minimizing my impact on local air quality, including driving less and signing PG AIR's *Pledge to Drive Smart and be Idle-Free*.

The actions set out above address a goal and/or strategy from the Phase III Plan both generally and specifically, as discussed in the first question, above.

**What is your long-term plan to meet the 2016 goal? Does the action address a goal and/or strategy from the Phase III Plan? If yes, please list the goal and/or strategy.**

The Public Member position on PG AIR is for a one-year term, which can be renewed annually for up to three years. As such, the upcoming term (November 2013 to November 2014) will be the third and final year of my term as the Public Member. In order to continue to assist PG AIR work towards improving air quality in the Prince George airshed, I will explore actions that can be taken to continue my involvement with PG AIR, including reapplying for the Public Member position if possible.

The actions set out above do not directly address a goal and/or strategy from the Phase III Plan.

**Please indicate your self-assessed progress during the past 6 months:**

Low

**Medium**

High