



Air Quality Briefing Note

Date: November 15, 2019

Issued by: Gail Roth

Agency: Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV)

Description

Each member of PGAIR is requested to provide an annual update on implementation activities related to the 5-Year Strategic Plan. Activities (existing and planned) are provided below.

2016 - 2021 PM 2.5 Goal

- Strive towards meeting long-term annual fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) targets of 8 ug/m³ (BC's Annual Air Quality Objective) and 5 ug/m³.

Questions

What have you done in the last 12 months?

- Provided funding to PG AIR to support public educational efforts, and engagement with the business community on air quality issues and actions to improve air quality in Prince George. *Goals Addressed: reduce dust; reduce emissions from relevant businesses; reduce wood smoke; informed community*
- Maintained Ministry air quality monitoring instruments and issued air quality advisories as necessary. *Goal Addressed: informed community*
- Administered the Provincial Woodstove Exchange Program. *Goals Addressed: reduce wood smoke; informed community*
- Funded a series of Burn It Smart Workshops in Spring 2019 including one in Prince George. *Goal addressed: informed community; reduce woodsmoke*
- Amended the provincial Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation. *Goals Addressed: reduce potential exposure to PM_{2.5}; reduce wood smoke; informed community*
- Provided regular technical support to a local air dispersion modelling project. *Goals Addressed: Enhance understanding of particulate matter; support next PGAIR Strategic Plan*
- Launched self-subscription service for air quality notifications. *Goals Addressed: informed community*
- Participated in Go by Bike Week. Many of our Prince George staff commute by bike from spring until fall and 4 dedicated individuals ride all year long! *Goal Addressed: reduce emissions from vehicles*

What are you planning to do in the next 12 months?

- Continue to maintain Ministry air quality monitoring instruments and issue air quality advisories as necessary. *Goal Addressed: informed community; support next PGAIR Strategic Plan*
- Release air quality report to support PGAIR strategic planning. *Goal addressed: informed community; support next PGAIR Strategic Plan*
- Complete a review of the monitoring network in Prince George. *Goal addressed: informed community; support next PGAIR Strategic Plan*

What is your long-term plan to meet the 2016 -2021 goal?

- Continue to provide technical support to PGAIR and the Prince George Monitoring Working Group.
- Continue provide and support ambient monitoring in Prince George.

Please indicate your self-assessed progress during the past 12 months:

Low

Medium

High