

OUR CHALLENGE

Talking about the impacts of climate change can be challenging: it's politically charged, it's complicated, and it's something many of us would often rather ignore. But if we want to find solutions, we need to open up the dialogue.

Here are some of the things that we will have to face head-on as we start this conversation.



WHERE YOU STAND DEPENDS ON WHERE YOU SIT THERE ARE A LOT OF PERSONAL INTERESTS WHEN IT COMES TO CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

Whether or not we always agree with other people about what value is placed where, we must remember that real people (our neighbours, friends, families) have real interests at stake: things they feel are important to their wellbeing, from jobs to their cultural way of life.

JARGON, JARGON, EVERYWHERE

**"GHG EMISSIONS," "CARBON CAPTURE," "CAP & TRADE":
 IT CAN BE HARD TO KEEP UP ON WHAT'S WHAT**

If we don't know the ins and outs of all the jargon, how can we stay engaged? Don't let complex terminology keep you out of the conversation! It might be complex, but that doesn't mean it needs to be incomprehensible. We're here to help!



BIG "P" AND LITTLE "P": POLITICS VS. POLICY REGARDLESS OF POLITICS, CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTS US ALL

Whether you sit on the left or right side of the political spectrum, we all have to deal with the impacts of climate change. Our discussion needs to focus on policy, not politics, and our challenge is to focus on evidence-informed policy to help our province.

HERE AND NOW

CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT AN "OVER THERE," "AT SOME POINT" ISSUE

We often think that climate change is something that will happen in the future, and certainly not here, in our little corner of the world. But that's not what the science is telling us. It's happening here already, and will continue to have irreversible consequences if **immediate** action is not taken — consequences not just for future generations, but for people here now.



BEYOND THE ENVIRONMENT

CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT JUST AN ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE

Whether people think of themselves as an environmentalist or not, climate change is an issue that affects us all. However, for decades the discussions have focused on the "environmental" impact rather than the impact on people, our health, our economy, and our survival. Our aim is to broaden the discussion, recognizing the far-reaching impacts of climate change.

"I DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT IT" CHANGE AND UNCERTAINTY ARE NO FUN

Change is hard, and trying to wrap your head around how your individual changes can impact a giant global problem like climate change is even harder. The uncertainty can be overwhelming, and it can feel easier to avoid thinking about it at all! But if everyone does that, nothing will change. We need to **own** the problem and the solutions at a personal, neighbourhood, and community level.

