October 2020

# West Kootenay
# 100% Renewable Energy Plan

**Creating a pathway for local communities to use 100% Renewable Energy for transportation, buildings, electricity and local infrastructure no later than 2050.**

## Why renewable energy?

Renewable energy is cleaner and more affordable than fossil fuels in the long run. Transitioning to 100% renewable energy will take some time, and it can pay off for everyone.

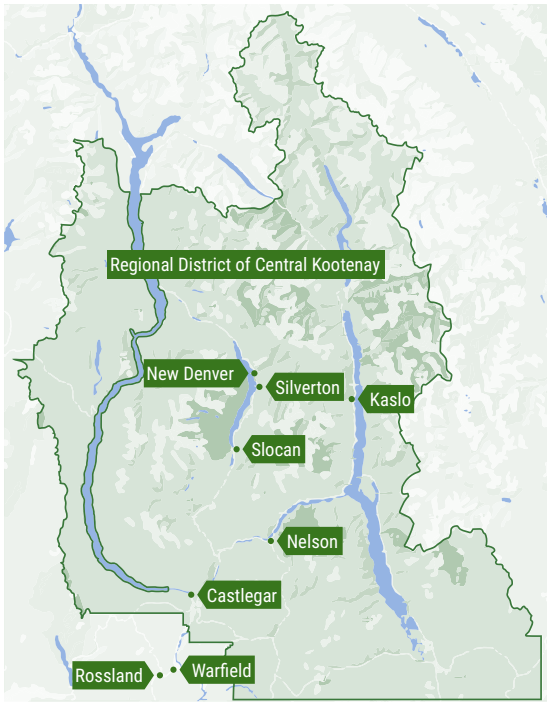
**Health** – Renewable energy means cleaner air, with less asthma, heart and lung disease, and mental and emotional stress.

**Economic strength** – The transition to renewable energy creates local employment and increases energy self-reliance. Our communities have more control over energy prices when we generate it locally. Conserving energy also saves a lot of money.

**Safety** – Renewable energy helps reduce carbon pollution and climate impacts, making communities safer from wildfires, flooding, and slides, and droughts.

## A regional approach

Nine Kootenay Governments have pledged to reach 100% renewable energy by 2050 in community energy uses. They have worked together to reflect the connections among West Kootenay communities, share resources, and promote future collaboration.

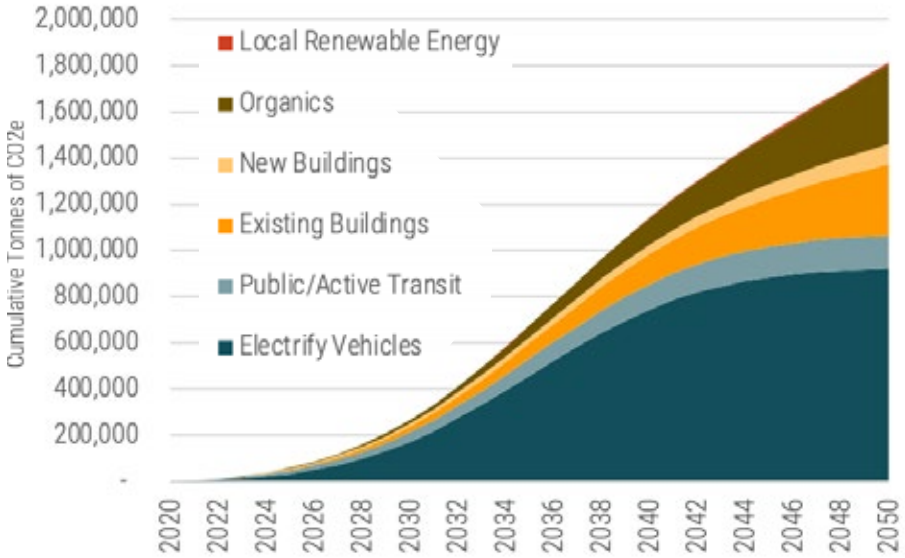


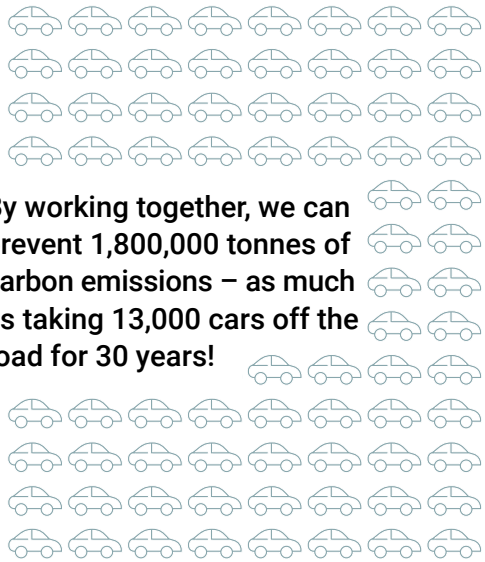

CASTLEGAR · Village of Kaslo · City of NELSON · NEW DENVER, B.C. · CITY OF ROSSLAND · Silverton British Columbia · CENTRAL KOOTENAY

# Big Moves

To achieve 100% renewable energy by 2050, some big moves are going to be necessary. The West Kootenay 100% Renewable Energy Plan includes five Big Moves that local governments can take, and each local government has chosen specific actions.

| Big Moves | Transportation | Buildings | Zero Waste | Renewable Energy | Supporting Actions |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Strategies** | • Electrify passenger vehicles<br>• Public Transportation<br>• Active Transportation<br>• Commercial Vehicles | • Raise efficiency standards for new buildings<br>• Improve efficiency of existing buildings | • Avoid creating waste<br>• Divert waste from landfills<br>• Capture landfill gas | • Generate local renewable energy | • Carbon Storage<br>• Local Government Actions<br>• Asset Management |
| **Potential Next Steps** | • Add electric vehicle charging stations<br>• Add or improve walking routes | • Subsidize and support home improvements for energy efficiency | • Create regional compost program and bylaws | • Advocate for better energy policy<br>• Improve the electrical grid | • Choose electric vehicles when replacing existing fleets |



**By working together, we can prevent 1,800,000 tonnes of carbon emissions – as much as taking 13,000 cars off the road for 30 years!**

## Why now?

**The sooner we transition to renewable energy, the sooner we reap the benefits.** Many communities have already taken important steps, but more action is needed to accelerate the transition. To keep our communities healthy, strong, and safe, we need to make it easier, faster and cheaper for people to choose renewable energy.

**Now is a good time for local governments to access coronavirus stimulus funding to kick-start renewable energy projects that will benefit our communities for years to come.**

## What you can do...

- **Read** the plan
- **Complete** the survey by November 20, 2020
- **Register** for a public meeting.
- **Send** in your comments: (778) 760-3772 or info@westkootenayrenewableenergy.ca

Long distance charges may apply