

Provincial Update on Climate Change Adaptation

In February 2010 the Government of British Columbia released its new Adaptation Strategy. The Strategy outlines government's approach to adaptation, builds on the Province's past accomplishments and provides a framework for future climate change adaptation initiatives. The Climate Action Secretariat will coordinate implementation of the Strategy.

The Strategy identifies three main approaches:

- building capacity and implementing adaptation initiatives by building knowledge and tools to help decision-makers across B.C. prepare for a changing climate;
- making adaptation part of government business, ensuring climate change is considered in planning and decision-making; and
- assessing and implementing priority adaptation actions in key climate sensitive sectors.

Government will work in collaboration with B.C. stakeholders including local governments, non-governmental organizations, professional organizations, and business sectors to implement specific core deliverables. Government will also continue to work with leading research institutions such as the [Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions](#) and the [Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium](#) to ensure that the latest science is available to decision-makers and informs adaptation.

To view the full Adaptation Strategy go to <http://www.livesmartbc.ca/government/adaptation.html>.

The Government of British Columbia is also a partner, along with the Fraser Basin Council, Columbia Basin Trust, BC Conservation Foundation, WWF-Canada, the University of British Columbia, and the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium, in the British Columbia and Regional Adaptation Collaborative (RAC). The RAC, *Preparing for Climate Change: Securing British Columbia's Water Future*, will focus over the next two years on preparing for changes in surface hydrology. It is funded through contributions from partners, and a matching contribution of \$3.3 million from Natural Resources Canada.

RAC activities started in September 2009 and the RAC held its initial meeting in December. There are four main program areas: water allocation and use; ecosystem management; floodplain management; and community adaptation. Over the months to come it will be working with stakeholders to pilot ways to advance adaptation decision-making in these sectors.

