

CASE STUDY: VAUGHAN COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CAP)

Client: The City of Vaughan, Ontario, Canada

OVERVIEW

The City of Vaughan is the second largest municipality in York Region with a diverse population of over 300,000 people, and is one of Ontario's fastest growing communities. Recognizing that the effects of climate change will likely be experienced acutely at the local level, the City opted to develop a comprehensive community climate action plan. In 2013, the City retained Lura to assist with the development of a Community-Wide Local Action Plan, designed to achieve milestones 2 and 3 of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program.

SERVICES

Lura, in partnership with ICLEI Canada, worked with the City, key stakeholders and the broader community to develop a "made-in-Vaughan" Greenhouse Gas Emission (GHG) Community Climate Action Plan. Lura led a collaborative planning process which included:

- Leading a multi-stakeholder steering committee;
- Assessing GHG emission and reduction scenarios and establishing targets;
- Identifying and evaluating packages of programs geared at reducing GHG emissions to achieve targets;
- Designing and facilitating community engagement activities;
- Cultivating partnerships for implementation; and
- Developing the CCAP – which outlines clear goals, short, medium and long-term actions, GHG emission reduction targets and recommendations for implementation.

RESULTS

The Community Climate Action Plan was tailored to Vaughan's unique circumstances, and is comprised of programs and actions that are realistic and implementable in Vaughan. The Plan fulfilled milestones two and three of the PCP program and establishes a shared vision, goals, and actions to address climate change locally. In addition, the CCAP set the foundation for the City to apply for and successfully receive funding to develop a Municipal Energy Plan.

