

Resilience Peer Network

June 13, 2025

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How to use this resource

This resource has been co-created by everyone in attendance at the meeting on June 13, 2025. It's complimentary to the meeting summary that can be found at <https://www.communityenergy.ca/rspn/> and includes downloadable graphics, links to additional resources, and more.

This resource can be shared with people outside the network.

You will also find useful resources and links, identified by these icons:



Downloadable resource for presentations & reports



External resource link



Exercise or take-away activity

Resilience Peer Network Meeting June 13, 2025

Meeting Objectives:

- To surface community needs and priorities for advancing adaptation
- To build an understanding of where we would like to further learn, connect, and share

Highlights:

- Chad Pacholik from Logic League Consulting, discussed how we can integrate emergency management and climate adaptation, and address risk through equity-centered approaches and collaboration.
- Communities assessed their adaptation progress in regional groups, identifying challenges and priorities like climate data interpretation, internal and external coordination, and community engagement.
- Ministry of Emergency Management & Climate Readiness (EMCR) shared updates on new resources, including the Climate Ready BC website as a growing hub for disaster and climate risk information, and new guidance documents on health-climate integration and extreme heat/landslide mapping.
- Climate Action Secretariat (CAS) announced a forthcoming Best Practices on Climate Action Guidebook for local governments and modern treaty nations and noted that the provincial-level risk assessment update has been completed and will be released soon, though Emergency & Disaster Management Act (EDMA) regulations and regional risk assessments are still in development.



Complete summary can be found at
<https://www.communityenergy.ca/rspn>



Land Acknowledgement Helper

Kōrero (kohh-reh-raw) is an AI that invites users to co-create an acknowledgement based on your own personal reflections:

- of relationship to the lands and waters you're on
- the meaningful actions can you take to support the ongoing care of these lands and waters
- and How you will commit to these actions moving forward

The result is an acknowledgement that:

- is Relational, not transactional
- is Rooted in Indigenous presence (not the past)
- is created to honour and support Indigenous Nations around the world
- and includes real, tangible commitments — not just words.

** AI results should be confirmed with sources for accuracy*



<https://native-land.ca/>

Access the tool at the bottom left in the orange bar

Questions

Raised in the chat, here are some questions we will explore at future sessions:

- Curious if our local government 'risk management' networks/associations have had opportunities to reflect on the benefits/challenges of applying an equity-centred lens to their work?
- Do you have suggested frameworks for how to communicate the need to value experimentation and "failing forward" in project briefs or design? Thinking about how to socialize this idea with leadership, wondering if you have some advice on this.
- In engaging with Indigenous nonprofit housing providers in BC; several critical success factors were identified including developing partnerships with local government, receiving emergency planning training, and accessing funding to undertake emergency planning. How can municipalities support this work?
- As we are updating our OCP it is becoming clear that emergency management doesn't neatly fit into our overall vision and policy frameworks. Something we are having a lot of discussion around these days.



How Do We Build Resilience?

We build climate resilience by taking action to prepare for long term climatic changes and increased frequency and intensity of climate-related hazards and reduce risk and harm. Example actions include: managing forests to reduce wildfire risk, using green infrastructure to handle increased flooding, or adjusting land use planning decisions based on projected exposure to hazards.

These types of actions fall within two overlapping frameworks—**climate change adaptation** and **disaster risk reduction (DRR)**—which together help communities manage both gradual climate changes and acute hazard events, as illustrated in the diagram on the next page.

Climate Adaptation

In human systems, this is the process of adjusting to actual or expected climate and its effects to moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities. In natural systems, this is the process of adjustment to actual climate and its effects; human intervention may facilitate adjustment to expected climate and its effects.

Disaster Risk Reduction

Strategic efforts to anticipate and reduce disaster risk, exposure, and vulnerability while improving resilience.

Shared Concerns

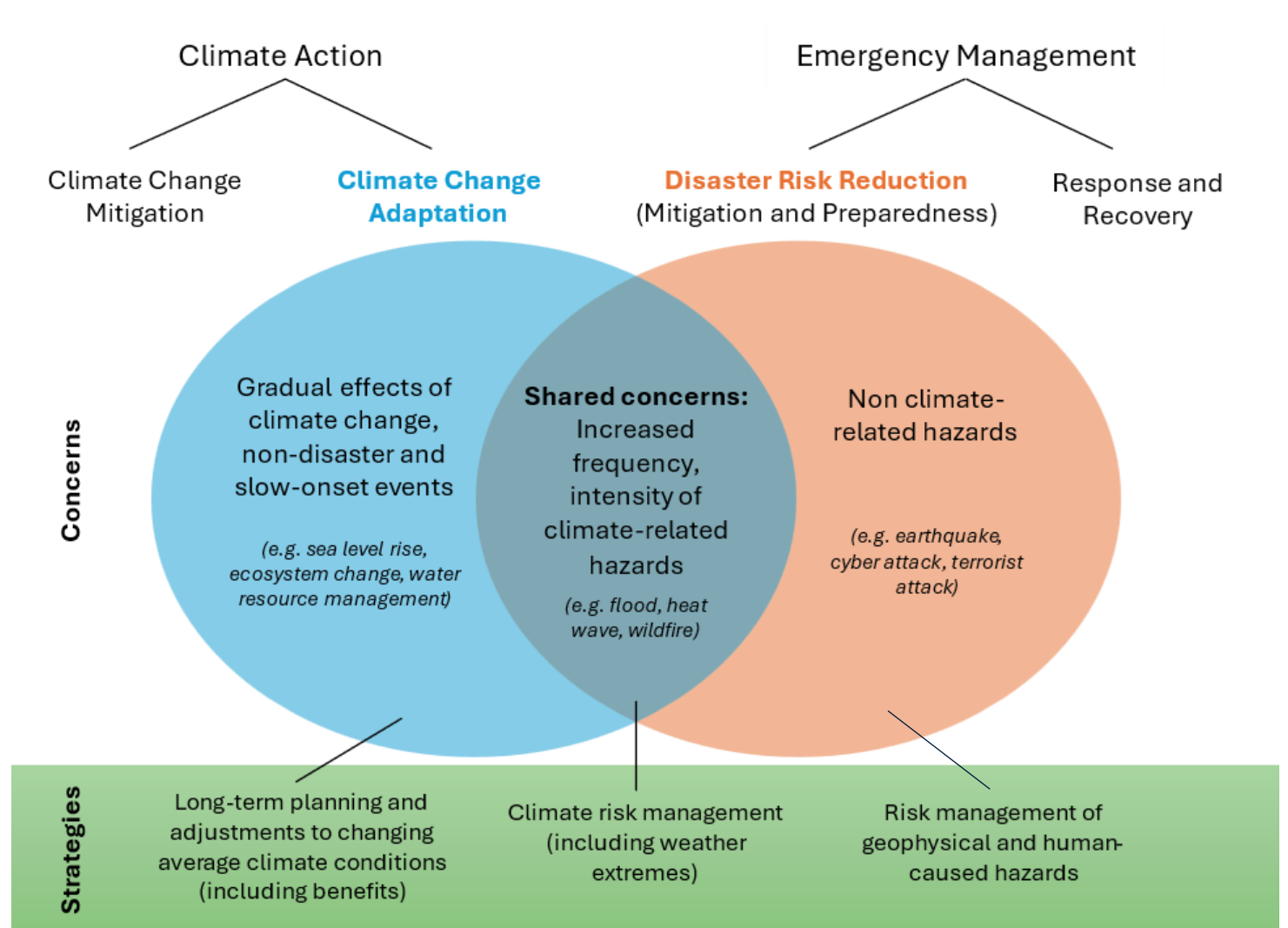
This diagram illustrates the relationship between Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction, showing where their concerns and strategies overlap and where they differ.

In the middle, they share common ground—like mitigating the risk of climate-related hazards such as floods, heatwaves, and wildfires.

When these efforts are carried out in isolation, it can lead to duplicated work or missed opportunities. Aligning them can help communities more effectively reduce risk of both immediate emergencies and long-term climate changes.



[Download graphic](#)

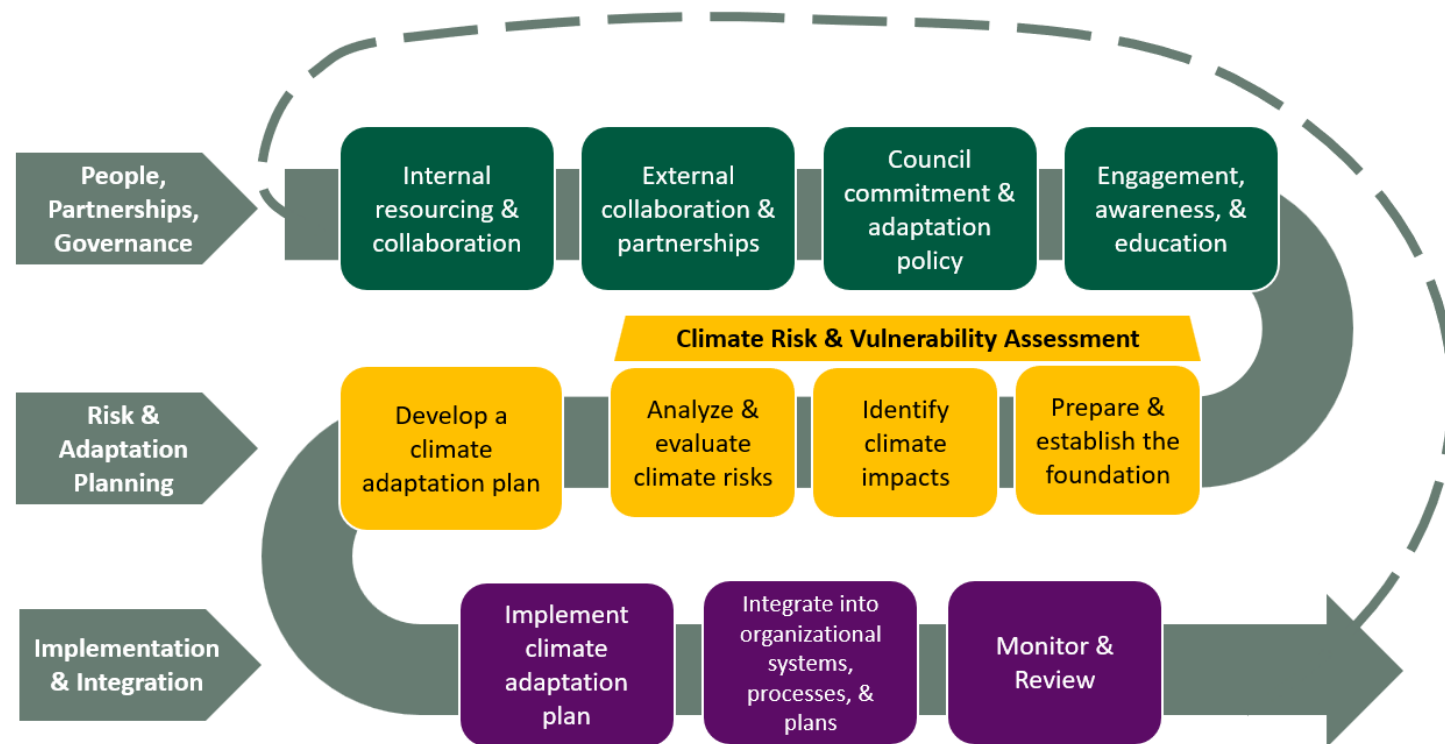


The adaptation pathway

This pathway outlines the key elements of climate adaptation planning—from building internal and external partnerships, to assessing climate risks, to implementing and monitoring actions over time.

It can help guide conversations about where a community currently stands, where it's headed, and what supports—like funding, staffing, or policy alignment—are needed to move forward.

The process isn't strictly linear. A Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment might uncover new risks, prompt new collaboration, or highlight capacity gaps that lead back to earlier steps. Adaptation is an ongoing, iterative effort, and this framework can serve as a shared reference point across teams and planning stages.



[Download graphic](#)



[Case study series: Using climate data to drive adaptation](#) (source: FCM)

Adaptation Pathway Mapping Activity

In regional breakout groups, groups were asked to first reflect on where their community/ organization currently sits on this adaptation pathway. They were encouraged to use sticky notes to mark their progress and add context if needed.

Next, groups brainstormed 1-3 key goals or actions they want to focus on in the next 2-3 years to advance their adaptation work. This could involve anything from building partnerships, to conducting a risk assessment, to starting implementation of specific projects.

Debrief:

- Many felt they were still in the early stages, with a lot of work to do across the different milestones. There was a sense of having resource and capacity constraints to really make progress.
- Some were surprised to realize that emergency management and disaster risk reduction teams need to be integrated into the climate adaptation work, not siloed. There was a recognition that climate adaptation can't be the responsibility of just one department.
- Participants expressed uncertainty about having all the necessary information and data to fully assess where they are. They would need to consult with others across their organization and community to get a more complete picture.
- There was a common theme around the challenges of coordination - both internally across departments, and externally with partners and stakeholders. Integrating climate adaptation throughout an organization is difficult work.



Did you have the information needed to plot where your community or organization sits on the adaptation pathway? Do you want to continue the conversation of where you want to go and how you want to get there? Use this [printable chart](#) to ground inter-departmental conversations and get a more accurate picture.



Access complete tool (source: GMF):
[Climate-Ready Communities Assessment Tool | Green Municipal Fund and Assessment Tool User Guide](#)

Pathway – Where do we want to go?

Groups were asked to identify what knowledge gaps, relationships, or other supports they would need in order to achieve those near-term goals. Using AI, the responses were grouped into 9 themes:

Cross-Departmental and Inter-Organizational Coordination

- Stronger coordination is needed across departments (e.g., planning, engineering, emergency management) and between municipalities, regional districts, and First Nations.
- Coordination is not just ideal—it's essential due to limited resources and overlapping responsibilities.

Capacity Building and Dedicated Staff

- Widespread concern about lack of staff capacity and the need for dedicated roles.
- Even where plans exist, implementation is often stalled due to insufficient human resources.

Diverse Funding

- Funding limitations are a universal constraint, affecting planning, staffing, and implementation.
- Funding needs to be addressed not just as a resource issue but as a strategic priority.

Knowledge Sharing and Peer Learning

- Many regions are in the early or mid-stages of adaptation planning, with few considered “advanced.”
- There's a shared sense of “we've barely started,” which could be used to foster solidarity and shared learning.

Leadership Engagement and Internal Advocacy

- Need to engage leadership and build internal support to prioritize climate adaptation.
- Leadership buy-in is critical to move from planning to action.

Relationship and Trust Building

- Building trust and relationships with communities and Indigenous partners is essential, especially when resources are lean.
- Relationships are not just a means to an end—they are a form of capacity.

Regional Collaboration

- A desire for standardized or regionally aligned approaches to make adaptation work more practical and scalable.
- Consistency helps overcome fragmentation and inefficiency.

Communication, Education

- Need to educate staff and the public, and to shift organizational culture toward adaptation as a shared responsibility.
- Cultural change is as important as technical planning.

Metrics, Progress Tracking

- Many feel they've made progress but still fall into “some progress made” categories.
- There's a need for realistic benchmarks, better metrics, and ways to celebrate incremental wins.

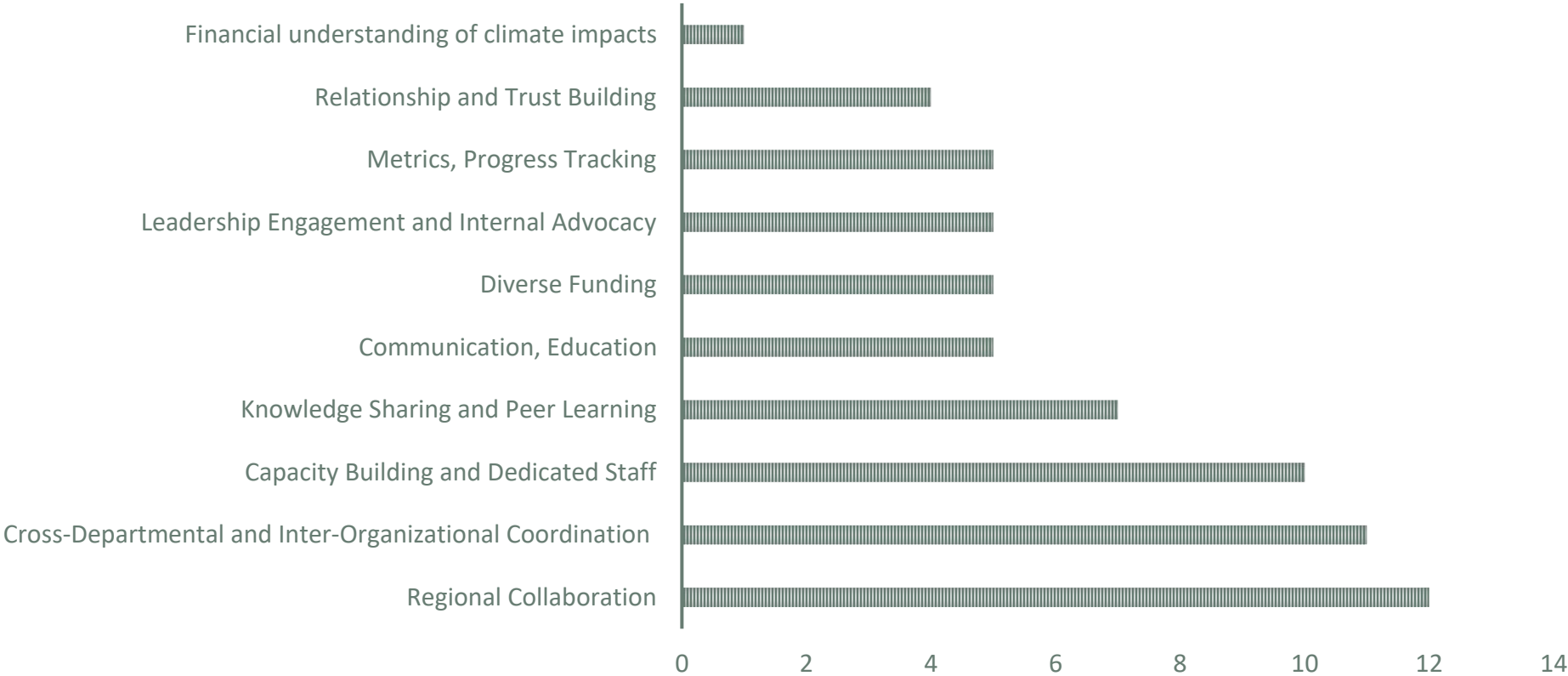
What's next?

- Following the session, participants were sent a survey to rank the themes identified asking:
 - What is most important to progress your work on adaptation and resilience?
 - What is most important to advancing equity and reconciliation in your community via adaptation work?
 - See the next two graphs for the outcomes
- Using the ranked themes identified, a number of different session offers will go out over the next few months. Watch your email for more information!

Polling Participants

Using the 9 themes identified, we asked participants:

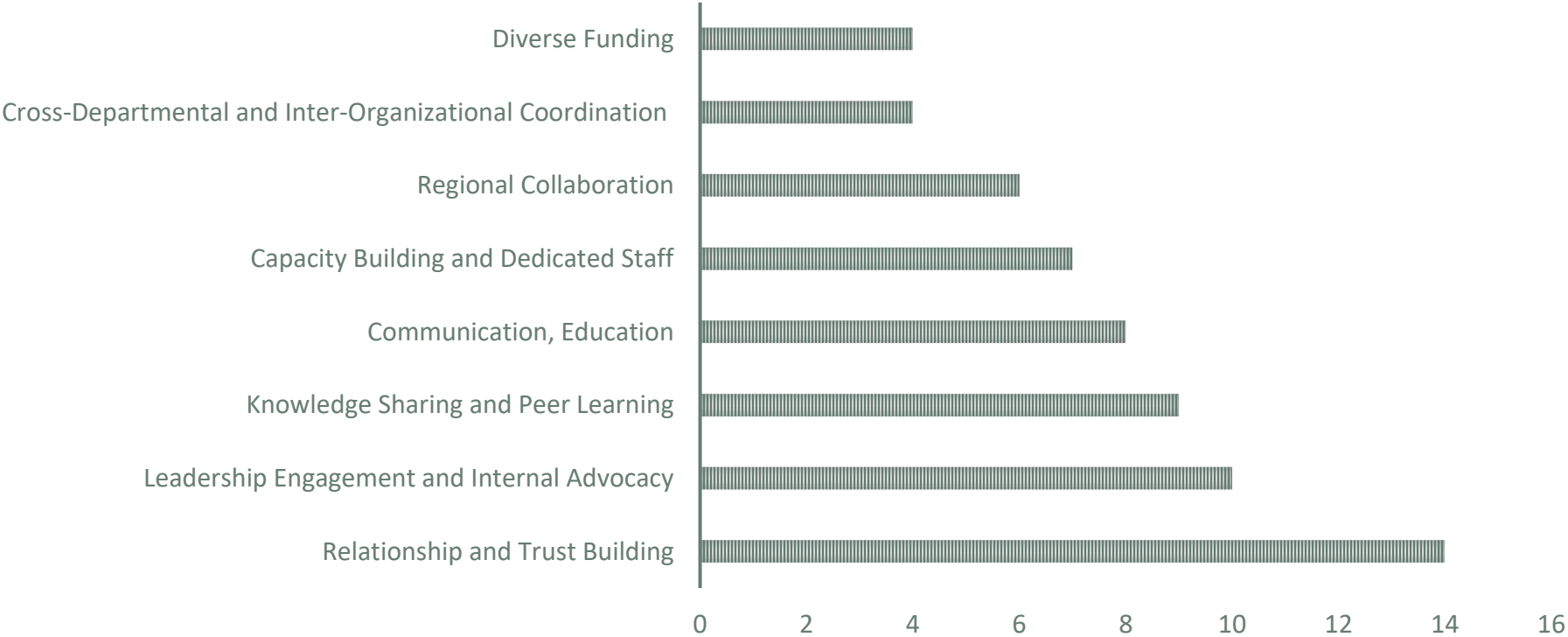
WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO PROGRESS YOUR
WORK ON ADAPTION AND RESILIENCE?



Polling Participants

Using the 9 themes identified, we asked participants:

WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO ADVANCING EQUITY
AND RECONCILIATION IN YOUR COMMUNITY VIA
ADAPTATION WORK?



Join a cohort!

CoNext – Learn together

What?

A free, 5-month training program designed to build climate resilience in small, rural, and remote communities in BC. Get the skills, tools, and support needed to develop and implement effective climate adaptation strategies.

Who?

Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. This opportunity is ideal for:

- Small, rural, or remote communities in BC
- Communities in the early stages of climate adaptation planning
- Teams of 3+ people from diverse departments

How to apply

Assemble your team and complete this [Expression of Interest](#) form by 11:59 pm PST on Friday, July 11, 2025. Please make sure your team reads through the [Application Package](#) before applying. Questions and requests for support can be directed to conext@fraserbasin.ca.

CEA Cohorts – Plan & Act together

What?

CEA's free 4–6 month Planning and Implementation Cohorts support communities in taking action on climate adaptation through 4–6 virtual sessions and coaching support. Each cohort brings together up to 5 communities with shared goals or regional priorities to work collaboratively on planning or implementation challenges.

Who?

Staff from local governments and Indigenous governments in BC. Staff from supporting organizations (e.g. health authority) are also welcome to express their interest.

How to apply

Complete this [Expression of Interest](#) form by 11:59 pm PST on Wednesday, July 23, 2025.

[Read this info sheet](#) for more information.

Questions can be directed to peernetworks@communityenergy.ca.

From the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR)

[Bringing a Health Lens to Climate Policy and Planning: A How to Guide](#)

This guide is designed to support policymakers and planners to consider the health implications of climate-related policies and actions outside the health sector.

[Disaster Resilience and Innovation Fund](#)

Disaster Resilience and Innovation Funding (DRIF) program provides funding to First Nations and local governments in B.C. to enhance their capacity to withstand and adapt to natural and climate-driven hazards.

[Bridging climate research and risk assessments: a research and knowledge mobilization agenda](#)

This report summarizes the challenges, needs, and opportunities at the intersection of climate change research and risk assessment.

If you would like to participate in the design improvements for the ClimateReadyBC platform, please let us know at ClimateReadyBC@gov.bc.ca



Visit [ClimateReadyBC](#) for more information on:
[Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy](#)
[Climate Change Accountability Act](#)
[CleanBC](#)
[Emergency and Disaster Management Act](#)

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