The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, the Urban Development Institute Pacific Region, and the Pembina Institute are seeking formal endorsement of a call for action on energy and climate in the building sector.

The statement and the list of its supporters will be delivered to Premier Clark prior to the release of British Columbia’s Climate Leadership Plan, expected in Spring 2016.

To sign on or for more information, please contact Karen Tam Wu: karentw@pembina.org, 778-846-5647.

Call for Action on Energy and Climate in the Building Sector

We support the B.C. government’s commitment to implement a new Climate Plan.

We expect the plan will include ambitious new actions that lead to:

• a strong economy with opportunities for all British Columbians
• a province powered by clean energy
• a more equitable society
• cleaner air and water supporting healthy communities and ecosystems
• protection from a changing climate.

We can’t afford to delay. Now is the time to lead the transition to a clean energy economy.

In this transition, the built environment offers unique opportunities for carbon reductions and economic growth.

As energy and building professionals, trades and businesses, we provide world class products and services to meet customer needs, satisfy regulations and compete in the global marketplace. We are employers, taxpayers, community partners, and leaders in our field.

As local governments, we are committed to the sustainability of our communities. We engage our citizens and staff to reduce emissions, we foster local economic development, and we prepare for a changing climate.

Together, we are ready to transition to a resilient and efficient building sector. We call on the B.C. government to:

• Set a clear target for the end performance goal for new buildings — for example, for new buildings to be net-zero energy ready by 2030 — and work with stakeholders to develop, within six months of the release of the Plan, a roadmap clarifying the timeline and approach to meet this goal
• Lead by example by requiring that all new planned public buildings meet this goal starting in 2016, and by setting up an aggressive renovation program for existing public buildings to reduce their carbon emissions by half in the next decade
• Launch a multi-year incentive program to accelerate market transformation for high performance new construction and deep retrofits, prioritizing affordable housing and high visibility projects
• Develop financing mechanisms to redistribute incremental costs, e.g. financing through property taxes or utility bills, or loans to strata
• Ensure the construction and real estate industry, the government and the public have access to energy performance data to monitor progress and provide feedback on policies and behaviour
• Support integrated land use and transportation planning to encourage location efficient development
• Strengthen the price signal for efficiency and conservation through rates and carbon pricing.
• Support local governments and resource the Building Safety and Standards Branch to facilitate code changes, streamline approval of innovative solutions through variances or alternative solutions, decrease permitting times and increase code compliance.

By pursuing these opportunities, we can reduce our carbon footprint while saving money, creating local jobs, and opening export markets for B.C.-made components and designs. We can also ensure all British Columbians live and work in buildings that improve community health, happiness, and productivity.

Note: this statement is an extension of a more general Call for Action launched by the Energy Forum, a collaboration between industry and non-government organizations working to promote clean energy. The first three sentences (in italics) are shared between the two statements. You can sign on to one or both by contacting Karen Tam Wu: karentw@pembina.org, 778-846-5647
Signatories (as of 20 Nov 2018)

Industry associations
Urban Development Institute
Architecture Canada
Energy Services Association of Canada
NAIOP
PEIA
CaGBC
CaPHI-West

Local governments
Campbell River
North Vancouver
Powell River
Richmond
Saanich
Smithers
Vancouver
Victoria

Education and research
The University of British Columbia
BCIT School of Construction and the Environment
UBC – School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture
SFU Centre for Sustainable Community Development
SFU Community Economic Development
PICS

Developers, builders, contractors
Agius Builders Ltd
Bernhard Contracting
Kinetic Construction
Performance Construction
RDC Fine Homes
Concert Properties
Efficiency Properties
Fort Properties
Jawl Properties
Quantum Properties
UniverCity, SFU

Manufacturers
Axine Water Tech
Brito LP
Centra Windows
Discovery Glass & Aluminum
Duro-last
Euroline Windows
Rangate
Soukup
SunPump
Synergist Window Company

Architects, engineers, consultants
Cover Architectural
Collaborative Inc.
Blue Sky Architecture
Brett Sichello Design
Bruce Haden Architect Ltd.
Building Balance Consulting Inc
BuiltSpace Technologies Corp.
Capital Home Energy
Capture Energy
Cascadia Architects
Colborne Architectural Group
Communities + Architecture
Dialog
DLP architecture
DTA
E-factor Engineering
Elemental Energy Advisors Ltd
Energy Solutions for Vancouver Island
Enerlytics engineering Ltd.
EnerSys Analytics
EnviroMez
Equilibrium Consulting Inc.
Evans Architecture
FVB Energy Inc.
GreenStep Solutions Inc.
GROK Energy Services
HCMA Architecture + Design
Integral Group
Ions Engineering
Kootenay Energy Advisor Ltd
McLennan Design
MHPM Project Managers

NGOs
BCSEA
Board of Change
Cascadia Green Building Council
Cascadia Metro Vancouver collaborative
City Green Solutions
CityStudio
Climate Smart
Columbia Institute
Dudoc Vancouver & Walas concepts
International Living Future Institute
Light House Sustainable Building Centre
Pembina Institute
Renewable Cities
Sunshine Coast Community Solar Association
The Natural Step
Whistler Centre for Sustainability
Wildsight

For most recent list of signatories, see pembina.org/pub/buildings-declaration