

# GREEN SPACE

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PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPERS MEET CITY'S CHALLENGE

PUTTING YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR HOPE IS

## EV SALES RECHARGED

B.C.'S. FIRST LIVING CHALLENGE HOME

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ETHICAL INVESTING



CLIMATE SMARTER



ELECTRIC AVENUES



B.C.'S GREENEST HOME



SUZUKI'S BURNING ISSUE



**BRIEF**

**Trans Mountain decision sparks protests**

British Columbia First Nations critical of the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion are expressing frustration and disappointment over the federal government's June 18 decision to proceed with it.

The project could face new legal challenges from First Nations groups, further delaying a costly government project that, at present, has no set timeline.

The Squamish Nation says Canada's court-mandated consultation with its community was a "shallow" attempt at consultation that has failed to address the nation's concerns.

"The failure to meaningfully engage with rights holders means this government is either not serious about building this pipeline or not serious about respecting Indigenous rights," says nation spokesperson Khelsilem.

In announcing his government's long-awaited decision, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Canada doubled the size of its consultation teams as it reinitiated



Some B.C. First Nations have joined protests against the federal pipeline decision • CHUNG CHOW

consultations with Indigenous communities. "At the end of the day, we listened. And we are acting on what we heard," Trudeau contends, while acknowledging concerns about salmon habitat, orca populations and increased tanker traffic off B.C.'s coast.

Some First Nations strongly disagree.

Last August, the Federal Court of Appeal unanimously ruled that Canada had failed to meaningfully

address the concerns brought forward by six First Nations in British Columbia who were challenging the line. The Tsleil-Waututh Nation, alongside Squamish Nation, was among the nations named in that court decision.

B.C. Premier John Horgan says that, if it was in the interest of British Columbia, the province may join a legal action put forward by a First Nation.

In a joint press release with the Tsleil-Waututh and Squamish

nations, Chief Kukpi7 Judy Wilson of the Neskonlith Indian Band – who is also the secretary-treasurer of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs – states she would oppose the project until free, prior and informed consent is recognized and implemented in Canada, a right, she notes, that is included in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

– Hayley Woodin, *Business in Vancouver*

49% of carbon emissions from BC's small and medium-sized businesses come from transportation.

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climatesmart

# CLIMATE SMART SUCCESS STORIES

ELIZABETH SHEEHAN

Vancouver-based Climate Smart Businesses Inc. helps companies and non-profits learn how to measure and reduce their carbon footprints. Its unique training program incorporates classroom learning, web-based software and one-on-one support.

Rather than hiring a consultant, small and medium-sized businesses get the tools and knowledge to tackle greenhouse gas management in-house. Different businesses see different benefits from participating in Climate Smart. Cost savings from greater

efficiency are common, and there are significant marketing advantages from taking leadership on sustainability. Climate Smart is proud to recognize these three B.C. firms that have taken the Climate Smart strategy to the heart of their business.



## GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSION IMPACT:

- 71 per cent reduction in emissions per \$1,000 revenue
  - Diverted 26 per cent of building materials from landfill
- Cost savings:**
- Avoided approximately \$70,000 in waste disposal fees since 2010

## ► GREEN COAST RUBBISH

Green Coast Rubbish is a family-run, Vancouver-based company dealing with waste in an environmentally conscious way. Green Coast Rubbish has worked with Climate Smart since 2010 to learn how to reduce its carbon footprint while complementing the growth and success of the company. Since 2010, Green Coast Rubbish has achieved at least a 75 per cent diversion rate of materials from landfill and has avoided an estimated 520 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent emissions, equal to the energy use of 63 homes for a year.

Green Coast Rubbish also hosts an annual spring cleanup in North Vancouver where it partners with local charities and businesses to recycle clothing, electronics, mattresses, household goods, Styrofoam, plastic, metal and wood.

Since working with Climate Smart, Green Coast Rubbish has also made a switch to convert the majority of its fleet to run on 50 per cent biodiesel fuel. It has also introduced route optimization planning to reduce unnecessary costs on fuel, and offers transit passes to employees for commuting.

“Joining Climate Smart gave us the tools to track our carbon footprint and crystallized our path moving forward towards reducing our emissions while building a more sustainable business model,” says Eamonn Duignan, a Green Coast Rubbish partner.

**CLIMATE SMART SUCCESS STORIES**

**► REID'S AUTOMOTIVE RECYCLING LTD.**

Burnaby-based Reid's Automotive Recycling Ltd., established in 1995, repurposes auto parts, refinishes alloy wheels and recycles end-of-life vehicles. Company owners Stuart and Teresa Reid see their industry as a key element of a low-carbon, sustainable economy.

In 2014, Reid's began working with Climate Smart Businesses Inc. in an effort to reduce the company's carbon footprint. Reid's spent the next year implementing a number of initiatives in an effort to reduce its impact. These included:

- Improving insulation in the walls, roof and bay doors of the building, leading to a 32 per cent reduction in natural gas consumption (and 33 per cent reduction in emissions from natural gas consumption).
- Expanding its recycling to include plastics, wood and metal, as well as implementing compost pickup. This led to an 85 per cent reduction in emissions from garbage.
- Building awareness amongst staff on the environmental impacts of their commuting choices, leading to a 50 per cent reduction in emissions from staff commuting.

"Working with Climate Smart was not only a logical next step for us, it resonated strongly with all of us who work here. The results have benefited us on many levels. Our expenses are lower and our staff are more engaged and work more collaboratively. This has assisted a growth in our revenue, increased our efficiency and helps us deliver a higher level of service to our customers. It's really been win, win, win," says company co-owner Teresa Reid.



**ANNUAL GHG EMISSIONS REDUCED**

- 39 per cent overall
- 33 per cent from building heat
- 85 per cent from garbage
- 72 per cent from paper use
- 50 per cent from staff commuting



**REDUCTION ACHIEVED**

- Third-party shipping emissions reduced by 61 per cent

**► LUNAPADS**

Lunapads manufactures and resells reusable feminine care products in Vancouver. It has been tracking the company's greenhouse gas emissions with Climate Smart Businesses Inc. since 2012. After discovering that third-party shipping made up 59 per cent of its overall emissions, Lunapads reduced the number of suppliers and focused on deepening relationships with a few key ones. It now purchases larger quantities from suppliers that mainly ship to Lunapads by marine freight and trucking, rather than air. Marine shipping is over one hundred times less emission-intensive than shipping by air.

While the company has long manufactured their main Lunapads line in Vancouver, it was able to also shift the manufacturing of one of their underwear lines from overseas to Vancouver, significantly reducing shipping emissions. In addition, one of the owners picks up product from a local manufacturer on the way to work, eliminating the need for a separate delivery.

From the 2011 baseline to the 2014 inventory, Lunapads recorded a 61 per cent reduction in third-party shipping emissions. During this time, the company's number of employees increased by 25 per cent. Lunapads is committed to continuing to track and further reduce its emissions with Climate Smart. 🐾

Elizabeth Sheehan is co-founder and president of Climate Smart Businesses Inc. For information on how your business can become a Climate Smart success, visit [climatesmartbusiness.com](http://climatesmartbusiness.com).