

## **Puget Sound Climate Preparedness Collaborative Strategic Plan – March 2019**

**Vision Statement:** Our Puget Sound communities, economy, and environment are prepared for and resilient to the impacts of a changing climate.

**Goal #1: The Collaborative is thriving, self-sustaining, and reflects the communities we serve.**

### **STRATEGIES:**

#### **1.1. The Collaborative pursues financial sustainability**

##### **Actions:**

1. Explore different funding models and develop recommendations for implementing funding model approaches.
2. Develop a funding plan mapping out funding, staffing, and other resources required to enact short and long-term actions identified in this strategic plan.
3. Continue to identify and pursue grant opportunities that fully or partially fund Collaborative activities and staff support.
4. Hire or contract dedicated staff to support Collaborative activities and administrative needs, including communications, organizing events, and grant writing.

#### **1.2. The Collaborative strategically expands with a focus on including diverse members and partners, particularly from communities that are most vulnerable to climate impacts**

##### **Actions:**

1. Expand Collaborative membership through outreach to communities or organizations that reflect the diversity of the communities we serve, including:
  - Community based organizations working with lower-income, frontline communities and tribes
  - Tribal governments
  - Rural or small- to medium-sized communities

2. As we incorporate new members and partners into the Collaborative, increase the diversity of the Steering Committee to better reflect our membership and the communities we serve.
3. Investigate expansion to a Salish Sea Climate Collaborative, which would welcome Canadian entities and emphasize the interconnectedness of people living on the Salish Sea.

**1.3. The Collaborative is actively working to ensure that Collaborative activities support member and partner interests**

**Actions:**

1. Develop and implement an outreach and engagement plan describing the range of activities the Collaborative will pursue to help ensure effective outreach to, and engagement with, Collaborative members and partners.
2. Develop and implement an approach (e.g., survey) for regularly checking in with members and partners about their interests, priorities, and goals.
3. Support development of sub-groups led by member volunteers that focus on shared topics of interest, e.g., climate equity, wildfire and forest health, sea level rise, mainstreaming climate action, public health impacts, etc.
4. Support development of products by the topic-specific sub-groups noted above, either by directly creating those products or outsourcing product development to consultants.

**1.4. The Collaborative seeks out and leverages external opportunities to build and sustain the Collaborative's identity and impact**

**Actions:**

1. Fully utilize opportunities to leverage other resources that align with the work of the Collaborative. This includes:
  - Co-hosting appropriate events and workshops with members, partners, and other interested parties;
  - Having an increased presence at related climate events and conferences;
  - Collaborating with partners, members, and other interested parties on communications and products; and
  - Participating in or otherwise helping to inform research and planning opportunities relevant to Collaborative interests.

**Goal #2: The Collaborative is building local awareness and regional capacity for climate preparedness.**

**STRATEGIES:**

- 2.1. The Collaborative is a valued source for assembling and disseminating the latest science, training, tools, best practices, and other resources related to climate impacts and preparedness**

**Actions:**

1. Develop and communicate consistent, scientifically informed, and easily accessible information on climate impacts and risks in the Puget Sound region that reflects the concerns and priorities of impacted communities.
2. Create, maintain, and promote an online compendium of regional case studies, tools, policies, best practices, and other resources related to climate preparedness, building initially from existing sources but growing over time to include new information produced by and for the Collaborative.
3. Convene workshops focused on useful, applicable information related to climate impacts and preparedness.
4. Develop new information, guidance, or other materials that support climate preparedness efforts in the region.
5. To advance implementation, ensure that the Collaborative is articulating the multiple benefits of equitable climate preparedness and incorporating those benefits into outreach and engagement activities undertaken by the Collaborative, including information prepared by and for the Collaborative.

- 2.2. The Collaborative identifies shared research needs and gaps in climate preparedness and resilience planning and actions**

**Actions:**

1. Engage with local communities to identify their research needs and interests related to climate preparedness and impacts.
2. Develop 1-2 ideas for joint research and pursue funding to conduct that research in partnership with local researchers and research organizations, where appropriate.

- 2.3. The Collaborative supports member understanding of climate change impacts on tribes, tribal treaty rights, and incorporating treaty considerations in climate preparedness planning.**

**Actions:**

1. Hold periodic training sessions for the Collaborative Steering Committee and Collaborative members on Salish Sea tribal treaties and incorporating treaty considerations in climate preparedness planning.
2. Encourage tribal governments and their members to participate in convenings, conferences, and trainings.
3. Incorporate tribal impacts and treaty considerations into Collaborative activities.

- 2.4. The Collaborative supports member efforts to incorporate equity and social justice in climate preparedness work, and works to build a greater regional understanding of climate impacts on frontline communities.**

**Actions:**

1. Hold periodic training sessions on incorporating equity and social and racial justice in climate preparedness planning.
2. Identify and connect members to frontline community-centered resources related to climate change impacts, climate preparedness, and equity and social justice.
3. Resource and bring forward the experiences of frontline communities, including their experiences with climate change and ideas for action.
4. Integrate equity and social justice considerations into Collaborative activities.
5. Sponsor and support local equity/social justice organizations participating in convenings, conferences, and trainings.

**Goal #3: The Collaborative is a catalyst for advancing preparedness policy and action across jurisdictions.**

**STRATEGIES:**

- 3.1. The Collaborative contributes to informing and supporting alignment in local policy actions across the region. This may include direct engagement with local and state governments and elected officials, as well as other activities to help encourage policy-making on local climate preparedness when helpful and appropriate.**

**Actions:**

1. Identify major local and regional planning activities that create opportunities for alignment.
2. Where relevant, support integration of climate change in major local and regional planning activities via convenings, peer review assistance, or other technical resources.
3. Host a biennial summit for elected officials.
4. Inform development of member climate action plans through peer review assistance.
5. Establish ground rules for Goal 3, particularly as it relates to informing policy development and issues intersecting with tribal treaties.
6. Consider joint advocacy in the state legislative process, when relevant, to advance climate preparedness for the region.
7. Track and report on regional policies related to climate preparedness.