

# Clean Air Partnership

Annual Report 2022



# Letter from our Executive Director



**Gabriella Kalapos**  
Executive Director

*With numerous setbacks and continued delays on climate action over the past year, 2022 was yet another year when the scale of climate action failed to meet the ambition needed to make inroads into our climate crisis. It can be demoralizing to reconcile the huge amount of work that goes into advancing net zero emission buildings, green standards or retrofit programs, only to see those reductions continually dwarfed by continued investment in fossil fuels. Be it decisions to weaken our electrical generation systems by adding fossil gas plants or extending gas pipelines to new communities and subsidizing that expansion off a stressed existing rate base, these are not decisions we should be seeing in 'advanced' western economies.*

## **Clean Air Partnership**

*Highlighting the 'be the change you want to see in the world' philosophy, Ontario municipalities must continue to lead on climate change, supported by all levels of government. Ontario municipalities have set ambitious climate targets, but need to be supported by provincial and federal governments to follow through on their commitments. We all play a role in making this change happen. A lack of climate leadership from one order of government doesn't change the fact that we must all strive forward in their absence.*

*In 2022, Clean Air Partnership worked hard to advance climate ambition and accountability by delivering 57 webinars, engaging over 7,000 participants. We welcomed new team members and advanced new projects to address the priorities of our stakeholders in areas including home energy labelling, residential retrofit program design, and fleet vehicle electrification. We also welcomed new Clean Air Council members from all regions of the province.*

*The advancement of climate accountability frameworks was a focus for CAP in 2022. Our Climate Atlas showcased municipal climate actions across the province, inspiring the uptake of new and creative approaches to reduce emissions. The Climate Implications Repository was created to provide a one-stop shop for tracking and accessing municipal climate implications. The Municipal Climate Decisions calendar was also created to encourage municipal meeting attendance, increasing accountability around municipal decision making.*

*The Centre for Active Transportation (TCAT) continued to advance suburban cycling in Newmarket and Markham, through the delivery of community pop-up bike booths,*



advance equity in active transportation, TCAT continued to advance Mobilizing Justice, improving our understanding of how Canadians experience transport poverty and how community initiatives can be developed in response. TCAT also built on our rich history of program research evaluation, working with the City of Toronto to develop a Complete Streets vision for Eglinton Avenue.

When I get depressed about the implementation gap between where we are and where we need to be on climate action, I ponder how we often look back on previous generations and think “how could they have been so backward?, why did they accept unacceptable things! (restriction of women’s suffrage, racial segregation, LGBTQ discrimination). Looking back provides me with hope knowing that things do change. I am willing to wager that next generations will look back at us and wonder, what took them so long to get their act together?! And roll their eyes at us.

CAP staff are proud to work at an organization that is helping to make a difference. Climate failure is not an option, we can and must rise to the occasion the climate imperative presents. We look forward to working with our partners to continue the important work of building a sustainable, equitable, and resilient society that will make us and future generations proud of humanity.



# Letter from our Board Chair



**Daniel Carr**  
Chair of the Board of Directors



Hello and thank you for giving your attention to the Clean Air Partnership 2022 Annual Report. As described in the forthcoming pages, our team worked energetically and with purpose to advance CAP's mission over the past year and has much to show for these efforts. While we continue to face vigorous pressure from the global drivers of climate change, our steady determination drives us to foster low-carbon, resilient communities in Ontario able to meet the challenges that our future brings.

Among the major developments undertaken by CAP in 2022 was the completion of our triannual strategic planning process that incorporated feedback from members of our stakeholder community, staff, and Board members. The resulting strategy reiterates CAP's mission and vision, while including a new focus on offering deeper support to municipalities working to make big strides towards sustainability. In 2023 we look forward to operationalizing the strategy and seeing it in action.

CAP's project work continued to be influential with municipalities and community members. One new project that we expect will contribute to meaningful dialogue and scale-up of promising initiatives is the Climate Implications Repository, which helps municipalities understand how their decisions affect our climate, adding climate accountability to their decision making. CAP enables municipalities to adopt policies addressing climate change through robust analysis of the implications of such policies, leveraging our unique relationship with Ontario municipalities and our institutional knowledge of municipal climate actions. The Clean Air Council hosted 42 events and published guides on municipal EV adoption, energy planning and the development of sustainability metrics. The Centre for Active Transportation continued the implementation of its vision for increasing the share of transportation from walking, cycling and transit, and showed leadership in promoting equity and community engagement in transportation.

The Board was privileged to have four new members join us in 2022, and we welcome Aidan Grove-White, Dan Mathieson, Eric McGoey and Sheila Ritson-Bennett. We are deeply grateful for the steadfast commitment and contributions made by outgoing members Vicki Gagnon, Susanne Gossage, Tony Iacobelli and Brian Kelly over the preceding 6 years. Thank you for leaving a part of yourself with CAP.

As Chair of CAP's Board of Directors, it is my honour to express the Board's confidence in CAP's Management and Staff. There is much work to be done; and we are proud to be part of the organization that is playing such a critical role in helping our communities meet the needs of the eventful years ahead.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daniel Carr".



# About Us

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Headquartered on the traditional territories of first nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishinaabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples also known as Toronto, Canada, Clean Air Partnership (CAP) was founded in the year 2000. CAP is a charitable environmental organization that works in partnership to implement climate action by reducing greenhouse gases and build healthy communities.



# Our Vision

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Our vision is that Canadian communities are sustainable, healthy and resilient.

# Our Mission

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Our mission is to enable communities to reduce greenhouse gases, advance active and sustainable transportation options, take bold climate action, increase community resilience, incorporate equity in climate action planning and accelerate the transition to a low carbon economy.



# Our Approach

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## Convene Networks

*We bring together experts to share their experiences, minimize redundancy and maximize use of resources.*



## Lead Research & Knowledge Transfer

*We deliver timely research and distill emerging knowledge into accessible formats for decision-makers.*



## Catalyze Transformative Action

*We advance the scale-up and implementation of climate action.*



# 2022

## At a glance

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**57 webinars and workshops**

**>7,350 municipal staff and community members engaged on topics including net-zero building design, EV charging infrastructure and fleet adoption, active school travel, incorporating climate and equity lens into municipal action and winter bike riding.**

**12 briefing notes and 17 blogs on new and emerging topics**

**> 5,450 people engaged in active transportation and road safety initiatives through intercept surveys, bike repair booths, webinars, group rides and workshops.**







# CONVENE NETWORKS Clean Air Council



*The CAC brings together over thirty-nine municipalities and health units to work collaboratively and share best practices, policies, programs and technical solutions for advancing climate action.*

*In 2022, the CAC focused on three key areas:*

- *Bringing equity considerations into climate action and planning*
- *Advancing low carbon and net-zero opportunities in our communities*
- *Removing barriers to expedite municipal climate action implementation*

*The CAC network is continuously evolving to empower its members to undertake bolder climate actions by providing them with the latest information, tools and resources. In 2022, the CAC advanced four new initiatives:*

**40** webinars,  
with **over 1,700**  
participants

**The CAC convenes municipal staff to advance climate action and make cities more sustainable and resilient**



# CONVENE NETWORKS

## Clean Air Council



### **Climate Implications Repository:**

*In order to support the integration of climate change into municipal decision-making, the CAC developed a Climate Implications Repository to track climate implications as they are developed and provide a one-stop shop for municipal staff access.*

### **Climate and Equity Synergies Hub:**

*CAC's Equity and Climate Synergies Hub helps municipal staff identify the intersection between equity and climate change in their climate action plans. It provides key questions, examples and other resources to support municipalities to incorporate equity into their municipal plans.*

The Climate Implications Repository features over **130 climate implications** included in municipal council reports

**Our Equity and Climate Synergies Hub helps municipal staff identify equity and climate synergies in their climate action plans**



# CONVENE NETWORKS

## Clean Air Council



CAC municipalities are advancing community and corporate electric vehicle adoption

### ***Climate Action Atlas:***

The Climate Action Atlas is an interactive tool that showcases bold climate actions undertaken by CAC municipalities to reduce emissions. The Atlas features over 200 climate mitigation actions and inspires municipal staff to take up new and creative approaches to address climate change in their own communities.

### ***Climate Decisions Calendar:***

The Municipal Climate Decisions Calendar provides a central platform to share information about upcoming council and committee meetings on climate change related topics from municipalities in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. The calendar increases community awareness of municipal meetings, encourages attendance, and lowers public barriers to staying informed about municipal decisions.

The Climate Action Atlas showcases **140+ climate mitigation actions** undertaken by CAC members



# CONVENE NETWORKS

## Mobilizing Justice



*As part of this five-year research project looking at transportation inequities in Canada, in 2022 TCAT began year two of a five-year convening of grassroots organizations nationally who are working to support transport equity and increase modal choice. The goal of the community of practice is to improve our understanding of experiences of Canadians facing transport poverty.*

*Mobilizing Justice identifies current on-the-ground priorities, gaps, and community responses, building two-way communication between community organizations and Mobilizing Justice researchers and partners, providing value and insight to participating community organizations and leaders.*

**Over 100  
community  
organizations  
engaged**

**Mobilizing Justice uses community partnerships to reduce transportation inequities in Canadian cities through research and knowledge**



# Lead Research & Knowledge Transfer

## Home Energy Rating and Disclosure

Energy efficiency is recognized as one of the most cost-effective ways to help consumers save money by saving energy, making housing more affordable, and reducing GHG emissions. Home energy labeling can help boost demand for energy efficiency by revealing a home's "hidden" energy performance, improving energy literacy, and creating an informed market that values better-performing homes.

With the generous support of the Trottier Family Foundation, in 2022, CAP released [Advancing Energy Labeling in the Residential Sector – A Guide for Canadian Municipalities](#). This Report identified key program design elements for home energy labeling pilots and programs delivered at scale and provided a road map for their development.

A key national homeowner preference survey of **1,000+** Canadians found **overwhelming support** for residential energy labeling

**Our Home Energy Rating and Disclosure project provided background information and a road map to implement energy labeling projects**



# Lead Research & Knowledge Transfer

## Eglinton T0day Project



**The Eglinton T0day project allowed the City to adapt the road configurations, while giving the community tactile experiences to engage with and provide input on the project.**

*The City of Toronto launched an engagement process in the spring of 2022 to work with local communities and stakeholders on Eglinton Avenue on how best to implement a Complete Streets vision for 7km between Mt. Pleasant Avenue and Keele Street. As part of that process, TCAT was engaged to conduct a study of the project site prior to installation of Complete Streets infrastructure.*

*As part of that study, TCAT:*

- *Conducted 685 in-person intercept surveys using a randomized methodology*
- *Conducted age and gender counts of cyclists at 5 locations*
- *Held two focus groups to gain unique insights from food delivery workers and those with accessibility needs*

[Check out the Eglinton T0day Complete Street Existing Condition Evaluation Report](#)



# Catalyze Transformative Action Incubating Suburban Cycling



*Through this community-based project, TCAT builds a bike culture beyond the downtown core by setting up suburban community bike hubs. Funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation together with York Region District School Board, and the City of Markham, in 2022, TCAT continued programming at its Markham Cycles Hub and launched an all new cycling hub at Newmarket.*

*Through the programming in 2022:*

- *Over 87 donated bicycles were refurbished and returned to the community through newcomer and school cycling programs*
- *Over 9 in-person and virtual workshops and webinars were conducted with over 225 attendees*
- *46 group rides were organized with over 250 participants*

Over **630 visits** to **28 community pop-up bike booths** to access bike maps and simple bike tune-ups

*Markham Cycles group ride, 2022*



# Catalyze Transformative Action Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program Market Analysis



*CAP worked with a cohort of seven Ontario municipalities including Clarington, Kawartha Lakes, Tay Valley Township, Dufferin County, Barrie, Huntsville and London to create market analyses for their home energy efficiency retrofit programs. This project was delivered in partnership with Lightspark Inc. and funded by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.*

*We analyzed cost and energy saving potential of home retrofits by creating housing archetypes with average annual energy costs ranging from \$2,000 to \$9,000 and releasing 1.5 to 20.0 TCO<sub>2</sub> eq/year.*

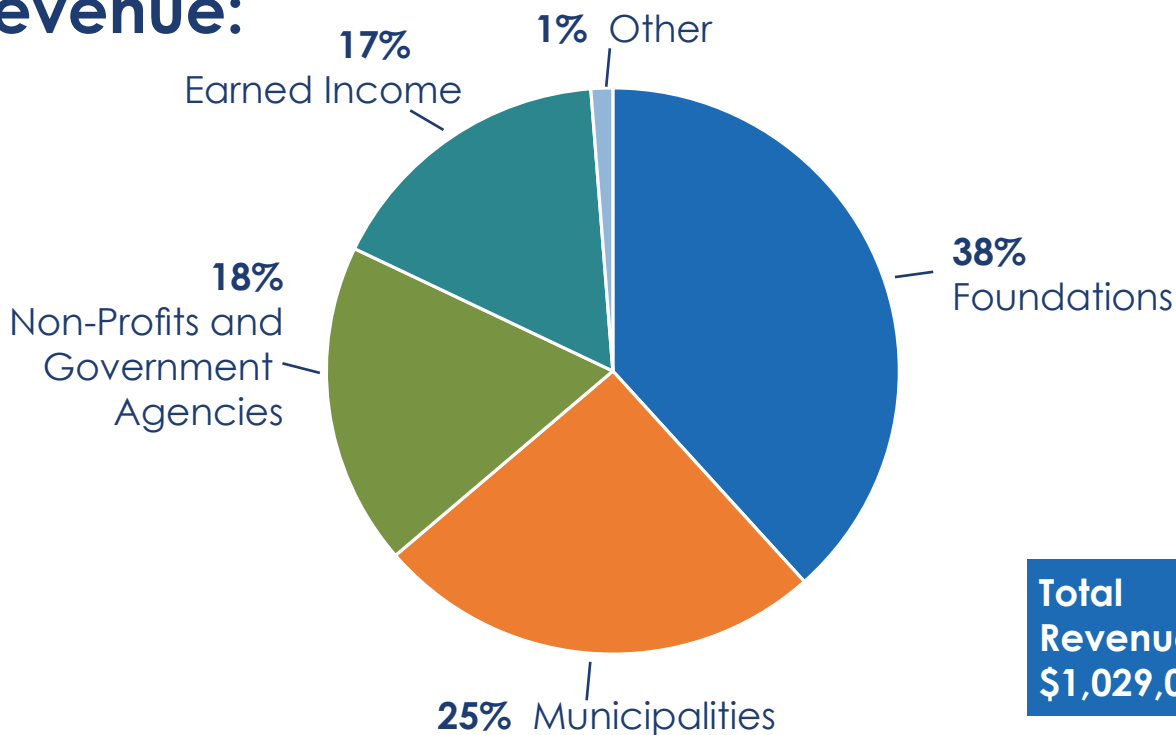
These reports are the foundational **first step in the creation of home energy retrofit programs** for seven municipalities

**Through the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program Market Analysis Project, CAP is helping municipalities understand the quality of housing stock and opportunities to create retrofit programs**

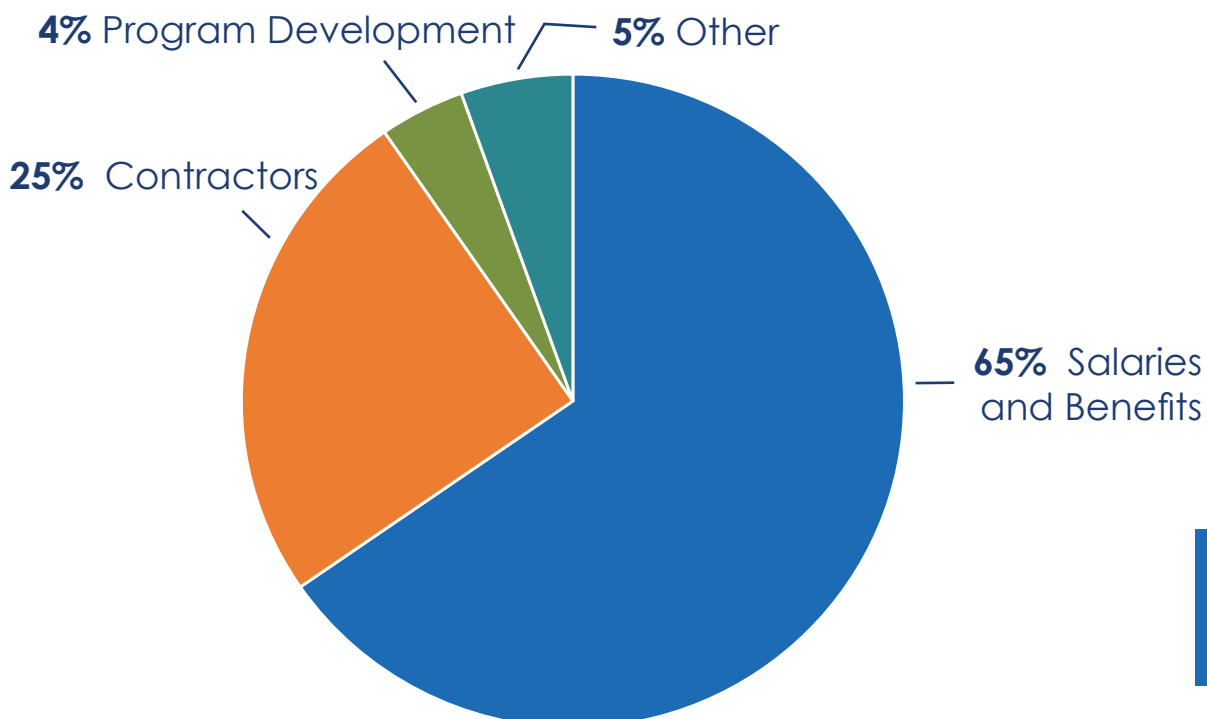


# Financial Summary

## Revenue:



## Expenditure:



# Funding Partners

## > \$100,000

City of Toronto  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Ontario Trillium Foundation

## > \$10,000

City of Mississauga  
Credit Valley Conservation  
ECO Canada  
Green Communities Canada  
Halton Region  
Markham, Corporation of the City  
Region of Durham  
York, Regional Municipality  
York Region District School Board

## < \$10,000

Waterloo, Region of  
Hamilton, City of  
Brampton, City of  
Government of Canada  
London, City of  
Vaughan, City of  
University of Toronto  
Government of Canada  
Simon Fraser University  
Windsor, City of  
Richmond Hill, Town of  
Oakville, Town of  
Burlington, City of  
Oshawa, City of  
Barrie, City of  
Guelph, City of  
Whitby, Town of  
St Catherines, City of  
Ryerson University - Customer  
Kingston, City of  
Ajax, Town of  
Simcoe-Muskoka District Health Unit  
Chatham Kent, Municipality of  
Clarington, Municipality of  
Pickering, City of  
Northumberland, County of  
Newmarket, City of  
Caledon, Town of  
Dufferin County  
Halton Hills  
Aurora, Town of  
Cornwall, City of  
King, Township of  
CHIMP  
Climate Caucus  
Grey County  
UJA Federation of Greater Toronto  
The Neighbourhood Group  
First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa

