

Climate SMART
Climate Change : Developer's Risk Management Guide

Introduction Letter

What is Climate SMART?

One of the greatest challenges facing the world is from global climate change. In 2003 and 2004, Nova Scotians and we in HRM experienced several extreme weather events - an ice storm, torrential rains and flooding, Hurricane Juan, and the Blizzard of '04 (also known as White Juan). In response to concerns about global climate change and the impacts from such extreme events, which are associated with climate variability brought about from increased emissions of greenhouse gasses, HRM initiated Climate SMART (Sustainable Mitigation and Adaptation Risk Toolkit). Climate SMART is a leading edge partnership between HRM, the Province of Nova Scotia, the Government of Canada, and private companies. Its goal is to develop management and planning tools to prepare for climate change impacts, and to develop strategies to reduce practices that contribute to global warming in the first place - primarily by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Risk Management Approach - Climate Change

The Developer's Risk Management Guide is one of the management / planning tools developed through Climate SMART.

The guide provides a framework for users to address climate change risk in planning for new developments and a decision making tool to assist in the selection of preferred strategies using a systematic and defensible process.

Best Practice Guidance

The local development and construction industries are helping HRM meet the challenges of a sustainable environment by working collaboratively to promote voluntary climate change management tools and best practices guides among their members.

Joint Roll-out of the Guide

On July 5, 2007, in conjunction with the Nova Scotia Home Builders Association and the Urban Development Institute, Halifax Regional Municipality released the Climate Change : Developer's Risk Management Guide as a voluntary climate change best practices and management reference and guide. In essence it provides knowledge and tools to mainstream climate change considerations into everyday decision making.

A copy of the **Climate Change : Developer's Risk Management Guide** is attached.

Stephen King, Manager
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