

Forum on Climate Change -Parkgate – 6 Nov 2007

Notes by Corrie Kost

Some presenters: Stephen Sheppard (UBC Forestry), Allison Shaw, David Flanders (imagery)
Project: Research – UBC Initiative. Not a general public meeting. How to address climate change and how to communicate this to the public.

Agenda:

- Welcome
- Initial Questionnaire
- Introduction to Research
- Future Visioning Package for the North Shore
- Follow-up questionnaire
- Group Discussions

Introduction to Research:

- Developing and testing a process on how climate change could impact communities
- Global Level → Local Level
- Greenhouse effect shown
- Impacts: - “Damage Report” [but no positives shown!]

Response Options:

- adaptations
- mitigations

4 Worlds:

W4 – Deep Sustainability

W3 -- Efficient Development

W2 – Adapt to Risk

W1 – Do nothing ← 4 degrees C warmer

With 3-4 degrees warmer → 7 to 300 million people impacted / year

Existing Conditions:

- Flooding of Roberts Bank by 2100.
- Snowpack reductions → Water supply
- Impacts on hilly neighbourhoods
- 30% green house gases come from residential use

Visioning Package:

- Regionally it assumes population growth continues to yr 2100
- High Economic Growth [but would there be increased energy use?]

W2

– adapt to risk outlined

W3

- Efficient Development – Adapt and Mitigate
- Moderate Population Growth
- Economic Growth – more efficient development
- More sustainable development

W4

- lower population growth and economic growth [negative growth?]

Simulations indicate reduced snowpack on standard day (April 1)

Decreased water quality if nothing done [ignore new filtration plant]

Observed: Heavy precipitation worldwide, more rain in winter, less in summer
Forest Impacts: Debris flow, landscape risks, more blowdowns, greater fire risks, habitat loss

2050 – expansion of homes to higher elevations [assumes population growth]
A typical home currently consumes 11-23 GJ/month of Natural Gas

W2

- development of zero-carbon resorts [ignores energy consumption to travel to them!]
- more water restrictions [ignores raising dams]
- 16MW from Capilano dam – enough to power 12-16,000 homes
- Biomass energy plants
- Rainwater harvesting [rain barrel has 1000 yr payback]
- Increase home density

W4

- neighbourhood heat and power systems
- critical mass to support transit systems
- 60% reduction in home energy consumption
- reduce total carbon footprint [global effects of our travel ignored?]

References:

www.climatecare.org/calculators
www.ec.gc.ca/climate
www.davidsuzuli.org/Climate_Change/
www.ipcc.ch
www.calp.forestry.ubc.ca/Projects.htm
dnvclimatechange@gmail.com