



POLICY AND DIRECTIVES		
Climate and Environmental Stewardship Policy		
#CES-001	Date Approved/ Resolution #	Date Revised:

1. PURPOSE

This Policy establishes a clear and consistent approach for how the City of Thompson considers climate change and environmental impacts in asset management and infrastructure decision-making. It supports the Corporate Asset Management By-law (including climate resilience requirements in Section 8.4) and the True-Stewardship and Resilience By-law (Full Lifecycle Environmental Responsibility).

2. POLICY STATEMENT

The City shall manage climate change and environmental impacts as material, long-term risks to service delivery, infrastructure performance, financial sustainability, and public safety. Environmental stewardship is defined by durability, repairability, resilience, and avoidance of long-term liability — not by short-term cost minimization alone. Climate and stewardship analysis shall be embedded in the Asset Management System rather than operated as a separate parallel process.

3. SCOPE

This Policy applies to asset management planning, capital projects, operations and maintenance, and procurement decisions that affect capital assets within the Scope of the Asset Management System (CAM-GOV-SCP-001).

It is implemented through the AMS — including the SAMP, risk framework, Levels of Service, Climate Resilience and Adaptation Plan, capital prioritization, and stewardship procurement guidance — and applies to all departments and to contractors or agents where required by the By-laws, this Policy, or contract.

4. DEFINITIONS

Climate Resilience Assessment. A documented evaluation, required for capital projects above the By-law threshold, of how climate-related hazards and northern operating conditions may affect the project's performance, durability, and service outcomes over its expected life.

Climate Vulnerability Assessment. A portfolio-level evaluation of how climate and northern environmental factors affect the City's asset classes and service reliability.

Lifecycle Environmental Responsibility. Consideration of environmental and durability impacts from material selection and design through construction, operation, maintenance, renewal, and end-of-life.

True-Stewardship and Resilience By-law. The City by-law requiring full lifecycle environmental responsibility, durability and repair preferences, and related reporting in conjunction with the Asset Management System.

5. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Climate as a service delivery risk — Climate and northern conditions affect asset lifespan, reliability, operating costs, emergency access, and maintenance demand.
- Lifecycle environmental responsibility — Considerations apply from material sourcing and design through construction, operation, renewal, and end-of-life.
- Durability and repairability — Preference for solutions proven in northern climates and maintainable locally where feasible, consistent with the True-Stewardship and Resilience By-law.
- Fiscal responsibility — Avoid solutions that transfer unreasonable cost, maintenance burden, or risk to future budgets and ratepayers.
- Integration, not duplication — Climate and environmental analysis is embedded in existing AMS processes (risk, capital, LOS, procurement) rather than creating a parallel system.
- Proportionate effort — The depth of analysis shall match the scale, cost, and risk of the decision.

6. REQUIREMENTS

6.1. Climate Resilience in Planning

A Climate Vulnerability Assessment for the asset portfolio shall be completed and updated in accordance with the Corporate Asset Management By-law. Climate and northern operating impacts on service reliability shall inform Levels of Service, the corporate Risk Register, and capital prioritization.

Relevant factors for Thompson include, as applicable: freeze–thaw cycles; extreme cold; snow and ice loading and winter access; short construction seasons; drainage and spring melt; and wildfire-related site or service impacts where material to municipal assets.

6.2. Capital Projects

New capital projects with a total estimated cost exceeding the threshold set in the Corporate Asset Management By-law (\$150,000) shall undergo a Climate Resilience Assessment during preliminary design, as required by the By-law. The assessment shall be proportionate to project scale and shall address durability, service continuity under foreseeable climate and northern conditions, and material lifecycle risks.

Project leads are responsible for ensuring the assessment is completed and considered before design is advanced beyond preliminary stage, unless the City Manager approves a documented exception.

6.3. Operations, Maintenance, and Procurement

Operations, maintenance, and procurement decisions shall consider lifecycle environmental and climate impacts in a manner proportionate to the scale of the decision, consistent with stewardship procurement guidelines and Life-Cycle Impact Statement requirements where those are adopted under the True-Stewardship and Resilience By-law.

Preference shall be given, where practicable and cost-effective over the lifecycle, to assets and materials that are durable, repairable, and suited to northern operating conditions.

6.4. Risk and Reporting Integration

Material climate and environmental risks to assets and services shall be recorded in the corporate Risk Register where they meet corporate risk criteria. Progress on portfolio vulnerability work, project-level Climate Resilience Assessments, and stewardship outcomes shall be reflected in the Annual State of the Infrastructure and Asset Management Report and in reporting required under the True-Stewardship and Resilience By-law.

7. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Council — Approves this Policy; receives climate and stewardship reporting through the Annual State of the Infrastructure Report and related plans; considers funding implications of resilience and lifecycle decisions.
- City Manager — Ensures integration of this Policy into SAMP, risk, capital, and procurement processes; chairs the AMSC.
- AMSC — Monitors integration of climate and stewardship into risk and capital recommendations; endorses related procedures.
- Asset Management Sponsor — Supports portfolio vulnerability work, methodology consistency, and annual reporting. These functions may be combined in a single position.
- Department Heads and project leads — Apply the principles in planning and project work; ensure Climate Resilience Assessments are completed for projects

above the By-law threshold; consider durability and repairability in procurement within their authority.

- Procurement and Finance — Support implementation of stewardship requirements adopted under the True-Stewardship and Resilience By-law and this Policy.

8. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER DOCUMENTS

This Policy is read with the Corporate Asset Management By-law, the True-Stewardship and Resilience By-law, the Asset Management Policy (CAM-000), the Scope of the AMS (CAM-GOV-SCP-001), the Capital Asset Risk Management Policy (CAM-RSK-001), the SAMP, the Climate Resilience and Adaptation Plan, and stewardship procurement guidance.

Detailed assessment templates and technical methods are Level 3/4 documents and may be refined under City Manager or Sponsor authority provided they remain consistent with this Policy and the By-laws.

9. REVIEW

This Policy shall be reviewed at least every four years, aligned with the Council term, or following significant changes to legislation, climate data, corporate strategy, or either governing By-law.

10. APPROVAL

This document is submitted for formal adoption by the Council of the City of Thompson in accordance with the Corporate Asset Management By-law (Level 2 – Strategic Directives).

Recommended for Council consideration by the Asset Management Steering Committee.

Chief Administrative Officer / City Manager

Date: _____

Adopted by Resolution of Council:

Resolution No.: _____ Date: _____

Mayor: _____