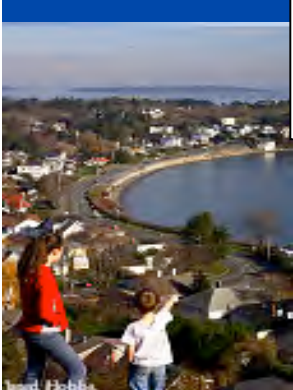




Ministry of  
Healthy Living  
and Sport

# Action on Air Quality: Provincial Policies & Initiatives

Land Use, Transportation & Air Quality  
October 27, 2009





# Evolution of Air Management in BC

- Early air management activities focused on industrial point sources
- In many BC communities, this was an appropriate approach at the time
- In early 1990's, area and mobile sources recognized as important sources in urban growth areas
- These sources have become increasingly important in smaller communities as point source contributions are reduced

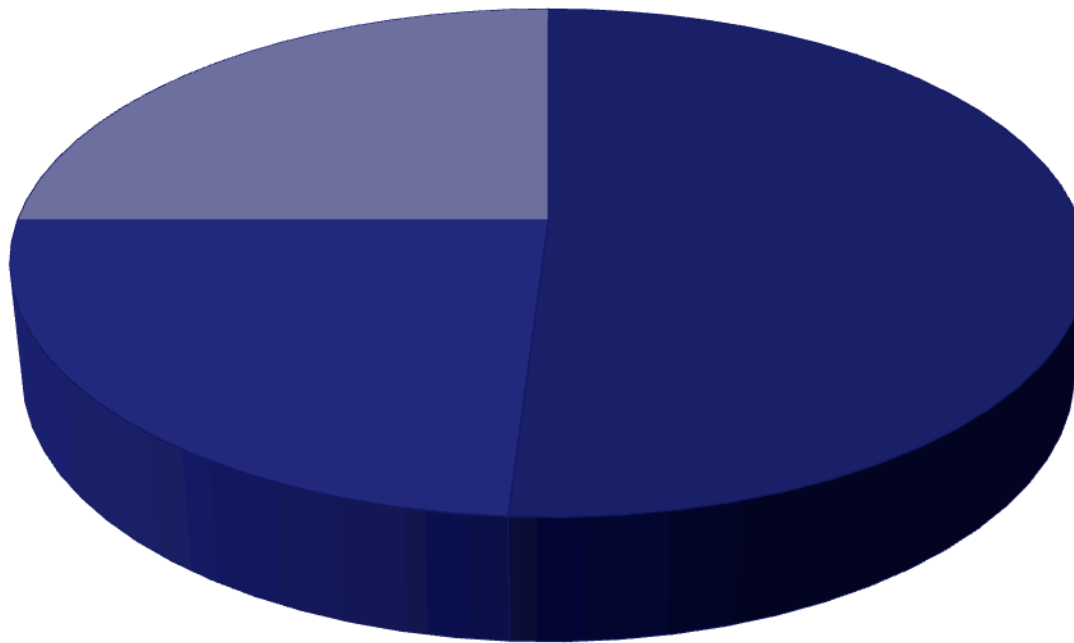
# Air Management (cont'd)

- Waste Management Act was revised in 1992 and 1994 to enable regulation of
  - wood stoves - open burning
  - motor vehicles - fuel quality
  - and address growing concerns over PM and ozone
- A number of non-regulatory approaches were also introduced, including
  - Wood stove education - Clean Air Day
  - Go Green
- This shift was accompanied by a growing awareness of an airshed approach to air management





## Total Emissions 2005



- Transportation
- Area Sources
- Point Sources



# Land Use Planning & Air Quality

## Province can influence through:

- Funding transit improvements
- Infrastructure grants
- Supporting regional growth strategies
- Building codes
- Model bylaws
- Guidelines and best management practices



# Green Communities

- Green Communities initiative supports and encourages the development of compact communities
- Smart planning partnership program promotes planning for the long-term well being of communities

([http://www.fraserbasin.bc.ca/programs/spc\\_sustainability\\_facilitators.html](http://www.fraserbasin.bc.ca/programs/spc_sustainability_facilitators.html))

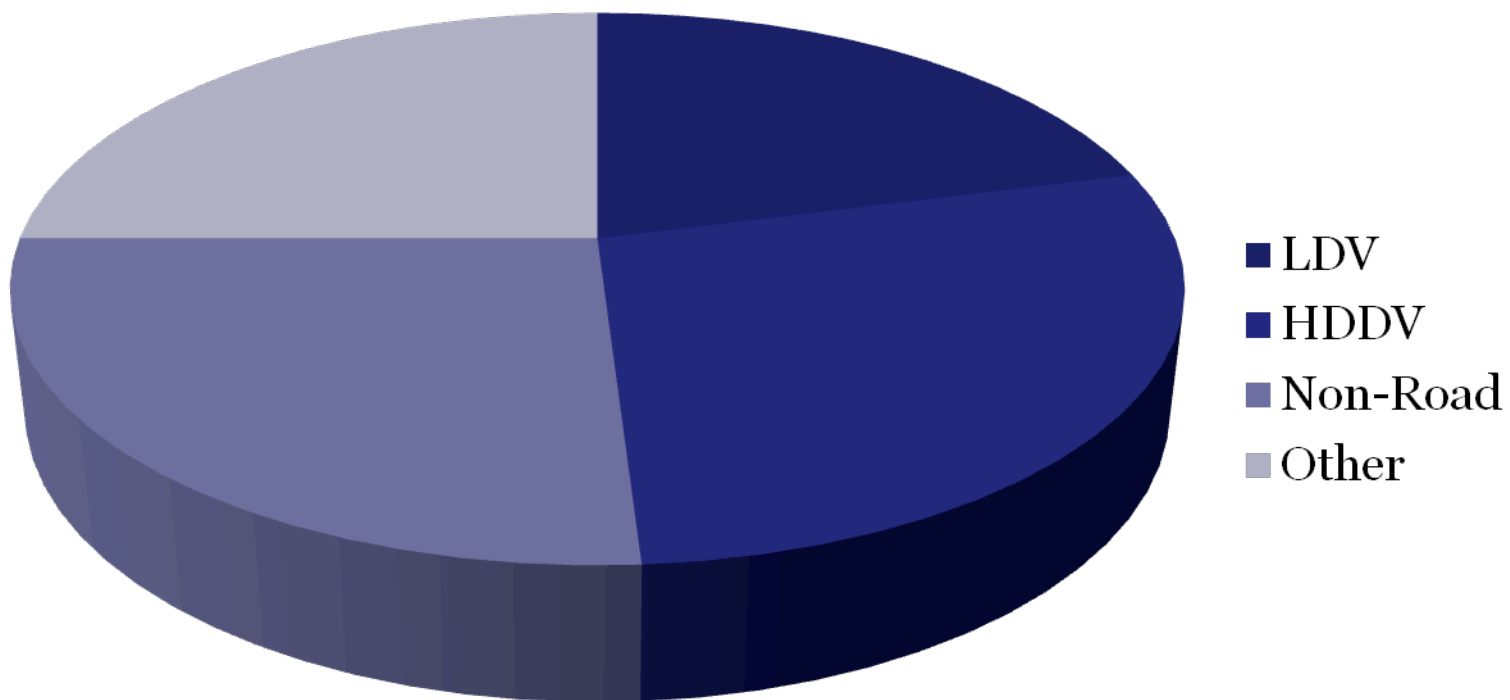


# Develop With Care

- Environmental Guidelines for Urban and Rural Land Development in British Columbia
- Community Planning section:
  - 2.7 Guidelines for Air Quality and Climate Change
    - 2.7.1 Air Quality
    - 2.7.2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions
    - 2.7.3 Adaptation to Climate Change
- [http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/bmp/devwithcare2006/develop\\_with\\_care\\_intro.html](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/bmp/devwithcare2006/develop_with_care_intro.html)



## Transportation Emissions 2005



# Transportation

## Province can influence through:

- Funding transit improvements
- Infrastructure grants e.g. construction of HOV lanes
- Support for alternative modes e.g. cycling infrastructure program
- Cleaner fuels e.g. renewable fuel standard
- Vehicle emission standards





# Air Action Plan

- Air Action Plan: 28 actions focused on improving air quality by reducing emissions
  - Clean Communities
  - Clean Transportation
  - Clean Industry



# Key Initiatives

- Direct support to community airshed planning initiatives: \$200K/year
- Retro-fitting buses to reduce emissions:
  - 450 school buses
  - 200 BC Transit buses
- Regulation to require retro fit of 1989-1993 HDDV
- Provincial anti-idling reduction initiative launched in Sept 2008
- 10 Idle-Free Ambassadors worked in 9 communities
- Expanded SCRAP-IT to a province-wide program with enhanced incentives
- ACORP provided with enforcement powers and available on request across the province

# Planning For Air Quality

- Airshed planning can provide a mechanism for addressing transportation and land use planning issues as part of a multi-source, multi-stakeholder process.
- Airshed planning can be means of involving other levels of government that influence land use and transportation decisions.
- In some instances, common issues among neighbouring communities point to a regional approach to solutions.





# Airshed Planning at Work

- Prince George created new industrial zone on plateau out of bowl as part of its air quality management plan.
- Quesnel/Williams Lake airshed plans include commitments such as:
  - New road development should have bike lanes
  - Public transit should be optimized. Forms of land use and development strategies should be encouraged that make public transit more viable.
  - AQ assessment and dispersion modelling should be used as tools for industrial zoning within the airshed.
- Sea-to-Sky (final draft AQMP)
  - Incorporate the AQMP vision into other planning processes (encouraging municipalities/districts to reflect AQMP vision and goals in planning documents and council directives including growth management strategies, OCP's and transportation plans).



# Airshed Plans in BC

Bulkley Valley Lakes District  
Fraser Valley Regional District  
Merritt  
North Okanagan  
Prince George  
Whistler  
Williams Lake

Central Okanagan  
Grand Forks  
Metro Vancouver  
Okanagan-Similkameen  
Quesnel  
Sea to Sky Corridor

For information on air quality go to: <http://www.bcairquality.ca/>



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