Climate Change Adaptation Guidelines for Sea Dike Design and Coastal Flood Construction Levels in BC

**THEME: FLOOD PROTECTION AND FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT**

**LOCATION:** BC-wide
**STATUS:** Complete

**Project Description**
Coastal communities and infrastructure are vulnerable to harm from floods. Sea Level Rise caused by climate change will increase the susceptibility of coastal areas to flooding. The planning and design of coastal development and flood protection measures, including dike upgrades, must take into account the impacts of climate change and sea level rise over the next 50 to 100 years, if coastal communities are to be sustainable. Through this project, the Province has developed and adopted new guidelines for sea dikes and coastal development that are essential for the future flood protection of coastal communities.

**Goal**
Improved local government decision-making processes and enhanced coastal community protection from flooding and sea level rise through updated sea dike design and coastal flood construction levels.

**Results**
Updated guidelines for sea dike elevation and flood construction levels that account for climate change impacts.

**Key Product**
Climate Change Adaptation Guidelines for Sea Dikes and Coastal Flood Hazard Land Use

**Decision-makers involved**
BC Ministry of Environment staff with statutory approving authority; and local government and provincial government development approval officials.

**Decisions Influenced**
» Designated provincial staff of the Flood Safety Section will apply the new sea dike design guidelines as a condition of legal approvals for changes to dikes and new flood protection works construction under the Dike Maintenance Act
» Land development approving officials will use the new coastal development guidelines for flood hazard area land development decisions.

**Collaborator**

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