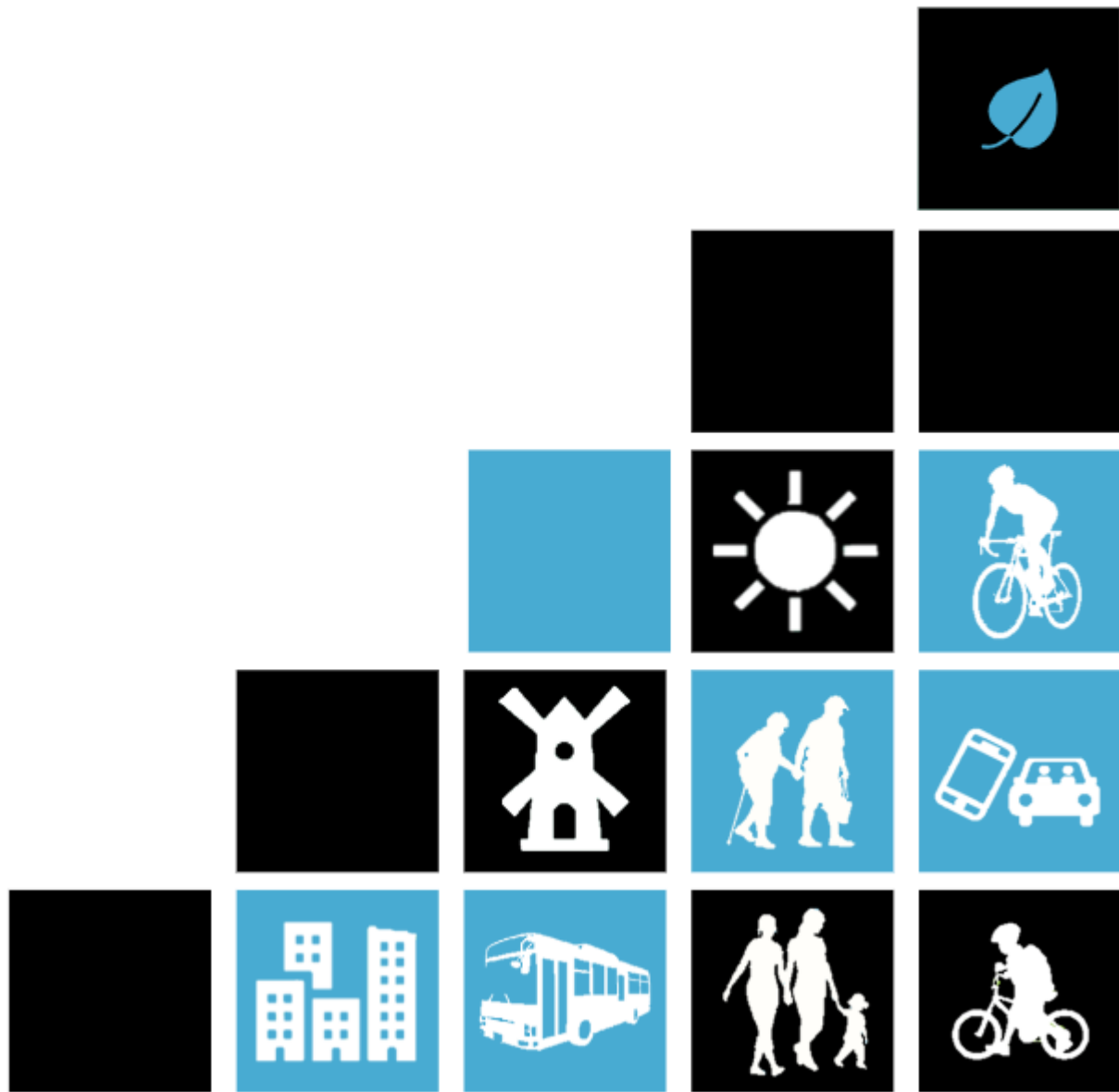


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# LowCarbonCommunities Connect2



*Assessment Criteria*

*2020 - 2021*

## LCC C2 Assessment Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated by NS Government staff. Projects are scored on the extent to which it meets each criteria listed in the application form.

### Eligibility Requirements:

- Applicant is a community group, municipality, university, First Nations Band, or non-profit organization (non-profits must be registered entities under *Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stock Companies*). If the applicant is applying in partnership with another entity or community group, that primary partner must be based in Nova Scotia and ideally is based in the community or region the project will serve;
- Project should be identified as a priority for that community; or identified in a community plan/municipal document; or should have a letter of support from Council;
- Application clearly demonstrates the project’s ability to reduce GHGs (near term and/or longer term);
- Application demonstrate that all necessary permits are in place at the time of submission;
- Application provides proof of matching funds and/or in-kind contributions;
- Multiple submissions are allowed, as long as the applicant ranks their submissions according to priority for funding.

Disclaimer: The “High Score” and “Low Score” examples listed below are a guide to support applicants bringing forward strong submissions. We encourage applicants to contact Dept. of Energy and Mines Program Staff to discuss their applications:

**Low Carbon Communities:** Catherine Chase at 902-424-4073, or [lowcarboncommunities@novascotia.ca](mailto:lowcarboncommunities@novascotia.ca)  
**Connect2:** Salima Medouar at 902-717-7026, [connect2@novascotia.ca](mailto:connect2@novascotia.ca), or Gabrielle Riley Gallagher at 902-424-8090,

Criteria	Scoring
<p><b>Project Description:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Project addresses an identified challenge or opportunity within the community, with the aim of greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Score: The applicant has clearly defined the scope and purpose of their project and has clearly demonstrated how it supports GHG reductions.</li> <li>• Low Score: The applicant has somewhat described the scope and purpose of the project, but some elements are ambiguous. The drive behind it may be unclear or undefined. The applicant hasn’t clearly demonstrated the link between this project and how it will support long-lasting GHG reductions.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Project deliverables are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-based (SMART) and the applicant will be able to report back on the completion of the deliverables.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Score: The applicant has listed SMART deliverables of the project. The project identifies a plan to complete the deliverables, and ability to report on the completion of the project in the final report.</li> <li>• Low Score: The applicant has listed deliverables that are too broad, unmeasurable, unrealistic/unfeasible, and/or unrelated. The deliverables do not have clear deadlines.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>15%</b></p>

<p><b>Partnerships and Community Support:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The applicant has involved key stakeholders and partners to collaborate on the project.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Score: The applicant has involved key stakeholders and partners in the project or demonstrated efforts to involve potential partners. Projects that have the potential to leverage federal funding for full scale implementation will be scored highly.</li> <li>• Low Score: The applicant has not involved key stakeholders or partners in the project or demonstrated efforts to involve potential partners.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>The applicant has effectively engaged with all relevant groups impacted by the project or has a plan to do so.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Score: The applicant has engaged with relevant groups and/or has a plan to do so.</li> <li>• Low Score: The applicant has not engaged with relevant groups nor has a plan to do so.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>15%</b></p>
<p><b>Strategic Alignment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Score: The applicant has identified how the project aligns with the listed strategic areas.</li> <li>• Low Score: The applicant is not able to demonstrate the project’s alignment with the listed strategic areas.</li> <li>• <b>GHG Reduction Potential:</b> Either the project itself, or future stages of the project, will reduce GHGs in the community. There is a plan to measure and report the GHG reductions. <b>(10pts)</b></li> <li>• <b>Learning by doing, knowledge transfer and Innovation:</b> The project will lead to change, sets a path for change or is building on lessons learned/best practices to build towards change. <b>(5pts)</b></li> <li>• <b>Local Economic Benefits &amp; Employment:</b> The project enables the creation of new job, or supports continued employment. Local suppliers and consultants will be sourced. Job skills or expertise will be developed in low carbon and/or clean transportation industries. <b>(10pts)</b></li> <li>• <b>Community-Driven Initiative:</b> The project, or project idea, was developed by the community or a community-identified need. The project is shaped by community context, needs and aspirations. Local leadership is involved in the project. <b>(5pts)</b></li> <li>• <b>Equity and Inclusion:</b> The project will benefit or is targeted to serve or support the following priority populations: children, youth, families, newcomers, older adults, persons with a disability, women and girls, Mi’kmaq, African Nova Scotians, and LGBTQ2+. Priority populations include groups that are more likely to experience adverse economic and social conditions (poverty, violence/abuse, lower levels of education and income, discrimination). <b>(10pts)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>40%</b></p>
<p><b>Measurability, Evaluation, and Sustainability:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>There is a plan to evaluate and report on the impacts of the project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Score: The applicant has identified the evaluation plan. The evaluation plan is structured to successfully measure and report on project deliverables and impact. The plan uses a <b>specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-based (SMART)</b> approach, and will capture the lessons learned from the project.</li> <li>• Low Score: The applicant has demonstrated little consideration in how to evaluate the project. The evaluation methods will not be an effective way to measure and report on project deliverables and impact. The plan is not S.M.A.R.T. and the applicant has not identified plans to capture the lessons learned.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>15%</b></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The applicant identifies how it will provide ongoing support to ensure success over time. There has been some planning around the sustainability of the project.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Score: The applicant demonstrates forethought into the continuation of this work either through future phases that build on this project, or through maintenance efforts to ensure project sustainability.</li> <li>• Low Score: The applicant does not demonstrate intention to continue the support of this project over time. The applicant has not demonstrated future phases that build on the project, nor plans to maintain this work.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>Budget and Workplan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The applicant demonstrates experience in understanding of the associated costs of this projects and how it will be funded.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Score: The project costs are detailed and the required funding for this project has been identified, confirmed, or confirmation is imminent.</li> <li>• Low Score: The project costs are not detailed, and the funding for this project is not confirmed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>The applicant demonstrates experience and understanding of how the project will be managed and completed on time.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Score: The workplan is detailed with clear milestones and clear timelines to complete the project.</li> <li>• Low Score: The workplan lacks detail with undefined milestones and ambiguous timelines.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>15%</b>

To view a list of ineligible projects – please visit our Program Description [here](#).