

Urban Heat Ready Project

Climate change projections for Metro Vancouver suggest that Surrey will experience **hotter and drier summers** in the years to come. As a rapidly growing and densifying city, the Urban Heat Ready Project provides an **opportunity for Surrey to explore and adapt its systems, processes and infrastructure** (both built environment and green spaces) to take health impacts into account, **increase resilience** for the health and safety of our community and address **the urban heat island effect** in Surrey City Centre.

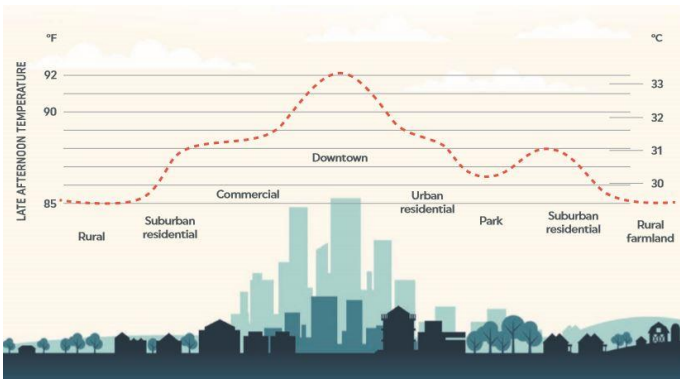
WHY IS EXTREME HEAT DANGEROUS?

An 8-day heat wave in 2009 saw temperatures of 34°C+ and contributed to **156** deaths across Metro Vancouver.

A heatwave in 2018 resulted in **86** deaths in Quebec with 53 of those deaths in the dense and urbanized City of Montreal.

WHAT IS THE URBAN HEAT ISLAND EFFECT?

Temperature difference between urban areas and the surrounding rural areas.



Source: Urban Land Institute

PROJECT GOALS:

This two-year project seeks to:

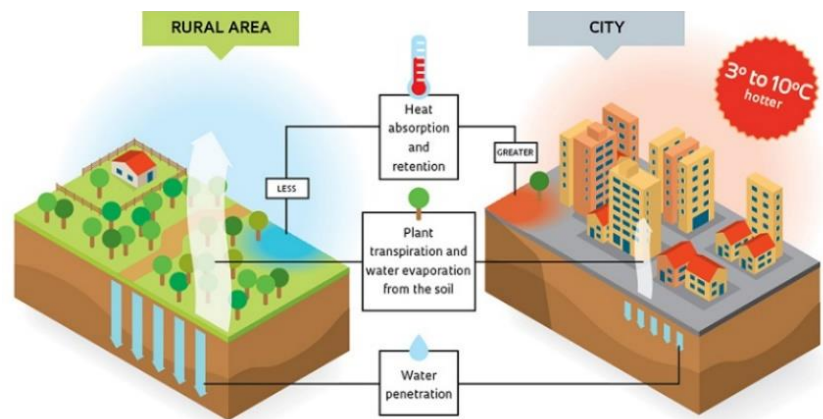
1. **Understand** community cooling needs and existing cooling solutions and best practices.
2. **Generate** ideas on how to develop and urbanize with heat in mind.
3. **Collaborate** with community members to co-create lasting solutions to urban heat.

WHO IS AT RISK?

Extreme heat impacts everyone but health risks are greatest for those who are: seniors, infants and young children, socially isolated (e.g. homeless, living alone), living in dense areas, working outdoors, living with existing medical conditions and taking certain types of medication, etc.

WHY ARE CITIES HOTTER?

- Fewer trees, shrubs and green spaces for cooling
- Building materials absorb heat
- Urban design (building dimensions and spacing) traps heat
- More human-caused heat in dense, urban areas (e.g. more cars, waste heat from air conditioning)



Source: Land8 Media, LLC

WHY FOCUS ON SURREY CITY CENTRE?

- One of the hottest neighbourhoods in Surrey
- Home to Surrey's most at-risk populations
- Rapidly growing and densifying

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