

academic institutions, civil society groups, private sector community energy practitioners, and others for a collaborative and interdisciplinary exploration of what community energy implementation looks like in Canada, and how we might improve it with analytical tools.

The process of community energy planning is, of course, messier and more complex than our models. However, analytical tools and models such as CIMS can help keep politicians honest by evaluating different policy options for reaching their ambitious commitments. We hope our workshops have stimulated conversations and collaborations that will help ensure that models are used effectively, and designed appropriately, for improved community energy planning.

EMRG looks at Vancouver's 100% renewable energy target

By Brett Zuehlke

An EMRG report by Brett Zuehlke, Mark Jaccard, and Rose Murphy that explores the challenges and opportunities of dramatic greenhouse gas reduction by cities generated a lot of media attention last winter.

becoming 100% renewable by 2050, was picked up in print media as well as by radio programs both locally and internationally. The media exposure has helped draw attention to the challenges local governments face when looking for effective and politically achievable climate policies.

The report, [Can Cities Really Make a Difference?](#)

analyses the technological, economic, jurisdictional, and political dimensions of the multi-decade transition away from burning carbon dioxide-emitting gasoline, diesel, and natural gas in buildings, industries, and vehicles in urban centres.

The authors note that the growing claims of climate leadership by cities in recent years have usually not been followed by implementation of the difficult policies necessary to make these claims a reality. Such policies need to focus on fuel switching beginning with the gradual phase-out of gasoline and

natural gas, without which substantial emission reductions will not occur.

The report looks at Vancouver specifically and uses energy-economy analytical tools, including those with the ability to assess policies that change urban form and infrastructure, to compare emissions under

hopes to be in 2050. The full report, including maps and figures is available for [download](#) from SFU.

Can Cities Really Make a Difference? is the result of Brett's Master of Resource and Environmental Management research where he expanded the CIMS energy-economy model to include a GIS-based spatial component. This spatial extension improves the model's ability to assess the spatial nuances of transportation and land use policies that influence walking, cycling, transit, and driving at the urban level. After successfully defending his Master's research last spring, Brett is now working as an analyst for Navius Research in Vancouver.

SFU and UBC join forces to assess urban energy policy

By Aaron Pardy

Over the past few years, as part of the ma BDC 04 BDC 04

capacity will be lower in future. It is likely to be much higher, especially if there is rapid GHG reduction.

After receiving the report from the BC Utilities Commission, the BC government asked Mark to explain his evidence and discuss the economics of Site C completion at an in-camera cabinet meeting in Victoria on November 30th. In early December, the government decided to complete the project.

Recent Mark Jaccard talks in Ottawa and France

Mark Jaccard travelled to Ottawa and then France at the end of 2017, giving talks to staff at Environment and Climate Change Canada in Ottawa, staff at the