# **Beyond Awareness:**

A Regional Approach to Support the Transition to Medium and Heavy Duty Zero-Emission Vehicles (MHDVs) in BC

March 2025 Danielle Wiess





Accelerating bold action by local governments and Indigenous Communities related to climate and energy.

# **Project Background**

 Increase awareness and adoption of MHD ZEV technology amongst BC Local Governments, Indigenous Communities, and private fleet owners/operators

Interested Installed

### **Our Approach**

- Establish Steering Committee
- Dialogue with B.C. Local Government and Indigenous Communities
  - Regional discussion to account for variations in climate and accessibility/availability of ZEV technology
  - Group discussions allowing for peer learning related to the different elements of MHD ZEV adoption
  - Understand their barriers/challenges to adoption
- Interview Fleet Owners and OEMS from across Canada



#### What we heard - planning and implementation

- Start with fleet assessment study
  - Don't review your fleet without considering and reviewing your routes
  - Plan to incorporate public fueling/charging infrastructure into your operations plan, cannot rely on private infrastructure alone in some instances/use cases
  - Early engagement with fueling providers (utilities) & don't forget about relevant permitting requirements
- Map stakeholders
- Limited funding for planning, more funding for implementation but neither are entirely sufficient as compared to investment required

#### What we heard - planning and implementation

- Engage OEMS at onset of fleet planning
  - Work with OEMS who provide full access to telematics data to enable detailed analysis
  - Work with OEMS that can address all components of fleet operation (help with equipment procurement, fueling needs, maintenance support, etc.)
- Review access to maintenance and troubleshooting support
  - physical and software components
  - Plan for downtime, it will happen

## What we heard – resources and data sources

- Funding & Incentives
  - Clean BC Go Electric Program Commercial Vehicle Pilots Program & Go Electric Rebates
  - Go Electric Fleet Charging Program (BC) -Financial and technical support
  - Plug in BC Medium- and Heavy-Duty Public Charger Program
- Resources
  - Plug In BC Fleet Procurement Analysis Tool



#### What we heard - common errors to avoid

- Review your insurance coverage as you switch your fleet to ZEV
- Limited stakeholder engagement
- Insufficient driver training
- Not assessing your physical facility and its suitability/ability to accommodate MHD ZEV and associated infrastructure
- For electrification projects, evaluate charging equipment and software just as robustly as MHD vehicles

#### What we heard - case studies

- The more studies, the better, detailed data and information sharing will help other fleets follow suit
- FP Innovations, Clean Energy Canada, etc.
- Our project will develop a suite of case studies of both public and private fleets, address requests for information about:
- Clear costs and payback calculations
- Operational details, hear a lot about a technology being added to a fleet but what to know more about how it went



# What we heard - opportunities

- Collaboration:
  - group buying/purchasing for MHD technology
  - fleet/sector partnerships for fueling and charging infrastructure
- Update procurement policies to replace existing assets with ZEV technology:
  - Flip the evaluation on its head as we know it today require significant justification to purchase non-ZEV technology

