

FCAC General Meeting on Structure - Tuesday June 7th Held at the Cold Climate Housing Research Center

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FCAC Draft Mission, Vision, & Tactics

This is the mission statement that came out of the June 7th meeting.

Mission statement: Through education and advocacy Fairbanks Climate Action Coalition will mobilize Fairbanks & Interior Alaska communities toward action to mitigate and adapt to climate change. We seek to elevate climate solutions and foster a fair, equitable, & just transition to sustainable communities – locally, regionally and globally.

Below are concepts that were discussed as additional pieces to potentially add to the mission statement, however, were not included by the end of the meeting:

- *Adapt to anthropogenic climate change*
- *“Avoid, minimize, mitigate, adapt”*
- *A sense of urgency/acceleration/in a timely manner*
- *Intersectionality: name commitment to justice principles, such intergenerational, international, etc.*

This is the vision statement that came out of the June 7th meeting.

Vision statement: FCAC envisions a fair, equitable, and just transition of our economy, communities, & politics (policies/governance) – locally, regionally and globally – to a society that is connected, equitable & resilient; that builds a renewed & respectful relationship between all beings and the earth.

FCAC Tactics: *(The means by which we, as a coalition, have power to initiate change.)*

- Policy work
- Actions / demonstrations
- Writing op-eds / reports
- Media & storytelling
- Creative art
- Community meetings

One-to-one relationship building
Attending other community meetings / coalition building
Petitions

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FCAC Issue Areas

(to be incorporated into working groups)

Climate Education

Potential focus areas:

- Speaker Series
- Movies
- Panel discussions
- Fairbanks Air Quality
- Youth education/ youth organizing

Renewable Energy

Potential focus areas:

- GVEA “solar garden”
- Elevating other renewable energy sources
- Fairbanks Air Quality

Resource Extraction / “Keep Fossil Fuels in the Ground”

Potential focus areas:

- Off-shore oil
- Protect Arctic Refuge
- Alaska LNG
- Stop fracking in Alaska

Interfaith

Potential focus areas:

- Building dialogue and awareness of climate action from a faith perspective.
- Connecting and mobilizing diverse Fairbanks faith communities

Elections & State Policy

Potential objectives

- Voter engagement activities
- Candidate forums & score cards
- Communicate with statewide partners & identify policy priorities

Green Building & Infrastructure

Potential focus areas:

- Increasing energy efficiency in existing buildings
- “Retrofit our Neighborhoods”
- New building codes (policy work)
- Adaptation to permafrost melt & wildfires

Arts

Potential focus areas:

- Telling the story of climate justice & transition through creative mediums
- Building a culture of awareness

National / International Policy

Potential focus areas:

- Follow higher scale climate policy.
- Advocate for climate policy at the national and international level.

New Economy

Potential focus areas:

- Devise strategies for building up new economic institutions that are inclusive, just, and sustainable.
- Identifying key areas for economic diversification in Alaska.
- Collaborate with labor & incorporate economic justice into FCAC goals.

Food / Agriculture (likely liaison to other efforts, such as Interior Food Network)

Potential focus areas:

- Adaptation to climate impacts
- Supporting agricultural expansion

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June 7th Adoption of the *Jemez Principles for Democratic Organizing*

(Read more at <http://www.ejnet.org/ej/jemez.pdf>)

1. Be Inclusive
2. Emphasis on Bottom-Up Organizing
3. Let People Speak For Themselves
4. Work Together In Solidarity and Mutuality
5. Build Just Relationships Among Ourselves
6. Commitment to Self-Transformation

FCAC Structure Proposal

Summary: FCAC is a coalition of diverse interest groups. We will organize ourselves by issue area and maintain flexibility to add issue areas as people energy builds towards an area. Working groups will select “steering committee” liaison/member. Steering committee members will be responsible for representing their constituencies in quick decision making as well as maintaining overall accountability for direction. Steering committee meetings & general meetings will take place regularly with efforts made to maintain strategic campaign development as well as coalition “care” & solidarity.

General FCAC Meetings

- Strive to have quarterly full member/assembly meetings (more often as needed).
- Working groups update / informational
- Place for new members to engage with coalition as a whole
- Core group to update on decisions being made

Each “Issue Area” is a Working Group

- Working groups will consist of at least 3 people committed to furthering a issue area campaign.
- Working group develops a strategic campaign plan that will be reviewed & endorsed by the overall coalition.
- The working group strategic plan should include long-term (5 years) goals that work towards FCAC vision & short-term (at 1, at 2 years, markers where do we want to be) goals. Additionally it should include an escalating timeline with achievable objects.
- Each working group will select one or two Core group representative(s)

FCAC Affiliate Groups

We recognize the importance of individual participation in the coalition as well as representation through individuals of other groups or affiliates. We will work to formalize affiliate group membership in FCAC by means of a memorandum of agreement or affirmation (MOA). These MOAs will honor the autonomy of affiliate groups while also strengthening FCAC as a coalition of many diverse voices.

“Steering Committee” (name of committee still tbd)

- Purpose: Represents and communicates between working groups and coalition member groups, make quick decisions when needed (with accountability), decide on money allocation, tend to coalition care, open meetings & notes.
- Aim to hold 1 meeting per month
- Representation:
 - At least 1 member from each working group
 - Goal to represent diversity of organization constituents

- *If diversity is not naturally met through working group representatives then extra seats could be created for this purpose & seats filled without deference to working group.*
- Roles on committee:
 - **Co-chairs** (2 ppl)
 - Lead organizers of the steering committee, responsible for facilitation, point of contact
 - Also considered rotating facilitation as alternative.
 - **Co-Treasurers**
 - Maintain clarity of coalition funding and expenses;
 - Signer on bank account
 - **Note-taking / Communications** (2 ppl)
 - Take meeting notes and e-mail out
 - Listserv info emails
 - **Vibes watcher** (*during meeting, was considered this may be more of a value that the coalition hopes to hold.*)
 - Communicate with working group & constituent representatives to get a sense for coalition dynamics, feelings, conflicts.
 - Shepherd (reminder person) of our collective need to work towards social health and self-care.

Internal Coalition Solidarity

- Voluntary committee the facilitate discussions and trainings within the coalition
- How to honor our intersections and backgrounds?
- Who is missing from our coalition?

June 7th meeting discussion around the following:

- *Additions: Committee would make some “rules” for the committee.*
- *Positives: Rotation Roles within meetings, etc.: sometimes it is good to maintain experience and skill in those roles that people excel in, this way we don’t have lost time in re-training. might be hard to maintain knowledge levels...*