



CITY OF CHARLOTTETOWN

RESOLUTION

9-0 PB
(Councillor
Rivard
absent)

Environment &
Sustainability #1

MOTION CARRIED 9-0
MOTION LOST _____

Date: April 8, 2019

Moved by Councillor Terry MacLeod Terry MacLeod
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Jason Coady Jason Coady

WHEREAS local governments around the world are taking new actions to avoid the worst impacts of climate change and calling on senior levels of government for a more urgent, emergency response;

WHEREAS the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change finds that limiting global warming to 1.5°C with no or limited overshoot would imply global net CO2 emissions dropping to between 50% and 58% below 2010 levels by 2030, and between 94% and 107% below 2010 levels by 2050;

WHEREAS the world is currently on track for more than 3°C of warming based on policies currently in place, and those policies will need to be strengthened significantly to limit global warming to 1.5°C;

WHEREAS the costs to Charlottetown for dealing with sea level rise, stormwater, and sewer management is already significant and will become exceedingly so as a result of climate change;

WHEREAS the City of Charlottetown has been taking action on sustainability through adopting its Community Energy Plan which includes corporate and community greenhouse gas reduction targets and through participation the QUEST Community

Resilience Project, setting a solid foundation for ramping up ambition and action to meet the moral and scientific urgency of climate change;

AND WHEREAS a growing list of cities, districts and counties across the world representing over 15 million people collectively have recently declared or officially acknowledged the existence of a global climate emergency, including Vancouver, Kingston, Halifax, Edmunston and Moncton.

BE IT RESOLVED that Council recognize the breakdown of the stable climate and sea level under which human civilization developed constitutes an emergency for the City of Charlottetown;

AND FURTHER that Council continue to support projects that will support the City in mitigating climate change and reaching the City's corporate and community targets for greenhouse gas emission reduction as well as those that support the transition from fossil fuels and towards renewable energy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council continue to work cross-departmentally, with other levels of government, and with external partners to identify and prioritize climate adaptation projects that increase the resilience of Charlottetown to the impacts of climate change.



City of Charlottetown

Report No: E&S 19-24

Date: April 2, 2019

Directed to:
Chairperson Terry MacLeod, Members of the E&S
Committee

Attachments:

- Email request from the Council of Canadians requesting that Charlottetown declare a climate emergency

Department: Environment & Sustainability Committee

Prepared by: Ramona Doyle, Sustainability Officer

Subject: Resolution on Climate Emergency

RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee review the request from the Council of Canadians to bring a resolution to Council declaring a climate emergency.

A number of Canadian cities including Vancouver, Halifax, Kingston and Edmundston have passed Council resolutions declaring a climate emergency. These resolutions are in response to the October 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report that highlights the dire situation of climate change, the rapid increase of global warming and the impacts that will come as a result.

Excerpt from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), October 8, 2018:

"The report highlights a number of climate change impacts that could be avoided by limiting global warming to 1.5°C compared to 2°C, or more. For instance, by 2100, global sea level rise would be 10 cm lower with global warming of 1.5°C compared with 2°C. The likelihood of an Arctic Ocean free of sea ice in summer would be once per century with global warming of 1.5°C, compared with at least once per decade with 2°C. Coral reefs would decline by 70-90 percent with global warming of 1.5°C, whereas virtually all (> 99 percent) would be lost with 2°C."

"The report finds that limiting global warming to 1.5°C would require "rapid and far-reaching" transitions in land, energy, industry, buildings, transport, and cities. Global net human-caused emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) would need to fall by about 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030, reaching 'net zero' around 2050. This means that any remaining emissions would need to be balanced by removing CO₂ from the air."

The Council of Canadians has made a formal request to Council to pass a climate emergency. While the municipality is unlikely to receive additional funds from provincial or federal governments as a result of a resolution, it does provide an opportunity for the City to stress the impact of climate change and provide additional emphasis on the importance of climate change adaptation and of implementing the City's Community Energy Plan, adopted by Council in February 2019.

Respectfully,

Reviewed By:

CAO

Manager

Other

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