



Making a difference...together

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February 25, 2019

File: 5220-20
Climate Emergency Declaration
0400-20
Correspondence/Meetings/General

The Honourable George Heyman
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Room 112, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
Via email: george.heyman.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear Minister Heyman:

RE: INCREASED SUPPORT FOR CLIMATE ACTION

On February 13, 2019, the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board unanimously declared a climate emergency and assumed a leadership role working towards achieving carbon neutrality by 2030. I write to request that the Province strengthen progressive partnerships and direct funding, and provide additional support to regional and local governments to achieve provincial and accelerated local climate action goals related to both mitigation and adaptation.

The CRD is encouraged by the current CleanBC plan, which charts a course to reducing the province's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 18.9 MT by 2030. The CRD and its local governments are keen to support the implementation of these strategies.

We also wish to participate in the provincial planning efforts planned for the next 18-24 months that will close the existing 25% GHG emissions gap across the sections that are directly within local government's scope of influence or control. We also look forward to the results of the provincial Strategic Climate Risk Assessment and completion of a provincial adaptation strategy.

The CleanBC plan acknowledges that local governments are a critical partner in informing, influencing and often leading climate action efforts at the community scale. With additional, consistent provincial support, we are sure that these efforts can be greatly accelerated.

The CRD and its local governments look forward to being a strategic partner with the Province of BC to greatly reduce the region's GHG emissions and advance climate adaptation efforts.

Sincerely,

Colin Plant
Chair, Capital Regional District Board

cc: CRD Board
Robert Lapham, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD
Larisa Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services, CRD
Glenn Harris, Senior Manager, Environmental Protection, CRD