



Making a difference...together

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February 25, 2019

File: 5220-20  
Climate Emergency Declaration  
0400-40  
Correspondence/Meetings/General

The Honourable Catherine McKenna  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change  
107 Catherine Street (Main Office)  
Ottawa, ON K2P 0P4  
Via email: [Catherine.McKenna@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Catherine.McKenna@parl.gc.ca)

Dear Minister McKenna:

**RE: INCREASED SUPPORT FOR CLIMATE ACTION**

On February 13 2019, the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board, representing 13 municipalities and three electoral areas in Greater Victoria, British Columbia, unanimously declared a climate emergency and assumed a leadership role working towards achieving carbon neutrality by 2030. I write to request that the federal government strengthen progressive partnerships and direct funding, and provide additional support to regional and local governments to achieve accelerated federal and local climate action goals related to both mitigation and adaptation.

The CRD and its local governments are keen to support Canada in meeting its Paris Agreement commitments and strengthen the national efforts to limit the global average temperature rise to well below 2°C and pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C.

Regional and local governments are a critical partner in informing, influencing and often leading climate action efforts at the community scale. With additional, consistent federal support, we are confident that these efforts can be greatly accelerated.

The CRD and its local governments look forward to being a strategic partner with the federal government 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