

To the Mayor and Council of Port Coquitlam,

We are writing to express our support for the adoption of ambitious new climate targets by the City of Port Coquitlam, as recommended by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Right now, we are entering a critical decade of make-or-break years when it comes to putting the brakes on climate change, and the 2018 IPCC report states that we must limit our average global temperature warming to 1.5 degrees in order to avoid the worst impacts of the crisis.

Cities are responsible for 50-70% of emissions in Canada, and most cities, including Port Coquitlam, currently **lack a data-driven process for measuring the impact of their activities on GHG reduction**, and **few have made explicit commitments to accelerate their pace and scale of GHG reduction to the extent that has been deemed necessary by the IPCC**. Port Coquitlam has no current community emissions target, and the previous targets were for an 8% reduction from 2007 levels by 2017. To date the city of Port Coquitlam has not reported on the progress the community made towards these emissions targets. Climate scientists demand we reach a 45% reduction by 2030 and 100% reduction by 2050, as a minimum.

We are calling on Port Coquitlam City Council to model the leadership we need to attain deep and swift emissions reductions over the coming decade, by:

1. Passing a formal resolution to adopt the latest IPCC recommended GHG reduction targets of 45% below 2010 levels by 2030, 65% by 2040 and 100% by 2050 for all community-wide emissions.
2. Establishing a meaningful set of interim targets and ensuring that these targets are incorporated into all forthcoming municipal planning documents, including Community Energy and Emissions Plans (CEEPs) and Official Community Plans (OCPs.)
3. Directing city staff to draft a plan for annual transparent measuring and reporting on the municipality's community emissions beginning no later than 2020, including a proposal for how these activities will be funded.

The District of North Vancouver, City of North Vancouver, Vancouver, New Westminister, and Port Moody have all recently adopted the IPCC-recommended targets. We do not want Port Coquitlam to be last at the table. The community cares about our future and we know that each city must take bold action before it is too late to do so. Port Coquitlam must join other cities in taking the necessary steps to combat the climate crisis. Now is not a time for half measures and declarations; we need real action to protect our future.

We look forward to Port Coquitlam making a strong commitment to climate action as we transition our region to the first zero-carbon metropolis in Canada!

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____
BUSINESS/GROUP: _____