

Council Resolution to Join the FCM–ICLEI Partners for Climate Protection Program

WHEREAS The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI–Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI Canada) have established the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program to provide a forum for municipal governments to share their knowledge and experience with other municipal governments on how to reduce GHG emissions;

WHEREAS over 350 municipal governments across Canada representing more than 65 per cent of the population have already committed to reducing corporate and community GHG emissions through the PCP program since its inception in 1994;

WHEREAS the PCP program is based on a five-milestone framework that involves completing a GHG inventory and forecast, setting a GHG reduction target, developing a local action plan, implementing the plan, and monitoring progress and reporting results;

BE IT RESOLVED that the municipality of _____ review the guidelines on PCP Member Benefits and Responsibilities and then communicate to FCM and ICLEI Canada its participation in the PCP program and its commitment to achieving the milestones set out in the PCP five-milestone framework;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the municipality of _____ appoint the following:

a) Corporate staff person (Name) _____
(Job Title) _____
(Contact number) _____
(Email address) _____

b) Elected official (Name) _____
(Job Title) _____
(Contact number) _____
(Email address) _____

to oversee implementation of the PCP milestones and be the points of contact for the PCP program within the municipality.

Signature
Date

PCP Member Benefits and Responsibilities

The PCP program offers you a proven approach to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and the support you need to achieve success. Being actively engaged in the PCP program gives your municipality the chance to become a leader by taking systematic and organized action on climate change. By participating in the PCP program, Canadian municipalities gain access to the following tools and resources:

- Support and guidance, through the PCP Milestone Framework, to help members reduce GHG emissions.
- Access via the PCP Hub to a network of over 350 local governments across Canada that are taking action on climate change and can help your community succeed by offering their experience and examples.
- Technical support tools, including the PCP Milestone Tool and PCP Protocol.
- Information and access to funding opportunities, such as those offered by FCM's Green Municipal Fund.
- Capacity-building resources, including workshops, case studies and training opportunities.
- Awards and recognition for milestone achievements and for reported measures.

Members of the PCP program have the following responsibilities:

- Move through the Milestone Framework within 10 years of joining
- Report on progress at least once every two years, with our support
- Email us if your contact information changes
- Actively participate in program activities and share your experience with other network members

If your municipality is not able to meet the PCP program requirements, you can always leave the program and rejoin it at a later date. You can also contact the PCP Secretariat anytime for help with submitting documentation to meet the requirements.

Supporting Rationale for Consideration

It is well established that climate change is increasing the frequency of extreme weather events and posing other risks, such as drought, forest fires and rising sea levels, which present serious threats to our natural environment, our health, our jobs and our economy.

The 2016 Paris Agreement, signed by more than 190 countries, including Canada, committed to limit the global temperature increase to below two degrees Celsius and to pursue efforts to limit this increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius, in order to avoid the most severe climate change impacts.

Local governments are essential to the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Canada's cities and communities influence approximately 50 per cent of national greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and can drive systemic low-carbon practices, including: building high-efficiency buildings, undertaking building retrofits and developing district heating; building active transit, electric vehicle infrastructure and electrified public transit; implementing near-zero GHG waste plans; and delivering high-efficiency water and wastewater services.

Investments in these types of measures also reduce operating costs, help municipalities maintain and plan for future community services, protect public health, support sustainable community development, increase community resilience and reduce a community's vulnerability to environmental, economic and social stresses.

A number of government and international and national organizations have called for greater cooperation among all stakeholders to meet reduction targets, including Canada's Big City Mayors' Caucus, which supports binding GHG emission reduction targets at the international, national and city levels, action plans that cut emissions, identification of risks and mitigation solutions, and regular municipal GHG emissions reporting.