



December 4, 2009
File # 6450.01

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Attention: Right Honorable Stephen Harper, PC, MP
Prime Minister of Canada

Dear Prime Minister,

Reference: Copenhagen Summit on Climate Change

The City of Fort St. John Council has endorsed the following resolution to petition the Government of Canada to take a strong stance for an international climate agreement:

“WHEREAS Global action on climate change is vital for the health of our environment, our communities and our future;

WHEREAS the impacts of climate change as well as the responsibility for mitigation will fall on all levels of government;

WHEREAS Canada will be at the UN Climate Summit in December with other global leaders and has the opportunity to deliver an ambitious, fair and binding international agreement; and

WHEREAS the City of Fort St. John is already taking action on global warming with the following initiatives:

- City of Fort St. John representation at the Amazon Summit held in Brazil
- City of Fort St. John Corporate Energy and Greenhouse Gas inventory
- City of Fort St. John Official Community Plan Amendments with targets and policies for Greenhouse Gas reduction
- Greening of the City of Fort St. John's Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw, including but not limited to, oil separation catch-basins in parking lots, required "street trees"
- Voluntary signing of the Climate Action Charter which commits the City of Fort St. John to becoming carbon neutral in its operations in 2012



- Development of a Community Energy and Emissions Plan for Fort St. John
- Development of a Corporate Anti-Idling initiative in Fort St. John
- Development of a potable water management and conservation program in Fort St. John
- Development of a Sustainable Neighborhood Plan in Fort St. John
- Recommendation to Union of British Columbia Municipalities to lobby the Provincial Government to implement a fee for plastic shopping bags
- Arbor Day Tree Planting events
- Low Flush Toilet Rebate Program
- City of Fort St. John new Green Building Bylaw including (but not limited to) the Solar Hot Water Ready requirement and Solar Building Orientation
- Mandatory Erosion Control requirement for all new developments in Fort St. John
- Creation of new City Energy Manager position to oversee Fort St. John's commitment to becoming carbon neutral by 2012
- LED pathway lighting initiative
- Adoption of LEED Certification Policy for all new Municipal Buildings in Fort St. John
- City of Fort St. John is a member of ICLEI (an international association of local governments as well as national and regional local government organizations that have made a commitment to sustainable development).
- "Be the Change" – a public education initiative in the City of Fort St. John
- Creation of trail network (walk/bike) in the City of Fort St. John

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Fort St. John send a strong message to the Government of Canada of the importance of a fair, ambitious and binding international climate agreement to the citizens and businesses of the City of Fort St. John, including:

- Binding national greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for developed countries of at least 25 per cent below 1990 levels, by 2020; and



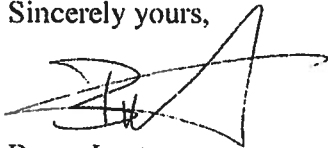
- International financing mechanisms under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to support low carbon and climate resilient development. Such financing must be democratically governed, accountable, additional to existing and projected Overseas Development Assistance, and accessible by low-income and vulnerable developing countries, civil society, women and indigenous peoples;

THAT, a copy of this resolution sent to the Prime Minister of Canada;

AND FURTHER THAT, the City of Fort St. John encourages municipalities across Canada to join in urging the Federal Government to make every effort to reach a fair, ambitious and binding international agreement on climate change.”

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely yours,



Bruce Lantz
Mayor

j/h

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