

WHEREAS a global reduction in the emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and its significant contribution to the creation of greenhouse gases (GHG) is necessary to slow climate change and reduce the risks to our economy, human health, the physical environment and quality of life;

WHEREAS reducing GHG makes economic sense. New and improved infrastructure, renewable energy technologies, energy efficiency, energy conservation, waste reduction, building retrofits, transit, walking, cycling, water conservation, better fleet management, more effective wastewater treatment and distribution, etc. can reduce short-term and/or long-term municipal operating costs and help maintain community services, while having a positive impact on the environment;

WHEREAS the impacts of climate change as well as the responsibility for mitigation will fall primarily on the municipality;

WHEREAS from December 7 to 18, 2009, governments from around the world will meet in Copenhagen, Denmark to negotiate terms and conditions of a global climate agreement for the period after 2012 (ie: after the Kyoto Protocol) and it is critical that Canada has the support it needs during these negotiations to conclude negotiations;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the District of Saanich send a strong message to the Government of Canada conveying the importance to the citizens and businesses of the District of Saanich of a world-wide climate agreement; that the Government of Canada should take a pivotal role in meeting the Global Climate Challenge; and that the Government of Canada should agree to sign a new binding international agreement.