



## CITY OF LANGLEY

### MOTION

#### **Supporting the Youth Movement in Addressing the Climate Crisis by the City of Langley Taking Action in Declaring a Climate Emergency – Cllr Rosemary Wallace**

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- WHEREAS Climate change is an existential crisis, and municipalities are at the forefront of addressing it; and
- WHEREAS The earth is currently on track to warm by more than 3 degrees Celsius; and
- WHEREAS An October 8, 2018 report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) finds that it is necessary to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, rather than 2 degrees as previously understood, and that doing so “would require rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society,” and that we have until 2030 to undertake these changes; and
- WHEREAS The IPCC report puts the benchmark for greenhouse gas reduction targets for corporate and community-wide emissions at 45% by 2030, 65% by 2040 and 100% by 2050; and
- WHEREAS The British Columbia government declared a provincial state of emergency in 2018 over record-setting wildfires; and
- WHEREAS Local governments world wide are taking action to avoid the worst impacts of climate change and calling on senior levels of government for an urgent emergency response; and
- WHEREAS Youth all over the world are forming alliances in addressing and taking action in problem solving in recognizing that every person deserves the right to a healthy environment...clean water, air and soil; and
- WHEREAS Sustainability teens presented a delegation to Langley City Council back in April of 2019 with a list of concerns and suggestions in the much-needed response to the climate crisis and the need for a Just Recovery for all; and
- WHEREAS Understanding the Indigenous Rights: Commit to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Full; and

WHEREAS The need to return to Indigenous Stewardship and the natural world in respecting the place in which we reside is on the unceded lands traditional territories Matsqui Kwantlen, Katzie and Semiahmoo First Nations.

WHEREAS Sustainability teens met with Metro Vancouver Action Committee and in a statement, stated... The climate crisis affects everyone especially youth, we will be the ones facing the worst impacts of climate change and that looms over us ever day.  
Because of this we demand that the committee do everything in their power  
A) declare a climate emergency and B) adjust their emissions reductions targets to 65% by 2030 and 100% by 2040;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT Council recognize that climate change constitutes an emergency in the City of Langley; and

THAT Council direct staff to report back on how the City can;

1. Update existing City plans with new targets as per the IPCC report
  2. Add new actions that would help reduce GHG emissions beyond the scope of the City's current targets; and
  3. Incorporate into the city's climate targets and actions the need to achieve net zero carbon emissions before 2050 and net negative carbon emissions in the second half of the century.
  4. Have a balanced approach in biodiversity, sustainability and stewardship and integrate a framework of climate mitigation, adaptation and resilience in consideration of all future developments and infrastructure projects within the City Of Langley.
  5. Facilitate intergenerational community engagement surrounding a just transition to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the scale that is required, with the focus on vulnerable members of society who will be most impacted by climate change and intersecting inequity; ensure these people are front and center in building long term solutions.
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