



MobilizeTO



July 8, 2021

Dear Councillor

On June 3rd we wrote to request a meeting with you to discuss the important new global campaign for a [Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty](#) and to ask you to consider Toronto's participation.

The events of the past week with the 'heat dome' in BC causing the deaths of hundreds of people and an estimated 1 billion marine animals due to the unprecedented extreme temperatures provide a stark reminder of just how urgent and present the climate crisis is.

As you are aware the IPCC is calling for a 45% reduction in emissions globally by 2030 if we are to have a chance at limiting global warming to 1.5C. This means a 7.6% reduction in emissions year over year till 2030. It will take bold steps to get there.

We are thankful that under your leadership Toronto has taken some important steps:

- creating a world class climate program, TransformTO, in 2017
- becoming a member of the C 40 cities
- declaring a climate emergency on Oct 2nd 2019
- calling on the provincial government to phase out reliance on gas plants in the electricity grid
- reaffirming the application of a climate lens on all city decisions

City Council will have the first of its Net Zero reports: the Building Emissions Report on its agenda next week. This report sets out the parameters for an ambitious retrofit program including fuel switching. As buildings are the source of 55% of Toronto's emissions this is one substantive way that Toronto can bring down its emissions.

But Toronto alone bringing down emissions will not solve the climate crisis. And focusing on reducing the consumption of fossil fuels is insufficient. We need a global commitment to end the expanding production of fossil fuels. In Canada this would mean no new permits for exploration and ending subsidies. We need the federal government to invest the money it is currently spending on [fossil fuel subsidies](#) in cities instead. \$18 Billion spent in 2020 alone would provide a substantial source of revenue for accelerating retrofits and other climate programs such as active transportation and transit investment.

The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty provides a framework for a global agreement on phasing out fossil fuels. The Treaty calls for ending new fossil fuel exploration and expansion, phasing out existing production in line with the global commitment to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and accelerating a just and equitable transition to a low-carbon future. The Fossil Fuel Treaty is in line with the May 2021 International Energy Agency's [Net Zero by 2050 plan](#)

Support for the Treaty is building internationally, with [101 Nobel Laureates](#) in support and an [open letter](#) signed by 1300 scientists and academics. Ten municipalities and sub-national governments have endorsed the Treaty including Vancouver, Los Angeles and the Australian Capital Territory. **We would be thrilled to see the City of Toronto become the second Canadian city to endorse this treaty initiative.**

We are joined in this call by the Toronto Climate Action Network which represents more than 30 climate organizations who endorsed the campaign for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty on June 19, 2021. Together with TCAN we and join in this call to our City Council to act now to add Toronto's support to this important initiative.

We are asking you as our Mayor to support the following recommendations:

1. City Council formally endorse the call for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.
2. City Council request that the City Manager send a letter to the Prime Minister of Canada requesting the federal government to negotiate a global treaty for the non-proliferation of fossil fuels.
3. City Council affirm its ongoing commitment to the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement and the greenhouse gas reduction targets and aspires to meet its proportionate greenhouse gas reductions.

We would very much like to meet with you to discuss Toronto's participation in the Treaty. In the meantime we are asking for your support when the motion comes to City Council at the July 14th meeting.

Together we can act for a better future for our children and grandchildren.



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TORONTO GROUPS THAT HAVE ENDORSED THE FOSSIL FUEL NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY

Members of Toronto Climate Action Network

ACER (Association for Canadian Educational Resources)
Citizens' Climate Lobby (Toronto)
Climate Challenge Canada
Climate Action Club
Climate Change Toronto
Climate Pledge Collective
ClimateFast
Council of Canadians (Toronto)
CREW Community Resilience to Extreme Weather
Drawdown Toronto
Ecologos/Water Docs
For Our Grandchildren
For Our Kids TO
Fridays for Future Toronto
Green 13
Green Majority Radio
Green Neighbours 21
Green Wave West
Greenpeace Canada
JustEarth
Kids Right to Know
MobilizeTO
Noor Cultural Centre
Ontario Clean Air Alliance
Parkdale-High Park 4 Climate Action
People's Climate Movement (GTA)
Project Neutral

Seniors for Climate Action Now! (SCAN!)
StopPlastics
Toronto Environmental Alliance
Toronto350.org
Transition Toronto
WHEN Women's Healthy Environments Network
TEECC – Toronto East End Climate Collective

A number of national organizations have also endorsed (many of which are Toronto-based or have Toronto chapters) including:

Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment

Canadian Union of Postal Workers

CAN (Climate Action Network - Canada)

David Suzuki Foundation

Environmental Defence

Faith and the Common Good

KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives

The Climate Reality Project Canada

Music Declares Emergency Canada