



July 20, 2021

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

We are writing to thank you for the historic decision you made at council last week to endorse the global campaign for a [Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty](#). **We are thrilled that the City of Toronto has become the second Canadian city to endorse this treaty initiative.**

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 – and this now includes Toronto!

The City is to be commended for responding to the tens of thousands who marched for climate justice in 2019 by making commitments in the Climate Emergency Declaration motion which it is now following up. It is very gratifying to see the adoption of the Net Zero Buildings Emissions and the (new) Toronto Green Standard. As buildings are the source of 55% of Toronto's emissions these are substantive ways that Toronto can bring down its emissions. These steps forward are recognized in this article in the Energy Mix: [Toronto Endorse Non-Proliferation Treaty, Adopts New Building Retrofit Standards](#).

We know, however, that Toronto's own efforts to reduce emissions and equitably transition to a low-carbon economy will not, by itself, solve the climate crisis. This is why Council's advocacy to other levels of government and its support for the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty is so important. As other Canadian municipalities follow the leadership of Toronto - and Vancouver - the collective voice of municipal leaders demanding action on ending the expansion of fossil fuels has the potential to accelerate the just transition we need to see. If the federal government were to invest the money it is currently spending on [fossil fuel subsidies](#) in cities instead this would provide a substantial source of revenue for retrofits and other climate programs such as active transportation and transit investment.

On behalf of the 33 member groups of [Toronto Climate Action Network](#) we thank you for ensuring that Toronto's name has now been added to the growing list of municipalities and sub-national governments that have endorsed the Treaty. Please know that this work is supported by the public – here's a recent article on public opinion: [Climate Storms Back as Top Issue for Canadian Voters](#) - and that your leadership will be noted across Canada.

Together we can act for a better future for those who are young now. We look forward to continuing to work with you for climate justice in our city and around the world.

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