



THE CORPORATION
OF
THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Moved by: _____ Date: May 6, 2019
Councillor J. Fogal

Seconded by: _____ Resolution No.: _____
Mayor R. Bonnette

15.1

WHEREAS the report "Canada's Changing Climate Report 2019 (CCCR) paints a stark and alarming picture of the future of Canada as a result of continued sustained and accelerating accumulation of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere;

AND WHEREAS the CCCR concludes that Canada's climate has warmed and will warm further in the future, driven by human influence and that global emissions of carbon dioxide from human activity will largely determine how much warming Canada and the world will experience in the future and this warming is effectively irreversible;

AND WHEREAS the CCCR further concludes that both past and future warming in Canada is, on average, about double the magnitude of global warming and northern Canada has warmed and will continue to warm at more than double the global rate;

AND WHEREAS the CCCR further finds that the rate and magnitude of climate change under high versus low emission scenarios project two very different futures for Canada. Scenarios with large and rapid warming illustrate the profound effects of continued growth in greenhouse gas emissions and that scenarios with limited warming will only occur if Canada and the rest of the world reduce carbon emissions to near zero early in the second half of the century and reduce emissions of other greenhouse gases substantially;

AND WHEREAS carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is accumulating at an accelerating rate and total emissions show no sign of decreasing on a worldwide basis;

AND WHEREAS all nations are responsible to do what they can to reduce their Green House Gas (GHG) emissions;

AND WHEREAS Canada is the worst emitter in the world of GHG's on a per capita basis;

AND WHEREAS the scenario will only worsen as time is wasted when action is immediately required;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Halton Hills Report PLS-2019-0001 also confirms that the "Business as Usual" scenario will have a significant impact on heat stress-related illness, mortality and productivity especially for vulnerable populations;

AND WHEREAS these and other associated climate change threats will seriously impact on the quality of life of all Ontarians but most especially today's young people.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Town of Halton Hills declare a Climate Emergency in the knowledge that this is an emergency with no foreseeable conclusion which will require permanent robust changes in how the Corporation conducts its business and a resetting of goals with respect to Engineering, Planning, Building, Recreation, Parks Libraries, Fire and Transportation Services;

AND FURTHER THAT in response to this emergency, the need to reduce overall emissions from the Town of Halton Hills is deemed to be the highest priority and can be addressed through but not limited to the following actions:

1. The Town of Halton Hills sets a goal to be a Net Zero municipality by 2030.
2. The update to the Halton Hills Green Building standards be strengthened, and tools be investigated to incentivize the construction of R-2000 or LEED Platinum standard or Net Zero buildings.
3. Transition the Town's fleet to electric vehicles wherever possible and as soon as possible.
4. The Town encourage staff and the public to switch to plug-in vehicles by installing more EV charging stations at Town facilities beginning with Town Hall, and further strategies (such as preferred parking spots) be considered to encourage the switch to electric and high efficiency vehicles by the public.
5. That staff investigate new standards to be included in site plan and secondary plans that move the Town towards a goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2030.

6. Plans for future growth be predicated on the most energy efficient model taking into consideration transportation emissions, opportunities for green energy development, and the importance of preserving high quality agricultural land.
7. That the role of a healthy eco-system including its important function of sequestering carbon be recognized as fundamental to any Climate Change plan by measures such as expanding tree planting and maintenance budgets.
8. That a Climate Change Task Force comprised of local experts, Conservation authorities, business leaders and community leaders, youth, faith organizations, non-profit organizations, indigenous representation, educators and others be formed taking advantage of expertise and community knowledge to assist in formulating and delivering a community-wide plan to reduce carbon emissions.
9. That a plan be made to inform and engage the residents and businesses in becoming part of the solution to this emergency.
10. That Halton Region be requested to become a partner in helping to reduce overall emissions in Halton Hills and adopt carbon reduction goals for Region as a whole and that this be considered a principle in the Regional Official Plan review.
11. That the Halton District School Board and Halton Catholic District School Board be requested to become partners and adopt carbon reduction goals for the Region as a whole.
12. That progress towards reducing overall carbon emissions originating in Halton Hills be reported annually to Council.
13. That the Mayor write to the Premier urging the Provincial Government to strengthen the Ontario Building Code with respect to energy efficiencies and to create incentives for energy efficiency retrofits for both residential buildings and commercial/industrial buildings and introduce incentives to hasten the shift in transportation away from fossil fuels.
14. That all Canadian Municipalities be challenged to pass similar resolutions specific to their locality, challenges and opportunities to respond to the Climate Emergency.

AND FURTHER THAT Council refer this resolution to staff to evaluate the listed actions with respect to impacts to the municipal government balanced against the dire impacts of inaction outlined in report PLS-2019-0001;

AND FURTHER THAT staff bring back a report on or before the June 25th Planning, Public Works Transportation Committee meeting outlining a recommended course of action;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to The Region of Halton, Local Halton Municipalities, Halton District School Board , Halton Catholic District School Board, The Halton Climate Collective, Halton MP's Halton MPP's , AMO, FCM and to The Climate Mobilization Organization, Partners for Climate Protection, Global Covenant of Mayors, Ministers of Environment both Federal and Provincial.

Mayor Rick Bonnette