

## Council Resolution to Join the FCM–ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) Partners for Climate Protection Program

**WHEREAS** the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concludes in its 2007 *Fourth Assessment Report* that “there is new and stronger evidence that most of the warming observed over the last 50 years is attributable to human activities”;

**WHEREAS** the IPCC concludes that human influences on the climate have likely contributed to a rise in the sea level during the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, changed wind and temperature patterns, and likely increased the risk of heat waves, the area of land affected by drought since the 1970s, and the frequency of heavy precipitation;

**WHEREAS** the *IPCC Special Report on Emission Scenarios* (SRES, 2000) projects an increase in global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of 25 to 90 per cent between 2000 and 2030;

**WHEREAS** the IPCC observes that warming resulting from human influences could lead to some abrupt or irreversible impacts, depending on the rate and magnitude of climate change;

**WHEREAS** the IPCC anticipates the following impacts from climate change over the next century for North America:

- Decreased snow pack, more winter flooding, and reduced summer flows resulting from warming in western mountains, exacerbating competition for over-allocated water resources;
- Increased aggregate yields of rain-fed agriculture by five to 20 per cent, but with important variability among regions; and major challenges for crops that are grown close to their highest suitable temperature or that depend on highly used water resources;
- Increased number, intensity and duration of heat waves for cities that currently experience them, creating potential for adverse health impacts; and
- Increased stress on coastal communities and habitats as a result of the interaction of climate change impacts and development and pollution;

**WHEREAS** GHGs (e.g. carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide), released from burning coal, oil and natural gas and from cutting trees and clearing land for agriculture and development, are the primary cause of climate change;

**WHEREAS** the *World Mayors and Municipal Leaders Declaration on Climate Change 2005* asserts the need for joint authority and global action on climate change;

**WHEREAS** municipal investments in building retrofits, community energy systems, water conservation, renewable energy technologies, waste reduction, landfill gas capture, fleet management, public transit and other sustainable measures reduce operating costs, help maintain community services, protect public health and contribute to sustainable community development while cutting GHG emissions contributing to climate change;



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**WHEREAS** the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI–Local Governments for Sustainability have established the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program to provide a forum for municipal governments to share their knowledge and experience with other municipal governments on how to reduce GHG emissions;

**WHEREAS** over 200 municipal governments across Canada representing more than 75 per cent of the population have already committed to reducing corporate and community GHG emissions through the PCP program;

**WHEREAS** PCP participants commit to working toward reducing GHG emissions in municipal operations by a suggested target of 20 per cent below 2000 levels, and a suggested target of six per cent below 2000 levels in the community within 10 years of joining the PCP program;

**WHEREAS** the PCP program is based on a five-milestone framework that involves completing a GHG inventory and forecast, setting a GHG reduction target and vision, developing a local action plan, implementing the plan, and monitoring progress and reporting results;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the municipality of \_\_\_\_\_ communicate to FCM its participation in the PCP program and its commitment to achieve the milestones set in the PCP five-milestone framework;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the municipality of \_\_\_\_\_ appoint the following:

- a) Corporate staff person (Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Contact number) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Elected official (Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Contact number) \_\_\_\_\_

to oversee implementation of the PCP milestones and be the points of contact for the PCP program within the municipality.

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Date



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