



**Extract from
Council Meeting of
Tuesday, October 22, 2019**

8. Motions

(b) Councillor Gilliland

Re: Declare Climate Emergency

Moved by Councillor Gilliland

Seconded by Councillor Humfryes

Whereas at least 457 Canadian municipalities have declared a "climate emergency"—in Ontario this includes Kingston, Hamilton, Ottawa, Burlington, Halton Hills, Greater Sudbury, St. Catharines, London, Vaughan, Prince Edward County, King, and Toronto; and

Whereas all of the cities who have declared climate change a state of emergency have established a goal of reducing Greenhouse Gases (GHG) by 80 per cent by 2050, per the Paris Accord; and

Whereas there is an urgent need to have a transformative action plan to reduce GHG to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees to avoid catastrophic climate change; and

Whereas climate change is currently affecting human habitats through rising sea levels and other extreme weather patterns; such as, hurricanes, intense heatwaves, frigid temperatures, ice storms, drought and flooding; and

Whereas climate change is currently threatening the survival of many species and other natural environments worldwide, stressing local and worldwide eco systems; and

Whereas climate change has a direct result of billions of dollars in property damage worldwide, negatively affecting local and global economies; and

Whereas local governments around the world have recognized the extreme emergency that climate change embodies and have expedited their own actions, and have called on provincial and national governments to strengthen action on climate change; and

EXTRACT/CORRESPONDENCE ROUTING INFORMATION			
External Correspondence was sent by Council Secretariat:	YES	X	NO
External Correspondence to be sent by:			

Whereas the solutions for reducing GHG provides other positive impacts on health, social inequity and economy;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That the Town of Aurora officially “declare a climate emergency” for the purposes of naming and deepening our commitment to protecting our eco systems by identifying key criteria to help reduce our carbon footprint and protect our community from the impacts of climate change; and
2. Be It Further Resolved That staff be directed to prioritize the process of creating a Climate Action Plan, once the Region releases its climate action plan report, for the Town of Aurora focused on reducing emissions and adaptation at the community level; and
3. Be It Further Resolved That staff be directed to look for opportunities for economic growth, stimulation in the low-carbon economy, and cost benefits for all who consume energy; and
4. Be It Further Resolved That staff be directed to refer to other municipal and global initiatives and forums such as Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy and report to Council with more information; and
5. Be It Further Resolved That this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario and the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Carried