



City of Burlington Climate Emergency Declaration

The members of the Burlington Sustainable Development Committee (SDC) are in support of the Climate Emergency Declaration presented by Councillor Nisan on April 16, and strongly urge members of Council to vote in its favour on April 23. As outlined in countless studies and reports, including those identified in the declaration, immediate action is required in order to minimize the degree of global warming.

The declaration is consistent with the Principles and Objectives of Sustainable Development that were endorsed by Council in June 2017 and are included as Appendix E of the Official Plan:

- *Principle 2:* "Recognize the urgency of climate change and take measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt."
- *Objective n:* "Energy Conservation, Efficiency and Generation: Promote net zero carbon energy generation and usage. Increase energy conservation through efficient land use planning and building design. Encourage sustainable local thermal and electrical energy generation and the supporting distribution network. Adopt low emission forms of transportation. Take all opportunities to switch from fossil fuel to renewable and electricity-based technologies."

The SDC is in support of the development of a City of Burlington Climate Action Plan that sets out measurable targets and milestones for the entire community. The SDC recommends that the following be added to the Climate Emergency Declaration:

- d. include performance metrics to track progress and timelines for achieving key deliverables/major milestones, and a strategy to report back publicly on progress.

The SDC is fully in support of engagement and consultation with the community and would like to contribute to the development of targets and milestones.

The SDC would like to see Burlington City Council lead by example both through this Declaration as well as through setting and sharing personal carbon reduction goals, helping to model the daily actions and choices that all of us will need to make to address the climate emergency.

Members of the Burlington Sustainable Development Committee

April 22, 2019