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Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2021 1:07 PM

To: Bill Robertson <okotoksmayor@okotoks.ca>

Subject: It's time for a made-in-Canada Green New Deal - Nouveau pacte vert

Dear Mayor ROBERTSON,
OKOTOKS

Climate change is here.

The dangerously high temperatures we saw in B.C. recently claimed the lives of more than 700 people, who died during the extreme heatwave. That same week, the B.C. community of Lytton, and people living on surrounding Nlaka'pamux First Nation territory and rural areas, became one of the hottest places on Earth, with a killing temperature of 49.5 C on June 29, 2021. The catastrophic fire that came subsequently burned down this B.C. village.

The climate emergency is the most pressing challenge of our time – Indigenous people and other impacted front-line communities are experiencing the impacts of the climate crisis often far more profoundly than other communities.

As the planet warms, the pathway to net zero by 2050 is narrow but clear. We must raise our ambitions and spend more time working to solve the climate emergency by curbing the drivers of climate change and putting forward proposals for a clear path to resolving the climate crisis. Science and indigenous knowledge provide a complex understanding about how to address the climate crisis and it is critical for developing a climate emergency action framework.

We need to supercharge our climate action ambitions now to reduce emissions, close the socio-economic gaps and ramp up the shift toward a clean energy low-carbon economy. I need your help to make a greater impact for this change on the federal government, as we continue to impress upon them the need for Canada to act with urgency to address the climate crisis and the growing socio-economic inequalities at the same time.

Here are two legislative tools that I've proposed in Parliament to get us to where we need to go in helping us to resolve these intersectional crises with the urgency with which we must act: [Motion M-1 for a Green New Deal](#) and [Motion M-94](#) to stop the Trans Mountain pipeline project.

I am seeking your endorsement of these legislative initiatives.

We know the next 10 years are the most critical to fighting the climate crisis. The world's top scientists are telling us we must dramatically reduce our emissions if we want to avoid the worst consequences of severe climate change. Canada, and other industrialized countries, must plan to drastically scale back fossil fuels and not build any new oil, gas or coal infrastructure.

Recently, an unprecedented decision by the International Energy Agency (IEA) recommended no new fossil fuel infrastructure if we're to avoid catastrophic climate change.

We need to examine what that means now for Canada's climate and energy policies going forward, including plans for the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project, which contradict the Trudeau government's own climate plans. Canada must immediately stop the construction of the TMX pipeline as outlined in M-94 and instead invest in a Green New Deal.

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), building a world that can thrive will require "rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society." The IPCC estimates that for the global economy to move onto a viable climate stabilization path, global emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) will have to fall by 45 percent as of 2030 and be at zero emissions by 2050.

M-1 would promote a reorientation of our economy to consider the needs of the climate emergency we are facing. The investments required in the Green New Deal framework would, by necessity, require every level of governments to adopt a range of socio-economic and energy-efficiency policies. The Green New Deal advocates that the issues related to the climate crisis are also social, referring to economic inequalities, lack of job security and the rise of racism and xenophobia. A fair and just made-in-Canada Green New Deal, includes required public investments in key sectors such as clean and renewable energy, energy retrofit buildings, sustainable public transit, sustainable agriculture and water systems, health care, affordable housing, education, childcare and more.

Our ultimate goal is to move quickly and actively address the issues addressed in these motions by growing our national campaign to get M-1 and M-94 adopted in Canada's Parliament. This would lead to the production of a number of Bills to enact those measures and as a result real transformational change where no one is left behind, as we turn our focus away from fossil fuels and on investing in clean renewable energy and a more just economy to avert climate catastrophe, where no one is left behind.

It is still achievable if governments act now and fast as extreme weather events become increasingly common. We are in a climate emergency. Canada's climate is warming twice as fast as the global average. The Arctic is currently warming two to three times faster than the rest of the globe. It's clear there's no time to waste. We are on perilous ground and have a duty to act to address climate change.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this matter. I urge you to join the call of the many who have endorsed these important legislative initiatives. Please let me know if you have questions at all. I hope to receive your endorsement.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Stay healthy and safe in these challenging times.

Sincerely,
Peter Julian, MP (New Westminster-Burnaby)

NDP House Leader
NDP Finance Critic
New Democratic Party | Nouveau Parti démocratique