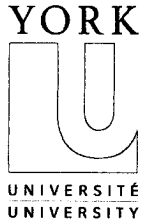


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Toronto March 1 2015

Parks and Environment Subcommittee on Climate Mitigation and Adaptation

Councillor Gord Perks, Chair
Councillor Joe Cressy, Councillor Sarah Doucette, Councillor Mike Layton

Dear Members of the Subcommittee:

Please allow me to start by congratulating your valuable efforts and by providing encouragement so you can accomplish practical and tangible results. To help you achieve such results I bring to your attention two ongoing efforts that I trust will be highly valuable to you.

On March 18, we will release in Montreal a comprehensive study titled "Acting on Climate Change: Solutions from Canadian Scholars".

The study was developed using scholarly consensus on science-based, viable solutions for greenhouse gas reduction and was produced by Sustainable Canada Dialogues, an initiative under the UNESCO- McGill Chair for Dialogues on Sustainability. The report includes the work of over 60 Canadian scholars from every province, representing climate change expertise in areas from engineering to sociology.

We have written to Mayor John Tory to invite key representatives of the City of Toronto Administration to a workshop that we will hold in Montreal as part of the release of the report (please see attached a copy of the invitation letter).

In addition, I bring to your attention the work of the Global Go 100% Renewable Energy Initiative, which has recently combined efforts with ICLEI (for details see <http://www.iclei.org/details/article/iclei-signs-mou-with-the-global-100-renewable-energy-campaign.html>). ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability is the world's leading network of over 1,000 cities, towns and metropolises committed to building a sustainable future.

The Global Go 100% Renewable Energy Initiative has also combined efforts with the Climate Action Network International to collaborate in the adoption of new policies and efforts to achieve 100% renewable energy.

We currently work with leading cities like Munich and Barcelona that are adopting 100% renewable energy plans and that are eager to share their experiences in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

We look forward to collaborating with your subcommittee to help advance your valuable work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jose Etcheverry".

Dr. Jose Etcheverry
Associate Professor
Co-Chair Sustainable Energy Initiative
rejose@yorku.ca
www.yorku.ca/sei

Montreal, January 28th 2015

Mayor John Tory
Office of the Mayor
City Hall
100 Queen St. West
Toronto, ON, M5H 2N2

Re: Participation of high-ranking officials in a dialogue on climate mitigation actions during Americana.

Dear Mayor John Tory,

In January, I invited you, on behalf of numerous partners eager to support on-going and future efforts to mitigate climate change, to solicit the participation of high-ranking officials in a dialogue that will take place in Montréal on March 18th 2015 in the context of Americana, the international trade show on environmental technologies. We hope that our event could serve as a preparatory step leading to the spring Premier's Summit on Climate Change to be organized by Québec's Honorable PM Philippe Couillard.

As you know, one of the main messages from of the Intergovernmental panel on Climate Change (IPCC) tells us that to limit warming to 2°C, we need to *reduce* greenhouse gas *emissions* by at least 40% by 2030 and by at least 80% by 2050; this involves substantial technological, economic and institutional challenges. As a titular of the Canada Research Chair on Climate Change Mitigation and Tropical Forests at McGill University and negotiator at the UN Framework Convention on Climate for the Government of Panama in 2005 to 2009, I decided to contact my colleagues across Canada to build a plan of action to face climate change by identifying achievable sustainability actions. More than 60 scholars responded, crossing a range of disciplines from economics and engineering to policy and technological development. We believe that the result could be at the heart of future action plans for sustainable development at both national and provincial levels.

Our synthesis document will be launched in the context of Americana on March 18, where some 10,000 environmental experts will meet, to maximize the reach of the proposed action on a dialogue session. We hope to discuss our proposal and to favor a synergy between the academic sector, with its power-generating ideas, and the private and industrial sectors, with their power for technological innovation.

We envision that the March 2015 dialogue will allow sharing, with high-ranking officials from Ministers of Environment, Economic Development, Natural Resources and Transportation across Canada, the proposed actions put forward by the scholars of the *Sustainable Canada Dialogues*. We are indeed convinced that interprovincial cooperation is an issue of great importance. One of our hopes is to be able to discuss, in an open and constructive way, the possible actions which would allow each province, and Canada as a whole, to adopt ambitious emissions reduction targets for the post-2020 period, without putting the economy at risk.

To provide a constructive safe-space for in-depth substantive discussions of technical matters with high-ranking officials from across Canada, we envision one half-day of discussions taking place under Chatham House rule. Specifically, we would like to develop three aspects of facing change, these being: (1) What is the vision of society on carbon and what are the possible avenues for reaching this vision?, (2) What are the obstacles to this work?, and (3) How can the social acceptability of these necessary measures be promoted? The dialogue taking place in this context will be synthesized in a document that will integrate the proposals made by the scholars and the observations made by the governmental officials.

By fostering a synergy between the academic, private and industrial sector of Canada in the context of Americana, our initiative hopes to promote a novel and positive approach to climate change mitigation. We believe that tackling climate change is essential, not only for the future generations of Canadians but also for our economic development. We will contact your office in the upcoming weeks to follow up with our request for your engagement.

Please accept, Mayor Tory, our highest regards.



Catherine Potvin

Titulaire of the Canada Research Chair on Climate Change Mitigation and Tropical Forests
Department of Biology
Trottier Fellow from the Trottier Institute for Science and Public Policy
McGill University
<http://biology.mcgill.ca/faculty/potvin/>
<http://www.sustainablecanadadialogues.ca>

In the name of the Sustainable Canada Dialogues

Climate Action : Time for dialogue and innovation

18 March 2015, Palais des Congrès de Montréal

8:30

Welcome

Jean Lacroix, Réseau Environnement

From Montréal to Paris

Catherine Potvin, McGill University

8:45

A road map for the transition to a low carbon economy

(Goal of the panel – present in more details what Catherine Potvin alluded to, emphasize the substance on those things)

Moderator : Gérald Fillion, journalist for RDI Economie, Radio-Canada (TBC)

Round Table

George Hoberg, University of British Columbia – *Carbon pricing* (10 min)

Normand Mousseau, Université de Montréal – *Energy production* (10 min)

Liat Margolis, University of Toronto – *Around the cities: energy consumption* (10 min)

Helle Bank Jorgensen, UN Global Compact Network Canada - *Private sector principles and engagement* (10 min)

David Cadman, President, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability (10 min)

Closing remarks

France expectations for the 2015 Paris Climate Conference

Laurence Tubiana, Special representative for the 2015 Paris Climate Conference (TBC) – 15 min

10:00

Coffee break (meeting with medias)

10:30

Dreaming the possible futures: Challenges and opportunities for innovation in the transition to a low carbon economy and for a new society

(Goal : The transition to a low carbon economy as a positive challenge that will bring opportunities for innovation. A motivating panel)

Moderator : TBC

Beginning of electrification in Quebec - Former representative from Hydro-Quebec (TBC)

North America Cap-and-Trade Market – Jean-Yves Benoît, Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment and Fight Against Climate Change (TBC)

11:00

Linking Climate Change to the broader Sustainability Agenda

Land use - Sally Aitkens, University of British Columbia (7 min)

Education - Mark Stoddart, Memorial University (7 min)

Questions and answers with both previous panel and SCD members being experts in mines remediation (Ken Oakes, U. Cape Breton), biodiversity (Sally Otto, UBC), water management (Francois Anctil, Université Laval), sustainable mobility (Catherine Morency, École Polytechnique).

11:50 **Mitigation-Action : Major constructions, dreams as a social force**
Catherine Potvin, McGill University

Private session under Chatam House Rules

(Goal : To better understand what is a low carbon society, and share evidence including examples, scientific evidence and scholarly knowledge)

12:00 ***Lunch & 3 Toasts : RSC Toast, Trottier Institute Science and Public Policy toast – Tim Moore (Chair), French Association for Science Toast***

13:15 *Opening comments - Why are we here, what do we need to do*
Catherine Potvin, McGill University

Introduction to Chatham house rules
Shauna Sylvester, Simon Fraser University

Road map to carbon post 2050 Canada vision
Resource person : James Meadowcroft, Carleton University

14:00 *How to overcome the barriers*
Resource person : TBC

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 *Social acceptability : How to foster changes*
Resource Person : Jose Etcheverry, York University

16:45 **Closing remarks**
Trust and cooperation: Ostrom's framework to manage global commons
Fikret Berkes, University of Manitoba

17:00 **Cocktail**