

Dear Chair and members of the IEC,

My name is Alexander Hurka and I am writing on behalf of Toronto-based climate action group, [Toronto350.org](https://toronto350.org). We wish to depute on item IE3.4 - Carbon Accountability: Institutionalizing Governance, a Carbon Budget and an Offset Credits Policy. We are strongly in favour of this motion, and hope the city will adopt a carbon budget this year.

We applaud the city's ongoing efforts to enhance Toronto's sustainability in the face of the worsening climate crisis. The additional adoption of a carbon budget will:

- Help track the city's progress towards its short- and long-term emission reduction targets and give the city tangible numbers to show citizens that efforts at the group, individual, and city-wide level are paying off;
- Help make the case for future initiatives (e.g. low-carbon transportation, waste conversion, district heating, and more).

Members of our community have been touched by climate change in the form of heat waves, high water levels and flooding of Lake Ontario, and increasingly violent storms that injure people, damage infrastructure, and cause power and transport outages. Those experiencing homelessness are more severely affected. With climate change having these urgent, tangible effects in our city, we believe that urgent, tangible actions are needed to keep communities safe and build a prosperous future.

As Canada's principal cultural and financial centre, Toronto needs to lead by example. The city of Toronto is home to 2.9 million people and it is essential that we contribute to a safe and livable environment for our residents, now and in the future. We see the immediate adoption of the Carbon Budget as a valuable step in that direction.

Thank you for your time,

Alexander Hurka, on behalf of Toronto350.org
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