

Candidate: Jessica McIlroy

Riding: City of North Vancouver

- 1. Many communities don't know how much climate change is costing them at present, and will cost in the future. Will you commit to putting systems in place to identify and track those costs?**

Yes. I believe the City of North Vancouver has done a great job of planning for both the adaptation requirements due to the impacts of climate change and the mitigation measures the city should be taking. I agree that keep track of the financial costs of both of these is very important.

- 2. Will you work to develop and implement climate adaptation plans to reduce the harm that climate change causes in your community? How will you fund climate adaptation?**

The City of North Vancouver has a Climate Change Adaptation Plan that was adopted in 2013. The city also states that "because climate change will affect nearly all aspects of life, the City has also made the strategic decision to integrate adaptation throughout all City operations, including the 2014 Official Community Plan (OCP)." These measures are included in the city budget.

The City is also following the Building Adaptive and Resilient Communities (BARC) Program to plan for the impacts of climate change.

I fully support the continued work of the city on these plans and actions, and will look at where updates are required.

- 3. Will you commit to protecting taxpayers by seeking to recover a fair share of climate costs from the fossil fuel companies who profit from selling products that result in greenhouse gases? Specifically, if elected, would you ask your Council to:**

- a. Send Climate Accountability letters from your community to major fossil fuel producers demanding that they pay their fair share of local climate costs caused by their activities and products?**

No answer

- b. Press the province of BC to enact Liability for Climate-related Harms laws to give municipalities and others greater legal certainty, lower costs and timely resolutions if they sue to recover climate damages from fossil fuel companies?**

No answer

c. Explore legal action against fossil fuel companies to recover a share of local climate costs?

No answer

4. In your view, why is it important (or not) to hold fossil fuel companies accountable for your community's climate costs?

I'm not opposed to the concept of holding fossil fuel companies accountable for greenhouse gases and the impacts of climate change that can be tied to their business practices. However, I do question the practicality and effectiveness of this process. There have not been successful law suits to date when cities have tried, as there is no legal process or precedent that allows them to go through. What I believe is a more effective way of using financial measures in climate policy is using a meaningful carbon tax, combined with the removal of fossil fuel subsidies. We need to change the business case for fossil fuels and strength the business case for renewable energy, energy efficiency and clean tech.