

Candidate: Adrian Crook

Riding: 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?**

"What gets measured, gets managed."

This is a well-worn business quote, but it applies here. Often we see institutions fight against measuring their negative impacts, as they're aware that once measured, they can be managed. In the same way I've proposed Affordable Housing Accountability dashboard - making transparent the City's efforts to mitigate our housing crisis - we should measure and report the impact of climate change on our communities.

Once measured and understood, the public will to address the problem can be focused. Politicians can then move forward with measures to protect our communities.

- 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?**

In much the same way as society has pursued tobacco companies for damages, and now the BC government is pursuing opioid makers, we should pursue the companies that profit the most from creating and maintaining our climate crisis: fossil fuel companies.

A tax on these firms simply becomes a line item in their P&L statements, but for affected communities it can be the lifeline upon which a climate adaptation plan is built. It's this sort of re-balancing between corporate and community interests that we desperately need if we're to reverse the climate course we're on.

- 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?**

Yes.

- 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?**

Yes.

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

Yes.

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

Our climate crisis, to use economic language, is the "negative externality" that fossil fuel production creates. In simple economic terms, this means that it's the "cost that is suffered by a third party as a result of an economic transaction."

If your neighbour sold tickets to a music festival held on your front lawn, rendering it a mud pit, wouldn't it make sense to reclaim repair costs from him?

The lines of liability are just as clear between fossil fuel companies and our climate crisis.