

## Candidate: Anna King

Riding: Victoria

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- 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 will commit to putting systems in place to identify and track the cost of climate change for communities. It can be all too easy to see climate change as only a broad issue; it is imperative that the current and future consequences of climate change be communicated in a way that makes them relevant at the community and individual level. Mid-September, I signed the Community Climate Hub pledging to vote for policies that work towards a carbon neutral Victoria by 2050 and I aim to do so if elected.

- 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?**

Yes, it is of utmost importance to develop and implement climate adaptation plans. We need a sustainable future for our generation and generations to come. The City of Victoria can look to creating infrastructure for alternative modes of transportation in order to reduce reliance on motorized vehicles. Further, increasing trees and greenspaces would help reduce harm caused by human-accelerated climate change. Other creative solutions may include promoting community gardens and increase popularity of plant-based diets.

- 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. I think it is important to stand with other municipalities in BC who have spoken up by pressuring fossil fuel companies to repay communities for climate change damages resulting from their activities and products.

- 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. I agree that it is through communities and governments working together that we will be able to set new, climate change-adverse precedents for fossil fuel companies and environmentally destructive business practices in all sectors.

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

No. I think it is appropriate for businesses to bear the of the cost of their practices where this can be enforced; however the cost of pursuing legal action needs to be considered when it comes to taxpayer dollars. Indeed, the payout from fossil fuel companies is enticing, but the legal system is strenuous and may not be the best way to tackle the issue. Therefore, I cannot pledge yes to this item.

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

It is too easy for those who are making the largest carbon contributions to create higher and higher concentrations of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere to be the furthest removed from the effects of their actions. Incentives, penalties, and the pressure of voices from many communities must all be used together to change the way fossil fuel companies conduct their business.