

Candidate: Daniel Jackson, on behalf of Sharmarke Dubow, Sarah Potts, and Laurel Collins of Together Victoria.

Riding: Victoria

- 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. City councillors endorsed by Together Victoria will push for a comprehensive and ongoing accounting of the cost of climate change impacts for the City of Victoria. Additional analysis is needed to see what the appropriate tools would be to conduct this work, which would need to be within the city's jurisdiction and available budget resources.

- 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?**

We will build on the work to date since Victoria's first climate adaptation strategy was adopted in 2011. The 2018 Climate Leadership Plan includes a suite of actions on adapting to climate impacts and promoting greater community resilience. We will support ongoing funding of the plan, and monitor the implementation of those actions to make adjustments over time as 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?**

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?**

Since a Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) resolution carries much greater impact than an individual mayor and council sending a letter to the Premier, we would work with the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities to bring another resolution on this issue to the 2019 UBCM Convention. We are grateful for the work that the Georgia Strait Alliance and WCEL has done on this front, and we would support their efforts by speaking and voting in favour of it, and working to get the support of other elected officials.

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

We would seek legal advice from staff and discuss with other South Island communities to see if the Capital Regional District would be interested in launching such an action. We are mindful of the cost and length of time it would take to get resolution to this legal action (e.g. the BC Ministry of Health sued the tobacco companies 20 years ago and the case is still not resolved) and would consider these factors carefully in deciding on the best course of action.

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

Holding the fossil fuel industry accountable for the climate impacts their sector helped cause is part of the global movement for divestment and opposing new fossil fuel infrastructure, such as the Kinder Morgan Pipeline. This is particularly relevant with increasing evidence that multinational oil companies knew for decades that increased fossil fuel consumption would cause devastating climate change, and yet they deliberately withheld this information from the public.

That said, it's important to also talk about how we can all contribute to the solutions to the climate crisis, and local governments can promote key solutions like alternative transportation, zero-carbon buildings and waste reduction.