

## Candidate: Gord Lovegrove

Riding: Kelowna

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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?**

Agreed, monitoring and reporting is not as strong as it could be at the local level.

As a researcher and an engineer, this is my passion - how will we understand more, refine and make better decisions, unless we identify and track those costs - yes, I commit to putting systems in place to do so.

And I already have done research and work in this area, for example the UBC TREK Program Center Director from 1997 to 2005 with its annual reports.

- 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, I will work to develop and implement. And I have already been working with the City of Kelowna as an expert stakeholder to help them develop their Climate Change Plan. What concerns me is that they need not just a good plan, but the strong leadership to enact it and achieve its goals. For that, we need funding, and our Nobel Prize laureates this week have repeated the call - what we already know - carbon taxes, road tolls, parking charges, water meters - consumption taxes are key to this, not just controlling demand but using funds raised to fund the climate adaptation/mitigation plan!

- 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 will commit to push Kelowna council to send letters

- 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 commit to push Kelowna council to bring motions to the UBCM AGM and pursue government legislative changes.

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

Yes, I commit to push Kelowna council to support this in as much as local governments can, and likely this will mean joining a class action lawsuit brought by many others, as has been successful in the past.

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

In the grand scheme, NA society is addicted to oil, 75% of what we do every day depends on it. Addiction, like smoking (nicotine) and other substances, requires a pusher, a substance, an addict. Fuel companies, and their slick marketing programs - often in the guise of making the world a better place to live through arm's length non-profits they fund - point out the tempting, short term benefits of a carbon-based economy. Who pays the long-term costs - traffic injuries & fatalities? air pollution asthma & deaths? extreme weather event fatalities & damages? All of this is compounded by, and difficult to distill down to, the fact that it's a tangled web of companies involved - fossil fuel companies; road builders; car companies; repair shops - local and regional jobs that are created by fossil fuels. We need to show not just guilt - that's the easy part. We to show opportunity cost - if we had instead not fallen to temptation and become addicted to oil - we had(have) other choices (i.e. non-fossil fuel, renewable, green energy sources) that should have been (would have been) pursued, but in many ways were precluded if not sabotaged by fossil fuel companies. For example, see the movie "Who Killed the Electric Car" and others. This is the story that needs to be told and in my view holds best promise of success against fossil fuel companies, leading to change and a sustainable improved, greener quality of life for all of NA, while at the same time supporting a thriving economy, replacing black jobs with green jobs!