Candidate: Jeremy Loveday

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. I support the City of Victoria implementing a bold climate action strategy that is informed by full cost accounting of the impacts of climate change mitigation and adaptation.

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. As a City Councillor, I supported the creation of the City's Climate Leadership Plan which sets bold and necessary targets of going 100% renewable and reducing GHGs by 80% by 2050. This plan also includes work to improve community resilience and investments in infrastructure to adapt to our new climate reality. For now, this funding will have to come out of municipal tax dollars but I will advocate for funding from upper levels of government and from fossil fuel companies through the movement for climate accountability.

- 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 was happy to bring a motion forward with Councillor Isitt and Mayor Helps to have the City of Victoria join the chorus of municipalities demanding climate accountability. We also forwarded the motion for consideration at the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities and the Union of BC Municipalities.

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?

I am interested in this idea and would love to meet with WCEL and other interested parties to explore this idea after the election.

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

I would not support the City going alone on this. I think this action would be better coming from a coalition of municipalities such as the Union of BC Municipalities. The City of Victoria does not have the resources to take on a legal battle of this magnitude.

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

For too long, fossil fuel companies have profited from the destruction of our planet. It is imperative that we stop subsidizing fossil fuel companies at the expense of our future. I support divesting City investments from fossil fuels where possible and continuing to push for climate accountability from fossil fuel companies. This model of action worked in the battles against big tobacco and it can work in this fight as well.