

Candidate: Kelli Gallagher

Riding: Powell River

- 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?**

I would commit to putting systems in place to identify and track the costs of climate change. I was disappointed when at the UCBM voted down a motion to appropriately increase taxes for the greatest contributors to climate change

- 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?**

I am for working towards climate adaptation plans to reduce the impact of climate change. I don't have all the answers as to how to do this, but I feel that there must be ways of sustainability that are actually cost effective or even profitable, such as geothermal and solar energies. Electric buses. Encouraged reduction of consumption of cheap energy / single use plastics / excess packaging / inefficient transporting, etc.

- 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?**

I say yes, and am all for True Cost Accounting... you pay in accordance with to the amount you taking / using / costing. So a green and efficient, or net zero or net positive energy company would definitely be given the tax breaks. This may be more effective than max taxing large polluters, which I agree is necessary, but believe it may take some time to move towards that as there is obviously a lot of resistance to that, as evidenced at the last UCBC meeting, unfortunately. On a positive note, there were many in favour of increasing taxes in direct proportion to pollution, rightfully so.

- 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?**

I would be willing to explore it. I honestly don't know if that is cost effective or a good use of time. We know that these corporations have the money to fight these kind of

actions and drag them on for a very long time. Knowing that takes a massive amount of time and energy, perhaps creating the alternative is as equally beneficial.

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

I definitely feel it is important to hold companies responsible for their part in climate change. When they are not held responsible, they are free to be irresponsible. This is largely how we have gotten into this horrible mess in the first place. There is a dominance of "cheap" energy and the treated of resources as though they are disposable and infinite. Clearly we are now seeing exactly how detrimental this way of doing business has become... we are just starting to see the impact and I believe that much of the battle is mitigating the damage that is done and the changes that are to come. Building resilient communities with new strategies and new ways of doing business. No more business as usual, basically.