

Candidate: Michelle Connerty

Riding: Township of Langley

- 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, absolutely. Deforestation and increased impermeable surface resulting in aquifers not having the same ability to recharge will increase water costs for our municipality. Flooding as a result of higher fresh-water along the Fraser River will increase our Emergency Responder costs and erode land. Global change in weather patterns increasing the chance of catastrophic storms and weather events will also increase our costs.

- 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. I would be a strong advocate for the following:

- green roofs
- solar and wind energy
- community gardens and preservation of green spaces
- walkable neighbourhoods and integrated transit to get people out of their cars
- bicycle lanes off main roads but planned out with routes that will allow cyclists to move quickly throughout the Township

Funding for these initiatives can be accomplished through DCCs (Development Community Contributions) and CACs (Community Amenity Contributions) as well tax dollar allocated for such initiatives.

- 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?**

Absolutely - fossil fuel companies have huge revenues and they should be contributing to our Communities to offset some of the damages that their products incur.

- 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 would be interested in finding out more about these laws and if they have precedent within Canada and the details around such laws being upheld by the Courts. It's an interesting issue that deserves more research.

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

No Answer

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

Again, I am interested in the case law around this issue and exploring this and other avenues to address the damages. I cannot answer yes or no to this question at this point.