

## Candidate: Rick McGowan

Riding: Burnaby

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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?**

Yes. A good action plan requires good tracking of measurable indicators. We will direct city staff to investigate what tracking has been done in the past, identify gaps and develop a system of tracking that is as accurate as possible.

- 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?**

Within one year of being elected, we intend to submit a formal request to council to raise Burnaby's community greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets to meet or beat the new province-wide standard of 40% by 2030, 60% by 2040 and 80% by 2050 below 2007 levels. We will look at current procurements with the goal to reduce emissions. We will seek partnerships with educational institutions, other levels of governments and other stakeholders to help offset costs. We will consider using density bonus, non-statutory reserves and existing tax revenues.

- 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?**

No Answer

- 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?**

No Answer

- 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?**

Presently, our resource based economy exports much of our production. We cannot expect our residents to pay for the entire environmental costs of extraction and/or accidents that occur on this territory. We believe in a polluter pay model where the end user is ultimately accountable. Since end users are in other jurisdictions, it makes sense for the fossil fuel company to cover this cost and pass it on to the overseas consumer.