

Candidate: Shakeel Gaya

Riding: Port Coquitlam

- 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?**

Definitely a good idea.

- 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?**

This is part of my platform. It is for this reason that I am contesting the election to halt the urban sprawl taking place. I am endorsing high density apartment towers in designated areas to increase the supply of housing. The increased density will enable PoCo to fight for the extension of Skytrain. This will reduce the traffic jams and reduce emissions. The land space saved will be turned into parks and recreational space increasing the oxygen while reducing the carbon emissions.

- 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?**

This two pronged approach seems the most reasonable as the city would not be able to take on the large oil corporations. In collaboration with the provincial and federal governments much greater can be applied on the oil companies.

- 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?**

Holding the oil companies accountable would be only a part of the strategy. They must be greater incentives to reduce the actual demand for fossil fuels from the community. Incentives should be given for construction of high rise apartments and general housing to make them

more energy efficient. The reduction in demand for fossil fuels and supply of clean energy together will have a significant impact in improving the pollution levels desirable for healthy and sustainable community.