

Candidate: Troy Hunter

Riding: New Westminster

- 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?**

It seems I would need more information before committing to anything that I don't know what it means to putting systems into place to identify and track costs. What systems do you suggest and how much should be budgeted to do this.

In short, yes, I care about the environment as so should everyone on earth. I will need to think more as to what systems a municipality can do.

- 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?**

Hmm, yes we need to lower carbon emissions, we need to reduce waste into landfills, we need to change fundamentally how we live and how we consume resources. As for funding climate adaptation, I believe we can look at a tax credit system to encourage people to change, to encourage local food production by way of gardening or making their own plots of green space available to the community gardens systems for registration and use by others. We need to go back to the old ways of doing things and really think about what that means, how it is implemented, etc. One of the biggest problems is commuters travel long distances every day to go to work and back. People can't afford to live where they work and living wages are according to the Vancouver Port Authority in the neighborhood of \$67,000 per person per year.

- 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. New Westminster has thousands of cars and commercial trucks, trains, and even ships passing through without hardly giving back to the community. I have learned the Vancouver Port Authority has its tenants pay taxes directly to the municipalities. I am not sure if this is enough and I even wonder if consumerism the way things are going is really necessary for our survival as a species. Do we need to institute toll's for traffic that flows through New Westminster and do we have the jurisdiction to do 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?**

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?

Fossil fuels has been the most significant event in the history of human kind. What we have become to rely upon is now destroying us. Fossil Fuel companies were started by individuals, people like you and me. Then it grew to something bigger, it became the power of international and national corporations, it became the power of the people but only available to those that have wealth to be able to buy into that power. Shareholders, whether its the teachers that hold pension plans, and the pension plans investing in fossil fuel companies, or if its the government of major countries around the world, they still have to produce wealth and exploit resources. We as society have become dependent on fossil fuels, and there is somewhat of an absurdity to claim fossil fuel companies are to blame for climate costs in my community, when we allow it to happen, when we encourage more consumption of fossil fuels, and tacitly accept tax dollars from those that set-up shop within our neighborhoods.

Basically, we need fossil fuels if we are going to continue this path we are on. If we want to hold fossil fuel companies accountable for increasing the climate costs in our communities, then we need to make a significant and fundamental shift in the way we do things first. We need to stop the reliance on fossil fuels. Only then can we be legitimate and go forth and say the fossil fuel companies need to stop.

Questions such as how do we make roads, how do we transport goods, how do we get to school or work, how do we eat and obtain food are things that we as humanity must change. Things will go back to the old way and as a leader of the community, I will be advocating for that change and not be a hypocrite and say the big fossil fuel companies are to blame but on the same time, seek to have more growth, more whatever.