



Town of Mahone Bay Recognition of Climate Change Emergency – February 12, 2019.

WHEREAS the Town of Mahone Bay is on track to meet all provincial targets in terms of renewable energy, and as such is a leader amongst town governments in Nova Scotia; and,

WHEREAS we - along with all residents of Planet Earth - are faced with a climate emergency, as recently recognized by the City of Halifax; and,

WHEREAS the IPCC has issued a special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre- industrial levels *vis-à-vis* greenhouse gas emissions and which sets out foreseeable and preventable climate-change related outcomes of grave importance to coastal communities and thus enables the Town of Mahone Bay to prepare for and to take them into account as part of its decision-making process; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Mahone is currently considering several major capital projects and is presented with opportunities to institute climate-neutral building and long-term management practices; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Mahone Bay's electrical utility currently has the capacity to supply approximately 40% of the town's commercial and residential electricity requirements from clean sources and there is opportunity to expand on this success in order to decrease or eliminate the CO2 emissions related to major capital assets such as a fire hall and town hall and to provide clean, carbon-neutral energy sources to its residents; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Mahone Bay has, with its recently adopted Asset Management Policy, acknowledged the importance of incorporating climate change considerations into its long-term strategic planning and budgeting; and,

WHEREAS the Town of Mahone Bay is uniquely equipped to act as a role model and change leader for other small Canadian communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT Council direct staff to prepare a report to be presented to Council on or before April 9th, 2019, outlining:

- Steps the Town of Mahone Bay could undertake in order to commit to further reduce or eliminate the Town's corporate carbon footprint as per the urgency expressed in the IPCC Report; and,
- Steps the Town of Mahone Bay could undertake in order to commit to further reduce or eliminate the community's carbon footprint; and,
- Related budgetary implications