

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

**TO:** Secretary, Planning and Operations Committee  
**FROM:** Chair, Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee  
**DATE:** April 10, 2002  
**SUBJECT:** Supporting Ratification of the Kyoto Protocol  
**FILE NO.:** CK. 4200-2

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**RECOMMENDATION:** that this report be forwarded to City Council recommending that City Council endorse the following model resolution for submission to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the local Members of Parliament, the Provincial Environment and Energy Ministers and the Provincial Opposition Leaders:

Whereas climate change causes drought, permafrost melting, sea-level rise and floods that damage municipal infrastructure, displace citizens and create a financial burden for municipal governments;

Whereas economic activity in rural and northern communities relying on fisheries, tourism, forestry and agriculture is disrupted by climate change;

Whereas investments in building retrofits, community energy systems, water conservation, renewable energy technologies, waste reduction, landfill gas capture, fleet management and public transit reduce municipal operating costs, help maintain community services and protect public health while cutting greenhouse gas emissions contributing to climate change;

Whereas forestry and agriculture sectors can expand business opportunities by increasing the capacity of trees and soils to absorb carbon dioxide and by developing renewable fuels like ethanol;

Whereas fossil fuel producers are increasing investments in renewable energy and alternative fossil fuel technologies that reduce the amount of carbon dioxide going into the air; and

Whereas 72 per cent of Canadians want the Kyoto Protocol ratified

Be it Resolved that the City of Saskatoon endorses ratification of the Kyoto Protocol; and

Be it Resolved that this resolution be communicated to the Provincial Environment and Energy Ministers, the Local Members of Parliament, Opposition Leaders of the Province and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

## **REPORT:**

City Council was presented with a copy of a document entitled “Transportation and Climate Change: Options for Action” (The Kyoto Protocol) by the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 615 at its meeting held on February 21, 2000, and the report was received as information.

Attached is a copy of a summary report from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities web site, which your Committee has reviewed and which provides an understandable overview on the question of greenhouse gas emissions, and their effects on the world. Your Committee wishes to encourage City Council to support ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, which provides options for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions that not only affect the environment, but they will have an affect the Canadian and Provincial economies. Your Committee believes that this matter needs to be given meaningful deliberation by the administration in order to benefit from the win/win/win situation described in the attachment. In the meantime, your Committee believes that a motion to support ratification of the Kyoto Protocol would be appropriate.

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. “Talking Points: Presenting Kyoto Protocol Resolution to Council”, Federation of Canadian Municipalities web site.

**Written by:**                    **Mr. Roger Peters**

**Approved by:**                    \_\_\_\_\_  
**Mr. Leo Monseler, Chair**  
**Saskatoon Environmental Advisory Committee**  
**Dated: April 18, 2002**