



CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION
Environment Section

TO: Chair and Members of the Community and Corporate Services Committee
SUBJECT: Partners for Climate Protection

Report Number: CORPSERV 4/05 Report Date: December 10, 2004
Author(s): Lynn Robichaud Date to Committee: January 18, 2005
Telephone: 905-335-7600 Ext. 7931 Date to Council: January 31, 2005
Ward(s) Affected: 1 2 3 4 5 6 All File Number(s): 210-09-1

APPROVALS: Department Head General Manager City Manager

To be completed by the Clerks Department

Committee Disposition & Comments

01- Approved 02 - Not Approved 03 - As Amended 04 - Referred 05 - Deferred 06 - Received & Filed 07 - Withdrawn

Council Disposition & Comments

01- Approved 02 - Not Approved 03 - As Amended 04 - Referred 05 - Deferred 06 - Received & Filed 07 - Withdrawn

1.0 RECOMMENDATION:

THAT council endorse the resolution in Appendix A supporting renewed federal funding for the Partners for Climate Protection program; and,

THAT a signed copy of the resolution be forwarded to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

2.0 PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to recommend that council endorse the attached resolution to support renewed federal funding for the Partners for Climate Protection program.

3.0 BACKGROUND AND RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

The Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) program is a national network that supports municipal efforts to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through sustainable community planning. Launched in 1999, it is jointly supported by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability. PCP aspires to a future in which municipal decision-making places a premium on climate protection.

Municipalities have direct or indirect control of almost half of Canada's GHG emissions. With 118 member municipalities, including the City of Burlington, representing 60 per cent of Canada's population, PCP makes a significant contribution to Canada's climate change commitments.

In its first five years, PCP supported its members in creating GHG inventories, setting reduction targets and developing and implementing local action plans. To date, 42 greenhouse gas inventories and 24 municipal targets for GHG reductions have been created; 12 local action plans have been developed; and three plans have been implemented. PCP also contributed its expertise and support to federal programs, such as the One Tonne Challenge and the Renewable Energy Development Initiative's (REDI) Renewable Energy Grants.

PCP's annual funding of \$250,000 from the Government of Canada's Climate Change Action Fund ends in March 2005. Analysis and consultations conducted by a third party confirm a strong desire that the program continue with a strengthened mandate and greater financial support from the Government of Canada.

Supporting the PCP program to assist municipalities in their efforts to reduce GHG emissions is related to the following *Future Focus VI* goals and strategy:

Long Term Goal:

The city will be a leader in making a high level of environmental performance one of the primary goals of its policies, programs and operations, and in the actions of its citizens, to provide the highest quality of life for all.

Three-year Goal:

The city will enhance the quality of air, land, water and the city's natural heritage.

Strategy:

- b) Participate in municipal and/or other programs designed to improve air, land, water quality and the natural heritage.*

4.0 DISCUSSION:

The objectives of the PCP program are to support participants as they move through the milestone process, to provide both national and regional delivery of the program, and to provide tools to integrate climate change into municipal decision-making.

In the recent Speech from the Throne, the Government of Canada reiterated its commitment to reduce GHG emissions and to work with partners to build principles of sustainable development systematically into decision-making. A renewed commitment to PCP would make a substantial contribution to these commitments and enable further municipal leadership on climate protection.

As part of its budget submission, FCM is requesting a renewed investment in PCP of \$5 million over five years.

With renewed funding, PCP will by 2010:

- Engage 60 municipalities to complete a GHG inventory;
- Engage 40 municipalities to move from completing a GHG inventory to developing a GHG reduction plan;
- Support implementation of a GHG reduction plan in 20 municipalities;
- Support verification and monitoring emission reductions in 15 municipalities; and
- Recruit 50 new member municipalities in under represented regions of Canada.

These reengagement and recruitment activities, in addition to the ongoing work with the rest of the 118 members, will result in PCP working with communities representing 75 per cent of the Canadian population.

A GHG emissions inventory has been completed for the City of Burlington. Staff are working with the Environmental Management Team on a work plan to develop corporate and community action plans to reduce GHG emissions. The continuation of the PCP program is essential to provide the support required to fulfil the program milestones and our commitment to reduce GHG emissions. The PCP program provides staff with feedback on best practices as well as a network of support from municipal participants across Canada that are at different stages in the program. A staff report is being prepared to provide an update to council on the status of the city's participation in the PCP program.

5.0 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

There are no financial impacts for the corporation to endorse the attached resolution supporting renewed federal funding for the PCP program.

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

An increase in greenhouse gases is expected to result in an increase in global temperatures and be greater in northern latitudes in countries such as Canada. Although the precise regional effects and timing of climate change are unknown, it is predicted that the risks of global warming can include drought and an increase in the severity and frequency of extreme weather events, such as storms and heat waves.

7.0 COMMUNICATION MATTERS:

N/A

8.0 CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that council endorse the attached resolution in Appendix A to support renewed federal funding for the Partners for Climate Protection program for the reasons stated in this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Robichaud
Sr. Environmental Co-ordinator

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Appendices:

Appendix A – Council Resolution

Staff / Others Consulted:

Name	Telephone
Environmental Management Team Sustainable Development Committee	

Notifications:

Name	Mailing or E-mail Address

Special Instructions:

Consent Agenda

APPENDIX A

**CITY OF BURLINGTON URGES
RENEWED FEDERAL FUNDING FOR PARTNERS FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION**

WHEREAS the Government of Canada ratified the Kyoto Protocol in December 2002, committing Canada to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by six per cent below 1990 levels by 2012;

WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability have established the Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) to provide a forum for municipal governments to share their knowledge and experience with other municipal governments on how to reduce GHG emissions;

WHEREAS 118 municipal governments across Canada representing more than 60 per cent of the population have already committed to reducing corporate and community GHG emissions through PCP;

WHEREAS PCP participants commit to working towards reducing GHG emissions in municipal operations by a suggested target of 20 per cent below 1994 levels, and a suggested target of six per cent reductions below 1994 levels throughout the community within ten years of joining the PCP initiative;

WHEREAS PCP participants can apply to the Green Municipal Funds for support in completing inventories and implementing plans, resulting in increased capacity to respond to climate protection and deliver GHG reductions;

WHEREAS PCP participants and partners have communicated their need for a renewed program with additional resources;

WHEREAS the proposal calls for renewed funding of \$5 million to support the PCP program over the next five years;

BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Burlington urges the Government of Canada to fund a renewed PCP program at \$5 million over 5 years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be sent to FCM for use in securing funding for a renewed PCP program.

MAYOR MACISAAC
CITY OF BURLINGTON

DATE