Agenda - Executive Policy Committee - September 18, 2002

REPORTS

5. From the Clerk, Civic Environmental Committee
Minute 90 - CEC, 2002/09/09

Request for the City of Winnipeg to endorse Federation of Canadian Municipalities Resolution - Kyoto Protocol

File E-7 (Vol. 2)

Advising that on September 9, 2002, the Civic Environmental Committee discussed the motion referred to it by Council on July 17, 2002, to endorse the FCM resolution for the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, and approve its support for the resolution.

The Committee passed the following motion, namely:

"That the Civic Environmental Committee concurs in part with the motion referred to it by City Council on July 17, 2002 and recommends that the resolution read as follows:-

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Winnipeg endorses the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) resolution for the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol by the Government of Canada;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be communicated to our Member of Parliament, provincial environmental and energy Ministers, federal and provincial opposition leaders, community media and Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

and forwarded to the Executive Policy Committee."

City Clerk's Department • Bureau du greffier

July 18, 2002

CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS
CIVIC ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Council at its meeting held on July 17, 2002, ruled automatic referral of the following motion to your Committee:

Moved by Councillor Gerbasi
Seconded by His Worship Mayor Murray,

WHEREAS the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has observed that global average surface temperature has increased over the 20th Century by about 0.6 degrees Celsius, that snow cover and ice extent have decreased, that global average sea level has risen and ocean heat content has increased;

AND WHEREAS the IPCC concludes in its 2001 Third Scientific Assessment that "there is new and stronger evidence that most of the warming observed over the last 50 years is attributable to human activities";

AND WHEREAS the IPCC projects that temperatures will increase between 1.4 to 5.8 degrees Celsius by 2100 if current trends in greenhouse gas emissions continue;

AND WHEREAS federal and provincial costs related to extreme weather events in Canada increased from $500 million in 1980-1984 to $5.3 billion in 1995 – 1999, exclusive of enormous municipal costs not yet measured on a national basis. Federal drought-related crop insurance costs now regularly exceed $1 billion annually;

AND WHEREAS economic activity in rural and northern communities relying on fisheries, tourism, forestry and agriculture will be disrupted by climate change;

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

AND 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, bringing new economic activity to rural and remote communities;

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AND WHEREAS fossil fuel producers are increasing investments in renewable energy like wind power, wood burning power plants and alternative fossil fuel technologies that store carbon dioxide in aquifers or depleted oil and gas fields to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide going into the air; and

AND WHEREAS 78 per cent of Canadians (according to poll results from Decima Research Inc., March 2002) want the Kyoto Protocol ratified;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Winnipeg endorses the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) resolution for the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol by the Government of Canada if the following conditions are met:

- *No region of the country bears an unreasonable cost related to reducing greenhouse gas emissions;*
- *Greenhouse gas emissions related to producing oil and gas and electricity are allocated to consuming jurisdictions and sectors, rather than producing jurisdictions;*
- *Sinks in the forest and agriculture sectors, particularly Western Canada, are pursued as part of a national strategy to diversify rural economies through development of a bio-economy;*
- *Investment in research and development, pilots and commercialization of technologies and processes that remove carbon dioxide from waste streams (i.e., coal gasification, injection into reservoirs); and that*
- *Canada's action plan to meet the Kyoto target maximize improvements in productivity and competitiveness.*

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution be communicated to our Member of Parliament, provincial environment and energy Ministers, federal and provincial opposition leaders, community media and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

R Kachur
City Clerk
Telephone 986-2428