

# A.7

## COUNCIL MEMBER'S MOTION

### 7. Increasing BC Hydro's Feed-in-Tariff for Renewable Energy Production

Submitted by: Councillor Carr

#### WHEREAS

1. Communities throughout British Columbia are facing increasing numbers of record-breaking extreme weather events, including fires, heat waves, droughts, floods and storms—the result of Earth's rapidly changing climate (see Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2023 Sixth Assessment Report Summary for Policymakers;<sup>1</sup>
2. Climate scientists are imploring every political jurisdiction to ramp up its efforts to rapidly reduce its GHGs and use of fossil fuels and rapidly increase the production and use of renewable energy (see: UN climate report: It's 'now or never' to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees;<sup>2 3 4</sup>
3. Vancouver City Council passed a motion in January, 2023 to increase the supply of renewable energy within our city. Distributed energy production provides more climate resilience, reduces consumers' ongoing energy bills and stimulates local economies. Jurisdictions such as Ontario, for example, provided deep subsidies through high feed-in tariffs to stimulate production of solar energy and local industrial development;
4. In order to stimulate the needed shift to clean renewable energy other jurisdictions, such as Norway, heavily incentivize local municipal and household renewable energy production with preferential pricing plus deep subsidies for batteries and converters which create deep climate resilience;
5. On June 15, 2023 the BC Government announced that BC Hydro, in spring 2024, will launch a call for new sources of renewable, emission-free electricity in BC.

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT City Council direct staff to forward the following motion to the UBCM for consideration at its 2023 Annual General Meeting.

# Resolution

## **MOTION: Increasing BC Hydro’s Feed-in-Tariff for Renewable Energy Production**

WHEREAS British Columbia’s new BC Zero Carbon Step Code (effective May 1, 2023) and *Clean BC Roadmap to 2030* will accelerate the uptake of electric vehicles, heat pumps and other technologies that will increase the demand for clean electricity. However, B.C. Hydro’s Five-Year Electrification Plan, released by the government in September of 2021, estimates that it has sufficient supply of clean electricity, including from Site C dam, only to 2030, leading government to announce plans to call for new utility-scale sources of renewable, emission-free electricity in BC;

AND WHEREAS the BC Government in the past has incentivized the development of clean renewable energy through advantageous feed-in tariffs, such as for Independent Hydro-Electric Power Producers:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM urge the BC Government to require that BC Hydro increase feed-in tariffs for the municipal, First Nations and private production of renewable energy, including solar, wind, geothermal energy, sufficient to stimulate the increased investment and production at all scales—including household and municipal—needed to tackle the climate emergency.

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<sup>1</sup> [Summary for Policymakers, IPCC](#)

<sup>2</sup> [UN climate report: It’s ‘now or never’ to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Powering a safer future | United Nations](#)

<sup>4</sup> [‘Lifeline’ of renewable energy can steer world out of climate crisis: UN chief | UN News](#)