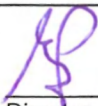

 Division Manager	 Director	 CRO
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The Corporation of **THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER**  
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**REPORT**

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To: Mayor Darrell R. Mussatto and Members of Council

From: L. R. Orr, Manager, Business Services  
C. Jackson, Section Manager, Environmental Sustainability

SUBJECT: CLIMATE CHANGE – GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION INFORMATION  
LABELS FOR GAS PUMPS (BUSINESS LICENCE BYLAW  
AMENDMENT CONSIDERATION)

Date: July 15, 2015 File No: 09-4320-20-0001/2015

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*The following is a suggested recommendation only. Please refer to Council Minutes for adopted resolution.*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**PURSUANT** to the report of the Manager, Business Services and Manager, Environmental Sustainability dated July 15, 2015, entitled "Climate Change: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Labels for Gas Pumps (Business Licence Bylaw Amendment Consideration)":

**WHEREAS** the City has greenhouse gas reduction targets, policies, and actions in its Official Community Plan as required under the provincial Local Government (Green Communities) Statutes Amendment Act (Bill 27, 2008);

**WHEREAS** the impacts of climate change are already apparent in the City of North Vancouver, with hotter, drier summers and more frequent storm and heavy precipitation events in the winter;

**AND WHEREAS** 49% of the City's community-wide greenhouse gas emissions are due to the transportation sector;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Bylaw No. 8437, a Bylaw to amend the "Business Licence Bylaw, 2004, No. 7584 be considered and referred to a public meeting.

## ATTACHMENTS:

1. Presentation from Emily Kelsall, June 15, 2015 (Doc#1299619)
2. #Face the Change: Changing Communities in a Changing Climate (Doc#1296865)
3. Bylaw No. 8437, a Bylaw to amend the "Business Licence Bylaw, 2004, No. 7584 (Doc#1299281)

## PURPOSE:

To present a Business Licence Bylaw for Council's consideration that would require information labels on gas station fuel pumps informing the public of the relationship between fossil fuel usage and the creation of Green House Gas Emissions and the impact on Climate Change. This Bylaw would apply to all gas stations licensed in the City.

## INTRODUCTION:

At the June 15, 2015 regularly scheduled Council meeting, City Council received a delegation from Emily Kelsall requesting that the City require warning labels on gas pumps in the City. The purpose of such labelling would be to help consumers understand that their consumption of fossil fuels was directly contributing to Climate Change on the planet. This presentation was prepared in conjunction with Our Horizon. A copy of the presentation is included as Attachment #1.

The following resolution was adopted on June 25, 2015:

***THAT** the correspondence of Emily Kelsall, Our Horizon, dated April 17, 2015, regarding Warning Labels on Gas Pumps – Climate Change, be received and filed with thanks;*

***THAT** the correspondence be referred to staff to bring forward a bylaw to include that warning labels be placed on all gas pumps within the City of North Vancouver, cautioning consumers about the effects of climate change;*

***AND THAT** a copy of the resolution be forwarded to the Union of BC Municipalities.*

This report responds to Council direction.

## BACKGROUND:

As pointed out in Attachment #2, the *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* ("IPCC") is the global authority on climate science. In its 2007 report, the IPCC pointed out that global increases in CO2 concentrations are due primarily to fossil fuel use and



that carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is the most important anthropogenic [human] GHG. This report further notes that changes in atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases... alter the energy balance of the climate system and that the warming of the climate system is unequivocal.

The report recognizes that we are unlikely to successfully adapt to climate change and that we need to reduce our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The *IPCC* observes that cities are at the forefront of climate change and further that cities both contribute to the problem and are vulnerable to its impacts and are thus important points for mitigation and adaptation. The *IPCC* also notes that information instruments and a wide variety of policies and instruments are available to governments to create the incentives for mitigation action.

The City has a long history of taking action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate climate change that dates back to the late 1990s. These efforts are documented in the City's achievement of the five milestones of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Partners for Climate Protection Program. The City was the 4th municipality in Canada to achieve this milestone for both community-wide and corporate initiatives.

Furthermore as required under the Province's Bill 27, the *Local Government (Green Communities) Statutes Amendment Act*, the City adopted the following greenhouse gas emissions targets: (Official Community Plan Objective 4.1.1):

Reduce community greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by:

- a) 15 percent below 2007 levels by 2020; and
- b) 50 percent below 2007 levels by 2050

through proactive policies and programs to reduce energy use and emissions from building, infrastructure, transportation and solid and liquid waste.

## CLIMATE ACTION INITIATIVES

Currently, the City continues to advance efforts to reduce emissions through a number of different initiatives. Highlights are as follows:

- **Community Transportation Demand Management Program** - this program encourages people to walk, bike, use transit and rideshare, while discouraging single occupancy vehicle use and unnecessary trips. Key programs include promotion of Bike to Work and Bike to School weeks, cycling events, school cycling courses, and TravelSmart workshops with schools and businesses.
- **Greenway development and AAA Bicycle Network Plan** – the City is developing key pedestrian and greenway connections including the North Shore Spirit Trail and the Green Necklace. The City has also developed an AAA (All Ages and Abilities) bicycle network plan and is continuously improving bike infrastructure throughout the City.

- **Carbon Fund** – the City has a dedicated fund with funds set aside on an annual basis specifically for funding emissions reduction projects.
- **Climate Action Tree Planting Program** – this program provides funding to plant and maintain new street trees along key corridors. These trees reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve local air quality while also improving the pedestrian realm through shade provision and moderation of high temperatures in the summer. This project is considered both a mitigation and adaptation action – reducing greenhouse gas emissions but also preparing our community for the impacts expected from climate change (hotter summers, etc.).
- **Building Energy Efficiency Program** – this program includes enhanced energy efficiency compliance process for energy provisions of the BC Building Code, Zoning Bylaw amendments to support the construction of greener buildings (e.g. incentives for thicker wall insulation), and other initiatives to support greener construction in the City.
- **Public Outreach and Engagement** – the City supports community engagement activities designed to encourage local residents and businesses to adopt more sustainable behaviours. These include partnerships with the BC Sustainable Energy Association's Climate Change Showdown, Dreamweaver Theatre, ClimateSmart, BC Hydro PowerSmart, and others.
- **Green Can and Biweekly Garbage Collection** – through implementation of the City's award-winning Green Can program, food waste in the garbage stream has been reduced significantly, thus reducing emissions associated with organics in the waste stream.
- **Lonsdale Energy Corporation** – LEC provides highly efficient district heating to 3,800,000 square feet of institutional, commercial, and residential buildings, incorporating renewables such as solar hot water and geothermal. LEC is continuously working to incorporate additional sustainable energy sources such as sewer waste heat recovery.

Through these and other actions, the City has been a national leader and innovator in addressing climate change. Unfortunately, emissions continue to increase with corresponding effects on the climate. Climate change is now being seen in our lifetime as we experience, on average, warmer temperature and more frequent extreme weather events. Approximately 49% of the City's community-wide greenhouse gas emissions are due to fossil fuel usage in the transportation sector. Unlike buildings, the City has limited ability to directly achieve GHG reductions in the transportation sector. The City has therefore been seeking ways to help achieve such reductions.



## **GAS PUMP LABEL PROPOSAL**

The request from Ms. Kelsall to label gas pumps is another potential innovation for the City to pioneer in its efforts to mitigate climate change. Public awareness and education is key to changing behavior. Labeling gas pumps to draw attention to the connection between the burning of fossil fuels and climate change has the potential to influence behavior. Ms. Kelsall's presentation presents a strong argument for this.

The gas pump labelling initiative targets emissions reductions and falls within the definition of a "proactive policy" aimed at assisting members of the public in making the connection between the burning of fossil fuels and the contribution to greenhouse gases and climate change. The initiative is aimed to foster further thought and motivate action and support for alternatives to driving single occupant vehicles. Given that 49% of the City's community-wide greenhouse gas emissions are due to the transportation sector it would seem that this would be a logical area to target public awareness and education.

## **PROPOSED BUSINESS LICENCE BYLAW AMENDMENT**

After discussions with the City's lawyers, staff has concluded that the best way to proceed with this would be an amendment to the City's Business Licence Bylaw to require gas stations in the City to post information labels on gas hose nozzles and/or gas pumps in a conspicuous location under the City's authority to regulate businesses. Attachment # 3 provides a proposed Business Licence Bylaw amendment in this regard for Council's consideration. This bylaw amendment will apply to the six existing gas stations and all future stations in the City.

Staff has attempted to keep the wording of this bylaw as clear and concise as possible. In order to provide flexibility for the future, the bylaw delegates authority to the Director of Community Development to approve the wording and design of the labels. This approach will require a policy for Council approval to guide how the City will implement the bylaw including exact wording and design for the labels to ensure consistency and ease of application. Staff will report back to Council with a draft policy prior to the Public Hearing.

While labels have yet to be designed, input has been received from Our Horizon. It is expected that the labels would make reference to both GHG emissions and climate change. Staff will be reporting with more information on a Business Licence Gas Pump Label Policy, including labels, in September.

## **OTHER JURISDICTIONS:**

To staff's knowledge there are no other municipalities in Canada that have undertaken a similar initiative. West Vancouver Council recently passed a motion "... that all vendors of petroleum products in Canada be legislated to provide warning labels on all pump handles ...". This resolution will go to the UBCM for their September 2015 annual conference. As of the date of this report, the cities of Berkeley and San Francisco California have draft ordinances (bylaws) on gas pump warning labels being considered by their Councils but not yet adopted.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Should Council eventually adopt the bylaw staff will explore the suitability and feasibility of the City providing the information labels to gas stations in order to ensure consistent design and messaging. Staff estimate the initial cost for design and printing the labels and for pursuing a public meeting will be \$5,000 or less. Should this be pursued, the cost for the information labels can be funded by the existing Community Development operating budget. Staff may need to seek legal advice before pursuing provision of the labels to private business.

## **INTER-DEPARTMENTAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The recommendation in this report was supported by a joint meeting of the Civic Projects' Team and the Directors' Team at the July 14, 2015

## **SUSTAINABILITY COMMENTS:**

This report recommendation is consistent with the City's Official Community Plan Objective 4.1.1 to reduce community greenhouse gas emissions through proactive policies and programs.

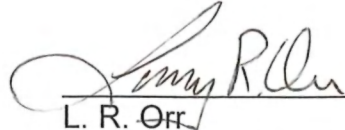
## **CORPORATE PLAN AND/OR POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

As noted in this report this action is consistent with the City's Climate Action

Goal 4.3 of the City's Official Community Plan aims to engage the community to promote more sustainable behaviours, and Objective 4.1.1 in the City's OCP seeks greenhouse gas reductions through "proactive policies and programs" from the transportation sector.

Despite recent increases in cycling and transit use, personal vehicles currently remain the dominant form of travel and the transportation sector accounts for 49% of the City's CO2 emissions (OCP, pg. 46). It therefore important to target this sector for emissions reductions to meet the emissions reductions targets set out in the OCP.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



L. R. Orr  
Manager, Business Services



C. Jackson  
Section Manager,  
Environmental Sustainability

LO:CJ:skj:eb



# THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER

## BYLAW NO. 8437

### A Bylaw to amend “Business Licence Bylaw, 2004, No. 7584”

The Council of The Corporation of the City of North Vancouver, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. This Bylaw shall be known and cited for all purposes as “**Business Licence Bylaw, 2004, No. 7584, Amendment Bylaw, 2015, No. 8437**” (**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Labels for Gas Pumps**).
2. Business Licence Bylaw, 2004, No. 7584, is hereby amended as follows:

- A. In **PART 3. INTERPRETATION**, add the following:

**“335A Gasoline Station**

Gasoline Station” means a premise where gasoline, diesel fuel or other motor fuels derived from petroleum are sold to the public.

**335B Greenhouse Gas Emissions Labels for Gas Pumps**

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Labels for Gas Pumps” means a legible and conspicuous label affixed to each pump or pump nozzle used to dispense gasoline or other motor fuel to the public. The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Labels will contain a statement, approved by the Director, Community Development, to encourage the public to make choices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to increase general awareness of climate change.”

- B. In **PART 3. INTERPRETATION**, renumber as follows:

**“335A Group Child Care Facility to 335C Group Child Care Facility”**

- C. In **PART 5. GENERAL REGULATIONS**, add the following:

**“511.1 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Labels for Gas Pumps**

Every operator of a Gasoline Station is required to post or cause to be posted on each pump or pump nozzle used to dispense gasoline or other motor fuel to the public, a legible and conspicuous Greenhouse Gas Emissions Label that has been approved by the Director, Community Development.”



D. In **PART 5. GENERAL REGULATIONS**, renumber as follows:

**“511.1 Group Child Care Facility to 511.2 Group Child Care Facility”**

READ a first time by the Council on the <> day of <>, 2015.

READ a second time by the Council on the <> day of <>, 2015.

READ a third time and passed by the Council on the <> day of <>, 2015.

ADOPTED by the Council, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and affixed with the Corporate Seal on the <> day of <>, 2015.

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MAYOR

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CITY CLERK