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February 7, 2025

Metro Vancouver Board of Directors

c/o Board Chair Mike Hurley

Mayor of Burnaby

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Co-Chair John McEwen

Mayor of Anmore

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Board and Information Secretariat

bis-secretariat@metrovancouver.org

Subject: Urgent Request to Fully Fund Climate 2050 Plan

Dear Chair Hurley, Co-Chair McEwen, and Members of the Metro Vancouver Board,

We are writing to express our strong support for Metro Vancouver's continued leadership in climate action and to urge you to fully fund the Climate 2050 plan. At a time of increasing severity and frequency of climate change impacts, reducing or eliminating regional climate policy coordination would be a major step backward for our communities, our economy, and future generations.

Metro Vancouver plays a crucial role in coordinating climate efforts across municipalities, ensuring that we address this crisis efficiently and cost-effectively. Climate change does not respect municipal boundaries, and collaboration at the regional level is essential for reducing emissions and protecting residents from worsening extreme weather events, such as heatwaves, wildfires, and flooding. The Climate 2050 plan, along with its policy roadmaps, provides a necessary framework for addressing these challenges and fostering resilient, healthy communities.

It is concerning that at the February 21, 2025 Budget Workshop, Metro Vancouver has identified climate policy coordination as a program that could face reductions or elimination due to budget constraints. Metro Vancouver plays a critical role in regional coordination and is making significant strides in climate leadership. Weakening or abandoning regional climate policy coordination would undermine past progress and make it significantly harder for local governments to meet their emissions reduction targets and ultimately more expensive for rate payers (i.e. citizens).



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Some have argued that Metro Vancouver should focus solely on core services such as water, waste management, and emergency response. However, the impacts of climate change are fundamentally linked to these services.. The Canadian Climate Institute identifies that every dollar invested in adaptation now will bring \$13-15 in return in the future through direct and indirect savings and benefits. Investment in adaptation today reduces costs tomorrow as extreme weather events strain public infrastructure, increase health risks, and disrupt local economies. Investing in climate action now is a moral imperative and a fiscally responsible decision.

We urge you to ensure that the Climate 2050 plan remains fully funded and that Metro Vancouver continues to take a leadership role in addressing the climate crisis. Our future and our children's future depends on the decisions you make today. Please do not allow this critical initiative to be sidelined or defunded.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Brennan, Hon. MRAIC, Hon. RAIA
Chief Executive Officer

Mona Lemoine, MRAIC
Regional Board Director, BC/Yukon
Co-Chair, Committee on Regenerative Environments

Joanne Perdue, FRAIC
Co-Chair, Committee on Regenerative Environments