



**February 27, 2013**

## **City Council Committee Report**

**To: Mayor & Council**

**Fr: Richard Perchuk, Manager of Operations  
Mukesh Pokharel, Solid Waste Supervisor**

**Re: Green Municipal Fund - Partners for Climate Protection Program**

### **Recommendation:**

That the Council of the City of Kenora hereby supports the Corporation of the City of Kenora becoming a member of the Partners for Climate Protection Program (PCP); and

That the Council of the City of Kenora hereby approves the adoption of the following resolution as required by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability to become a member in the Partners for Climate Protection Program (PCP):-

Whereas the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concludes in its 2007 *Fourth Assessment Report* 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 concludes that human influences on the climate have likely contributed to a rise in the sea level during the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, changed wind and temperature patterns, and likely increased the risk of heat waves, the area of land affected by drought since the 1970s, and the frequency of heavy precipitation; and

Whereas the *IPCC Special Report on Emission Scenarios* (SRES, 2000) projects an increase in global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of 25 to 90 per cent between 2000 and 2030; and

Whereas the IPCC observes that warming resulting from human influences could lead to some abrupt or irreversible impacts, depending on the rate and magnitude of climate change; and

Whereas the IPCC anticipates the following impacts from climate change over the next century for North America:

- Decreased snow pack, more winter flooding, and reduced summer flows resulting from warming in western mountains, exacerbating competition for over-allocated water resources;
- Increased aggregate yields of rain-fed agriculture by five to 20 per cent, but with important variability among regions; and major challenges for crops that are grown close to their highest suitable temperature or that depend on highly used water resources;

- Increased number, intensity and duration of heat waves for cities that currently experience them, creating potential for adverse health impacts; and
- Increased stress on coastal communities and habitats as a result of the interaction of climate change impacts and development and pollution; and

Whereas GHGs (e.g. carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide), released from burning coal, oil and natural gas and from cutting trees and clearing land for agriculture and development, are the primary cause of climate change; and

Whereas the *World Mayors and Municipal Leaders Declaration on Climate Change 2005* asserts the need for joint authority and global action on climate change; and

Whereas municipal investments in building retrofits, community energy systems, water conservation, renewable energy technologies, waste reduction, landfill gas capture, fleet management, public transit and other sustainable measures reduce operating costs, help maintain community services, protect public health and contribute to sustainable community development while cutting GHG emissions contributing to climate change; and

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

Whereas over 200 municipal governments across Canada representing more than 75 per cent of the population have already committed to reducing corporate and community GHG emissions through the PCP program; and

Whereas PCP participants commit to working toward reducing GHG emissions in municipal operations by a suggested target of 20 per cent below 2000 levels, and a suggested target of six per cent below 2000 levels in the community within 10 years of joining the PCP program; and

Whereas the PCP program is based on a five-milestone framework that involves completing a GHG inventory and forecast, setting a GHG reduction target and vision, developing a local action plan, implementing the plan, and monitoring progress and reporting results; and

Be It Resolved that the Corporation of the City of Kenora communicate to FCM its participation in the PCP program and its commitment to achieve the milestones set in the PCP five-milestone framework; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Kenora hereby appoints the Operations Manager as the Corporate Staff Person and the Mayor as the Elected Official to oversee implementation of the PCP milestones and be the points of contact for the PCP program within the municipality.

**Background:**

The Partners for Climate Protection Program (PCP) is a network of Canadian municipal governments that have committed to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and energy consumption. Members work through a defined five-milestone framework using internationally recognized protocols to achieve these goals. PCP is a partnership between the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability.

The five PCP Milestones are:

- Create a GHG emissions inventory and forecast
- Set an emissions reductions target
- Develop a local action plan
- Implement the local action plan or a set of activities
- Monitor progress and report results.

The cost for completing the milestones are the responsibility of the municipality, but FCM's Green Municipal Fund provides grants of up to 50% of costs to a maximum of \$350,000 toward the completion of Milestones Two and Three. On average, PCP members have spent \$110,000 to complete Milestones One to Three for municipal operations and the community together as a package.

The benefit of the PCP program for Corporate, household and business is realized cost savings (through increased energy efficiency), reduced traffic congestion, improved air quality and job creation.

PCP recommends a 20% reduction in GHG emissions below baseline levels for municipal operations within 10 years. And a 6% reduction in GHG emissions below baseline levels for the community within 10 years. Municipal staff would be responsible for putting the plan in motion and maintaining momentum.

Canadian Municipalities are encouraged to become members as the PCP program provides useful resources and information to help achieve the milestones.

PCP membership is free to all Canadian municipalities. A council resolution is required to enroll as a member. The City of Kenora Environmental Committee is requesting that this be brought forward for consideration and is in support of the resolution.

It is recommended that Council support the Corporation of the City of Kenora becoming a member of PCP and adopting the resolution prepared by the FCM-ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability).

**Budget:**

2013 Operating plus 50% Green Municipal Fund (GMF)

**Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:**

Resolution required. Distribution: R. Perchuk, M. Pokharel, C. Edie, Environmental Advisory Committee