

Office of Mayor George V. Harvie City of Delta



June 10, 2021

The Honourable George Heyman Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy PO Box 9047, Stn Prov Govt Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister,

Re: Discontinuation of the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) funding

I am writing to express the City of Delta's concern with the discontinuation of the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) and to encourage the Province to establish a replacement program that provides equal or greater funding for municipalities. At the May 31, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council, the following recommendation was adopted:

"THAT a letter be sent to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy expressing appreciation for the past administration of the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program, and advocating that the replacement program ensures an equal or greater level of funding to local governments for climate action."

The City of Delta was one of the first BC local governments to advocate for a provincial program to return carbon tax paid by local government signatories to the BC Climate Action Charter for reinvestment in projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the community. With its CARIP grant funding, Delta established a Climate Action Reserve fund, which has supported numerous energy and greenhouse gas reduction projects of the City. Delta's CARIP funding has allowed the City to leverage funding from other programs and levels of government, including a recent Natural Resources Canada grant for the installation of public electric vehicle charging stations.

We very much appreciate the Province's administration of CARIP over the years, and the associated support of important municipal projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our communities and our province. The recently announced termination of CARIP, and the lack of a replacement program, could significantly impact the ability of local governments to address climate change.

...2

The City of Delta therefore requests that the Province establish a replacement program with funding equal to or greater than the CARIP program as soon as possible. The establishment of an ongoing funding source will allow Delta to plan future climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives that are impactful and advance both Delta's and the Province's climate action targets.

Yours truly,

George V. Harvie

George V. H

Mayor

cc: The Hon. Josie Osborne, Minister of Municipal Affairs
The Hon. Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
lan Paton, MLA Delta South
Delta Council
Sean McGill, City Manager
Mel Cheesman, Director of Corporate Services
Melanie Kerr, Director of Finance