



STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL ADDENDA

Adoption of Addenda to the Council Agenda:

Motion by

THAT the Addenda to the Council Agenda, be adopted as printed to include the following:

7.0 Orders of the Day:

7.6 Correspondence – Petition requesting Declaration of a Climate Emergency

A petition was received in the Clerk's Office on September 20, 2019 calling on City Council to declare a climate emergency, to match the aim set by its sister city Stratford-Upon-Avon, UK to be carbon neutral by 2030 and to make this a binding declaration which includes current plans, policies and projects within a climate emergency framework.

Attachment – Correspondence from Annemarie Reimer received Sept. 20, 2019

Motion by

Staff Recommendation: THAT the petition from Annemarie Reimer received September 20, 2019 requesting declaration by City Council of a climate emergency be received;

AND THAT the petition be referred to staff.

7.7 Proclamation – International Day of Older Persons 2019

Attachment – Correspondence dated September 10, 2019 from Unifor 1325 Retired Workers Chapter

Motion by

Staff Recommendation: THAT City Council hereby proclaims October 1, 2019 as "International Day of Older Persons" in the City of Stratford to honour all senior citizens in the City of Stratford and area;

AND THAT the United Nations Flag be flown at City Hall for the month of October 2019.

To the Clerk's Office:
Stratford City Council

From Annemarie Reimer
[REDACTED]

Stratford, Ontario

A Concerned Grandmother

And Stratford signatories collected on September 20/19.

RECEIVED

SEP 20 2019

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Across Canada, cities, municipalities and recently Parliamentarians have declared a climate emergency, (see list included). The recent IPCC report warns that we need to have 100 % clean energy by 2030. As Environment Minister Catherine McKenna notes, " climate change is a real and urgent crisis, driven by human activity, marked by extreme weather events". In July this year, the House committed to meeting national emissions targets under the Paris Agreement but Canada is projected to fall far short at its current rate. (see included climateactiontracker.org).

I understand that Stratford is already in the midst of developing a climate action plan and the act of declaring a climate emergency would be a powerful opportunity to include those plans and projects (such as the very important bio digester project) , within a climate emergency framework. We urge you to match the aim set by our sister city, Stratford-on-Avon, in the UK, to be carbon neutral by 2030.

Stratford's position as an international tourist destination enables us to exercise a leading influence around the world. Please declare a climate emergency and acknowledge publicly that local governments have a role to play in responding to climate change through their own practices and policies and through leadership and facilitation.

Thank you.

Annemarie Reimer

Canada continues with the incremental implementation of its Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate, its overarching strategy for reducing emissions, adopted in 2016; often in the face of provincial pushback. The Government is implementing its coal-fired power plant phase-out, but it clearly needs to take more climate action, as emissions are projected to still be above 1990 levels beyond 2030, far from its Paris Agreement target and nowhere near a 1.5° C-compatible pathway.

The federal government had been facing strong headwinds against climate action at the provincial level, with four provinces (Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and New Brunswick) challenging the constitutionality of its mandatory federal carbon pricing system. These provinces have no - or insufficient - climate plans and the carbon pricing system applies to them while these court challenges proceed. The first of the cases was recently decided in favour of the federal government and will now be appealed to the highest court in the country, the Supreme Court. The headwinds reached gale force in April with the election of a conservative government in Alberta. The new government has already begun rolling back the province's climate policy, while the federal government has stated that it will apply the federal carbon pricing 'backstop' to Alberta as well.

Here's a complete list of every jurisdiction in Canada that's declared a climate emergency, according to climateemergencydeclaration.org:

- Brampton City Council - June 5, 2019
- Burlington City Council - April 23, 2019
- Canadian House of Commons - June 17, 2019
- Capital Regional District - Feb. 13, 2019
- Regional District of Central Kootenay - April 11, 2019
- Chatham-Kent Municipal Council - July 15, 2019
- Colwood City Council - May 27 2019
- Duncan City Council - July 15, 2019
- Edmonton City Council - Aug. 27, 2019
- City of Edmundston - Feb. 19, 2019
- Esquimalt Town Council - Mar. 18, 2019
- Greater Sudbury City Council - May 28, 2019
- Halifax Regional Council - Jan. 29, 2019
- Halton Hills Town Council - May 6, 2019
- Hamilton City Council - Mar. 27, 2019
- District of Highlands Council - Mar. 18, 2019
- Islands Trust Council - Mar. 12, 2019
- Township of King Council - July 8, 2019
- Kitchener City Council - June 24, 2019
- City of Kingston - Mar. 5, 2019
- Langley Town Council - July 22, 2019
- London City Council - April 23, 2019
- Mahone Bay Town Council - Feb. 12, 2019
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- Milton Town Council - July 22, 2019
- Mississauga City Council - June 19, 2019
- Moncton City Council - Mar. 18, 2019
- Nanaimo City Council - April 29, 2019
- New Westminster Council - Mar. 11, 2019

- North Cowichan Municipal Council - July 17, 2019
- District of North Vancouver Council - July 8, 2019
- Oak Bay Municipal Council - April 8, 2019
- Oakville Town Council - June 24, 2019
- Ottawa City Council - April 24, 2019
- Port Moody City Council - June 11, 2019
- Powell River City Council - Feb. 21, 2019
- Prince Edward County Council - May 28, 2019
- qathet Regional District Board - June 27, 2019
- 394 different municipalities in Québec since August 2018 (see full list)
- City of Richmond - Feb. 4, 2019
- Saanich District Council - Mar. 25, 2019
- St. Catharines City Council - April 29, 2019
- Sarnia City Council - June 17, 2019
- Sidney Town Council - Mar. 25, 2019
- Smithers Town Council - July 9, 2019
- Sooke District Council - April 8, 2019
- Squamish Council - June 2, 2019
- Vancouver City Council - Jan, 16, 2019
- Vaughan City Council - June 4, 2019
- Victoria City Council - March 14, 2019
- View Royal Town Council - March 5, 2019
- Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation (Old Crow) - May 19, 2019
- West Nipissing Council - April 23, 2019
- District of West Vancouver Council - July 8, 2019
- Whitby Town Council - June 24, 2019
- Wolfville Town Council - May 21, 2019



UNIFOR

1325

Retired Workers Chapter

Roxie Baker
Chairperson

Gerri Smith
Vice-Chair

Mary Straus
Secretary

Bonnie Birkmann
Treasurer

Kevin Mead
Sergeant-at-Arms

RECEIVED

SEP 19 2019

CITY OF STRATFORD
MAYOR/CAO OFFICE

September 10, 2019

Mayor Mathieson and Councillors:

Greetings-

I do apologize for this late request.

Local 1325 Unifor Retiree Chapter wish to request that once again you would agree to fly the United Nations flag for October 1st to honour all seniors of Stratford and area.

We appreciate that in the past this has been agreed to for the month of October and once again we say "thankyou".

We look forward to your reply.

Respectfully,

Roxie Baker

Chairperson

October 1 – International Day of Older Persons

The General Assembly of the United Nations designated October 1 as the International Day of Older Persons.

By designating a special day in recognition of seniors, the UN is drawing attention to the important contribution of seniors and to changing demographics: the greying of the population, or the "age of aging."

Unifor affirms a commitment to older persons and the essential contributions they make to our communities.

"It's vital to remember that older persons are among the most vulnerable in society and are among the first to fall victim to the effects of a downturn in the economy and to the negative impact of government policies," said Len Hope, Chairperson of the Unifor Retired Workers Council Executive and Unifor Executive Board member.

In Canada, many seniors are living in poverty and do not have adequate housing, care or access to health services. As well, the rate of poverty is particularly high among senior women. We also know that recent changes to Canada's retirement income system are of concern to many Canadians. The increase of the retirement age for the Old Age Security pension from 65 to 67 will start in 2023 and this will hit low income seniors the most. Those who work in physically demanding jobs and those with poor health will no longer have the option to retire at 65.

Meanwhile, those who rely on federally regulated defined benefit pension plans recently discovered that the Federal government plans to introduce legislation to allow for those plans to be changed to the less secure target benefit plans. In a target benefit plan, retiree pension cheques can be cut. Many seniors' organisations have objected, insisting that employers have a responsibility to honour their pension promises. At the same time, they continue to pressure the Federal government to improve retirement security for everyone by expanding the Canada Pension Plan. This is a policy decision that would benefit the next generation of workers the most and have little impact on today's seniors.

In this Federal Election, Unifor will be urging all Federal parties to develop and outline a plan of action that identifies independence, participation, care, self-fulfillment and retirement with dignity as central features of respect for older persons.

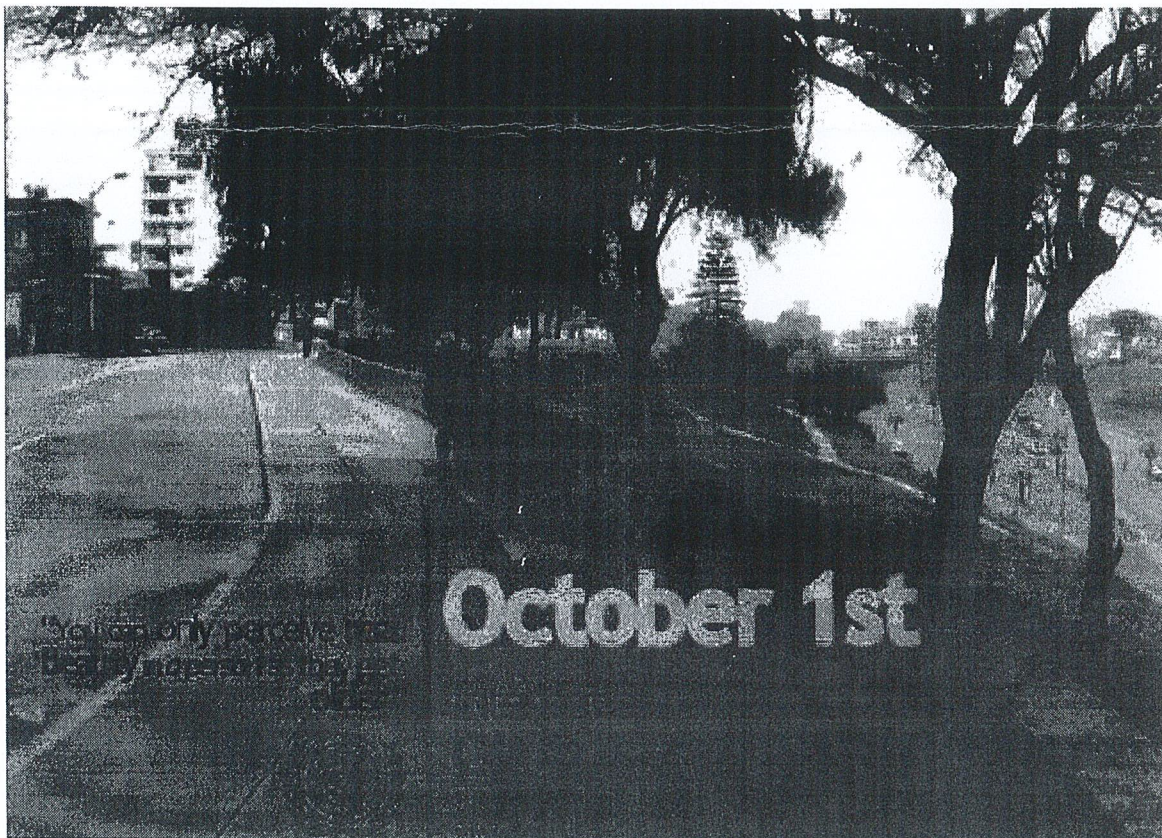
The International Day of Older Persons was observed for the first time throughout the world on October 1, 1991.

www.unifor.org, www.uniforvotes.ca

Contact Barb Dolan, Director, Retired Worker's Department, at barb.dolan@unifor.org or call 416-998-3954.

[October 1 – International Day of Older Persons statement](#)

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS 2019



Celebrated Annually on October 1st – International Day of Older Persons

Resolution 45/106, passed by the United Nations General Assembly on December 14th 1990, declared October 1st to be the International Day of Older Persons. The theme for the 2018 celebration is "Celebrating Older Human Rights champions".

How do People Celebrate?

The day is a special one for older people and senior citizens around the world. You may find officials and politicians making speeches that focus on this growing section of the population, at this time of the year. The media will also take this as an opportunity to publish interviews. Many of which will be with older persons who have had an impact on society. Schools, public institutions and office buildings will also use the day for announcing activities that promote older persons.

The World Health Organisation

The WHO has been playing a significant role in celebrations, and actively promoting public awareness of the day. Discussions have been held relating to the ageing population, providing adequate health provisions, social care and volunteer work.

Various Initiatives Preceded the Resolution

There are currently around 700 million people over the age of 60. It is predicted that by 2050, this figure will have risen to 2 billion. These figures have prompted a lot of attention and various initiatives have been started to try and address the problems that will arise. For example, the Vienna Plan of Action on Ageing which was adopted in 1982. The United Nations Principles for Older Persons was adopted in 1991.

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