

October 18, 2020

To: Town of Cobourg,

Re: Community Efficiency Financing -Funding application to FCM

-and acceptance of the Community Climate Action Plan

Dear Mayor Henderson, Councilors, and Glenn McGlashon:

This letter comes to you from the Blue Dot Northumberland (BDN) community in support of the Town's application for external funding of low-income neighbourhood energy deep energy retrofits as part of the Community Climate Action Plan.

We are aware there is a timely FCM funding application in process that, if successful, would allow implementation of an innovative program of energy-efficiency retrofits and steps to de-carbonize low-income housing. In Cobourg many homes of lower income residents are still heated with fuel oil. This oil is expensive and contributes to energy poverty and to excessive GHG emissions compared to heating technologies such as cold-climate air-source heat pumps. Towards 2050, virtually all heating systems in Ontario will require conversion to near zero GHG emission technologies; oil heating is the low hanging fruit where retrofits can achieve both substantial energy cost savings and GHG reductions.

BDN encourages the Town of Cobourg to accept the Community Climate Action Plan in principle in order to apply for the FCM feasibility study to fund neighbourhood low income deep retrofit projects ASAP so that we can develop a long-term strategic plan to implement this key measure in Cobourg's Climate Action Plan. This planning sets targets for completion over the next ten years and onward to 2050. Since Cobourg met both its Kyoto target and has already met the 2030 target of a 30% reduction below 2005 according to the Climate Action Plan update 2020, the next target to 2050 will take more time to develop because it involves retrofitting the housing stock of the whole Town by 2050. It also involves the electrification of passenger and fleet vehicles over several decades. This takes a long-term strategy. The Climate Action Plan provides a vision of what we must achieve.

BDN wholeheartedly supports the funding application for this project. We look forward to being able to help support this measure in whatever way we can. Please keep BDN up to date on the progress of the application to FCM.

Sincerely,

Faye McFarlane, Tom Shea, Denny Manchee, Steve Lapp on behalf of Blue Dot Northumberland

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