

August 28, 2015

The Honorable Matt Brown
London City Hall
Suite 214 - 300 Dufferin Avenue
London, ON N6B 1Z2

Dear Mayor Brown:

We write to you as the Chair of the Big City Mayors' Caucus and the Former Mayor of New York City and the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change to ask for your city's commitment to the Compact of Mayors.

The Compact of Mayors is a global platform where cities can publically register current or new climate commitments using one common standard for the measurement and reporting of their emissions and climate risk. It was launched at the UN Climate Summit last September in partnership with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Mayors Eduardo Paes of Rio de Janeiro, Anne Hidalgo of Paris and Park Won-soon of Seoul. Although many cities like yours have already made ambitious commitments, sometimes even publically through other international, regional and national platforms, the global community is still unaware of the full power of city action. We created the Compact of Mayors to solve this problem.

We share the Secretary General's view that spotlighting the leadership of cities in a single platform is a key to leveraging that leadership to encourage more ambitious and meaningful climate actions by all of the parties participating in COP21. The Compact of Mayors, by aggregating the climate commitments of hundreds of cities representing hundreds of millions of people, can send a much more powerful signal to the negotiators in Paris than a series of disparate and disconnected groupings and pledges.

The Big City Mayors Climate Action resolution that your city signed is an example of leading initiatives that we want to recognize and make even more visible. The primary aim of the Compact is to serve as a single, transparent platform to collect both the individual and collective achievements and commitments cities like yours have already made, as well as new ones you'd like to make public now. Commitments made through the Big City Mayors Climate Action resolution are easily transferrable as commitments to the Compact of Mayors – taking your domestic call to action to a global audience in time to influence a positive outcome during the Paris Conference of Parties negotiations this December.

Vancouver has committed to the Compact, and Gregor and I urge you now to do the same. We are asking that you take the next step to make it official by submitting a letter to indicate your city's commitment to the Compact of Mayors through either carbonn Climate Registry, CDP Cities, or by directly sending a letter to info@compactofmayors.org.

As the global community works towards a climate treaty at the end of this year in Paris, during the UNFCCC's COP21, now is a critical time to share your city's climate commitment and showcase your actions on an international stage through The Compact of Mayors. It is through this voluntary action and transparent reporting that cities will be finally recognized as legitimate partners in a global climate solution.

We have also included here a summary of how the Compact relates to your current commitment through the Big City Mayors Caucus and stand ready to answer any questions you may have about the Compact of Mayors initiative. We have asked Amanda Eichel with Bloomberg Philanthropies to follow up with your office in the coming days, and your representatives should feel free to contact her with any questions. She can be reached at amandae@bloomberg.org or +1-212-205-0213.

We hope you will join us in this critical effort and thank you for your continued commitment to global sustainability.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Bloomberg
U.N. Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change



Gregor Robertson
Mayor of Vancouver

Coordination of Climate Initiatives for Canadian Cities – Domestic and International

Goal

Through leadership of the Big City Mayor's Caucus, 21 Canadian Cities have supported the Big City Mayor's Climate Agreement. This agreement indicates significant support for municipal, national and international action to address climate change. Some cities, such as Vancouver have committed to long term carbon reductions as well as 100% renewable energy. Others are working exclusively toward climate targets. Through this effort, each city can highlight their commitment and unique approach to solving the greatest challenge of our time.

There is an opportunity in the lead-up to the COP meeting in Paris, to align the Canadian Mayor's agreement to the Compact of Mayors, an international effort by cities across the world to demonstrate their commitment to taking action. As the Big City Mayor's Climate Agreement has very similar commitments to the Compact of Mayors, the goal is to ask Canadian Mayor's to join Vancouver in signing-on to the Compact of Mayors. Through this alignment, there is a further opportunity for Canadian cities to highlight their leadership nationally and internationally.

Objectives

This initiative has the following primary objectives:

- Ask BCMC cities to agree that their signing onto the Big City Mayor's Climate Agreement is equivalent to a commitment to the Compact of Mayors.
- Demonstrate to the Canadian public that Canadian Cities are leading in addressing climate change and pursuing renewable energy.
- Highlight the Canadian Mayoral leadership at Climate Week in New York at the end of September.
- Highlight the Canadian Mayoral leadership during the COP meeting in Paris.

A short description of each effort and a summary of how these efforts are working collaboratively to elevate your city's critical climate commitments is outlined below:

The Compact of Mayors

What is the Compact of Mayors?

The Compact of Mayors is an international effort to organize and create visibility around city climate protection commitments (both mitigation and adaptation), by employing common measurement and reporting standards and a central platform to allow for the broadest recognition of city action in the global climate conversation.

It was launched by the UN Secretary General and his Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change, Michael Bloomberg, in partnership with international city networks (namely C40, ICLEI and UCLG) to engage their members to undertake a transparent and supportive approach to reduce city-level emissions, to reduce vulnerability and to enhance resilience to climate change, in a consistent and complimentary manner to national level climate protection efforts.

Because the Compact of Mayors aims to build on, and incorporate, the ongoing efforts of Mayors that increasingly set ambitious, voluntary city climate commitments, the Compact is partnering with new and

existing regional, national and international sector-based initiatives to capture all of these efforts in one place, using a single standard. At the same time, the Compact mirrors the requirements that national governments face in the international negotiation process in order to ensure that city efforts are given the greatest possible consideration for future resourcing and recognition.

What Are the Compact Commitments?

Cities and towns of any size or location may take part in the Compact of Mayors. Upon making an initial pledge to the Compact, cities commit to measure their impacts, set targets, establish a plan and report annually on their progress. Cities that make this commitment have up to three years to meet these requirements to fully comply with the Compact, including:

1. Registering a Commitment – this is done through either a letter or email indicating the city’s official commitment.
2. Take Inventory (within one year of commitment)
 - a. Mitigation: Build and complete a community-wide GHG inventory using the GPC standard
 - b. Adaptation: Identify climate hazards
3. Set Reduction Targets (within two years of commitment)
 - a. Mitigation: Set GHG reduction target
 - b. Adaptation: Assess climate change vulnerability utilizing Compact guidance
4. Create a Mitigation and Adaptation Action Plan (within three years of commitment)
 - a. Mitigation: Develop climate action plan demonstrating how city will deliver on its commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
 - b. Adaptation: Develop a climate change adaptation plan demonstrating how the city will adjust to actual or expected climate change impacts.

How does Reporting Work?

The Compact of Mayors partners with existing city climate reporting platforms – namely CDP Cities and the Carbonn Climate Registry. All reporting may be done through existing reporting commitments to these two platforms. Additionally, the Compact aims to establish additional data partners and would welcome input from cities that may currently be reporting elsewhere so that we may enable easy transfer of data between these platforms, with the fundamental aim of ensuring that cities are reporting only once, no matter the breadth of their climate commitments.

Canadian Big City Mayors’ Climate Change Action Agreement

What is the Canadian Mayors Climate Change Action Agreement?

The Canadian Mayors Climate Change Action Agreement is a call to action, from the 21 city members of the nation’s Big City Mayors Caucus, for the Canadian government to work closely with cities and provinces to develop a national climate change strategy. It is a vehicle for coordinated commitments, communications and engagement for mayors in Canada.

It was adopted by the Big City Mayors Caucus in June 2015 and announced publically on July 6, 2015.

Members of the Big City Mayors Caucus have committed to:

1. Support binding emission reductions at the international, national and city level that address both short- and long-term commitments.

2. Develop and implement municipal climate action plans that have specific actions designed to cut GHG emissions, identify the risks posed by climate change, and how those risks will be mitigated
3. Regular reporting of municipal GHG emissions through the Carbon Disclosure Project and move towards standardized inventories and reporting to ensure greater accountability and transparency.
4. Through the Chair of the BCMC, communicate these commitments to COP21, the Canadian government and other interested parties.

Comparing Initiatives

The following table aims to identify areas of alignment and/or additionality for these 4 complementary city climate protection initiatives. In particular, cities that commit to the Canadian Climate Action Agreement can easily meet the Compact's Compliance Requirements and join fellow cities to show their collective impact in combating climate change on a global scale.

Commitment Type	Compact Commitment	BCMC Commitment
GHG Measurement & Reporting	Within 1 year of commitment complete a community-wide GHG inventory using the internationally recognized "GPC" standard (can be an existing inventory). Inventory must be updated every 3 years.	Report municipal emissions via the CDP (Carbon Disclosure Project) platform. Move towards standardized inventories (standard TBD)
Climate Hazard & Risk Measurement and Reporting	Within 1 year of commitment complete a hazard assessment, within 2 years of commitment complete a climate risk assessment – using international standard currently under development.	Identify the risks posed by climate change
Climate Mitigation Target	Within 2 years of commitment, establish a target for GHG reduction (can be an existing target). No requirements around target year, or specific ambition.	Support city level GHG emissions reduction targets that address both short- and long-term commitments
Climate Adaptation Target	Within 2 years of commitment, establish a target for climate resilience (can be an existing target).	Via Climate Action Plan
Climate Action Plan - Mitigation	Within 3 years of commitment, publish a plan to address GHG reduction target (can be an existing plan)	Develop and implement municipal climate action plans that have specific actions designed to cut GHG emissions
Climate Action Plan – Adaptation	Within 3 years of commitment, publish a plan to address adaptation target (can be an existing plan)	Develop and implement municipal climate action plans that identify the risks posed by climate change and how those risks will be mitigated
Advocacy & Communications	Support provided through the Compact of Mayors to communicate city commitment to the international audience.	Call on the Government of Canada to engage with the Provinces and big cities in developing a national climate change strategy Communicate BCMC commitments to the COP21, the Canadian government and other interested parties.