Attachment B

The Honourable John Horgan, MLA Premier of British Columbia Office of the Premier PO Box 9041 Stn. Prov. Govt. Victoria BC V8W 9E1

The Honourable Josie Osborne, MLA Minister of Municipal Affairs PO Box 9056 Stn. Prov. Govt. Victoria BC V8W 9E2

The Honourable George Heyman, MLA Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy PO Box 9047 Stn. Prov. Gov. Victoria BC V8W 9E2 Councillor Brian Frenkel

President, Union of B.C. Municipalities Local Government House 525 Government Street Victoria BC V8V 0A8

Dear Premier John Horgan:

Re: B.C. Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP)

At its meeting of July 26, 2021, Nanaimo Council resolved to write you to detail its concern for "the impact of cancelling the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) and the need for a swift replacement that provides consistent, non-application funding to allow the City of Nanaimo and other municipalities to continue their work at a scale that can deliver on the Provincial CleanBC Plan and City's Greenhouse Gas and energy reduction Plans."

Withdrawal of provincial funding for climate action through CARIP was unexpected in light of the provincial commitment to climate action outlined by CleanBC and the Federal government's renewed climate commitments to United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26). Local governments were not consulted in this decision.

CARIP was a critical source of consistent, dedicated funding, allowing municipalities, including Nanaimo, to take action on climate change by funding key emission-reducing projects, and leveraging larger climate related grants. In addition, many municipalities rely on CARIP funding

for Staff positions to deliver these projects. This has led to over a decade of projects and consistent provincial data provided to CARIP on climate action at the municipal level.

The City of Nanaimo has undertaken a number of significant emission-reducing projects as a result of the CARIP funding, amounting to a reduction of 1,396 tonnes CO2e.

Nanaimo is concerned with the lack of comparable replacement program to provide a consistent reliable funding source for municipal climate action, and the shift towards solely competitive funding streams and programs. Competitive programs require additional Staff effort and financial resources to prepare applications with no guarantee of success. Grant programs typically rely on top-up funding from the local government. In the absence of CARIP or a similar source of consistent funding, many municipalities will be limited in their ability to apply for such competitive programs. This level of uncertainty makes it difficult to plan for, and implement climate actions that span multiple years.

Cessation of CARIP funding is coming at a time of particular uncertainty. Removing dedicated climate action funding will create a shortfall that is unlikely to be met by many local governments through the municipal tax base.

Nanaimo Council respectfully requests that the Province engage with local governments on the swift replacement of CARIP with a program that provides consistent, non-application based funding tied to annual climate reporting. This will allow municipalities to continue their work at a scale necessary to address the Climate Emergency and deliver on CleanBC and Municipal Climate Plan goals.

Sincerely,

Leonard Krog Mayor

p.c.: T. Faganello, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government Division, Ministry of Municipal Affairs