Dear Mayor and Council:

**Re: Fossil fuel accountability**

I am writing [on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_] to ask you to take action to hold the fossil fuel industry accountable for its fair share of the climate impacts that our community is suffering, and will suffer. The first step is simple – I am asking you to write a letter to each of the top 20 corporate fossil fuel polluters asking them to commit to pay their fair share. [We are one of the/I support the] more than 50 organizations that sent you a letter, dated 25 January 2017, asking that you take this type of action.

Templates for a Climate Accountability letter from council, and a spreadsheet with the addresses for the 20 fossil fuel cartels that I am asking you to write, may be found at <http://www.climatelawinourhands.org/resources-for-accountability/>.

An industry that makes hundreds of billions of dollars each year selling fossil fuels must pay its fair share. If it does not, then we, the community of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, will end up paying 100% of the costs of preparing for and recovering from climate impacts, while the fossil fuel industry continues to unfairly undercut renewable alternatives and stands in the way of real climate action. The amount of greenhouse gas pollution attributed to each of the large fossil fuel companies has been calculated and is documented here. Together, the large fossil fuel companies should be held accountable for almost 30% of our climate costs.

[Briefly outline some of the impacts that we are suffering or will suffer. If you have tangible examples from your community, use them – for instance, neighbourhoods or beaches that require protection from rising sea-levels, wildfire buffer zones, mountain pine beetle, flooding, etc. Metro Vancouver municipalities may want to refer to the [Cost of Adaptation – Sea Dikes and Alternative Strategies](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd/public_safety/flood/pdfs_word/cost_of_adaptation-final_report_oct2012.pdf) which estimates that the region should spend $9.5 billion between now and 2100 (about $100 million per year) to address rising sea levels.]

The Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium predicts the following future impacts for our region – which will affect municipal operations:

[Quote from “Potential Impacts” section of the appropriate [Regional Summary](https://pacificclimate.org/resources/publications?keys=%22climate+summary%22).]

Demanding that the true costs of climate change are recognized and addressed by the fossil fuel industry is one of the most important things that BC local governments can do to fight global climate change. It will also help our community address the rising tide of climate costs heading our way.

Sincerely,