

March 7, 2019

Mayor Lisa Helps and Council  
City of Victoria Municipal Hall  
1 Centennial Square, Victoria BC,  
V8W 1P6

**Re. Victoria's motion to support a class-action lawsuit against the oil and gas industry**

Dear Victoria Mayor and Council,

Finding climate change solutions is one of the pillars of the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce's advocacy priorities.

The Chamber supports the City of Victoria's Climate Leadership Plan, specifically the Mayor's vision that, in 2050, Victoria will have become a city driven by amazing entrepreneurs who "leapt at the challenge to innovate and invent the goods and technologies needed for a clean-energy future."

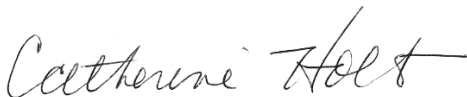
We agree that the answer lies in innovation led by business, which is why we are asking Victoria's Mayor and Council to choose more constructive options than attempting a quixotic lawsuit against the oil and gas industry.

Victoria is not the first city to consider using legal action as a tool against the oil and gas industry. However, this tactic has proven counterproductive and risks damaging Victoria's reputation as a welcoming destination and a willing partner to find constructive solutions to climate change.

Not only will legal action likely be rejected by the courts, but the confrontational approach alienates the very Canadians we need to help create a low carbon society. Climate change is not about us vs. them.

We encourage the City of Victoria to refocus its resources on supporting the innovations required to show the leadership our world needs to achieve environmental sustainability.

Sincerely,



Catherine Holt  
CEO, Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce

Sincerely,



Dan Dagg  
Chair, Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce