

*Mayor*

# DAVID MILLER

November 2, 2009

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper  
Prime Minister of Canada  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa  
K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

As Chair of the C40 Large Cities Climate Leadership group, an organization of the world's largest cities committed to tackling climate change, I want to bring your attention to a submission recently introduced into formal negotiations in advance of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP 15) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change this December in Copenhagen.

An alliance of nations - Switzerland, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Monaco and Liechtenstein – known collectively as the Environmental Integrity Group have proposed text that recognizes the important role that cities play in the fight against climate change.

I am attaching the proposal in full and respectfully ask that you direct your Chief of Negotiations to support the motion that has been tabled by the Environmental Integrity Group of nations.

The submission underlines that action-oriented city networks such as the C40 can provide strategic influence and deliver or act as catalyst for action in combating climate change. The proposal emphasizes the need for national governments to engage, empower and resource cities to reach the greenhouse gas reductions so necessary for the health of our planet and the long term well-being of our economy.

The key recommendations in the proposal are:

- a) To recognize the role, achievements and potential of cities in climate change, particularly regarding mitigation
- b) To recognize that strategic investments in low-carbon cities, such as providing cities access to national and international cooperation programs to combat climate change, will result in reductions in greenhouse gas emissions as well as stronger national economies due to increased demand for innovation and green technologies, the associated job creation, as well as reduced energy costs.



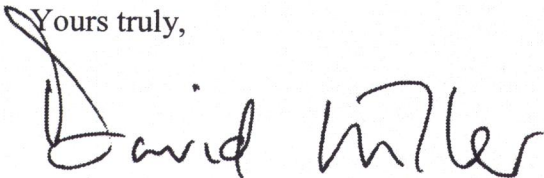
- c) To suggest that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change add a chapter on cities to its Working Group and Synthesis Reports.
- d) To encourage the development of strategies, programs, projects, and partnerships that focus on the ability of cities to respond and adapt to climate change, and to make major contributions to mitigation actions of national significance, contributing to meet – where applicable - national targets for greenhouse gas reductions.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to share more information relating to this proposal, if your schedule permits. If your staff would like to discuss the proposal please have them contact either Jane Karwat (jkarwat@toronto.ca, 416-338-7130) or Mary MacDonald (mmacdon@toronto.ca, 416 338-7132) from my office.

Toronto City Council has directed staff to take action now to ensure we reach Toronto's target of 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions based on 1990 levels. I'm proud to say that in City of Toronto operations we have already obtained over 40 percent carbon reductions based on 1990 levels and we continue to work hard to achieve even more.

Climate Change is the issue of our time, perhaps of all time. As Mayor of Toronto, a city whose residents are deeply committed to fighting climate change, I strongly encourage you to be among the national leaders pushing for tough greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor David Miller  
City of Toronto