

**From:** Sonia & Rick

**Sent:** Sunday, December 5, 2021 7:00 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** Written delegation for the December 8th GIC meeting.

I have since January 1, 2020 been creating a compendium of links to reports and news items related to the climate crisis. So far this year (December 5) I have collected 5600 items, 500 more than all of 2020. I believe this bump is a combination of more awareness as well as the recorded increase of extreme weather events our addiction to fossil fuels is causing.

Atmospheric carbon dioxide levels are measured at the Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii. On December 4th, 2020 the reading was 413.08 parts per million. A year later they are 416.44 ppm. That makes it reasonable to conclude that next May we will see a new CO2 peak of 424.5 and with it the likelihood 2022 will be one of the warmest 5 years. As Kent Moore from U of T told us, "If we continue to warm the planet up, we're going to see more and more of these events. They're going to become more and more catastrophic."

John Horgan said of the B.C. floods that he, "couldn't have imagined it six months ago," but scientists and activist have been issuing climate warnings for decades. Most of Hamilton's infrastructure was designed for a world not impacted by climate change - hence the sewage overflows that can clearly be seen to increase. We also saw Hwy 8 closed by a significant erosion event and we shouldn't expect federal assistance every time the Bayfront is washed out.

Hamilton municipal leaders have to imagine the possibility of multiple climate disasters and plan for adaptation but also consider every decision as a way to mitigate more warming. Councillors should look to see whether or not lobbyists are acting in the best interest of the environment that is our life support system or are; in essence, climate change deniers.

If this is something you don't think is important, resign. If you don't think the character of the job description has changed to envelop the climate crisis, do not run again. It would be, in the moral sense of the word, criminal to make decisions that increase the risk of catastrophic climate change.

However, if you acknowledge the emergency, we find ourselves in and are willing to work hard with all our diverse communities to find paths to prevent the worse, there will be many people urgent to help you. This is an effort that requires as many people as possible.

Richard MacKinnon