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**NOTICE OF MOTION**  
**TORONTO CITY COUNCIL**  
**September 25-27, 2006**

**RE: *THE KYOTO PROTOCOL - IMPLEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES***

**Moved by: Councillor Michael Walker**

**Seconded by: Councillor Cliff Jenkins**

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WHEREAS “The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change” was adopted at the United Nations in New York City on May 9, 1992 – 14 years ago; and,

WHEREAS each Party (Nation) in “The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change” agreed to reduce overall emissions of hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulphur hexafluorides by at least 5% below 1990 levels in the first commitment period: 2008 to 2012, stating that each Party (Nation) agreed, by 2005, demonstrable progress in achieving these commitments will have been made; and,

WHEREAS to date, demonstrable progress in achieving these commitments of the Kyoto Protocol has not been made; and,

WHEREAS “Each Party [Nation]... in order to *promote sustainable development*, shall:  
(a) Implement and/or farther elaborate policies and measures in accordance with its national circumstances, such as: ....(vi) *Encouragement* of appropriate reforms in relevant sectors aimed at promoting policies and measures which limit or reduce emissions of greenhouse gases...”(Kyoto Protocol To The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, December 1-10, 1997, Article 2(a)(vi)); and,

WHEREAS one hundred sixty four (164) nations have accepted the Kyoto Protocol; and,

WHEREAS Canada signed the Kyoto Protocol on April 29, 1998, and ratified it December 17, 2002, nearly 4 years ago; and,

WHEREAS Canada accounts for an estimated 2% of the world’s greenhouse gas emissions; and,

WHEREAS Canada is flush with “carbon sinks” that would lessen the burden of regulation on Canadian industry; and,

WHEREAS the increased burning of fossil fuels and the resulting global warming are contrary to the goals that the Kyoto Protocol is trying to reach; and,

WHEREAS dozens of energy projects, big and small, would be affected if Canada tries to reduce its emissions; and,

WHEREAS the Federal government is heavily lobbied by associations, such as the CAA, and corporations, such as oil companies, to stall Canada’s implementation of the Kyoto Protocol; and,

WHEREAS the Federal government is attempting to back out of their participation in the Kyoto Protocol; and,

WHEREAS the Canadian oil industry, before the oil is burned, contaminates tens of billions of litres of fresh water per year to extract oil – some companies are permitted to use a million litres per day for this purpose; and,

WHEREAS reliance on fossil fuels has been proven to be unsustainable and detrimental, though the Ontario Provincial government continues to operate four (4) coal-fired power plants, namely: Nanticoke on the north shore of Lake Erie, Lambton (near Sarnia), and Atikokan and Thunder Bay in northwestern Ontario; and,

WHEREAS Nanticoke, a Provincial power plant, remains to be the single largest source of air pollution in the province; and,

WHEREAS the population of the Greater Toronto Area (G.T.A.), over five (5) million people, is suffering from the Provincial government’s lack of leadership on environmental issues; and,

WHEREAS combined, these four (4) Ontario Power Generation (OPG) coal-fired power plants produce 7,770 megawatts of electricity (21%-24% of OPG’s output), there are clean alternatives, as well as conservation, to replace this capacity; and,

WHEREAS governments effectively subsidize corporations who produce harmful emissions by often cleaning up their toxic mess; and,

WHEREAS there are several areas of real environmental concern within the boundaries of Toronto, such as Smog & Heat Alert days, the Portlands, Toronto’s beaches, et cetera; and,

WHEREAS the Canadian prairies have endured many arid growing seasons and now farmers are routinely being driven out of business because of the change in climate; and,

WHEREAS sections as large as 500 billion tons of ice have broken off arctic ice shelves, which has incrementally raised the levels of the world's oceans; and,

WHEREAS in action, like the phrase "Think Globally, Act Locally", the local Municipal governments will be most effective and efficient in implementing the incremental programs and regulations needed for this mandated change; and,

WHEREAS stated in Wednesday August 28, 2002's *Globe and Mail*, "Climate decay harms the vulnerable first. They live at the margins: the first to smell fumes, the last to escape the scorching heat..... To ratify Kyoto is to stand with farmers facing drought in Africa, and families cramped in stuffy apartments in Toronto."; and,

WHEREAS the "Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer" was adopted on September 16, 1987 --- almost 20 years ago; and,

WHEREAS the Organization For Economic Development and Co-Operation (OECD) states that Canada produces 334.9 kg of Carbon Monoxide per capita – Canada's emissions per capita are almost two and a half times the OECD average; and,

WHEREAS stated in Saturday August 19, 2006's Toronto Star "Atmospheric concentration of CO<sup>2</sup> stands at 381 ppm, and it is increasing at 2 ppm a year. I've been arguing that we need to hold the concentration below 475 ppm, and if we can do that, we can keep the global temperature increase to no more than 1C. To do it, we need to cap global CO<sup>2</sup> emissions within the next 10 years, and then reduce them by 60 to 80 per cent by 2050."; and,

WHEREAS implementation of the Kyoto Protocol can be designed to ensure that no industry or sector suffers disproportionately; and,

WHEREAS implementation of the Kyoto Protocol can be designed to foster many new industries and employment sectors;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Toronto City Council, representing the largest city in Canada:**

- 1) **Aggressively request the Federal government expeditiously implement the Kyoto Protocol;**
- 2) **Aid the Federal and Provincial governments to increase public awareness regarding environmental concerns relating to industrial regulation and the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol;**

- 3) **In line with the initiatives of the Kyoto Protocol, actively offer possible suggestions for implementation to the Federal government;**
- 4) **Actively lobby all other levels of government to actively attempt to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent anthropogenic interference with the climate system;**
- 5) **Actively lobby the Provincial government to fast-track its closure of the four (4) coal power plants.**

**August 31, 2006**

**Moved By: Councillor Michael Walker**

**Seconded By: Councillor Cliff Jenkins**

**ASM**