

Date: December 6, 2021

Re: The Centre for Community Energy Transformation

To: Michael Hoy, Supervisor, Environmental Planning, City of Brampton

The Peel Climate Change Partnership (PCCP or Partnership) is pleased to provide this Letter of Support for the proposed *Centre of Community Energy Transformation* (CCET or Centre). The following provides some background of the PCCP, identifies the strong alignment between the Partnership and the CCET priorities and recognizes the key benefit of implementation capacity afforded by the CCET to scale needed climate action in the community.

The Partnership was established in 2011. Member organizations include the Region of Peel, City of Mississauga, City of Brampton, Town of Caledon, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and Credit Valley Conservation (CVC). The Partnership recently updated its mandate to courageously lead, communicate and work collaboratively with key stakeholders to drive local climate action. This can involve securing or supporting investment that enables the rapid and equitable transformation of municipalities and broader community, within the Region of Peel, to become low carbon and resilient.

In the current term of the Partnership (2018 – 2022), a priority is to accelerate the reduction of community greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions within the portfolios of buildings and vehicles to support the GHG reduction targets of Member Organizations' climate change plans. These efforts form the basis of the Partnership's *Low Carbon Community Strategy*. The Partnership has made noteworthy progress on its goal for reducing community GHGs related to vehicles (e.g., submitting joint funding applications and securing \$610,000 in federal grants to expand the electric vehicle charging infrastructure network across municipal and conservation authority owned lands in Peel). However, advancing the Partnership's more ambitious goal of decarbonizing buildings in the residential sector has been heavily challenged by a lack of capacity and funding mechanisms.

The proposed Centre of Community Energy Transformation represents a strategic alignment and opportunity for the PCCP to address this large gap in implementation capacity and amplify its collective response to the climate emergency by leveraging program offerings of the CCET, including a comprehensive home energy retrofit program and facilitating the establishment of district energy nodes, revolutionizing the current energy efficiency and generation markets. The CCET will also prioritize the need to establish sustainable funding models that allow for scaled delivery of programs and associated benefits across the geographic region of Peel.

The planning of the Centre for Community Energy Transformation was led by the City of Brampton with project-team involvement from the Region of Peel and Sheridan College as well as advisory support from the City of Mississauga and Town of Caledon. This initial collaboration demonstrates the interest of members within the PCCP in the concept and opportunity to support the CCET. Once approved and operational, CCET can continue to build on this collaborative momentum and work with local municipalities, residents, developers, businesses, manufacturers, utilities, schools, and non-profits to implement priority projects and achieve the shared goal of a low-carbon energy future.



The Peel Climate Change Partnership looks forward to future discussions on how to collaborate with or otherwise support the Centre of Community Energy Transformation and accelerate low carbon action within the community.

If there are any further inquiries, please do not hesitate to reach out to Christine Tu, M.Sc. Director, Office of Climate Change and Energy Management, Region of Peel and Secretariat Director, Peel Climate Change Partnership at christine.tu@peelregion.ca or (905) 791-7800 ext. 4084.

Sincerely,

Jodi Robillos
Commissioner, Community Services
City of Mississauga

2021 Chair, Peel Climate Change Partnership

cc: Gary Kent, Region of Peel
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