



SENIOR LIBERALS' COMMISSION

Policy Committee

2017-17 (September 2017)

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

WHEREAS: Senior Registered Liberals across Canada through the 2017 SLC Policy Questionnaire identified the need for **“government leadership in addressing all aspects of environmental sustainability, including air, water, and land, not just climate change and not just mitigation”** as a priority issue for consideration during the next federal election campaign; and

WHEREAS: the federal government has placed priority on addressing the challenge associated with reducing the impact of greenhouse gas emissions on the global climate; and

WHEREAS: Numerous studies, such as the Brundtland report titled “Our Common Future”, have suggested that the current pace of global economic activity is no longer compatible with global environmental sustainability; and

WHEREAS: Other studies, such as Dietz and O’Neil’s hypothesis contained in “Enough is Enough- Building a Sustainable Economy in a World of Finite Resources”, suggest that the benefits from current economic activity could provide a middle class life style for a larger proportion of the global population; and

WHEREAS: Economic and planning decisions seldom incorporate the potential cost of lost ecological values.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Government of Canada provide more active leadership to address all aspects of environmental sustainability, including air, water, land and habitat, in addition to their current focus on climate change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Government of Canada initiate Canada-wide discussions toward identifying economic development models that are compatible with environmental sustainability.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Government of Canada explore and adopt economic models that give equivalent weights to ecological values and economic benefits so that more sustainable environmental decisions with respect to land, air and water can be made.

SLC National Policy Working Group on Environmental Sustainability

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(267 words)

Reference: [SLC Policy Background Paper “A Path to a Sustainable Environment”](#) August 2017