

TORONTO AND REGION 2005 INTER-GOVERNMENTAL DECLARATION ON CLEAN AIR

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS representatives of the City of Toronto, the Government of Ontario, and the Government of Canada, out of concern for the adverse risks that air pollution and climate change pose to public health and the local economy, gathered in Toronto on June 21, 2000 and together with representatives of municipal governments in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), gathered again on the occasion of the Toronto Smog Summits in 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004 to sign Inter-governmental Declarations on Clean Air;

AND WHEREAS the GTA Clean Air Council has been working to follow up on key issues raised at previous Summits, to convene ongoing annual Summits, to explore opportunities for joint initiatives between annual Summits, and to liaise with other municipalities across Canada to share best practices information on smog reduction;

AND WHEREAS annual Smog Summits are a part of the ongoing efforts of our respective governments to address the air pollution problem;

AND WHEREAS progress to date on the path toward cleaner air, in the form of individual and joint announcements made by GTA member governments at previous Smog Summits, is recorded in the GTA Clean Air Council's publication entitled Governments' Actions on Clean Air in the GTA;

AND WHEREAS this Smog Summit marks the sixth annual Smog Summit, with much having been accomplished, and much remaining to be done;

AND WHEREAS we, the representatives of the City of Toronto, local and regional municipal governments in the GTA, the Government of Ontario, and the Government of Canada, have gathered in Toronto on June 8, 2005 on the occasion of the sixth Smog Summit;

THANKING Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc., the Government of Ontario, the Government of Canada, the Toronto Atmospheric Fund, and the City of Toronto for providing financial support for the Summit; and

THANKING the member jurisdictions for providing financial and in-kind support for the GTA Clean Air Council work program and assistance in developing the Toronto and Region 2005 Inter-governmental Declaration on Clean Air, thanking the corporations, non-governmental organizations and members of the public who assisted in planning the Summit, and thanking the Clean Air Partnership and the City of Toronto for organizing the Summit.

WE DO HEREBY DECLARE:

ARTICLE 1 – STATEMENT OF COMMON UNDERSTANDING

- 1.1 Scientists and physicians have linked air pollution to premature deaths, illnesses and hospitalization each year in major Canadian cities, including the GTA. Even a small increase in air pollution increases health impacts, particularly in those who are vulnerable and sensitive to air pollution. Air pollution-related illnesses adversely impact the local economy as well as our health.
- 1.2 Smog and climate change are two atmospheric problems sharing common sources. Fossil-fuel combustion is a key contributor to air pollution, producing smog precursors and greenhouse gas emissions.
- 1.3 On February 16, 2005 the Kyoto Protocol came into force in Canada.
- 1.4 Actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are often associated with reductions of other atmospheric emissions that contribute to smog and its associated health, economic and ecosystem effects. Equally, a key co-benefit of reducing smog precursors is to reduce some greenhouse gas emissions.
- 1.5 A number of sources are responsible for a large proportion of the emissions of major air pollutants in the GTA. The major air pollutants include nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulphur oxides (SO_x), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), inhalable particulate matter (PM₁₀), respirable particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and carbon monoxide (CO). The primary sources of these pollutants are:
 - industrial activity,
 - electric power generation,
 - on-road and off-road use of diesel fuel and gasoline,
 - residential fuel and fuel wood combustion, and
 - surface coating and solvent applications.
- 1.6 Addressing key sources of major air pollutants requires collaboration of all orders of government.

ARTICLE 2 – SIGNATORIES TO THE 2005 INTER-GOVERNMENTAL DECLARATION ON CLEAN AIR reorganize

Government of Canada

Province of Ontario

Ajax, Town of
Brampton, City of
Burlington, City of
Caledon, Town of
Clarington, Municipality of
Durham, Region of
Halton, Region of
King, Township of

Markham, Town of
Mississauga, City of
Newmarket, Town of
Oakville, Town of
Oshawa, City of
Peel, Region of
Pickering, City of
Richmond Hill, Town of
Toronto, City of
Vaughan, City of
Whitby, Town of
York, Region of

ARTICLE 3 – CALL FOR GTA CLEAN AIR COUNCIL ACTION

In view of the long-term nature of the air quality problem in the airshed, the GTA Clean Air Council agrees to continue the ongoing work being undertaken on commitments made in Inter-governmental Declarations signed at previous Smog Summits.

The GTA Clean Air Council commits to act in concert to address smog and greenhouse gases, to share information and, where possible, to share resources and undertake appropriate research, studies, workshops and actions.

- 3.1 Recognizing the role of emissions from the transportation sector on GTA air quality and the theme of the 2005 Smog Summit, undertake, where possible, joint research and action on areas of key concern with respect to transportation and health.
 - 3.1.1 Collaborate with 20/20 The Way to Clean Air, the One-Tonne Challenge, and the Smart Commute campaigns to strengthen and support existing efforts to engage residents in energy conservation activities and involve these campaigns in members' ongoing energy conservation strategies.
- 3.2 Integrate the work of the GTA Clean Air Council on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality in the region with Canada's commitment to the Kyoto Protocol and the Government of Canada's One Tonne Challenge:
 - 3.2.1 Work with the federal and provincial governments to build local capacity to act on greenhouse gas emission reductions and air quality improvements and to explore the establishment of a GTA-wide Atmospheric Fund pilot project that would expand the Toronto Atmospheric Fund revolving fund model into the rest of the GTA (the "G-TAF").
- 3.3 Promote the expansion of, and seek funding for, initiatives that reduce energy usage when demand threatens to overwhelm supply by building on the Energy Drill Program in public and private sector buildings across the GTA.
- 3.4 Work with Environment Canada's Burn it Smart! Program to explore the applicability in the GTA of a Model Municipal By-law for Regulating Woodburning Appliances to ensure that all newly installed residential gas and wood fireplaces and stoves meet the low-emission certification requirements of the CSA and/or EPA.
- 3.5 Collaborate with, and actively support, the federal government's development of a formulation for the AQI that reflects the combined health effects of simultaneous exposure to the key air pollutants.
- 3.6 Explore the benefits of hosting a cross-border Smog Summit to engage in trans-boundary air quality discussions and identify issues and strategies with municipal, state and federal representatives in the Great Lakes Basin Region.
- 3.7 As part of the commitments made at the 2004 Smog Summit in the Toronto and Region 2004 Inter-governmental Declaration on Clean Air, continue to undertake research and action already underway, the progress of which is detailed in Appendix 1.

Appendix 1 – Progress Report on 2004 Commitments

PROGRESS REPORT ON GTA-CAC 2004 JOINT COMMITMENTS

Joint Commitments		
INITIATIVE	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
BUSINESS, INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT Sharing and encouraging best practices and developing Model Clean Air Plan <i>(2004 Declaration – Article 3.4)</i>	Ongoing	In partnership with, and with funding from the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority the Government of Canada, a <i>Model Clean Air Plan for the Living City</i> was developed. This report catalogues a variety of actions, policies and measures that a municipality could consider when developing a plan to reduce greenhouse gas and smog precursor emissions. In addition the Model Clean Air Plan, the report <i>Modelling Municipal Smog and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Practices in the GTA</i> was also prepared with financial support from the Ministry of the Environment. This report details the results from a pilot project, the goal of which was to evaluate the utility of a criteria air pollutant emissions model calibrated to Ontario conditions. For the pilot, an analysis of the emissions profiles and a quantification of reductions that could result from implementing certain measures for two GTA municipalities and the Regional Municipality of Waterloo. The emissions profiles and emissions reduction measures were analyzed and quantified for fleets (primarily fuel switching), buildings and street lighting. Both reports described above are available online at: www.cleanairpartnership.org/gtacac/reports, under the heading: Municipal Clean Air Planning and Emission Reductions. The GTA-CAC is now in the process of exploring ways to build on these reports, by analyzing the costs and emission reduction benefits of the measures identified in the Model Clean Air Plan using methods in the pilot project explained above. The goal of the next phase of the project is to develop a framework that will assist municipalities with prioritizing emission reductions based on outcomes predicted for municipalities with similar characteristics.
Explore opportunities to share data for GTA-wide air quality modelling <i>(2004 Declaration – Article 3.6)</i>	Ongoing	The GTA-CAC formed the Air Quality Modelling Sub-committee (AQMS). The AQMS explores options for sharing data to create local air quality models. The air modeling results will be used to enhance current monitoring data with the aim of improved health planning across the GTA. The group has prepared background material and templates for sharing data that, subject to funding, can be used to develop local air quality models.

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Joint Commitments		
INITIATIVE	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
Develop model anti-idling practices for GTA-CAC member fleets; research requirements for identified priority areas (2004 Declaration – Article 3.9)	Completed	As part of an idle-free project in collaboration with Natural Resources Canada, a model anti-idling by-law and an anti-idling policy for fleets have been developed. These documents provide municipalities with tools to promote air quality improvement by reducing vehicle idling.
ENERGY		
Identify opportunities and catalogue progress to implement energy retrofit measures (2004 Declaration – Article 3.1)	Ongoing	Through monthly meetings of the Greater Toronto Area Clean Air Council (GTA-CAC), members shared information and best practices on current retrofit projects. The GTA-CAC also explored and undertook opportunities to promote the work of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority's Mayor's Megawatt Challenge. Municipal governments participating in the Challenge pool their energy management knowledge and experience to promote energy efficiency and the subsequent reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, all with the added benefit of reducing municipal operating costs. The program provides a forum for benchmarking facility performance and for sharing best practices and accessing technical expertise.
Explore and promote the benefits of adopting an Energy Star ® corporate procurement policy (2004 Declaration – Article 3.2)	Completed	A Municipal Toolkit for Energy Star ® procurement was developed for GTA Clean Air Council municipalities. The tool kit is available on the GTA-CAC website and provides municipalities with information needed to incorporate the purchase of Energy Star qualified products into their procurement practices. Each section is designed to provide purchasers with the information they need quickly and clearly.
Promote the development and use of green power (2004 Declaration – Article 3.5)	Ongoing	Through monthly meetings of the GTA Clean Air Council, members discussed and addressed opportunities and challenges related to municipal involvement in green power development in the greater Toronto region. Municipalities and organizations considering and/or implementing these renewable energy projects presented to the Council, which created many information sharing and networking opportunities.
TRANSPORTATION		
Promote the benefits of trip reduction strategies, commuter options and reduction of single-occupancy vehicle trips (2004 Declaration – Article 3.7)	Ongoing	GTA Clean Air Council members, individually and through the 20/20 The Way to Clean Air program, took action to promote the reduction of single-occupancy vehicle trips. In addition, an analysis was prepared exploring some possible GTA businesses that might be interested in undertaking training related to Transport Canada's Commuter Options Workshop and Guide. I

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Joint Commitments		
INITIATIVE	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
Support vehicle idle-free education and campaigns (2004 Declaration – Article 3.8)	Ongoing	The GTA Clean Air Council is involved in a collaborative project to develop a model anti-idling by-law and supporting materials. In addition, for the week of June 13-17, there will be a GTA-wide campaign with an emphasis on enforcement. For more information on this campaign, see <insert campaign website>.
Explore opportunities to coordinate with Smart Commute Initiative pilot projects (2004 Declaration – Article 3.10)		The GTA Clean Air Council, members have explored ways of promoting and coordinating with Smart Commute Association projects. The Smart Commute Association launched on June 1, 2005 and will begin developing programs across the Greater Toronto Area and Hamilton.
NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT		
Exceeding building performance for new construction (2003 Declaration – Article 3.3)	Ongoing	A report entitled <i>Enhancing Energy Efficiency in New Construction</i> has been prepared, with feedback and support from the GTA Clean Air Council. This report provides municipalities with details on the benefits of, and approaches to, promoting energy-efficient building design. It also suggests approaches to overcoming barriers to enhancing energy efficiency in new construction. The report also includes municipal and private sector case studies and a sample RFP for consultant services.
EDUCATION AND OUTREACH		
Launch Clean Air Online (2004 Declaration – Article 3.11)	Completed	GTA Clean Air Online provides residents with a one-stop website for information on clean air and climate change information and actions. The GTA and National Clean Air Online websites will be jointly launched at the June 8, 2005 Smog Summit. Clean Air Online (CAOL) was created, developed and built on partnerships. It is a joint initiative between the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario, the Clean Air Partnership, numerous GTA municipalities and environmental groups and many others committed to improving air quality in the GTA.
Expand 20/20 The Way to Clean Air (2004 Declaration – Article 3.12)	Ongoing	<To be inserted.>