City File No. 0220-02

March 20, 2019

Chief Executive Officer
Chevron
6001 Bollinger Canyon Road
San Ramon CA 94583
USA

Dear Sir or Madam:

RE: Accountability for the costs associated with climate change in Courtenay, British Columbia CANADA

We are mindful of our community’s legislated responsibility to respond to climate change by including greenhouse gas reduction targets, actions and polices in our Official Community Plan (OCP). Our OCP focusses those reduction efforts on the transportation sector as “Courtenay’s greatest source of community-wide emissions as determined by the provincial Community Energy and Emissions Inventory” (City of Courtenay OCP). You will also appreciate our concern about the costs related to the impacts of climate change, impacts that are acknowledged by federal and provincial governments across the political spectrum to include a significant increase in more severe climate events that damage municipal infrastructure.

We are therefore contacting you with the intent to begin a discussion about the impacts of climate change and accountability for the related costs. We recognize that adaptation, mitigation and the repair of damages related to climate change will be a major expense for communities like ours. While taxpayers are currently paying the full cost of such impacts, we believe that we owe it to our citizens to explore other long-term funding options.
We certainly recognize that our community and residents have benefitted from the use of fossil fuels and that many of our citizens work in related industries. As such, we are responsible for part of the financial burden of the resulting climate changes. We also recognize that companies such as yours have profited from the sale of fossil fuels and continue to do so. It would therefore seem reasonable to expect that, in the coming years, all parties benefitting from the use of fossil fuels come to the table to discuss our common response to climate change including our financial accountability.

We hope that this letter may open a constructive dialogue with your company and look forward to hearing your response on how we address this shared challenge.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Bob Wells
Mayor
City of Courtenay