

September 29, 2008

Ms. Carole James
Leader of the British Columbia New Democratic Party
Room 201 Parliament Building
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Via Email: carole.james.mla@leg.bc.ca

Dear Ms. James:

Re: Carbon Tax

Your recent characterization of The Vancouver Board of Trade's position on our province's carbon tax is misleading. The Vancouver Board of Trade is not calling for the tax to be scrapped, nor do we support the NDP's solution.

The Vancouver Board of Trade has supported our provincial government's Climate Action Plan from the outset, including the carbon tax. We still do. At the same time, we believe that the plan has certainly been effective in increasing the public's awareness of the need to reduce greenhouse gases. In fact, the overall initiative has been advanced by recent increases in market fuel prices since the carbon tax was announced. As a result, we think consumer behaviour has responded positively.

Our point is simply that an evaluation of changes in consumer behaviour should be undertaken as part of any future review of future carbon tax increases.

Sincerely

Bernard (Bernie) Magnan
Assistant Managing Director and Chief Economist

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