

## **BACKGROUND for Declaration of a Climate Emergency Motion**

### **Climate Emergency Declaration - Anglican Diocese of Montreal**

“All around the world we are seeing governments and faith communities make climate emergency declarations. Thus far we have seen such declarations in 717 jurisdictions including local governments that cover hundreds of millions of citizens. The declaration of a climate emergency is meant to mobilize immediate action as it draws attention to the fact that we are not doing what we must to avert a climate catastrophe. Anglicans are part of the dozens of action groups that have helped to take this movement mainstream.

Climate declaration motions share a common focus on raising awareness about the urgent need for action and planning to achieve carbon-neutrality. This planning focuses on minimizing climate impacts and includes transitioning to renewable energy, enhanced efficiency, improving public transit and promoting local food production.

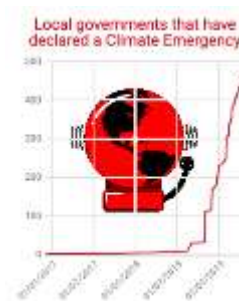
The declaration of a climate emergency draws attention to the fact that we are not doing what we must to avert a climate catastrophe. The declaration seeks to mobilize society and government to urgently act on the climate crisis. Although momentum has been growing for years, 2019 is the year that this movement came of age. This campaign is sweeping the globe with hundreds of cities having already declared climate emergencies and mounting pressure to make such declarations at the national level. The UK is the first nation to declare a climate emergency and grassroots pressure is building in Australia, Canada, and the United States. All around the world the notion is gaining traction. More than 517 councils that govern 46 million people in seven countries have made climate emergency declarations.”

For more information: [Climate Emergency Declaration - Anglican Diocese of Montreal](#)

### **Green Christian urges Churches to Declare Climate Emergency**

The UK-based charity Green Christian is urging churches to join in a national declaration of Climate Emergency. The organization is among the growing number concerned at the growing risk of catastrophic breakdown in the global climate, within current lifetimes, and the failure of governments to protect life, particularly for young people, the world's poor and species at risk.

Over 400 local authorities worldwide have declared a Climate Emergency, pledging to take decisive action to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions and engage citizens to do likewise. In the UK nearly 300 arts and cultural institutions and individuals have joined nearly 70 local authorities in doing so. For more information: <https://greenchristian.org.uk/churches-urged-to-declare-a-climate-emergency/>



## SINGLE USE PLASTICS

A) **Single-use plastics**, often also referred to as disposable plastics, are commonly used for **plastic** packaging and include items intended to be used only once before they are thrown away or recycled. These include, among other items, grocery bags, food packaging, drink bottles, straws.

- Human beings purchase 1,000,000 plastic water bottles per minute.
- Canadians produce 3 million tonnes of plastic waste per year with only 10% of that amount recycled
- It takes nearly 29 million barrels of oil to produce the 50 billion water bottles that society goes through each and every year. In addition, it takes nearly 50 million additional barrels of oil to pump, process, transport, and refrigerate our bottled water every year.
- 2006 estimates show that it took nearly 3 litres of water to produce 1 litre of bottled water.
- The Canadian bottled water industry supplies approximately 50 litres per person per year or 1.6 billion litres annually. This means nearly 4.9 billions litres of water has been used to process fuel to create plastic, creating the bottle, filtering water, transporting, and refrigerating.

Source: Wellington Water Watchers: [WWW on single use plastic](#)

B) [Government of Canada taking action to reduce plastic pollution](#)

C)

