



SCAN! Kingston Report

March 21, 2024 Nancy Nicol

March 4: Founding of new city-wide coalition

SCAN and 350 Kingston along with other groups launched a new city-wide coalition, with a goal of working together to achieve meaningful municipal climate progress during this Council term; and to bring new people into the movement, rally public support, and cultivate relationships with councillors and city staff.

March 15: Queen's University parking lot demo

SCAN members participated in a Fridays for Future demo organized by Queen's Backing Action on the Climate Crisis. The rally called for a reduction of vehicles commuting to campus, free and secure bike parking, safe bike paths, carpooling, and free bus passes for staff.

March 19: We Won! OEB motion passed by Kingston city council

Kingston City Council passed the motion we've been pushing for! They officially declared their support for the independent Ontario Energy Board and called on the Ford government to stop trying to overturn the OEB's decision to end a subsidy for new gas pipelines. Stephen and Osanic introduced the motion. Nancy Nicol spoke as a delegate. SCAN and 350 Kingston members attended, wearing masks on which was written: No Fossil Fuels! The motion passed with all councillors supporting it - the sole vote against, was Mayor Bryan Paterson. There's a way to go, but we hope this will help build momentum to put pressure on the Ontario government to let the OEB ruling stand.

<https://www.thewhig.com/news/kingston-city-council-backs-plan-to-cancel-natural-gas-subsidy>

<https://www.thewhig.com/news/kingston-council-to-consider-support-for-end-to-natural-gas-subsidy>

<https://www.cityofkingston.ca/city-hall/council-meetings>

March, 21: Teach-in on climate disinformation, Queen's

SCAN members participated in a teach-in, organized by Dr. Kyla Tienhaara at Queen's, that focused on debunking myths about the energy transition and the importance of phasing-out fossil fuel production in Canada. Experts spoke to the real impact of Canada's fossil fuel industry and how to combat disinformation. SCAN members spoke on Enbridge disinformation, and on RBC and government disinformation on the CGL pipeline. We distributed CPP postcards, and flyers for our upcoming picket of RBC in solidarity with the Wet'suwet'en on April 6.

Temperature bylaw

SCAN! Kingston is part of a campaign requesting City Council pass a bylaw to protect tenants from extreme heat. The bylaw would require landlords to keep temperatures in rental units below 26°C in summer at no extra cost to tenants. Extreme heat is a public health emergency! Tara Kainer has done a lot of work on this and has joined the city adaptation working group. Eleanor Casey, SCAN Kingston, met with local Liberal MPP Ted Hsu to pressure for changes to the

Landlords and Tenants Act of Ontario to enforce cooling accommodation. Hsu challenged Casey asking how such a policy would be enforced - Eleanor told the MPP, "*well, what I know is that we are going to have a heat dome, and people will die*". Tara drafted a petition and plans are under way to petition at apartment blocks and low-income housing. We hope this work will support outreach to lower income seniors and that we will learn more about how they are impacted by climate breakdown. The petition is attached.

April 6: RBC protest and Wet'suwet'en solidarity

Kingston SCAN along with other groups will join the nationwide rally in solidarity with the Wet'suwet'en on April 6, and picket at RBC, Princess and King, 11am-1pm.