Open Letter - Addendum to Mayor Gondek and Calgary's City Council

Just following up. The vote on spending $87 billion dollars of taxpayer money to address the "Climate Emergency" went in favour of Mayor Gondek and 8 out of 14 Councillors as shown below.

For		Against	
Mayor	Jyoti Gondek	Ward 1 – Councillor	Sonja Sharp
Ward 3 – Councillor	Jasmine Mian	Ward 2 – Councillor	Jennifer Wyness
Ward 5 – Councillor	Raj Dhaliwal	Ward 4 – Councillor	Sean Chu
Ward 7 – Councillor	Terry Wong	Ward 6 – Councillor	Richard Pootsman
Ward 8 – Councillor	Courtney Walcott	Ward 10 – Councillor	Andre Chabot
Ward 9 – Councillor	Gian-Carlo Carra	Ward 13 – Councillor	Dan McLean
Ward 11 – Councillor	Kourtney Penner		
Ward 12 – Councillor	Evan Spencer		
Ward 14 – Councillor	Peter Demong		

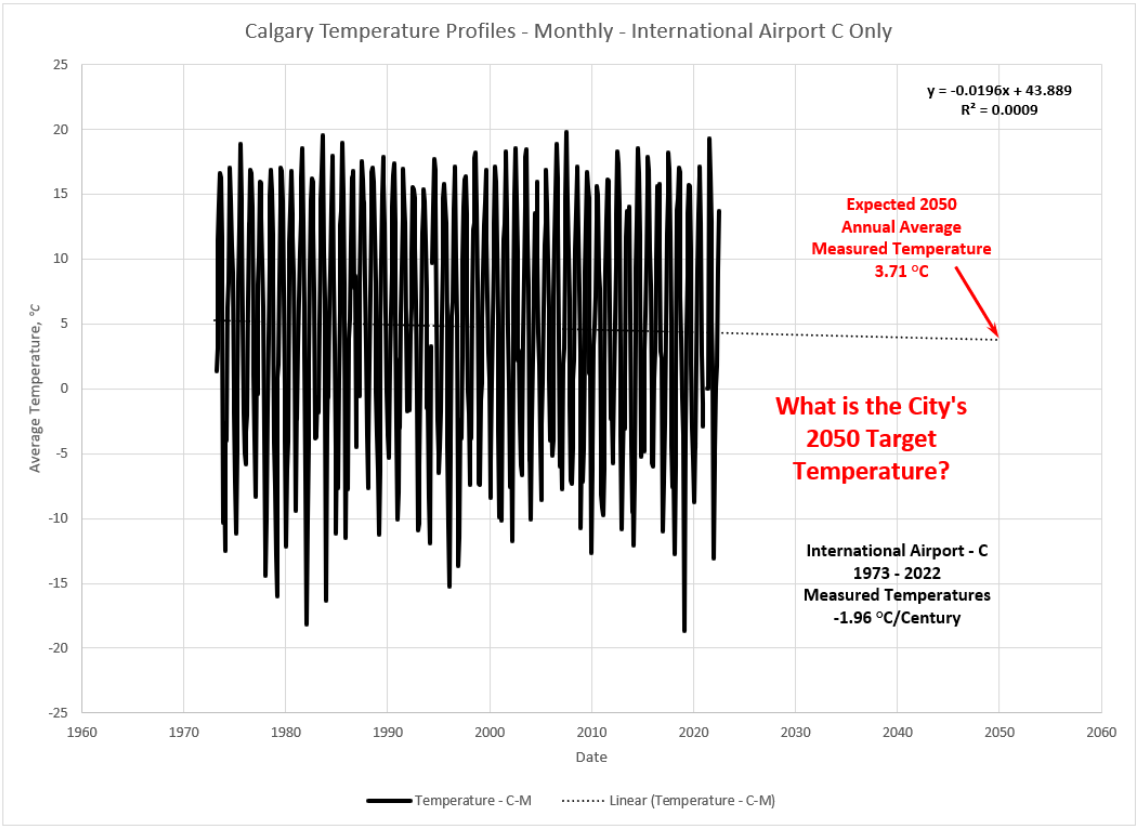
I could say congratulations, but to be fair I really would not mean it. However, I would like to thank the six councillors that stood up and voted against this very expensive, unnecessary, and ultimately dangerous expenditure plan. Regardless of my feelings and/or the empirical data, the vote went 9 to 6 in favour of moving ahead.

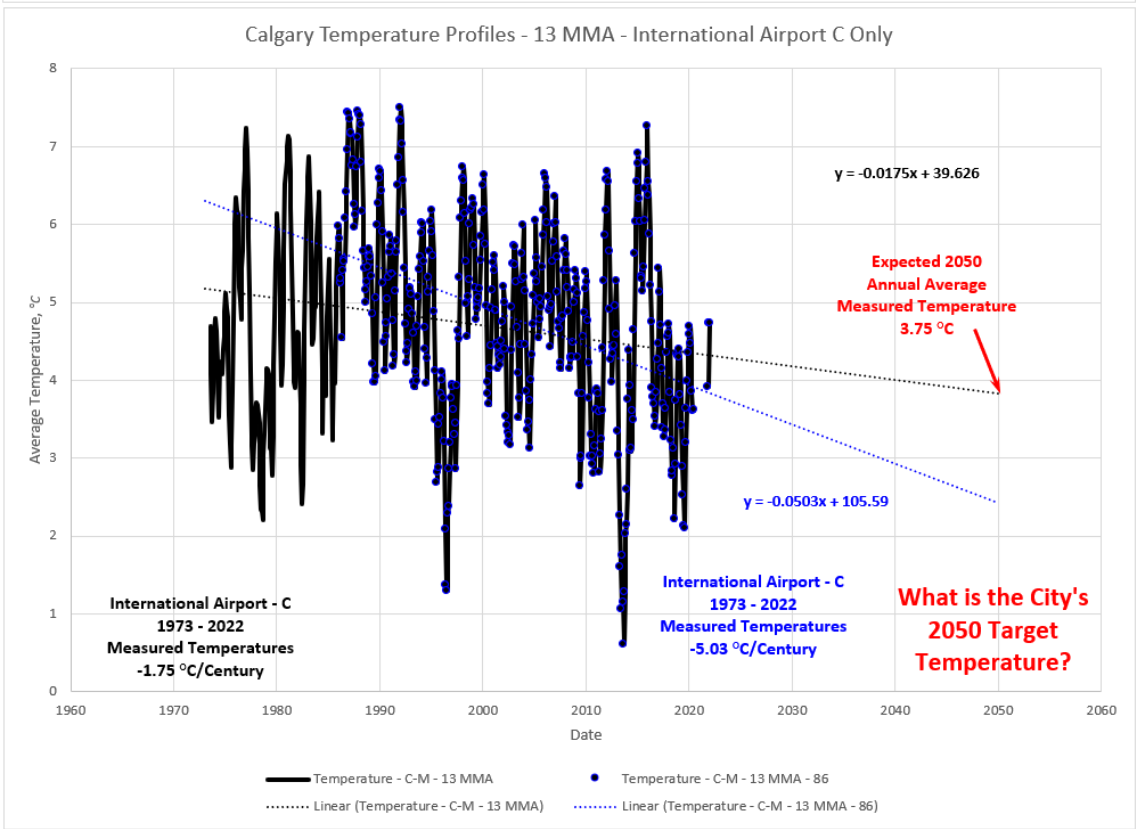
I (as a taxpayer) would like to see what parameters you are using to gauge the success of this $87 billion expenditure. I have no doubt that you will be able to spend that much money (if not more) but that is not a measure of success. You can keep track of the CO2 emission reductions, but that is also not a measure of success. The proposal is all about the climate, which leaves just temperature as a realistic guideline. For those that did not read the original Open Letter, I have included a couple temperature datasets here to use as a potential baseline. The data I will present here is limited to just measured data. Any homogenized data has already been subjected to manipulation and is open to more manipulation in the future. The data shown can be easily downloaded from NASA's GISS Surface Temperature Analysis website.

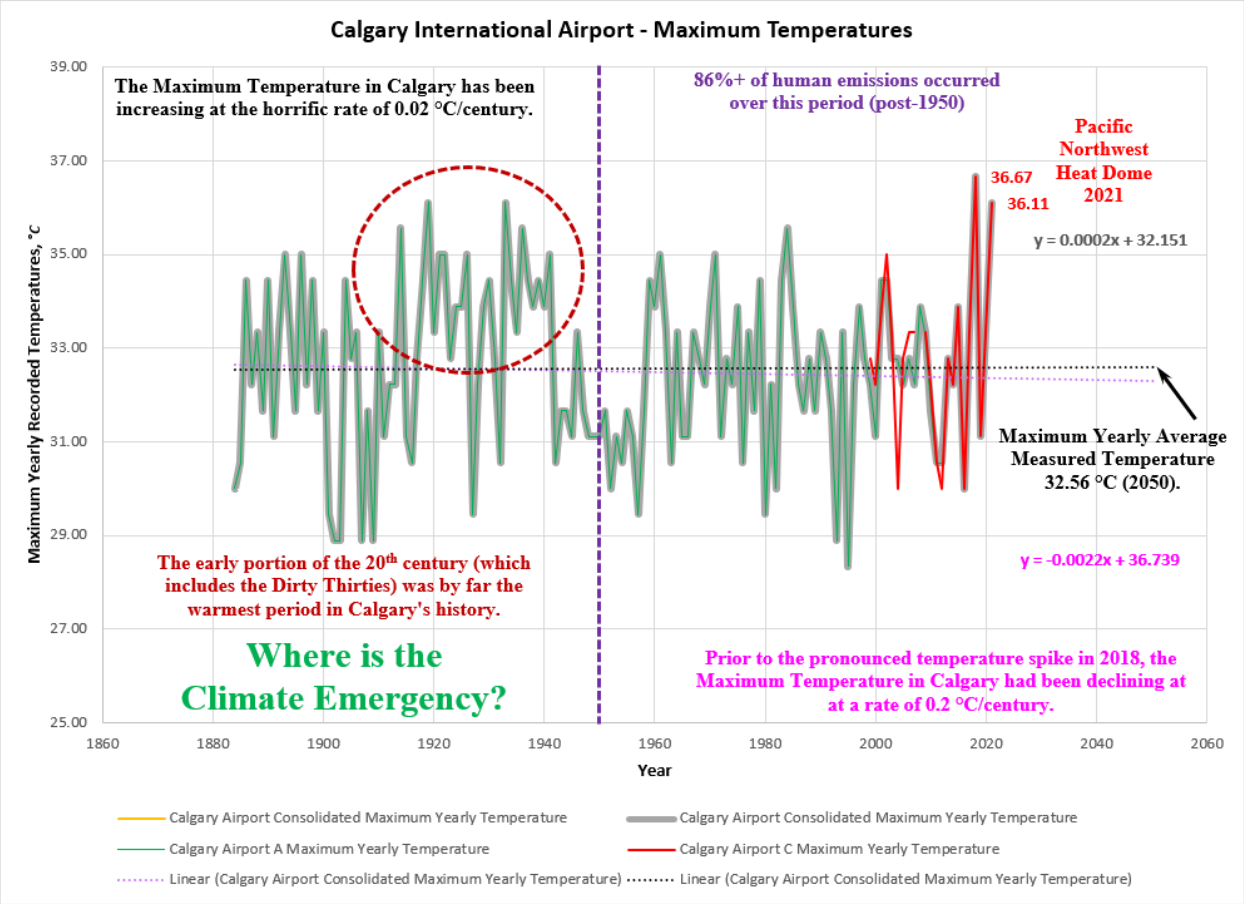
The first plot (on the following page) is the monthly data. The second plot is a 13-month moving average. Either plot can be used since they use the same measured data.

Measured temperatures are already dropping in Calgary. They have been since at least 1973. In fact, since 1986 Calgary Measured Temperatures have been declining at 5.03 °C/century (36 years). For the baseline, I would suggest that the lower decline would be preferential. So, what additional measured temperature drop would you consider a success? Given the existing, strong Measured Temperature declines already in place, I would suggest that any emission reduction expenditure is unnecessary. But I suspect you will move ahead anyway, so please provide the taxpayers with your target temperature reduction.

An alternative baseline could be the Maximum Temperature trend (shown on the last page). Calgary's Maximum Temperatures have been rising (since 1884) at a rate of 0.02 °C/century (statistically flat). What is the Calgary City Council's target Average Maximum Temperature in 2050?


Calgary Temperature Profiles - Monthly - International Airport C Only
y = -0.0196x + 43.889
R² = 0.0009
Expected 2050
Annual Average
Measured Temperature
3.71 °C
What is the City's
2050 Target
Temperature?
International Airport - C
1973 - 2022
Measured Temperatures
-1.96 °C/Century
Average Temperature, °C
Date
Temperature - C-M
Linear (Temperature - C-M)


Calgary Temperature Profiles - 13 MMA - International Airport C Only
y = -0.0175x + 39.626
Expected 2050
Annual Average
Measured Temperature
3.75 °C
y = -0.0503x + 105.59
International Airport - C
1973 - 2022
Measured Temperatures
-1.75 °C/Century
International Airport - C
1973 - 2022
Measured Temperatures
-5.03 °C/Century
What is the City's
2050 Target
Temperature?
Average Temperature, °C
Date
Temperature - C-M - 13 MMA
Temperature - C-M - 13 MMA - 86
Linear (Temperature - C-M - 13 MMA)
Linear (Temperature - C-M - 13 MMA - 86)



In the event, you have not established any temperature targets, I will provide a little more background information. To start with, I will be using the IPCC "science". If every country honoured their 2015 Paris Accord commitments (1 to 2 trillion dollars/year), the temperature reduction in 2100 would be just 0.17 °C. That would be 80 to 160 trillion dollars to delay the temperature rise by roughly 3 years. That does not make any economic sense to me. That reduction also assumes that the worst case RCP8.5 emission scenario is valid (a scenario that the IPCC has declared as highly implausible). Any realistic scenario would be less than 0.17 °C. The backup for these statements (discussion and links) can be found in the posts below.

OPPS-9 – Common Sense - https://climatechangeandmusic.com/common-sense/
OPS-17 – Paris Accord 2015 - https://climatechangeandmusic.com/paris-accord-2015/
OPS-48 – What Does 80+ Trillion Dollars Get You?
https://climatechangeandmusic.com/what-does-80-trillion-dollars-get-you/

You can ratio these numbers down to come up with a rough estimate for Calgary's contribution to that 0.17 °C. To be honest, I have no idea what the Calgary reductions will be, but they are far less than Canada's contribution (1.6% or 0.0034 °C) and I suspect far less than the Oil Sands contribution (8.5% of Canada's 1.6% or 0.000289 °C). Can you see the problem?

You just voted to spend 87 billion dollars for a temperature reduction that is essentially zero and unmeasurable. Congratulations!