

MOTION FORM FOR SI GA 2018

1. Heading for motion (No more than 10 words)

Climate change consciousness: priority for Servas

2. Member Group(s) proposing motion (note that only SI Exco and Member Groups may propose motions)

Alison Reid, Servas Canada National Co-ordinator. At the 18 March 2018 Servas Canada Board meeting this proposed motion was approved in principle.

3. Exact wording of the motion to be voted on

Servas International will raise the climate consciousness of its global community, by:

- Acknowledging this global issue on the Servas International website, and encouraging member countries to also acknowledge this issue through member-based communications.
- Offering Servas hosts and travellers suggestions of how to live and travel in a carbon-light way. For travel, this option could include travelling in a zero-carbon way (such as through walking or bicycling) or by purchasing carbon offsets for more distant travel, which can be purchased through credible websites like less.ca and carbonzero.ca.
- Finding ways to lessen Servas business travel, including SICOGA and member country meetings
- Sharing among members, ways that Servas International may become a more climate-conscious organization such as promoting non-travel Servas services, including distance conversations among Servas members

4. Background information and reasons for proposing the motion

Climate change is very much a peace and social justice issue because its impacts can lead to the displacement of people, which often hurts the impoverished more than the wealthy. It thus poses a barrier to Servas' desire to be both a *peace* and a *travel hospitality organization*.

Many activities, including transportation, involve a major use of fossil fuels, with *air travel causing particular damage* to the atmosphere.

Climate change is causing worldwide misery through severe and unpredictable weather patterns, and destructive changes to oceans and land life. Worldwide misery is not peaceful; it is a source of conflict, in part because there is scarcity and competition for fewer resources.

5. Who is responsible for accomplishing the results of the motion?

Servas International executive.

6. Benefits for SI

I believe that SI's credibility as a peace organization will be enhanced by acknowledging the impact that our choices, including our travel choices, have on the climate, and by encouraging Servas members to make carbon-light choices.

7. Resource needs - time, human resources and specialist expertise

Time, commitment and communication effort on the part of the SI executive.

8. Budget implications

Minimal. Translation services may be required by some Servas country organizations.

9. Does it affect the SI statutes?

No.

10. What is the impact if the motion is not passed?
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Non-approval of this motion will harm the credibility of SI as a peace organization, and may lead to disillusionment and withdrawal by members and volunteers.
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For Minute Taker Use Only:

Amendments (Passed or defeated)
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Final Motion (Passed or defeated)
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