

**DELEGATION TO**

**CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 23, 2025**

**TOPIC: Comments on the ECDM Plan  
and PCP Program**

**PRESENTED BY: Peter Hyman, M.A. (Econ)**

# The ECDM Plan

- Required by Ontario Government
- Tracks energy use in city facilities
- Municipalities **MUST** publish a plan
- But NO GHG targets are mandated and NO PENALTIES for non-compliance

# The PCP Program

- Is a voluntary, non-binding initiative
- Managed by FCM and ICLEI Canada
- Has its own reporting obligations separate from ECDM
- Adds extra staff workload and costs

# Thorold Drops Out

- Thorold withdrew from the PCP program last year
- They cited:
  - unclear costs
  - intangible benefits
  - local priorities sidelined by global agendas

# What about Cambridge?

- Are we allocating limited resources to serve our residents?

OR

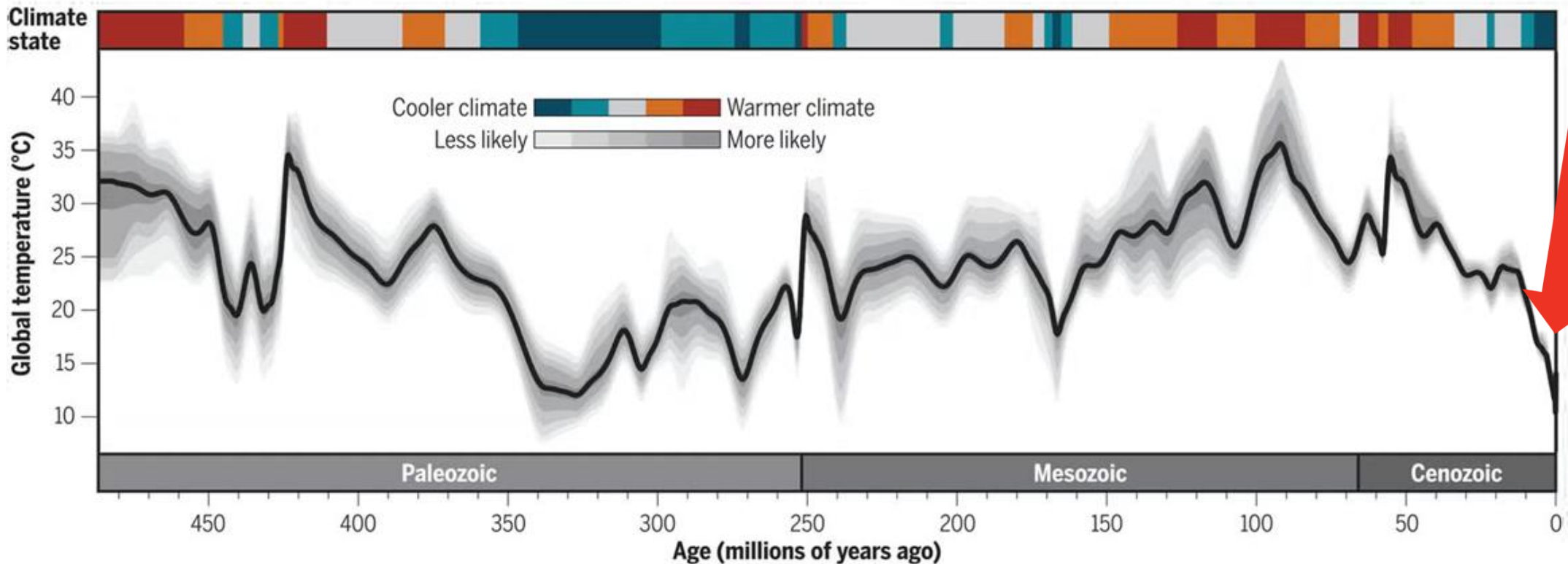
- to fulfill global benchmarks that were never debated or consented to by the people of Cambridge?

# Is there a climate crisis?

- March 21, 2025 study - **Science of Climate Change** journal – found no clear evidence that there is a climate emergency
- Sept. 20, 2024 study – **Science** journal - 485-million-year study - we are actually at a low point!

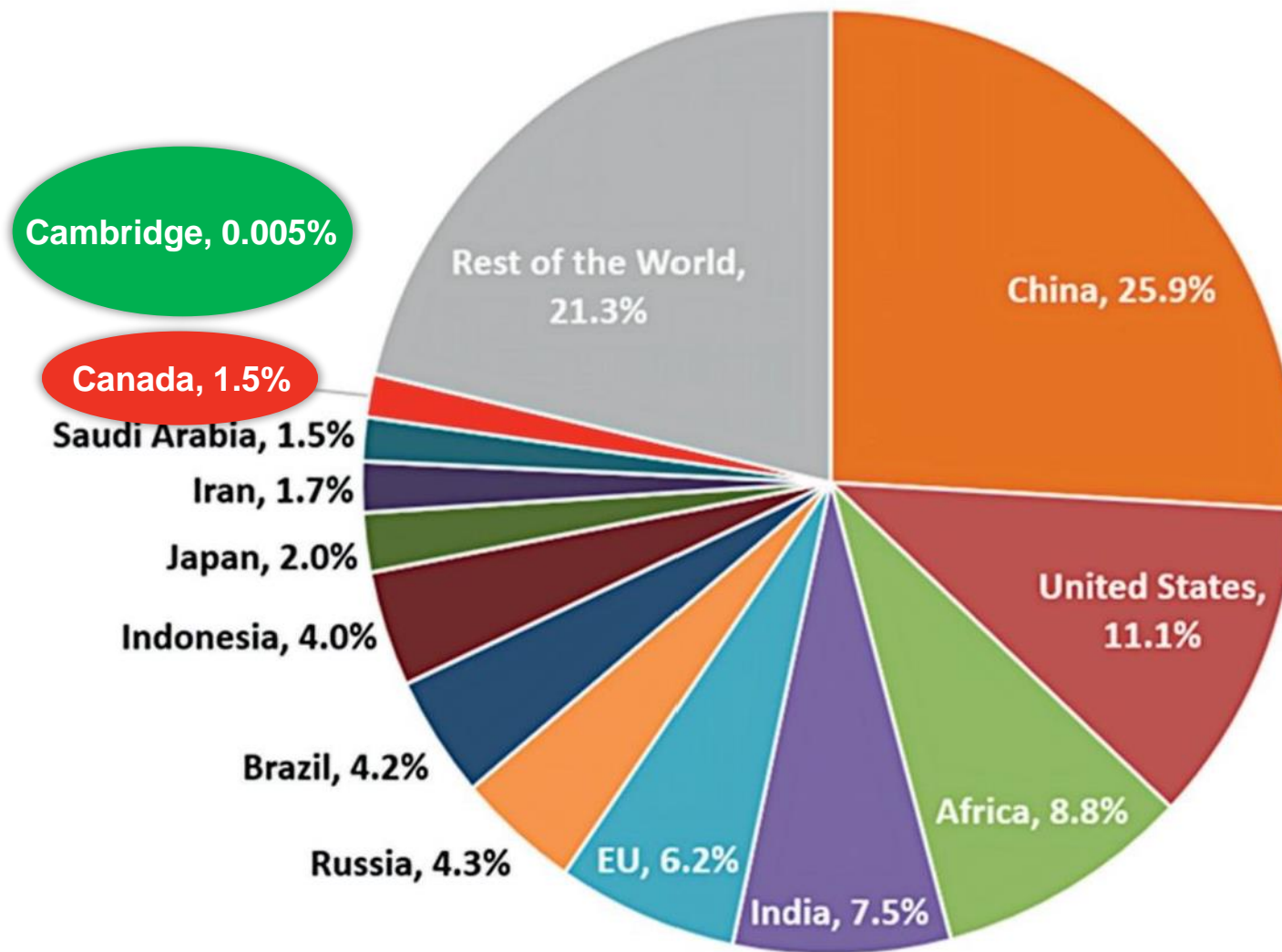
# 485-million-year study

PRESENT DAY



**PhanDA global means surface temperature across the last 485 years.** The grey shading corresponds to different confidence levels, and the black line shows the average solution. The coloured bands along the top reflect the climate state, with cooler colours indicating icehouse (coolhouse and coldhouse) climates, warmer colours indicating greenhouse (warmhouse and hothouse) climates and the grey representing a transitional state.

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Nation 2022



Canada produces only 1.5% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions.

Source: Ron Davison, Friends of Science Society, based on data from Our World in Data, <https://ourworldindata.org/>

# **ECDM Costs**

- 2025-2029 estimated to cost \$10-15 million
- Costs to 2050 could reach \$40-60 million
- FOI request for PCP-related costs met with significant monetary costs

# Prioritizing Cambridge's Needs

- Road maintenance and traffic
- Flooding along the Grand River
- Housing affordability
- Economic development and downtown revitalization

# In Conclusion

- I respectfully ask that Council:
  1. Reconsider Cambridge's continued involvement in PCP
  2. Align the ECDM plan with provincial minimum requirements
  3. Request a full cost accounting of all PCP- and ECDM-related spending
  4. Consider following Thorold's example - taking a principled stand for local control, transparency, and fiscal responsibility.