

**Alliance 90/The Greens
The German Green Party
Local Chapter Washington DC**

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Washington DC, May 19, 2011

Elizabeth May
Leader of the Green Party Canada
101-2417 Beacon Avenue
Sidney BC, V8L 1X5, Canada

Via email only:
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Dear Elizabeth,

We, the German Greens in Washington DC, were very happy to learn about your outstanding victory in the recent election. Congratulations to you on becoming the first Green Member of Parliament in Canada and congratulations to the Canadian Green Party for this success!

We wish you all the strength and luck needed for the work in the Canadian House of Commons to bring in a green voice that goes beyond the traditional partisan politics-as-usual. Canadians will benefit from your approach towards more ecology and sustainability, democracy and human rights, justice, and equal rights for women and men.

We want to assure you that the Green movement worldwide has watched your campaign and celebrated this result. As a local chapter of the German Green Party (Alliance '90/The Greens) in Washington DC, our goal is to build a "transatlantic bridge" between German Greens in the United States and the Green Party in Germany and to discuss green issues with the public here in the United States. The main focus areas are climate change, greening the economy, and development issues.

Greening Canadian politics will require a lot of hard work. We would like to offer our support for this effort to you and the Canadian Green Party. The German Greens have developed over the last years from a small minority party to leaders of state governments. Most recently, the Greens won the election in the state of Baden-Württemberg in Germany's Southwest. For the first time ever they lead a state government. This state is the economic powerhouse of Germany with industrial giants such as Bosch, Mercedes-Benz and Porsche. Winfried Kretschmann, our new green Prime Minister, has challenged these car makers to improve their efforts to combine economy and ecology by selling mobility concepts in the future, not just cars. This and other concepts for *Greening the Economy* might be an inspiration to you and could contribute to shift Canadian politics beyond old models of industrial policy.

We would be happy to welcome you in Washington DC whenever you are travelling to the United States and look forward to exchanging ideas with you. Please let us know if we can support your work in Ottawa in any way.

Again, congratulations and all the best wishes,

Sabina Appelt, Stefan Hochhuth, Arne Jungjohann, Sonja Regler
Board of the Local Chapter Washington DC
The German Green Party Alliance 90/The Greens