

## My Upcoming Meetings

### Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation

Thursday, July 27, 2017

### Metro Vancouver Board

Friday, July 28, 2017



Metro Vancouver Board and Committee Agendas & Minutes

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/search/>

## Zero Waste Conference

Registration is open for Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Conference on November 1.

The conference brings together innovative leaders and thinkers who are working towards a future without waste. Eliminating waste and creating value are essential pillars in a new way of doing business and developing policy - a new norm of addressing waste in every facet of our lives. And no approach offers greater promise for realizing those goals than the principles of the Circular Economy. The Zero Waste Conference has been at the forefront of this discussion in Canada by pushing boundaries and advancing action.



The 2017 one-day event will highlight how we can:

- reimagine linear systems of production and consumption with waste prevention and the circular economy in mind
- advance organizational change and collaborate across sectors to develop new solutions and approaches
- embrace new ways of thinking, innovation, and disruption to address barriers and intractable problems
- benefit from this emerging opportunity – whether you are a business, government, or community sector leader

Register now and join us on November 1, 2017.

<http://www.zwc.ca/> <https://zwcblog.org/>

## Water Conservation

At its June 23 meeting, the Metro Vancouver Board approved a revised *Drinking Water Conservation Plan* (formerly titled the Water Shortage Response Plan), which will take effect on November 1, 2017.

The Drinking Water Conservation Plan changes include:

- Extending the Stage 1 activation period to May 1 - October 15
- Reducing lawn watering to two mornings per week in Stage 1

- Limiting the watering of flowers, shrubs and trees using a sprinkler to the hours of 4 am to 9 am in Stages 1 and 2
- Adding rules for watering playing fields
- Modifying the Stages 2 and 3 restrictions on the watering of golf courses
- Relaxing the Stage 3 restrictions on the topping-up or filling of pools and hot tubs to permit this for pools and hot tubs with a permit to operate in accordance with health authorities having jurisdiction over pool and hot tub regulation

Full details will be posted to Metro Vancouver's website shortly. In the meantime, you can find the relevant report in the June 23 GVWD agenda (page 15). [http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/GVWD/WD\\_2017-Jun-23\\_AGE.pdf](http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/GVWD/WD_2017-Jun-23_AGE.pdf)

## Caring for the Air 2017



Metro Vancouver develops and implements plans, policies, regulations and projects that improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) in the region. These plans and policies are supported by comprehensive monitoring of outdoor air quality, and tracking of emissions in the Lower Fraser Valley airshed.

Metro Vancouver's 2017 Caring for the Air report shows that residents and visitors across Metro Vancouver continue to enjoy good air quality despite the growing population, thanks in part to a series of emission-reduction actions in effect across the region.

Here are some highlights from this year's report:

- Actions to curb GHGs in the region are helping us make progress towards reduction targets
- New monitoring techniques and measurements demonstrate the considerable impact of traffic on our road or near-road air quality
- Sulphur dioxide levels continue to decline, partly due to requirements for lower sulphur content in marine fuel
- Increased uptake of electric vehicles in the region is expected to reduce GHGs and other air pollutants
- Tips are given to help save gas and reduce emissions when driving
- Improving energy efficiency in homes is being encouraged through a strata energy advisor pilot program and RateOurHome.ca

Metro Vancouver is also developing a new integrated regional climate action strategy, called Climate 2050, designed to build on the climate action activities that are underway, and to identify opportunities to accelerate progress towards reducing GHGs.

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/air-quality/AirQualityPublications/CaringfortheAir2017.pdf>

## Pacific Spirit Acadia Forest Restoration

On June 3, a group of enthusiastic volunteers gathered to launch a new Pacific Spirit Park Society (PSPS) initiative, the Acadia Ecological Restoration Project.

Participants worked with the PSPS EcoTEAM to remove invasive plants, including English Holly, English Ivy and Himalayan Blackberry, and over the summer, the EcoTEAM will continue clearing the area of invasive plants, before returning in the fall to plant native conifer trees and shrubs to help the natural forest outcompete invasive plants.



Funding and support for the initiative were provided by the Pacific Parklands Foundation, the George Ross Legacy Stewardship Fund, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks, the Vancouver Park Board and the Bessie Luteyn Fund.

## Federal Electric Vehicle Initiative

The Federal Government plans to provide more direct support for electric vehicles and is undertaking several important initiatives, including the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change, as part of a national plan to achieve Canada's GHG reduction targets. Within the Framework, the Federal Government has committed to developing a zero-emission vehicle strategy by 2018 in partnership with provincial governments and industry. It has also committed to accelerating the deployment of electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

The Metro Vancouver Board decided at its June 23rd meeting to send a letter to the Federal Government requesting that local governments be engaged and consulted on the national zero-emission vehicle strategy. The letter will also request that the strategy include a nation-wide incentive program for electric vehicles, increased funding for electric vehicle infrastructure, and a zero emissions vehicle requirement.

## Wildfire Preparedness

Metro Vancouver staff are preparing gear and running bi-weekly drills to prepare for the summer fire season.

Forest fires can pose a significant risk to lands managed by Metro Vancouver, which are vast, largely forested, and susceptible to fire from lightning or preventable human causes.

Metro Vancouver's watersheds and Regional Parks have wildfire response plans to protect drinking water resources, ensure public safety and protect natural areas and ecosystems. Staff are trained in fire suppression and have specialized equipment ready for quick deployment. All training is coordinated, and staff are in constant contact with member municipalities, the BC Wildfire Service and local fire authorities.

As part of their preparation during the fire season, staff are recertified in wildfire specific training courses, including BC Basic Fire Suppression & Safety and Helicopter Safety. They also test all hoses, pumps, chainsaws and safety gear, and run bi-weekly training drills to ensure equipment is in running order.

Throughout the fire season, staff provide fire and weather reports three times a week when the risk level rises. They are also constantly making decisions, such as placing restrictions on use of trails and forest activities, based on the fire risk and weather conditions.

In the event of a fire in Pacific Spirit Regional Park, Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services would provide the primary response, with Metro Vancouver Regional Parks providing staff and equipment support. Metro Vancouver staff would also be responsible for post-incident clean up and patrolling.

To see the current forest fire danger rating, check the [BC Forest Service website](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/fire-danger).

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/fire-danger>

## Love Food Hate Waste

Love Food Hate Waste, Metro Vancouver's food waste reduction campaign, has introduced the "[Waste-Free Summer Produce Guide](#)," which offers tips to store summer fruits and veggies so they stay fresh, techniques to freeze produce, and recipes and ideas to use up overripe or extra produce. Take a look at the guide and share or retweet tips from Love Food Hate Waste's social channels and stop by an event and/or share it on social media.

Facebook: [LoveFoodHateWaste](https://www.facebook.com/LoveFoodHateWaste)    Twitter: [@LFHW\\_ca](https://twitter.com/LFHW_ca)    Instagram: [@LFHW\\_ca](https://www.instagram.com/LFHW_ca)

### Waste-Free Summer Produce Guide

The abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables at farmers' markets and in grocery store makes it easy to enjoy healthy, delicious produce all summer long. Use our waste-free summer produce guide to store your fruits and veggies so they stay fresh, and learn to freeze or use up what you don't eat right away.



<http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.ca/keep-it-fresh/produce-guide/>

<https://www.facebook.com/LoveFoodHateWaste/>

[https://twitter.com/lfhw\\_ca](https://twitter.com/lfhw_ca)

[https://www.instagram.com/lfhw\\_ca/](https://www.instagram.com/lfhw_ca/)

## Carbon Price Policy

Metro Vancouver has approved a new Carbon Price Policy, which aims to help combat climate change by requiring that the value of avoided greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) be considered when evaluating new projects and initiatives.

The carbon price of \$150 per tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> e (carbon dioxide equivalent) was set to reflect the highest price that Metro Vancouver would be willing to pay in order to select an option for a project or initiative that produces lower GHGs but that is more expensive on a life cycle cost basis if no price is put on carbon.

Placing a price on carbon enables Metro Vancouver to consider climate change in every decision, to consider the cost of selecting green options, and to manage the risk of future costs related to GHG emissions in the event that carbon taxes were to increase significantly.

## Regional Parks 2017 Summer Program Guide



The beautiful summer weather offers a great opportunity to discover Metro Vancouver's Regional Parks. [The Check It Out! program guide](#) has great events and activities for you and your family to learn about, connect with and enjoy nature in regional parks.

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks/ParksPublications/CIO-Summer2017.pdf>

## Summer Watershed Tours

Metro Vancouver offers free tours of its three watersheds, which are normally closed to the public. Get an exclusive glimpse into stunning natural environments and the inner workings of the region's water supply.

Three protected watersheds – Capilano, Seymour and Coquitlam – provide 2.5 million residents with a clean, reliable and affordable supply of drinking water.

Free tours are offered Thursday to Sunday from July to September:

- **Coquitlam Watershed tours** – Thursdays and Saturdays
- **Capilano Watershed tours** – Fridays and Sundays
- **Seymour Watershed children's tours** – Saturdays and Sundays

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/events/watershed-tours/>

## Media

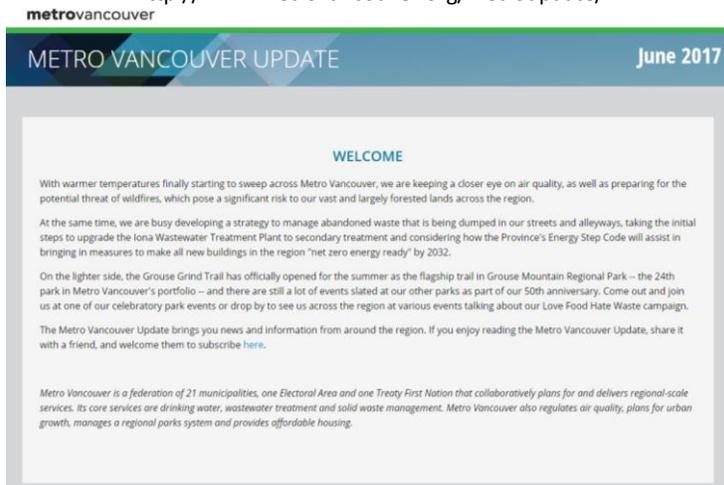
### Metro Vancouver Close Up



*Metro Vancouver Close Up* shows how municipalities and community groups are promoting sustainability and shared regional goals. New videos are posted each month. To see sustainability stories about Metro Vancouver, you can search “Metro Vancouver Close Up” at [metrovancover.org](http://metrovancover.org) or follow [metrovancoverblog.org](http://metrovancoverblog.org).

### For More Metro Vancouver News and Updates

<http://www.metrovancover.org/metroudate/>



## Links & Connections

### [Metro Vancouver](http://www.metrovancover.org)

[www.metrovancover.org](http://www.metrovancover.org)

### [Maria Harris, Electoral Area A Director](http://www.mariaharris.ca)

[www.mariaharris.ca](http://www.mariaharris.ca)

### [@EADirector Twitter](https://www.twitter.com/EADirector)

[www.twitter.com/EADirector](https://www.twitter.com/EADirector)

### [Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation](http://www.translink.ca/en/About-Us/Governance-and-Board/Mayors-Council.aspx)

[www.translink.ca/en/About-Us/Governance-and-Board/Mayors-Council.aspx](http://www.translink.ca/en/About-Us/Governance-and-Board/Mayors-Council.aspx)

### [Union of BC Municipalities](http://www.ubcm.ca)

[www.ubcm.ca](http://www.ubcm.ca)

### [University Neighbourhoods Association](http://www.myuna.ca)

[www.myuna.ca](http://www.myuna.ca)

### [University Endowment Lands Administration](http://www.universityendowmentlands.gov.bc.ca)

[www.universityendowmentlands.gov.bc.ca](http://www.universityendowmentlands.gov.bc.ca)

### [UEL Community Advisory Council](http://www.uelcommunity.com)

[www.uelcommunity.com](http://www.uelcommunity.com)

### [Metro Vancouver Media Releases](http://www.metrovancover.org/media-room)

[www.metrovancover.org/media-room](http://www.metrovancover.org/media-room)

### [Metro Vancouver Videos](http://www.metrovancover.org/media-room/video-gallery)

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