

## My Upcoming Meetings

### Renewable Cities Forum

May 17 - 19, 2017

### Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation

Thursday, May 25, 2017

### Metro Vancouver Board

Friday, May 26, 2017

### Climate Action Committee

Wednesday, June 7, 2017



Metro Vancouver Board and Committee Agendas & Minutes

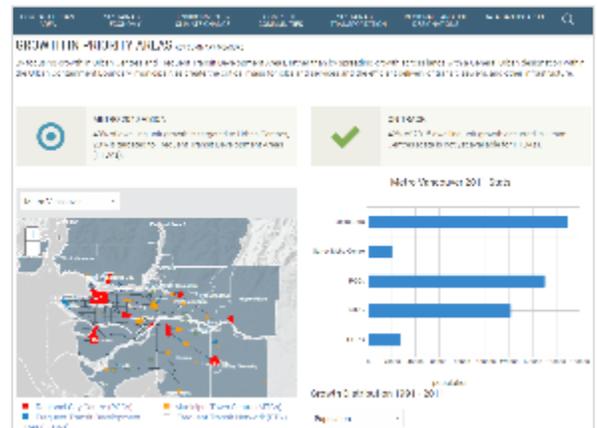
<http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/search/>

## Metro 2040 Performance Monitoring Dashboard Launched

Metro Vancouver has launched a new website to help the public keep track of the region's future growth.

The website lets visitors learn about **Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future**, the regional growth strategy, and shows how well the region is doing on key performance indicators.

You can also explore data for the region, municipalities, and local communities, as well as download data for your own use and sign up to receive alerts when new information is available.



Metro 2040 aims to direct growth to Urban Centres and encourage sustainable transportation choices, protect agricultural and industrial lands, and prepare for climate change impacts.

[www.metrovancouver.org/metro2040](http://www.metrovancouver.org/metro2040)

## Lawn Watering Restrictions

Even though it has been a wet start to spring, Metro Vancouver residents are reminded to conserve water this summer, with the region's annual Stage 1 lawn watering restrictions set to launch on May 15.

From May 15 until October 15, lawns may only be watered in the mornings. This is to reduce the load on the system during evening hours when demand is highest for domestic uses such as dishwashing, laundry, and showers.

### Residential lawn watering:

- Even-numbered addresses Monday, Wednesday, Saturday mornings 4 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- Odd-numbered addresses Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday mornings 4 a.m. to 9 a.m.

## Non-residential lawn watering:

- Even-numbered addresses Monday, Wednesday mornings 1 a.m. to 6 a.m.
- Odd-numbered addresses Tuesday, Thursday mornings 1 a.m. to 6 a.m.
- All non-residential addresses Friday mornings, 4 a.m. to 9 a.m.

As Metro Vancouver's population continues to grow by more than 35,000 people every year, a continued decline in per capita water usage can defer the need to expand the drinking water supply and infrastructure.

To help people maintain a healthy lawn while conserving water, Metro Vancouver has released a Waterwise Lawn Care guide.

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/water/conservation-reservoir-levels/waterwise-lawn-care/>

## Unflushables

Metro Vancouver has launched a region-wide campaign to stop "unflushable" items from being flushed down the toilet.

The "Unflushables" campaign builds on the successful 2016 "Never Flush Wipes" campaign and uses a similar light-hearted approach to bathroom issues.

The campaign highlights seven items that should not be flushed down toilets: wipes, paper towels, tampons and applicators, condoms, hair, floss and medications.

Most of these "Unflushables" – even if they are marked as flushable -- don't break down quickly, or at all, in the wastewater system. Once flushed, these items can clog sewers, damage equipment and result in sewage overflows into the environment.

Not all medications are removed in the wastewater treatment process and as a result, some chemicals may end up in the environment. Keep these pollutants out of our waterways by taking them back to a local pharmacy. Through the British Columbia Medications Return Program, most pharmacies accept unused or expired medications including all prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications, vitamins and natural health products.

The only three things that should be flushed are pee, poo and toilet paper.

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



## Local Government Matters

In March, Metro Vancouver called on British Columbia's four largest political parties to publicly clarify their platforms on critical issues facing the region. Seven questions were asked, including:

1. If elected, what specifically will your party do to support an expanded inventory of affordable rental housing options for Metro Vancouver region?
2. If elected, what specifically will your party do to help TransLink and the Mayors' Council deliver Phase Two of the 10-Year Vision for Transit and Transportation in Metro Vancouver, and how quickly do you foresee Phase Two proceeding?
3. If elected, will your party commit to supporting changes to the Home Owner Grant program that provide a fairer and more equitable property taxation system in BC, and if so, how?

Responses have been received from the BC Liberals, BC NDP and Green Party of BC – visit [Local Government Matters](#) to see how they answered.

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

## New Regional Park

The southern slope of Grouse Mountain became Metro Vancouver's 24th Regional Park, effective May 1.

Metro Vancouver has signed a long-term licence agreement with the Greater Vancouver Water District, which owns the land next to the privately owned Grouse Mountain Resorts, to create a 75-hectare park that includes the popular Grouse Grind, BC Mountaineering Club (BCMC) trails and portions of the Baden Powell trails within its boundaries.

In addition to hosting popular hiking trails, the park contains mature forests and mountain streams that are home to a variety of wildlife, including black bears, cougars, barred owls, black-tailed deer and northern red-legged frogs.

The official park opening is expected to coincide with the start of the hiking season on the North Shore Mountains and the annual opening of the Grouse Grind in May or early June.

Regional parks receive more than 11 million visits per year. Metro Vancouver, as part of the Regional Parks 50th anniversary celebrations, hopes to draw an additional 250,000 people to its parks, park reserves, greenways and ecological conservancy areas in 2017. Residents are encouraged to celebrate this milestone by discovering a new trail, learning about wildlife or attending one of many outdoor events taking place.

## 2017 Homeless Count

Initial numbers from the 2017 Homeless Count found 3,605 people were homeless in Metro Vancouver – a 30 per cent increase over 2014, which was only slightly higher than the counts in 2011 and 2008.

The homeless count was conducted by close to 1,200 volunteers during a cold and snowy 24-hour period on March 7-8. This was the first time that a count was held while an extreme weather response (EWR) was in effect. The 256 people counted at the EWR shelters would likely have been included in the unsheltered total had the EWR response not been in effect.

The Homeless Count is held every three years and represents a conservative point-in-time snapshot of the homeless population over a 24-hour period in Metro Vancouver. The Count involves a brief anonymous survey with people who appear to be homeless, and the actual number could be three to four times higher. A concurrent homeless count held in the Fraser Valley recorded a 74 per cent increase in homelessness.

A final report on the number of homeless in Metro Vancouver will be released in the late summer. It will provide a more complete analysis of the count data and survey questions, including how long people have been homeless, health issues, barriers to ending homelessness, sources of income, and services that people who are homeless tend to use.

### Preliminary Data Report

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/regional-planning/homelessness/HomelessnessPublications/2017MetroVancouverHomelessCountPreliminaryData.pdf>

## Cultural Grants

Cultural groups can now apply to Metro Vancouver for Regional Project Grants.

The Regional Project Grants support research, creation, production, dissemination, audience development, project staff and/or administrative capacity building. The maximum per-project grant is \$10,000.

Completed applications must be submitted by 4 pm, Wednesday, May 24, 2017.

### 2017 application form and Project Grant Eligibility and Selection Criteria

[www.metrovancouver.org/cultural-grants](http://www.metrovancouver.org/cultural-grants)

## 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).

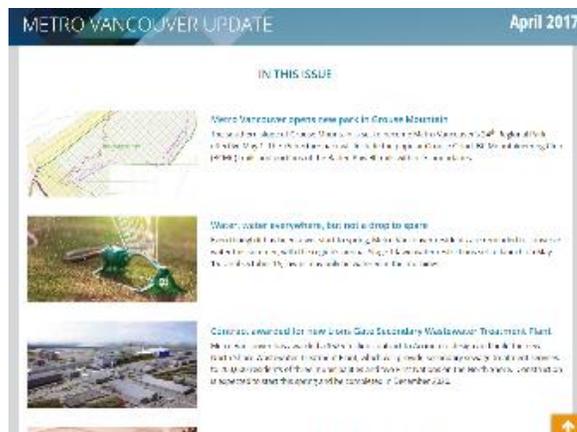
## The Sustainable Region



Metro Vancouver's TV series examines regional growth, environmental protection, and explores the inner workings of service delivery. [This month's episode](#) looks at homelessness and the 2017 Homeless Count. <https://vimeo.com/215057999>

## For More Metro Vancouver News and Updates

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



## Links & Connections

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

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

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

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

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

[www.twitter.com/EADirector](https://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.metrovancouver.org/media-room)

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

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

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