

ELECTORAL AREA A Director's Update

From Maria Harris, Electoral Area A Director

SEPTEMBER
2014

Upcoming Meetings

Meetings I will attend in the next month:

Metro Vancouver Utilities Committee

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Metro Vancouver Board Meetings

Friday, September 19, 2014

UBC RCMP Detachment Police Advisory Committee Meeting

Friday, September 19, 2014

Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation

Monday, September 22, 2014

Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Convention

Tuesday, September 23 – Thursday, September 25, 2014

Howe Sound Forum

Friday, October 3, 2014

Metro Vancouver Mayors' Committee

Friday, October 3, 2014

Council of Councils

Saturday October 4, 2014

UTown @UBC Meeting

Monday, October 6, 2014



[Metro Vancouver Board and Committee Agendas & Minutes](http://www.metrovancouver.org/BOARDS/Pages/BoardsCommittees.aspx)

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/BOARDS/Pages/BoardsCommittees.aspx>

Upcoming Events

So tell me.... Have you turned on a water-tap today?

Have you thrown anything into the garbage bin?

Have you taken public transit?

Your Regional Government: Who's Who, and What Do They Do?

Please join me for a presentation I'll be giving and open discussion of the functions of Metro Vancouver and the Mayors' Council for Regional Transportation at the UEL and UBC.

Monday, September 8 2014, 7:00pm

[MBA House, Wesbrook Village](#)

3385 Wesbrook Mall (Wesbrook Village, UBC), Vancouver BC

http://www.maps.ubc.ca/PROD/index_detail.php?locat1=694

Refreshments will be served.



#ZWC2014

Innovation in Design, Transformation in Business, and Collaboration for Systems Change are the themes of this year's Zero Waste Conference.

Featuring keynote speaker **Jeremy Rifkin**, author of *The Zero Marginal Cost Society: The Internet of Things*, the *Collaborative Commons*, and *Eclipse of Capitalism*.

- Engage with a global network of thought leaders, practitioners, and sector leaders advancing dialogue and collaborative action on waste prevention and reduction.
- Learn about the circular economy, and the resulting business opportunities.
- Hear about leading edge - and replicable - successes in the public, private and community sector.
- Participate in opportunities to advance national, cross-sector, collaboration.

Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Conference 2014

September 16, 2014, 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre

Registration is open to the public. For more information and to [register](#), please visit

www.metrovancouver.org/zwc

Issues & Initiatives

Waste-to-Energy Facility Environmental Monitoring and Reporting, 2013 Update

The 2013 emissions and testing results for Metro Vancouver's Waste-to-Energy Facility (WTEF) in Burnaby show that the facility continues to operate in compliance with all regulations and with a focus on continued environmental and operational improvement. The facility accounts for less than 1% of regional greenhouse gas, particulate matter and smog-forming pollutant emissions.

Waste-to-Energy Health Study

Metro Vancouver commissioned an independent, detailed review of peer-reviewed scientific

studies and government and industry reports to identify and evaluate potential health risks resulting from Metro Vancouver's proposed new waste-to-energy project. The review showed that there are no unacceptable health risks to residents living in the vicinity of a modern waste-to-energy facility equipped with the best-available pollution control technologies.



[Waste to Energy Website](#)

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

Moving up the Waste Hierarchy Dialogue & Learning from the EU

On July 22, experts from the Netherlands and the UK were joined by Brock Macdonald, CEO of the Recycling Council of BC at our latest Sustainability Dialogue.

Herman Huisman, Senior Advisor International Cooperation of the Netherlands Ministry of Infrastructure & Environment, and Phil Conran and Vicki Cooper, of 360 Environmental Co. UK, discussed experiences in their countries. Watch their presentations to hear what we can learn from their examples and strategies.

[View videos of the presentation](http://www.metrovancouver.org/mediaroom/videos/Pages/SustainabilityDialogues.aspx)

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/mediaroom/videos/Pages/SustainabilityDialogues.aspx>

The European waste management experts also met with Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Committee on July 22 to exchange ideas and discuss issues that they have experienced concerning waste management and waste-to-energy projects.

Mr. Huisman explained that because of the Dutch government's shift away from landfilling to an emphasis on recycling, composting organic materials, and waste-to-energy technologies, landfilling has been virtually eliminated in the Netherlands.

The UK's Mr. Conran and Ms. Cooper are waste management experts who help companies to understand and comply with a wide range of waste legislation compliance issues. They explained that the UK greatly restricts landfill disposal of waste, which has helped recycling rates increase, particularly with the recent addition of source separated food waste collection.

They noted there are 30 mass burn waste-to-energy facilities in the UK and 30 more are planned.

Both the UK and the Netherlands experts advocated for the adoption of a circular economy rather than the traditional linear model as a key long-term strategic driver for achieving zero waste.

Food Waste Recycling Means Less Garbage from Single-Family Homes

Single-family homes in the Metro Vancouver region have reduced their garbage by 26 per cent during the last three years, mostly because residents are putting food scraps and leftovers into "green carts" instead of garbage cans.



As a region, Metro Vancouver has set recycling goals of 70% by 2015 and 80% by 2020. To help us achieve these ambitious goals, in 2015 Metro Vancouver will further encourage recycling of food and other organics by banning the disposal of food waste and clean wood from regional disposal facilities. These disposal bans will apply to all sectors, including single-family homes and multi-family housing, restaurants, supermarkets, retail food stores including bakeries, butchers and fish shops, and institutions like schools and hospitals.

[Organics Ban Website](http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/solidwaste/businesses/OrganicsBan/)

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/solidwaste/businesses/OrganicsBan/>



National Zero Waste Council

Since the fall of 2012, Metro Vancouver, in collaboration with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, has demonstrated leadership in the development, launch and now implementation of the **National Zero Waste Council**, a cross-sector leadership initiative bringing together governments, businesses, and non-government organizations to advance a national waste prevention and reduction agenda in Canada.

With a focus on influencing behaviour and improving product design and packaging, the National Zero Waste Council aims to unite efforts in waste prevention and drive a fundamental shift in society's attitude to materials that today are put into the garbage bin.

The Council's inaugural Annual General Meeting will be held on September 17 at the Metro Vancouver head office following the 2014 Zero Waste Conference in Vancouver on September 16.

[National Zero Waste Council Website](http://www.nzwc.ca/)

<http://www.nzwc.ca/>

Water Wagon

Metro Vancouver's Water Wagon and Tap Water Team are now in their fourth summer of outreach and activities. Come visit them for a refill of your water bottle at the UNA Annual Barn Raising Event on Saturday, September 13th.

Community Works Fund

Metro Vancouver has entered into an agreement with the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) under which money will be available to fund projects in the Electoral Area. The money will come from the renewed federal Gas Tax Fund, a 10-year program commencing this year that will provide approximately \$2 billion in the first year to local communities throughout Canada for infrastructure projects. Ninety-five percent of the Gas Tax Fund money allocated to the Metro Vancouver region will be used to fund regional transportation investments made by TransLink. The remaining 5%, called the Community Works Fund (CWF), will be available to individual communities for eligible projects. For a description of the categories of eligible projects, see pages 6 and 7 of the UBCM publication [Introducing the Renewed Federal Gas Tax Agreement in BC](http://www.ubcm.ca/assets/Funding~Programs/Renewed~Gas~Tax~Agreement/Main~Page/Web-Questions-and-Answers.pdf).

<http://www.ubcm.ca/assets/Funding~Programs/Renewed~Gas~Tax~Agreement/Main~Page/Web-Questions-and-Answers.pdf>

Each BC municipality must enter into an agreement with the UBCM to receive its allocated share of the CWF money. Since the Electoral Area is unincorporated, Metro Vancouver has responsibility for the administration of CWF money allocated to the Electoral Area, which is why it has entered into the agreement with the UBCM. Metro Vancouver is developing a process for selecting projects to be recommended for funding. Funding of the projects will require the approval of the Metro Vancouver Board. The amount available for Electoral Area projects is \$110,000 in the first year, and will increase at a rate of about 2% over the 10 years of the program.

I will provide further information on this important development as it becomes available.

Metro Vancouver, Richmond and Vancouver Parks Now Featured on iParks Navigator

The City of Vancouver has joined the City of Richmond and Metro Vancouver in issuing the latest release of iParks Navigator, an innovative app designed to help people find parks around Metro Vancouver. Information on the City of Vancouver's 215 parks is now available for everyone with a mobile device.

Using available wireless networks and location services on a mobile device, the app helps you find a park, gives directions, and features maps, video, photo galleries, trail advisories, and safety information. Users can search for facilities and recreational activities, and there is also a Metro Vancouver Regional Parks calendar of events.



iParks Navigator is available as a free download for iPhone or iPad through iTunes, and an HTML5 version is available for other smart phones and tablets.

[Download iParks Navigator](http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks_lscr/Pages/iParks.aspx)

http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks_lscr/Pages/iParks.aspx

Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation

In a closed-door meeting on July 29, the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation voted to have its chair and vice-chair take up the positions available to them on the TransLink Board of Directors. The positions were created by amendments made in 2012 to TransLink's governing legislation. The Mayors' Council had previously rejected the board seats, in part so as not to compromise ongoing attempts to seek a greater role in the governance of TransLink. Having the chair and the vice-chair on the board

will create a bridge between the Mayors' Council and the board.

The Mayors' Council also decided to create a Secretariat and appoint an interim Executive Director, to provide administrative and other support. Until now, the Mayors' Council has functioned without any staff and has had to rely on TransLink and municipal staff for assistance. With the assignment of increased responsibilities to the Mayors' Council this year, the ad hoc arrangement for support is no longer adequate.

More Information

[Metro Vancouver](#)

www.metrovancouver.org/

[Maria Harris, Electoral Area A Director](#)

www.mariaharris.ca

[@EADirector Twitter](#)

twitter.com/EADirector

[Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation](#)

<http://mayorscouncil.ca/information-centre/>

[Union of BC Municipalities](#)

<http://www.ubcm.ca/>

[University Neighbourhoods Association](#)

myuna.ca

[University Endowment Lands](#)

www.universityendowmentlands.gov.bc.ca

[UEL Community Advisory Council](#)

uelcommunity.com

[Metro Vancouver Media Releases](#)

www.metrovancouver.org/mediaroom/Pages/MediaReleases.aspx

[Metro Vancouver Videos](#)

www.metrovancouver.org/mediaroom/videos

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YOUR REGIONAL GOVERNMENT:

WHO'S WHO? WHAT DO THEY DO?

Join **Maria Harris, *Director Electoral Area A***
for an overview of the functions of
Metro Vancouver & the Mayors' Council
on Regional Transportation at UBC and UEL.

Presentation will be followed by a Q&A.

MONDAY, SEPT. 8TH at 7pm

MBA HOUSE (3385 Wesbrook Mall, Wesbrook Village)



metrovancover

SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR
A LIVABLE REGION