

**Upcoming meetings I will attend****Climate Action Committee**

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

**Metro Vancouver Board**

Friday, October 9, 2015

**Transportation Planning and Governance Review Task Force**

October 13, 19 and 26, 2015

**Howe Sound Community Forum**

Friday, October 16, 2015

**Board Meeting – Budget Workshop**

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

**Council of Councils**

Saturday, October 24, 2015

**Metro Vancouver Board**

Friday, October 30, 2015

**Intergovernment and Finance - Electoral Area Sub-Committee**

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

**Climate Action Committee**

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

**Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation**

Thursday, November 5, 2015

[Metro Vancouver Board and Committee Agendas & Minutes](http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/search/)<http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/search/>**Issues & News****Organics Disposal Ban**

Metro Vancouver introduced the Organics Disposal Ban on January 1, 2015, encouraging all businesses and residential buildings to start planning and implementing a food scraps recycling program. Enforcement of the ban began on July 1, 2015 when surcharges of an additional 50% of the cost of disposal started to apply on waste loads brought to a regional disposal facility with more than 25% visible food.

Currently local municipalities collect food scraps from about 95% of the region's single family homes. Many businesses, apartments and condos are establishing food scraps recycling either through their city, waste hauler, or an occupant-driven initiative.

Since the ban, research was undertaken to determine the level of participation in organics recycling in the region. A telephone survey of businesses and multi-family residents in the region revealed that awareness of the Organics Disposal Ban is high and most have started a food waste recycling program or intend to within the next year or so. The number of loads with greater than 25% food waste observed during a dedicated inspection survey at regional disposal facilities also indicates that compliance with the Organics Disposal Ban is high. In addition, the quantity of organic material processed at Metro Vancouver's licensed compost facilities is steadily increasing for each quarter and the trend is expected to continue.

Residents of apartments, condos or townhouses with private garbage collection but without food scraps collection can ask their building manager or strata to contact their garbage hauler to discuss adding food scraps collection to the building's garbage collection.

There are many private haulers who will provide organics service. The Recycling Council of BC maintains a list of haulers as well as information about how to arrange for organics pick-up. The Council can be reached at 604-RECYCLE (604-732-9253).

### **Recycling Resources for Multi-Family Developments**

Metro Vancouver offers multiple resources to help building owners, motivated residents, and property managers improve recycling within their complexes.

As a start, building owners/residents can find out [how many bins](#) their building or property should have.

There are also many [useful resources](#) including a food scraps recycling how-to guide in both English and Chinese, posters, tips, as well as materials that can be distributed directly to residents.

For things that can't be recycled on-site, Metro Vancouver has a [webpage](#) and [iPhone app](#) that help residents find places to donate or recycle just about anything.

For further questions on recycling, contact 604-RECYCLE (604-732-9253).

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/solid-waste/apartments-condos/apartment-recycling-toolkit/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/solid-waste/food-scraps-recycling/apartments-condos/tools-resources/tools-resources-building-managers/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.metrovancouverrecycles.org/Pages/Residential.aspx>

<https://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/werecycle/id502866356?mt=8>

### **Electoral Area A Grants Policy**

On September 30, 2015, the GVRD Intergovernment and Finance Committee - Electoral Area Sub-Committee discussed an overarching policy to administer Electoral Area A grant funds. The proposed policy provides an overview of the grant program for Electoral Area A and sets out the broad framework for approving grant applications. Sub-Committee members requested additional information from staff on the policy and grant funds, which staff expect to present at the Sub-Committee's next meeting on November 4, 2015.

### **Zero Waste Conference**

On October 29, 2015, Metro Vancouver's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Zero Waste Conference – *A Future Without Waste: Redefining Value, Building the Circular Economy* – aims to challenge traditional assumptions around waste and demonstrate the economic value to be realized from zero waste and circular economy approaches.

What to expect from the 2015 Zero Waste Conference:

- Key insights from global leaders on the international zero waste and circular economy landscape
- Tangible examples and best practices demonstrating zero waste business approaches
- A national conversation - positioning Canadian communities & businesses to thrive in a resource constrained world
- Dynamic discussions on the role of government and cross-sector collaboration
- Networking with 500 plus business, government and community sector stakeholders

Last year over 500 professionals and waste-enthusiasts came out to talk about the future of how we manage our waste in and outside of our region. Watch this quick [video](#) for more information and visit the [conference website](#) for additional information and to register.

<http://bcove.me/gx9ih20l>

<http://www.zwc.ca>

## **Disposable Wipes Pilot Behaviour Campaign**

The growing market for disposable wipes has been wreaking havoc across the globe as sewer systems and pump stations become damaged from the increasing number of wipes being flushed. Metro Vancouver has already spent \$100,000 this year unclogging non-disposable waste from its system.

In September, Metro Vancouver launched a new pilot behaviour change campaign to help wipes purchasers understand that wipes belong in the garbage. Research revealed that consumers often think they're doing the right thing by buying only those wipes that say they are flushable. Unfortunately, there is no standard that regulates what flushable actually means.

To help residents learn more about the challenges with disposable wipes in the sewer system and what's safe to flush, please encourage them to visit [neverflushwipes.ca](http://neverflushwipes.ca).

## **Transportation and Public Transit**

In response to the failure of the transit funding plebiscite, Metro Vancouver has formed a task force—the Transportation Planning and Governance Review Task Force—to provide advice and recommendations to the Metro Vancouver Board. I am a member of this task force, along with 12 mayors and a Vancouver City councillor.

The task force has two main functions. One is to investigate and make recommendations regarding governance structures for the delivery of public transit. This means examining the governance structure of TransLink, under which both the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation and the TransLink Board of Directors have roles. The task force expects to consider both the short term and the long term.

Recommendations for the short term will likely consist of proposals that can be implemented within the

constraints of the current legislative framework. For the long term, the task force will consider more substantial reforms that could require legislative changes.

The task force's other main function is to examine options for strengthening the linkages between Metro Vancouver's Regional Growth Strategy and TransLink's planning role. The Regional Growth Strategy focuses on land use and related policies to shape growth and development in the Metro Vancouver region and to support the efficient provision of transportation, regional infrastructure and community services. The task force will compare the two independent regional planning functions, to explore opportunities for better integrating and aligning these two functions.

The task force will base its recommendations on research that has previously been undertaken and on policy positions that have been adopted by Metro Vancouver, its member local governments, and TransLink. No new research will be undertaken. In addition, it will consult with local governments, the Mayors' Council and other entities.

The task force is working to an extremely tight deadline. It is required to complete its reports in time for presentation to the October 30 meeting of the Metro Vancouver Board. The first meeting of the task force was on Monday, September 28 and it will meet every Monday in October (except Tuesday following Thanksgiving).

## Events

### **Sustainability Community Breakfasts**

Metro Vancouver's Sustainability Community Breakfasts is a series of monthly breakfast meetings that support the Sustainable Region Initiative. They provide an opportunity to build networks and partnerships, to increase awareness and understanding of the opportunities and challenges related to sustainability, and to bring together individuals and organizations interested in the sustainability of the region. Each breakfast typically features one or more presentations about sustainability initiatives, as well as updates about on-going projects.

Join Metro Vancouver on October 14, 2015 to hear about initiatives underway to help build more connected and engaged communities in the region.

#### **Building Connectivity in our Communities**

Wednesday, October 14, 2015

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM

British Columbia Institute of Technology

555 Seymour Street, Vancouver

To register, visit: <http://www.metrovancouver.org/events/community-breakfasts/>

## 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.mayorscouncil.ca)

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

### [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](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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