

Upcoming meetings I will attend

**Transportation Planning and Governance
Review Task Force**
Monday, November 16, 2015

Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation
Monday, November 25, 2015

Metro Vancouver Board
Friday, November 27, 2015



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Issues & News

Metro Vancouver has been working on a number of initiatives for the region, all with the same goal of ensuring proper disposal of different kinds of waste. Please read below to see what materials and information are available to be shared with UNA residents and business community.

1. "hey! Food isn't garbage!" Organics Disposal Ban update

Metro Vancouver, in collaboration with member municipalities, has launched phase two of its food scraps recycling campaign. The campaign builds on the successful "hey! Food isn't garbage!" food scrap characters from 2014 (the infamous talking watermelon and food-friends). Surveys indicated that 90% of respondents understood the campaign message.

This year's campaign reminds residents that food-soiled paper can also be recycled with food scraps, and not thrown in the garbage. New talking characters are: a food-soiled paper plate and napkin; used coffee filter and tea bag; and seafood and sauce. These items are meant to encourage residents and businesses to use their green bin for both food and food-soiled paper.



Food waste accounts for approximately 30 percent of our garbage and when put in the landfill creates methane, a powerful greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. Keeping food and food soiled paper out of the garbage improves the environment and creates valuable resources like compost and energy.

Please view and download the campaign artwork at www.metrovancouver.org/foodscraps.

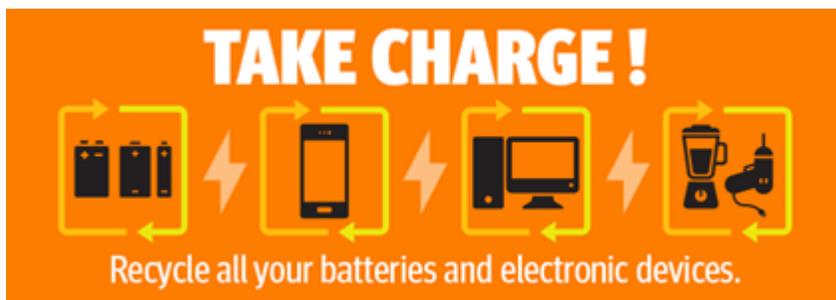
2. Take Charge! Recycle all batteries and electronic devices

Batteries contain chemicals that should be kept out of the environment. While some batteries are obviously recyclable like the ones from a flashlight or cell phone, others are hidden inside a sealed device and either get recharged or are considered one-time use. These can be recycled too.

Have a light-up key chain, rechargeable drill, garden lamps or...for something truly scary, musical Halloween decorations? What about electric toys and tooth brushes that used to work but don't anymore?

All batteries and electronic devices should go to a depot for recycling or safe disposal.

Metro Vancouver is working with the product stewardship organizations that are responsible for the collection, and recycling or safe disposal of these items (Electronic Products Recycling Association, Canadian Electrical Stewardship Association, Call2Recycle and Recycle My Cell), to increase awareness of what can be recycled and where, and to keep them out of the garbage. There are hundreds of places to drop-off batteries and electronics in the Metro Vancouver region and they can be found at www.bcrecycles.ca.



<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/recycling/product-stewardship>

<http://www.bcrecycles.ca>

3. "Wipe it. Green Bin it." Kitchen grease goes in the green bin

Metro Vancouver and many of its municipalities have an ongoing problem from cooking grease (fats and oils) being put down the drain. This is the grease left in the pan after frying something like bacon, or less obvious, the cumulative effect of all residents rinsing dinner plates and sending a bit of grease down the drain each time.

Grease hardens in sewers, resulting in clogs. If the clogs get bad enough, sewers cannot flow and they spill into the environment. Metro Vancouver and its member municipalities spend an estimated \$2 million every year to deal with this problem.

Metro Vancouver launched a pilot campaign in early November to encourage residents to keep grease out of the drain by wiping up small amounts of grease with a paper towel or newspaper and putting it in their green bin. Larger amounts (like from a deep fryer) can be taken to a depot.

Watch a short, shareable video on the challenges with greasy pipes at www.metrovancouver.org/grease.



Urban Forests to Receive Climate Adaptation Guidelines

Climate change will impact our urban forests through increased windstorms and droughts, changes to precipitation, and increased susceptibility to insect or disease outbreaks. Some species will thrive, and others decline.

At the same time, healthy urban forests mitigate climate change through, for example: sequestering carbon, shading buildings, and influencing stormwater. The region's urban forests can help people and organisms adapt to the changing climate, playing a large role the region's livability.

Metro Vancouver is embarking on an urban forest study and, in collaboration with municipal and academic advisors, will develop, specific to our region:

- tools to help identify urban forest vulnerabilities,
- guidance to improve tree management techniques, and
- innovative design approaches to maximize benefits like cooling and stormwater absorption in the urban landscape.

Tree specific design is part of contemporary urban planning. Metro Vancouver staff will ensure that relevant tools and guidelines that result from this project work will be shared with member municipalities, Electoral Area A, the business community and the public.

Transportation and Public Transit

In my October Update, I reported on a new task force formed by Metro Vancouver—the Transportation Planning and Governance Review Task Force—of which I am a member along with 12 mayors and a Vancouver City councillor.

The task force has two main functions:

- Examine options for strengthening the linkages between Metro Vancouver's Regional Growth Strategy and TransLink's planning role.
- Investigate and make recommendations regarding the governance structures for the delivery of public transit. This includes both short-term reforms that can be implemented within the constraints of current legislation and more substantial long-term reforms that could require legislative changes.

I mentioned in my previous Update that the task force was required to complete its reports in time for a presentation to the October 30 meeting of the Metro Vancouver Board. This has not proven possible given the broad scope of the task force's mandate. The task force has met four times and is scheduled to meet once more on November 16th prior to presenting its report to the November 27th Metro Vancouver Board meeting.

Public Consultation on Liquor Licenses

Metro Vancouver acts as the local government within Electoral Area A for liquor license applications made to the BC Liquor Control and Licensing Branch, which is the approving authority for licenses. Depending on the potential for impact on the surrounding community of a particular application, Metro Vancouver may decide to consult with the local residents or, if few impacts are expected, to let the Province follow their standard consultative procedures. When Metro Vancouver undertakes public consultation, notices are put in the local newspaper (e.g. the Campus Resident), a sign is put up next to the proposed location which is visible to the public, links to information on the Metro Vancouver website are sent out through local listservs (e.g. myuna announcements), and the UEL Community Advisory Council and UNA Board of Directors are made aware of the application.

Community Works Fund

The Community Works Fund is a program through which all local governments receive a portion of federal gas tax monies, based on their populations, for the purpose of funding eligible infrastructure projects ([click here](#) for examples of eligible projects). This year, Metro Vancouver received approximately \$111,000 for Electoral Area A, and is expected to receive similar annual amounts through 2018.

In recognition of the governance and advisory bodies that exist in the Point Grey area of Electoral Area A, which include the University Neighbourhoods Association, the University Endowment Lands Community

Advisory Council and Administration, and the University of British Columbia Board of Governors, the Electoral Area A Director and Metro Vancouver staff will meet with representatives from these local entities to discuss projects which could potentially be funded through the Community Works Fund. The first consultation with this Electoral Area A Point Grey Grant Advisory Group is expected to take place in late 2015 or early 2016.

Examples of Eligible Projects:

<http://www.ubcm.ca/assets/Funding~Programs/Renewed~Gas~Tax~Agreement/Community~Works~Fund/Examples-of-Eligible-Projects.pdf>

Howe Sound Forum

The Howe Sound Community Forum took place on Friday, October 16, 2015, in Squamish. The Forum brings together representatives from government, First Nations and various stakeholder groups to discuss issues and projects of interest to Howe Sound communities. The October forum included updates from each of the communities and presentations by stakeholder groups on a variety of topics. Highlights included:

- A representative of the David Suzuki Foundation presented a new “State of the Sound” initiative which will gather research, data and stories in three broad areas: Culture, History and Profile; Science and Discovery; and Where are we today?. Work on the initiative will begin in fall 2015, with public engagement events starting in spring 2016 and expected to continue over a total of 18-24 months.
- Local government staff and consultants from various communities provided details on several new waterfront residential and commercial developments nearing construction stage around the Sound. Questions from the roundtable focused on potential impacts to transportation (e.g. increased Sea-to-Sky Highway traffic) and the environment.

For more information, please visit the Future of Howe Sound Society website, www.futureofhowesound.org.

For More Metro Vancouver News and Updates

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



Links & Connections

[Metro Vancouver](#)

www.metrovancouver.org

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

www.mariaharris.ca

[@EADirector Twitter](#)

www.twitter.com/EADirector

[Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation](#)

www.mayorscouncil.ca

[Union of BC Municipalities](#)

www.ubcm.ca

[University Neighbourhoods Association](#)

www.myuna.ca

[University Endowment Lands](#)

www.universityendowmentlands.gov.bc.ca

[UEL Community Advisory Council](#)

www.uelcommunity.com

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