

My Upcoming Meetings

Electoral Area Sub-committee

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

Climate Action Committee

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

Zero Waste Conference

Thursday, November 3, 2016

Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation

Thursday, November 10, 2016

Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation

Wednesday, November 23, 2016

Metro Vancouver Board

Friday, November 25, 2016

Metro Vancouver Board

Friday, December 9, 2016



[Metro Vancouver Board and Committee Agendas & Minutes](http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/search/)

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

Community Works Fund

Metro Vancouver staff and I will be meeting with representatives of the University Neighbourhoods Association, the University Endowment Lands Community Advisory Council and Administration, and the University of British Columbia for a second time in early November 2016 to discuss short-listed projects in detail and to decide which projects to recommend to the Metro Vancouver Board for funding from the Community Works Fund.

EcoBlitz at Pacific Spirit Regional Park

Between October 15 and 23, over 250 people participated in EcoBlitz events at Pacific Spirit Regional Park, as part of a weeklong stewardship extravaganza where work parties pulled weeds, planted trees and shrubs, and took care of local ecosystems while hanging out with other people who also love regional parks.

About 180 first year UBC students and 20 Pacific Spirit Park Society volunteers planted over 650 trees at the October 23 planting event. Volunteers removed invasive species and replanted native plants such as Douglas fir, Sitka spruce, sword fern and salal berry bushes.

Additional replanting activities are going to continue over the next few weeks. If you are interested in participating, please see the Metro Vancouver Ecological Restoration Team Meetup Group.



Pacific Spirit Planting Event

Saturday, November 5, 1:00 p.m.

Pacific Spirit Planting Event

Saturday, November 12, 1:00 p.m.

<http://www.meetup.com/Regional-Parks-Connect-Metro-Vancouver>

Howe Sound Forum

The fall 2016 Howe Sound Community Forum took place on Friday, October 14 in West Vancouver.

The Forum brings together representatives from local, provincial and federal governments, First Nations and various stakeholder groups to discuss issues and projects of interest to Howe Sound communities. The fall 2016 Forum included updates from each of the communities, and presentations by stakeholder groups on a variety of topics.

Highlights included:

- Presentations on current development projects and planning initiatives, including the Electoral Area A Official Community Plan for Indian Arm, Pitt Lake, Barnston Island and Howe Sound communities. <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/electoral-area-a/ocp/Pages/default.aspx>
- An overview from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure on potential future fixed link connections between the Lower Mainland and the Sunshine Coast, including information on the consultation process and timelines. www.gov.bc.ca/sunshinecoastfixedlink
- An update on the Howe Sound Cumulative Effects Project from the BC Ministry of Forest, Lands and Resource Operations.
- A presentation on an initiative to make Howe Sound a UNESCO Biosphere Region. <http://futureofhowesound.org/campaigns/exploring-unesco-biosphere-reserve-status/>
- Information on planned discussions between the David Suzuki Foundation and Parks Canada on a feasibility study for a new park on Gambier Island. <http://sustainablehowesound.ca/>

UEL Request for Incorporation Study - Meeting with Minister Fassbender

Minister Fassbender's office contacted me to set up a meeting of UEL area representatives plus Bill Holmes (Electoral Area Alternate Director) and me on November 16th. There is no agenda for the meeting, but we have been told that the Minister and his staff wish to update us on the subject of UEL governance.

By way of background, the UEL Community Advisory Council (CAC) submitted a request for an incorporation study to the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development (CSCD) in November 2013. The Minister at the time advised the CAC in spring 2014 that research was underway to assist the government in making a decision about how to proceed. Minister Fassbender and CSCD staff then met with community representatives, Bill Holmes and me in October 2015 and April 2016 to hear from us on the request for an incorporation study. These meetings were followed with a letter in July 2016 from Minister Fassbender to the CAC in which he indicated his commitment to exploring the governance of the UEL. However, he also stated that "now is not the time for a study that pre-determines the range of outcomes for governance change." He indicated his intent to share with

the community some of the facts that have emerged from the Ministry's work to date and a desire to seek a better understanding of the community's current key issues and priorities. To that end, Minister Fassbender asked his staff to develop a detailed plan on how best to get information out to the community and to be able to gauge the community's key interests. He stated that he would share this plan in the fall of 2016. The meeting on November 16th may be in furtherance of that commitment.

RateOurHome.ca

Home energy labels tell us how energy efficient a home is, how efficient it could become, and how it compares to other homes. Single-family homes are responsible for about 40% of the greenhouse gas emissions coming from all buildings in Metro Vancouver. Consumers need tools to make informed decisions for their families and the environment.

EnerGuide is a federal government program that provides energy ratings for new and existing single-family detached homes, and multi-family low-rise, row house, townhouse and duplex developments.

Metro Vancouver launched RateOurHome.ca this October. The website and concurrent outreach campaign aim to spread awareness about home energy labels and increase the use of the EnerGuide Rating System and ENERGY STAR® for New Homes.

RateOurHome.ca provides information on the benefit of using the EnerGuide Rating System when buying or selling a home.

The RateOurHome.ca campaign has been guided by many partners including all levels of government, energy utilities, and home performance and construction industry experts.

www.rateourhome.ca



Food Isn't Garbage Campaign Update

Metro Vancouver has introduced Grease and Chopsticks as two new food scraps characters to the Hey! Food Isn't Garbage! campaign to clarify that these types of items are also acceptable in the green bin for composting.

Disposable wooden chopsticks, skewers and single-use cutlery can all go in your green bin. There are over 2,700 Asian influenced restaurants in the Metro Vancouver region, many of which provide take-out with wooden chopsticks.

By understanding what products can go in the green bin, residents can keep more waste out of the garbage. This keeps more waste out of our landfills, reduces our methane contributions and creates valuable resources like compost and bioenergy.

Over 90% of single-family residences and 90% of multi-family homes and food service businesses now have access to food scraps recycling programs. Metro Vancouver found that in 2015, 60 to 70 thousand tonnes more organics (including food scraps) were recycled than in 2014.

We Love Water Campaign Update

With the coming of autumn and the lifting of lawn sprinkling regulations, Metro Vancouver's We Love Water campaign shifts its focus to reducing indoor water use.



It's easy to underestimate how much water is wasted when taking long showers, leaving taps running or not running a full load of laundry. These daily uses of water really do add up, and the campaign provides easy tips for indoor actions that have the highest potential for water savings, such as shortening showers, running full loads in the washing machine and dishwasher and testing for leaks around the house.

While it may seem strange to conserve water during the rainy season, it's still important that we do so. Metro Vancouver residents use over a billion litres of water every day and this amount is anticipated to climb as the region's population continues to grow. Using less water, even in fall and winter, delays the need to expand expensive water supply and transmission infrastructure. Water conservation is a key component of Metro Vancouver's plan for ensuring there's sufficient world-class treated drinking water for generations to come.

On WeLoveWater.ca you'll find shareable tips for saving water at home, and can contribute your own tips to an online gallery by using the hashtag #welovewaterMV on social media. The campaign will appear on TV and online.

www.welovewater.ca

Events & Media

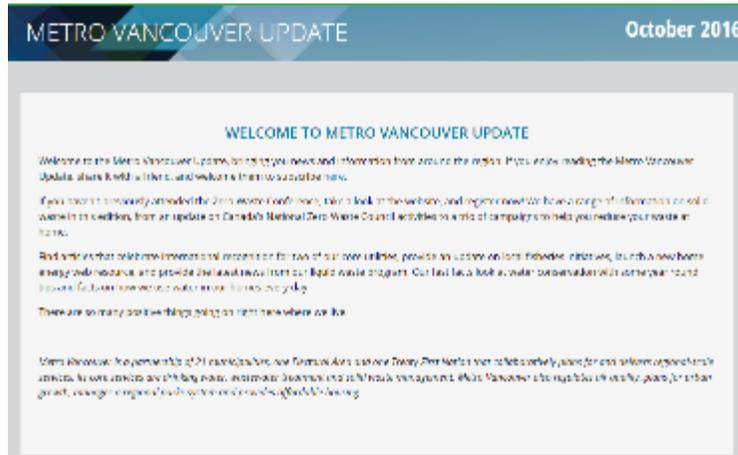
Metro Vancouver Close Up



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 more sustainability stories about Metro Vancouver, residents can search "Metro Vancouver Close Up" at metrovancover.org or follow metrovancoverblog.org.

For More Metro Vancouver News and Updates

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



Links & Connections

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

www.metrovancouver.org

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

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

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

www.ubcm.ca

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

www.myuna.ca

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

www.universityendowmentlands.gov.bc.ca

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

www.uelcommunity.com

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

www.metrovancouver.org/media-room

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

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