

ELECTORAL AREA A Director's Update

DECEMBER
2015

From Maria Harris, Electoral Area A Director

Upcoming meetings I will attend

Please note, all meetings will cease after December 11th and resume in January 2016. There will be no Director's Update for January 2016.

Metro Vancouver Board

Friday, December 11, 2015

Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation

Wednesday, January 27, 2016


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

Issues & News

"Create Memories, Not Garbage" Campaign

Metro Vancouver is running its "Create Memories, Not Garbage" campaign again this year. The campaign reminds gift-givers to rethink how they celebrate the season and consider giving things that will help create memories rather than unnecessary waste.

Please encourage residents, students and others to think about how they can do their part to reduce waste this season. [This page](#) will help you craft a message.

www.metrovancouver.org/metrounupdate/issue-15/213/be-a-green-angel-this-christmas---here's-how

You may wish to draw attention to the tips and green gift ideas that can be found at www.metrovancouver.org/christmas, where you will also find campaign posters that you can easily download for use.

www.metrovancouver.org/christmas

This Christmas, the guys
are giving a tasty parting gift.
Packed with love.



metrovancouver
SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

Zero Waste Conference 2015 – A Future without Waste

Over 500 people came out for Metro Vancouver's 5th annual Zero Waste Conference held Oct 29th, 2015. Presenters from around the globe delivered key insights into zero waste principles and the circular economy – offering a promising vision for the economy and environment. Key note speaker Bill McDonough started the day by asking, "What if we made the goal not just to have zero (waste), or make the world less bad, but actually to do something that was positive?"

For the first time, a satellite conference was hosted by the city of Toronto's Long Term Waste Management Strategy, in conjunction with the Metro Vancouver event. Delegates were able participate via a two-way livestream of the events.

Zero Waste Conference participants included start-ups, major corporations, and government. The presenters were equally diverse, ranging from big picture visionaries to leading edge entrepreneurs who are already embracing zero waste ambitions.

Malcolm Brodie, Metro Vancouver Director and Chair of the National Zero Waste Council left the audience with this call to action: "I would like to ask each and every one of us to rise to the challenge that was presented at the conference - to do everything possible to realize a *Future Without Waste*. It is only through innovation and collective action that this goal can be fully realized."

Read more at the Metro Vancouver Zero Waste blog or at www.zwc.ca

<http://zwcblog.org/2015/11/16/zwc-2015-2015-conference-delivers-insights-into-a-future-without-waste/?shareadraft=563a7e7641995>

2016 Tipping Fee Increase

At its October 30th meeting, the Metro Vancouver Board approved changes to the Tipping Fee Bylaw that will come into effect on January 1, 2016. Changes include a new municipal tipping fee of \$100 per tonne for waste from single-family residences and public works.

The UEL will be charged the same municipal rate of \$100 per tonne.

Metro Vancouver's operating costs for solid waste facilities are consistent with those of other operators and jurisdictions. Metro Vancouver employs continuous efforts to encourage residents and businesses to increase the amount they recycle and reuse; it has achieved one of the highest recycling rates in North America; and it's an international leader in waste reduction with programs like Love Food – Hate Waste, and as a co-founder with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities of the National Zero Waste Council.

2016 Water Rates

As its October 30th meeting, the Metro Vancouver Board approved a 1.9% increase in water rates for 2016. The rates for water sold to the UEL will be:

- \$0.7111/cubic metre (Off-Peak Season, January to May and October to December), and
- \$0.8888/cubic metre (Peak Season, June to September)

Because the UEL is not a member of the Greater Vancouver Water District and does not have a water supply contract, its water rates are 20% higher than the rates paid by municipalities.

Multi Material BC Exceeds Recycling Targets

In Metro Vancouver's October 30th Board meeting, Board members received for information a report summarizing the results of the 2014 Annual Reports published by all Extended Producer Responsibility Programs.

One of the most notable reports came from Multi Material BC (MMBC), an independent, industry-led and financed non-profit organization created to manage residential packaging and printed paper recycling either directly or by working with local governments, First Nations, private companies, and other non-profit organizations.

MMBC produced an inaugural report on its program that launched on May 19, 2014 and achieved a recovery rate of over 80% - exceeding the regulated target of 75%.

Among the key highlights of the report:

- In just 7.5 months – from the program's launch on May 19 to December 31, 2014 – MMBC collected more than 116,000 tonnes of recyclables from households and depots across British Columbia;
- 1.24 million households received curbside and multi-family collection services;
- 20 BC communities are enjoying access to curbside recycling for the very first time;
- By the end of 2014, 96% of BC households could recycle their packaging and printed paper at depots;
- By year's end, MMBC had directed 93.5% of collected packaging and printed paper to recycling commodity end markets – exceeding the regulated target of 85-90%;
- MMBC finished 2014 in a strong financial position with all expenses covered, debt extinguished and significant progress made towards building the operating reserves needed to provide financial stability for the program's commitments.

By creating a harmonized system for the collection, processing and sale of packaging and printed paper materials into end markets, MMBC is delivering more convenient and consistent recycling services to BC residents.

[MMBC Annual Report](http://www.multimaterialbc.ca/annual-report/) <http://www.multimaterialbc.ca/annual-report/>

Metro Vancouver's Input to the Provincial Climate Leadership Plan

In May 2015, the BC government announced a new Climate Leadership Plan process to update the 2008 BC Climate Action Plan.

In September 2015 the Metro Vancouver Board submitted a letter supporting the inclusion of four policies in the new BC Climate Leadership Plan:

1. Widespread adoption of low/zero carbon vehicles.
2. Transition to net zero carbon new buildings and near net zero carbon existing buildings.
3. Support for local government actions to reduce and shorten vehicular trips and increase trips by walking, cycling, and transit.
4. Carbon pricing to create a market signal to stimulate adoption of low carbon technologies and practices.

The letter pointed out that the actions above will require enhanced funding and authority for local governments including:

- Expanded funding mechanisms for transportation infrastructure and other climate actions,
- Delegation of greater authority to local governments to regulate building performance including enabling building energy benchmarking, and
- Changes to legislation designed to allow local governments to extend support to businesses in achieving GHG reduction goals.

Metro Vancouver's staff also submitted a list of detailed policy suggestions that align with existing Metro Vancouver plans and policies.

On November 27th, the government released the Recommendations Report of the Climate Leadership Team. The government will now prepare a draft Climate Leadership Plan for consultation in January 2016, and intends to release the final plan in March 2016. Metro Vancouver looks forward to providing further input when the draft plan is available.

<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/climateleadership/>

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/air-quality/AirQualityPublications/CLPBoardLetter.pdf>

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/air-quality/AirQualityPublications/CLPStaffLetter.pdf>

UBC Liquor Licence Applications

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. Recently, UBC has submitted two liquor licence applications, one for the Gerald McGavin Rugby Centre and another for the Frederic Wood Theatre.

Metro Vancouver has completed the public consultation for the Gerald McGavin Rugby Centre. Public comments were sought through a variety of means: notices in the local newspapers (the Campus Resident and the Vancouver Courier), a large sign at the proposed location, notification through the UNA weekly email newsletter, and posting of information on the Metro Vancouver website. In addition, the UNA Board of Directors was asked whether it wished to comment. At its November 27, 2015 meeting, the Metro Vancouver Board decided to recommend to the BC Liquor Control and Licensing Branch that the liquor licence be issued.

A similar public consultation process will be undertaken for the Frederic Wood Theatre liquor licence application. The consultation will occur in December 2015 and January 2016. Please encourage residents who may have an interest in this application to provide comments as directed in the public notices.

Memorandum of Understanding between Metro Vancouver and the University of British Columbia

Metro Vancouver and the University of British Columbia have agreed to a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen ongoing collaboration to address regional economic, social, and environmental sustainability challenges. The MOU will provide new opportunities for UBC faculty and students to work on projects that will directly benefit the region.

The MOU was endorsed by the Metro Vancouver Board on November 27, 2015 and by the UBC Board of Governors on December 3, 2015. A formal announcement of the collaboration is expected next week.

http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/GVRD/RD_2015-Nov-27_AGE-REVISED.pdf (Item 6.4, page 344)

Water Shortage Response Plan Review

Metro Vancouver's Water Services Department provides clean, high-quality drinking water to its members and non-members including the UEL, who in turn supply water to over 2.4 million residents and businesses in the Lower Mainland. Approximately one billion litres of water flows through our taps every day. In the summer this amount can double.

The summer of 2015 was particularly hot and dry, and came on the heels of a record low snow pack and unusually dry spring. The hot weather drove up the demand for water at a time when supply was lower than average.

For situations like this, the region has a Water Shortage Response Plan (WSRP). The plan includes four stages. Most lawn-owners are familiar with Stage 1, commonly called the Sprinkling Regulations. Less familiar, and less commonly activated are Stages 2 to 4, which reduce or prohibit water uses in addition to lawn sprinkling – commercial pressure washing, water fountains, spray parks without shut-off valves, and public fields and parks watering are some examples.

The plan was developed in 1993, and has been updated twice. Those updates included shifting sprinkling away from peak evening hours to mornings only and adding Stage 4 for emergency situations (earthquake, fire, infrastructure damage, etc.).

Metro Vancouver is currently reviewing the Water Shortage Response Plan with its members, the businesses affected in summer 2015 in Stages 2 and 3, the broader public and other neighbouring jurisdictions. The intention is to review the impacts of the plan as it was activated in 2015 and determine what adjustments can be made in the future. Any adjustments will occur in consultation with Metro Vancouver members and align with any required adoptions or bylaw changes.

Events

Sustainable Community Breakfast



The holiday season is fast approaching, which for many means special and memorable moments with friends and family. Once again, as part of Metro Vancouver's "Create Memories Not Garbage" Christmas campaign, some of the new campaign themes will be introduced along with two of the region's premier storytellers from The Flame who will share their entertaining holiday memories.

Wednesday, December 09, 2015

7:30 - 9:00 am

BCIT downtown campus, 555 Seymour Street, Vancouver

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

Winter Watershed Snowshoe Tours, Mount Seymour

Enjoy a moderately strenuous snowshoe tour. This is a fun and active way to learn about the role our



mountains play in collecting and storing our drinking water. Learn about local plants and animals that call the Seymour Watershed home.

Wrap up your tour with a cup of hot cocoa.

Tours run Thursdays and Saturdays from February 11 – March 19

\$18 with own snowshoes; \$25 includes snowshoes rental

Ages 18+

To register, visit: www.metrovancouver.org/region/calendar/Pages/WatershedTours.aspx

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.mayorscouncil.ca)

www.mayorscouncil.ca

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

www.ubcm.ca

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

www.myuna.ca

[University Endowment Lands](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)

www.metrovancouver.org/media-room/video-gallery

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

[www.twitter.com/metrovancouver](https://twitter.com/metrovancouver)

[Metro Vancouver Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/metrovancouver)

www.facebook.com/metrovancouver