



**REVISED**

## **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

### *NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING*

**DATE: WEDNESDAY, 2020 JANUARY 29**

**TIME: 6:00 PM**

**PLACE: Clerk's Committee Room, Main Floor, City Hall**

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## **ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES**

An Open meeting of the Environment and Social Planning Committee was held in the Clerk's Committee Room, City Hall, 4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, B.C. on **Tuesday, 2019 November 05** at 6:00 p.m.

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

PRESENT:	Councillor Colleen Jordan, Chair Councillor Joe Keithley, Vice Chair Councillor James Wang, Member Mr. Joel Gibbs, Citizen Representative Mr. Frank Huang, Citizen Representative Mr. Elie Lubendo, Citizen Representative ( <i>arrived at 6:11 p.m.</i> ) Ms. Doris Mah, Citizen Representative Mr. Andrei Zawadzki, Citizen Representative Ms. Tessa Vanderkop, Burnaby Board of Trade Trustee Peter Cech, Burnaby School Board
ADVISORY ORGANIZATIONS:	Ms. Deborah Harford, Simon Fraser University ( <i>arrived at 6:15 p.m.</i> ) Ms. Dana Wong, FortisBC
ABSENT:	Ms. Mary Lumby, Citizen Representative Mr. Jerry Muir, BC Hydro
STAFF:	Mr. Dipak Dattani, Director Corporate Services Ms. Lee-Ann Garnett, Assistant Director Long Range Planning Ms. Heather Edwards, Manager Parks Planning Design & Dev. Ms. Simone Rousseau, Manager Environmental Services Ms. Margaret Manifold, Senior Social Planner Mr. Mark Sloat, Environmental Planner Ms. Monica Macdonald, Administrative Officer

The Chair called the Open meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Chair, Councillor Colleen Jordan, recognized the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmiṇəm and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples, and extended appreciation for the opportunity to hold a meeting on this shared territory.

With no objection by any member, the Committee **AMENDED** the order of the agenda to hear the delegation at this time.

### 3. **DELEGATION**

#### a) **Diabetes Canada**

**Re: Textile Diversion Program for Burnaby**

**Speakers: Simon Langer, National Manager Government and Strategic Partnerships, Diabetes Canada  
 Dr. Calvin Lakhan, Faculty of Environmental Sciences, York University**

**Mr. Simon Langer**, National Manager Government and Strategic Partnerships, Diabetes Canada, and **Dr. Calvin Lakhan**, Faculty of Environmental Sciences, York University appeared before the Committee by teleconference seeking a partnership with Burnaby to participate in York University's National Textile Diversion Study and create a formal textile diversion program.

Mr. Langer advised that he is also speaking on behalf of the National Association for Charitable Textile Recycling (NACTR), a group of not-for-profit and charitable textile collectors from across Canada whose purpose is to create a positive social and environmental impact with textile reuse and recycling. Some of the members include Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Salvation Army Thrift Stores, and Diabetes Canada.

The delegation asserted that the City would benefit from participating in the national research study and textile diversion program, estimating that more than 4.7 million kilograms of used textiles are being generated in Burnaby each year, with 85% of these materials ending up in landfills. This represents a missed opportunity to increase waste diversion and generate revenue for diabetes research or other local charitable causes and programs that serve the community.

*\*Mr. Lubendo arrived at 6:11 p.m.\**

Mr. Langer provided the following information about the research and program:

- national study to identify the economic, social & environmental impacts on municipalities of using charitable collectors to divert textiles from landfills;
- no cost to municipality to participate in the research, which will be used to inform new legislation and encourage public participation;
- York University will provide Burnaby with textile diversion data along with a quarterly analysis;
- materials collected are managed in a socially & environmentally manner, with 95% of what is collected by Diabetes Canada diverted from landfills;
- clothing bins are located on public sites with appropriate City branding, and include a contractual Service Agreement outlining service commitment;

- will provide \$5 million liability insurance for each placement and ensure bins are reviewed by a 3<sup>rd</sup> party engineer for public safety;
- over 100 municipalities and organizations from across Canada (including the City of Vancouver and the Recycling Council of British Columbia) are participating in the study and program, with over 1000 textile recycling bins placed on city sites.

*\*Ms. Harford arrived at 6:15 p.m.\**

The Committee inquired regarding the expected time frame for a response from the City; bin safety; how Diabetes Canada generates money from donated clothing, and what percentage of its operating capital comes from donated clothing; and what percentage of donated clothing goes to overseas markets.

The delegation provided the following information in response:

- Mr. Langer – hopes for a reply sometime in 2020. However, Dr. Lakhan noted that this is an open-ended research question, a living research project with no definitive end date, so there is no specific time requirement;
- Diabetes Canada has retrofitted all bins in Burnaby in 2019 January to ensure they are safe and easy to get out of, and further noted that new ones are designed to prevent people from entering or scavenging the bin. The bins would be serviced daily at the minimum;
- Diabetes Canada generates revenue by selling donated clothing to a number of partners, such as Value Village. Approximately 100 million pounds of textiles are collected every year, with 25-30 million pounds reused or recirculated in the Canadian market. Approximately \$10 million is received through clothing donations, making up 25% of the total revenue generated by Diabetes Canada; and,
- approximately 25% is sold at retail in Canada and 75% is sorted and graded. Of the 75%: 30% is sold through retail channels in other markets, 25% is cycled into other textile products (e.g. bags), 15% is turned into new products (e.g. insulation), and 5% is sent to landfills.

Arising from discussion, the Committee introduced the following motion:

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KEITHLEY  
SECONDED BY TRUSTEE CECH

THAT the request from Diabetes Canada be **REFERRED** to staff for a report on the advisability and feasibility of embarking on the program.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The normal order of the meeting resumed.

## 2. **MINUTES**

### a) **Minutes of the Environment and Social Planning Committee Open meeting held on 2019 October 10**

MOVED BY MR. HUANG  
SECONDED BY MR. LUBENDO

THAT the minutes of the Environment and Social Planning Committee Open meeting held on 2019 October 10 be adopted.

CARRIED  
 UNANIMOUSLY

## 3. **DELEGATION**

- a) **Diabetes Canada**  
**Re: Textile Diversion Program for Burnaby**  
**Speakers: Simon Langer, National Manager Government and Strategic Partnerships, Diabetes Canada**  
**Dr. Calvin Lakhan, Faculty of Environmental Sciences, York University**

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

With no objection by any member, the Committee added an item of correspondence from Matthew Burrows, as item 4g).

## 4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) **Correspondence from Beth Ross**  
**Re: Zero Waste and Consumer Packaging**

Correspondence was received from Ms. Beth Ross concerning excessive packaging on grocery produce, and the need for the City to enact a levy on plastics and foam to further reduce waste emissions.

Staff advised that the National Zero Waste Council (NZWC), a leadership initiative of Metro Vancouver to advance waste prevention in Canada, has partnered with Recycle Quebec to conduct a survey to determine what kind of packaging is being used and what approaches can be taken to reduce or eliminate packaging. It is anticipated that the survey and its analysis would be completed by the end of 2020 January, with a report and proposed regional strategy provided through Metro Vancouver.

Arising from discussion, the Committee introduced the following motion:

MOVED BY MR. GIBBS  
SECONDED BY MS. MAH

THAT staff send a letter to Ms. Ross informing her on action and the approach being taken by the City on this matter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Arising from further discussion, the Committee concluded that, as the matter is complex and involves many cities, the City would not pursue this issue independently but in cooperation with other municipalities in the region.

**b) Correspondence from Bruce Gibbons**  
**Re: Request for Action to Prohibit Bottling of Groundwater in Burnaby**

Correspondence was received from Mr. Bruce Gibbons requesting the City to amend its bylaws to prohibit the bottling of groundwater.

The Committee inquired regarding bylaws that regulate ground water extraction such as wells on private property.

Staff advised that ground water extraction is provincially regulated, and further noted that the City no longer has any wells.

**c) Correspondence from Residents for Responsible Renewables**  
**Re: 2019 UBCM Session on Hydrogen**

Correspondence was received from Mr. Jim Henshaw, Residents for Responsible Renewables, referring to the 2019 UBCM session entitled *Hydrogen 101* warning against unsupported claims about the efficacy of hydrogen for roadway transportation purposes to reduce GHG emissions. The writer advised that hydrogen vehicles, fuel, and infrastructure, continue to show no prospects of being commercially or environmentally viable.

Ms. Wong advised of *The BC Hydrogen Study*, recently completed by Zen and the Art of Clean Energy Solutions, which provides options for hydrogen use.

Arising from discussion, the Committee requested a copy of the study.

Staff undertook to circulate a copy.

**d) Memorandum from the Administrative Officer 2**

**Re: Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada -  
Update on 'Calls to Action' for Local Government**

A memorandum was received from the Administrative Officer advising that Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2019 October 07, adopted the above noted report requesting an annual expenditure of up to \$10,000 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions budget, and authorize staff to pursue the approach and process regarding acknowledging Indigenous territory in written documents.

The Committee advised of some of the corporate reconciliation efforts, including facilitating a workshop lead by Dr. Patrick Kelly on Truth and Reconciliation, and Indigenous issues which was held for Council and senior staff on 2019 November 04.

**e) Memorandum from the Administrative Officer 2**  
**Re: City-Owned Child Care Centres License and Operating**  
**Agreements Renewals**

A memorandum was received from the Administrative Officer advising that Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2019 October 07, adopted the above noted report requesting the renewal of the license and operating agreements with the Burnaby Children's Centres Society for the Hanna Court and Taylor Park Children's Centres, and the renewal of the license and operating agreements with the Lower Mainland Purpose Society for Madison, Yukon Crescent and Cameron Children's Centres.

**f) Memorandum from the Administrative Officer**  
**Re: Proposed Zoning Bylaw Text Amendments - 2019 September**

A memorandum was received from the Administrative Officer advising that Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2019 October 07, adopted the above noted report seeking authorization to renew the license and operating agreements for City-owned child care centres.

The Committee inquired regarding the number of additional childcare centres expected arising from these changes, as well which areas lack the most childcare facilities.

Staff advised that it is difficult to find sites that meet Fraser Health Authority requirements in the Commercial District. As such, these changes may not result many more places; however, they will make it easier for applicants who find appropriate sites, as they will no longer need to worry about rezoning.

Staff stated that the City needs more centres in all quadrants. The need for spaces varies depending on the age group and is particularly challenging for infant care.

Further, staff advised that the City is in the process of a childcare needs



assessment review which will consider geographies and determine where the greatest inventory of space is.

School Trustee Cech advised that, at last School District Board meeting, the Board approved a report that will create 773 childcare spaces on school properties.

Staff further advised that they have been working with the District and, although most of the new spaces are for school-age children, have identified four sites that will include spaces for children under five.

**g) Correspondence from Matthew Burrows  
Re: Suggestions for Garbage Reduction**

Correspondence was received from Mr. Matthew Burrows urging the City to take action regarding the amount of recycled material in residential garbage bins, reducing pick-up to one black bin fortnightly, and banning plastic.

The Committee inquired regarding fines for recyclables going into garbage bins, contamination frequency, and the follow up process.

Staff advised that fines are imposed for contamination infractions. The enforcement process includes the following escalating action as necessary: follow up with residents for compliance, as part of the education process; "tagging" and collecting data; and finally, issuing fines. The data is available to the public.

With respect to the second issue raised by Mr. Burrows, staff noted that the City separates waste at the site and receives better pricing. With a commingling stream, such as what Surrey has, the recyclable rate received is lower due to higher contamination levels; as well, penalties for contamination are high and are about \$5,000 per truck. The data may show that reducing waste pick-up to once every two weeks results in a reduction in tonnage; however, contamination rates are extremely high.

Staff stated that the City provides its residents with an incentive to reduce waste by structuring black bin fees according to size used by residents, with the smallest bin being charged the lowest fee.

Arising from discussion, the following motion was introduced:

MOVED BY MS. VANDERKOP  
SECONDED BY MR. ZAWADZKI

THAT staff respond to Mr. Burrows and provide an update on this matter.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 5. **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Councillor Jordan – Changes to 2020 Council Committee Structure**

Councillor Jordan advised that, at the Open Council meeting held on 2019 October 28, Council adopted a motion to dissolve the Environment and Social Planning Committee effective 2019 December 31, and create the Environment Committee (EC) and Social Planning Committee (SPC) as of 2020 January 01.

Councillor Jordan outlined the new Committees' appointments, and noted that the EC will be chaired by Councillor Keithley and the SPC by Councillor Jordan.

### **Councillor Jordan – Repair Café Delegation from October Meeting**

Councillor Jordan referred to a presentation on 2019 October 10 regarding a proposal for a Repair Café Program in Burnaby, and recommended that, after consulting with staff, the delegation be invited to host a Repair Café event during 2020 Environment Week as a pilot project.

Arising from discussion and without objection by any member, the Committee requested that staff contact the delegation and arrange for a Repair Café event during 2020 Environment Week.

Staff undertook to follow up.

### **Trustee Cech – Fortis BC 2019 Efficiency in Action Awards**

Trustee Cech advised that Burnaby School District No. 41 has received an *Efficiency in Action* award from Fortis BC. The awards highlight the positive work underway to lower emissions through energy efficiency. The District received the Large Commercial Customer award for a decade of continual focus on energy efficiency, which includes identifying, planning, and managing energy conservation projects on a day-to-day basis building and upgrading its schools to high-efficiency standards, and promoting energy efficiency with its staff and students.

### **Joel Gibbs – Three Resolutions for Consideration**

Mr. Gibbs brought forward the following three resolutions (Motions A, B and C) for consideration:

### **MOTION A: Feasibility of Removing Gas Stations and At-Grade Parking Lots**

**WHEREAS** the City of Burnaby has declared a Climate Emergency and has set goals to significantly reduce GHG emissions; and

**WHEREAS** GHG emissions from transportation accounts for close to one-third of community-wide GHG emissions; and

**WHEREAS** increasing the amount of infrastructure dedicated to vehicles powered by fossil fuels further incentivizes more GHG emissions;

**WHEREAS** incentivizing further GHG emissions in our transportation system works against the City's stated goal of reducing GHG emissions; and

**WHEREAS** Burnaby's Social Sustainability Strategy includes focusing on walking and bicycle-friendly development (action #23), healthy built environments (action #24) and sustainable transportation planning to encourage walking, cycling, and transit use (action #100);

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** staff report back on the feasibility of removing gas stations and at-grade parking lots as new permitted uses, while grandfathering existing locations, and prepare an implementation plan to do so.

**MOTION B: Life-Cycle Assessment of GHG Emissions and Fees**

**WHEREAS** the City of Burnaby has declared a Climate Emergency and has set goals to significantly reduce GHG emissions; and

**WHEREAS** the City has moved to require Energy Step code compliance for new buildings in order to reduce operating GHG emissions for new buildings; and

**WHEREAS** embodied emissions constitute a significant part of life-cycle emissions of buildings;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- A. Staff report back on a recommended timeline and implementation plan to require a life-cycle assessment of GHG emissions, including embodied, operating and induced emissions, for all new buildings during the planning process.
- B. Staff report back on the feasibility and advisability of linking building and development charges or fees to life-cycle GHG emissions from the project.

**MOTION C: Community Land Trust and Prohibiting Future Sale of City Land**

**WHEREAS** affordable housing is an integral element of Burnaby's Social Sustainability Strategy; and

**WHEREAS** affordable housing can most easily be provided with land held in public ownership; and

**WHEREAS** community land trusts have shown to be an effective means to guarantee long-term affordable housing for communities; and

**WHEREAS** at the open council meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 there was significant stated opposition to selling city land in the future;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- A. Staff report back on the advisability of the city creating a community land trust, or partnering with an existing land trust, to which the city would commit land.
- B. Staff report back with an implementation plan to prohibit the future sale of city-owned land.

The Chair advised that Motions A and C are not in order as they fall under the purview of the Planning and Development Committee.

The Chair further advised that the City has no legal authority to undertake part B of Motion B and, as such, would not consider it. Part A, however, may be referred to staff to be included with their work on "climate action".

With unanimous consent to waive notice, Mr. Gibbs brought forward part A of Motion B Life-Cycle Assessment of GHG Emissions for consideration:

**WHEREAS** the City of Burnaby has declared a Climate Emergency and has set goals to significantly reduce GHG emissions; and

**WHEREAS** the City has moved to require Energy Step code compliance for new buildings in order to reduce operating GHG emissions for new buildings; and

**WHEREAS** embodied emissions constitute a significant part of life-cycle emissions of buildings;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- A. Staff report back on a recommended timeline and implementation plan to require a life-cycle assessment (LCA) of GHG emissions, including embodied, operating and induced emissions, for all new buildings during the planning process.

Arising from discussion, the Committee introduced the following motion:

MOVED BY MR. GIBBS  
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR KEITHLEY

THAT the part A of the Resolution be **REFERRED** to staff to be included in the *Climate Action Framework* report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Staff advised that they are preparing two comprehensive *Climate Action Framework* (CAF) reports, targeting the following deadlines:

- 2020 Q1 CAF community related; and,
- 2020 Q2 CAF corporate related

Further, staff emphasized that these reports represent a significant body of work, and considers and aligns with work being done regarding the *Transportation Plan*, *OCP*, and housing initiatives.

#### **Councillor Jordan – Appreciation of Service for Frank Huang**

Councillor Jordan recognized that tonight was Mr. Huang's last Committee meeting, and extended appreciation to him for his service as a citizen representative on the Environment and Social Planning Committee.

## **6. INQUIRIES**

#### **Deborah Harford – Interaction Between the Two New Committees**

Ms. Harford noted that there are many connections between social planning and the environment, and inquired regarding how the new Environment Committee and the Social Planning Committee will communicate on common issues.

The Committee advised that the same three Councillors are members of the two new Committees.

Staff provided an overview of the communication strategies and standard practices used between Committees.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY MR. HUANG  
SECONDED BY MR. LUBENDO

THAT this Open Committee meeting do now adjourn.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Open meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

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Monica Macdonald  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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Councillor Colleen Jordan  
CHAIR

account for the majority of the subsidies, according to the report. In 2018-19, the total amount of allowable royalty reductions hit \$631 million, it found. That was up from \$447 million in the prior fiscal year. In all, B.C. has at least \$2.6 to \$3.2 billion in outstanding royalty credits from fossil fuel producers, according to the report.

In 2017-18, at least \$268 million in fossil fuel subsidies came through provincial tax exemptions, according to the study. A large proportion of those subsidies were directed at consumers, but others benefited producers. B.C. also provided direct spending supports for compressed natural gas, LNG and even coal mining, according to the authors.

resources away from effective climate change strategies, not to mention other important priorities such as health care and education. This means that other sectors of the economy must compensate for the vast amounts of government revenue spent on subsidies — which is neither fair nor efficient,” it stated.

The authors made several recommendations, including publicly releasing all data related to government spending on fossil fuel subsidies each year. They also recommended the government create an action plan to end the subsidies, coordinate its subsidy reform efforts with the federal government, and avoid creating new ones.

*mrobinson@postmedia.com*

## Vancouver bubble-tea vendors get one-year exemption from straw ban

SCOTT BROWN

Vancouver city council will vote Wednesday on a bylaw that will ban most plastic straws by April 2020.

The bylaw calls for a ban on plastic straws, including compostable plastic straws, and requires that all accessible straws, the bendable ones wrapped in paper, be handed out only if a customer asks for one.

If approved, the bylaw will come into effect April 22, which is Earth Day.

In its report to council city staff recommends a one-year ban exemption for plastic straws served with bubble tea in order to allow businesses to find alternatives.

“Many residents consider drinking bubble tea to be part of their cultural identity. Businesses that

sell bubble-tea drinks were among the most dependent on plastic straws and are highly concerned about impacts to their business if they cannot find ways to serve bubble tea that do not require plastic straws,” the report said.

Staff is also recommending a city-wide ban on plastic shopping bags beginning Jan. 1, 2021.

Paper bags would be required to contain at least 40 per cent recycled content and would come with a 15 cent fee.

The fee will jump to 25 cents after one year.

Disposable cups are being hit with a fee of at least 25 cents, and vendors will only be able to give out single-use utensils, made of any material, by request only.

*sbrown@postmedia.com*

*Twitter.com/browniescott*

Referred to:

Environment Committee (2020 Date To Be Determined)

Copied to:

City Manager, Dir. Corporate Services, Dir. Engineering

Dear Mayor and Council of Burnaby

I read in yesterday's Vancouver Sun the above article on banning plastic straws and other plastic articles in order to protect the environment from these destructive items. Is Burnaby planning on joining with Vancouver to ban plastic? I would appreciate it if you would bring this up to Council at your next meeting. Thank you for your consideration.

Judith Matthews  
Burnaby,



Office of the Chair  
Tel. 604 432-6215 Fax 604 451-6614

File: CR-12-01  
Ref: RD 2019 Nov 1

NOV 28 2019

Mayor Mike Hurley and Council  
City of Burnaby  
4949 Canada Way  
Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2

Dear Mayor Hurley and Council:

**Re: Amending Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future to Align with the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C – Bylaw No. 1295, 2019**

At its November 1, 2019 regular meeting, the Board of Directors of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (Metro Vancouver) adopted the following resolution:

*That the MVRD Board:*

- a) initiate a Type 3 minor amendment to Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future to reflect a commitment to a carbon neutral region by 2050, and an interim target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030;*
- b) give first, second, and third readings to "Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1295, 2019"; and*
- c) direct staff to notify affected local governments and agencies as per Section 6.4.2 of Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future.*

In accordance with Section 437 of the *Local Government Act*, and Section 6.4.2 of *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future (Metro 2040)*, the regional growth strategy, this letter provides an opportunity for affected local governments to provide written comment on the proposed Type 3 minor amendment to *Metro 2040*. The proposed amendment requires the adoption of an amendment bylaw with an affirmative 50%+1 weighted vote of the MVRD Board.

You are invited to provide comments on the proposed amendment to *Metro 2040*. Please provide comments in the form of a Council or Board resolution, as applicable, and submit to Chris Plagnol, Corporate Officer/Director of Board and Information Services, by email at [Chris.Plagnol@metrovancover.org](mailto:Chris.Plagnol@metrovancover.org) by January 17, 2020.

Copied to:  
City Manager  
Dir. Corporate Services  
Dir. Engineering  
Dir. Planning and Building

Referred to:  
Environment Committee  
(2020 - Date To Be Determined)

33385170



Yours sincerely,



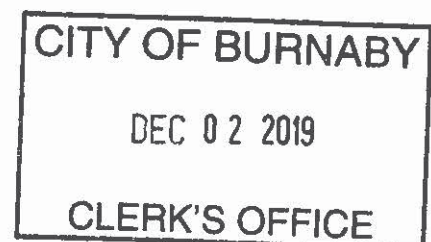
Sav Dhaliwal  
Chair, Metro Vancouver Board

SD/NC/st

cc: Lee-Ann Garnett, Assistant Director, Long Range Planning, Planning, City of Burnaby

Encl: Report dated October 31, 2019, titled "Amending *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* to Align with the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C – Bylaw 1295, 2019" (Doc# 33424692)

33385170



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To: Regional Planning Committee

From: Sean Tynan, Acting Senior Planner, Regional Planning

Date: October 31, 2019 Meeting Date: October 11, 2019

Subject: **Amending *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* to Align with the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C – Bylaw 1295, 2019**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

That the MVRD Board:

- a) initiate a Type 3 minor amendment to *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* to reflect a commitment to a carbon neutral region by 2050, and an interim target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030;
  - b) give first, second, and third readings to "Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1295, 2019"; and
  - c) direct staff to notify affected local governments and agencies as per Section 6.4.2 of *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future*.
- 

**PURPOSE**

This report recommends a Type 3 minor amendment to *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* (*Metro 2040*), the regional growth strategy, for consideration by the Regional Planning Committee and MVRD Board.

**BACKGROUND**

Per Subsection 429 (d) of the *Local Government Act*, *Metro 2040* includes the region's greenhouse gas emissions reduction target. The current reduction target in *Metro 2040* is 33% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 as compared to 2007 levels.

*Climate 2050* is Metro Vancouver's overarching long-term strategy guiding the region's policies and collective actions to transition to a carbon neutral and climate resilient region over the next 30 years. As part of *Climate 2050*, at its meeting on July 26, 2019, the MVRD Board adopted the following resolution:

*That the MVRD Board:*

- a) *endorse the proposed amendments to the Climate 2050 Strategic Framework to reflect a commitment to a carbon neutral region by 2050, and an interim target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030;*
- b) *direct staff to bring forward a proposed amendment to Metro 2040, the regional growth strategy, to the Metro Vancouver Board for consideration, to incorporate revised greenhouse gas reduction targets (including interim targets).*

The proposed change would replace the existing greenhouse gas emission reduction target in *Metro 2040* in accordance with the table below.

Current Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Target in <i>Metro 2040</i>	Proposed Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Target (Reflected in Climate 2050 Strategic Framework and aligned with the IPCC Special Report)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33% below 2007 levels by 2020</li> <li>• 80% below 2007 levels by 2050</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 45% reduction from 2010 levels by 2030</li> <li>• Carbon neutral by 2050</li> </ul>

The proposed amendment would not require a need for immediate updates to regional context statements. However, municipalities that are currently developing or updating their respective Official Community Plans, Community Energy and Emissions Plans or other strategic planning documents should consider aligning their greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets and actions with the regional targets. The next time regional context statements are developed or updated, each member jurisdiction will need to identify how the respective Official Community Plans are consistent with, or are working towards, the greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets in *Metro 2040*.

Section 6.3.4 of *Metro 2040* allows for some amendments to the regional growth strategy to be undertaken through a Type 3 Minor Amendment. A Type 3 amendment requires the adoption of an amendment bylaw passed by an affirmative 50%+1 weighted vote of the MVRD Board, and does not require a public hearing. Once initiated, affected local governments would receive written notice and be provided a minimum of 30 days to respond. Type 3 minor amendments have been used in the past as a means to amend *Metro 2040*. The proposed amendment bylaw is attached.

The proposed amendment was presented on September 20, 2019, to the Regional Planning Advisory Committee for comment. No comments were received.

#### ALTERNATIVES

1. That the MVRD Board:
  - a) initiate a Type 3 minor amendment to *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* to reflect a commitment to a carbon neutral region by 2050, and an interim target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030;
  - b) give first, second, and third readings to “Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1295, 2019”; and
  - c) direct staff to notify affected local governments and agencies as per Section 6.4.2 of *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future*.
2. That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated September 16, 2019, titled “Amending *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* to Align with the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C – Bylaw 1295, 2019” and direct staff to explore updating the regional growth strategy greenhouse gas emission reduction targets as part of the comprehensive update to *Metro 2040*.



**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT  
BYLAW NO. 1295, 2019  
A Bylaw to Amend "Greater Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy  
Bylaw Number 1136, 2010"**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. Metro Vancouver Regional District's board of directors (the "Board") adopted the "Greater Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw Number 1136, 2010" on July 29, 2011 (the "Regional Growth Strategy");
- B. The Board wishes to revise the greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets included in the Regional Growth Strategy;
- C. In accordance with Regional Growth Strategy Section 6.3.4(j), all amendments to the Regional Growth Strategy that are not identified in Sections 6.3.1 or 6.3.3 are considered Type 3 minor amendments; and
- D. Metro Vancouver Regional District wishes to amend "Greater Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw Number 1136, 2010".

**NOW THEREFORE** the Board of Metro Vancouver Regional District enacts as follows:

1. "Greater Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw Number 1136, 2010" is hereby amended as follows:

Regional Growth Strategy Section 3.3.1 is deleted and the following is substituted in its place:

3.3.1 Implement the strategies and actions of the Regional Growth Strategy that contribute to regional targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent below 2010 levels by 2030 and to achieve a carbon neutral region by 2050. Figure 3 identifies examples of strategies and actions contained in the Regional Growth Strategy to address climate change.

2. The official citation of this bylaw is "Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1295, 2019". This bylaw may be cited as "Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1295, 2019".

Read a first time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Read a second time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Read a third time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.



Office of the City Clerk

K. O'Connell, City Clerk  
B. Zeinabova, Deputy City Clerk

## INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE DATE: 2019 DECEMBER 17


FROM: DEPUTY CITY CLERK FILE: 02410-20

**SUBJECT: BC BENCHMARKING PILOT PROGRAM TO REDUCE ENERGY USE AND EMISSIONS FROM BUILDINGS**  
(ITEM NO. 4(2), COUNCIL MEETING 2019 DECEMBER 16)

Burnaby City Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2019 December 16, received the above noted report and adopted the following recommendations contained therein:

1. THAT Council endorse the City of Burnaby's participation in the BC Benchmarking Pilot Program.
2. THAT this report be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information.

As per recommendation #2, please find attached a copy of the report.

  
Blanka Zeinabova  
Deputy City Clerk

BZ:rj

Copied to: Director Planning and Building



Item .....  
Meeting..... 2019 December 16

COUNCIL REPORT

**TO:** CITY MANAGER **DATE:** 2019 December 11  
**FROM:** DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING **FILE:** 41500 20  
**SUBJECT:** BC BENCHMARKING PILOT PROGRAM TO REDUCE ENERGY USE AND EMISSIONS FROM BUILDINGS  
**PURPOSE:** To inform Council about the British Columbia Benchmarking Pilot Program (BCBPP) and to request Council endorse the City of Burnaby's participation in this program.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **THAT** Council endorse the City of Burnaby's participation in the BC Benchmarking Pilot Program.
2. **THAT** this report be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information.

**REPORT**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The City of Burnaby has an opportunity to participate in the BC Benchmarking Pilot Program (BCBPP), an energy benchmarking and disclosure program. Energy benchmarking is the process of regular tracking, reporting and disclosure of the energy use of a building, so that it can be compared to that building's historical energy use, and also to the energy use of other similar buildings. This information can help building managers identify opportunities to improve the efficiency of a building's operation and make informed decisions for retrofit projects. From a community planning perspective, energy benchmarking can provide data that informs the development of new policies and regulations. Emissions from buildings account for nearly half of Burnaby's greenhouse gas emissions. Programs such as this pilot that track and report on energy use are important in understanding ways in which buildings can use energy more efficiently.

This report provides background information about the BCBPP, discusses the potential benefits to Burnaby, and makes a recommendation that Council endorse Burnaby's participation in the pilot program.

**2.0 CITY POLICY SECTION**

Energy benchmarking and participation in this pilot program aligns with the City of Burnaby's Corporate Strategic Plan by supporting the following goals and sub-goals of the Plan:

To: City Manager  
 From: Director Planning and Building  
 Re: BC Benchmarking Pilot Program to Reduce Energy  
 Use and Emissions From Buildings  
 2019 December 11 ..... Page 2

#### **Connected Community**

- Partnership – Work collaboratively with businesses, educational institutions, associations, other communities and governments

#### **A Healthy Community**

- Enhance our environmental health, resilience and sustainability

#### **A Dynamic Community**

- Economic Opportunity – Foster an environment that attracts new and supports existing jobs, businesses and industries
- Community Development – Manage change by balancing economic development with environmental protection and maintaining a sense of belonging
- City Facilities and Infrastructure – Build and maintain infrastructure that meets the needs of our growing community

#### **A Thriving Organization**

- Financial Viability – Maintain a financially sustainable City for the provision, renewal and enhancement of City services, facilities and assets

Energy benchmarking is also supported by Burnaby's Environmental Sustainability Strategy (ESS) and Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP), under the 'Build' goal.

The CEEP Build strategy and suggested action (C3.3) focuses on improving building energy efficiency as follows:

*Strategy C3.3: Develop policies and programs to measure and communicate how much energy a building uses, for example using energy audits and EnerGuide labels and/or building benchmarking.*

*Suggested action c) Consider developing policy to encourage energy benchmarking (measuring and comparing energy performance) for new and existing commercial and institutional buildings.*

Energy benchmarking and this pilot program is an action that supports the Climate Emergency Declaration made by Council on September 9, 2019. This pilot program and its activities would support the upcoming Climate Action Framework report that will outline actions the City can take to demonstrate its commitment to meeting newly adopted community carbon pollution reduction targets.

### **3.0 BC BENCHMARKING PILOT PROGRAM BACKGROUND**

#### **3.1 Overview of the Pilot Program**

The BCBPP is a project developed by various parties who share an interest in supporting green buildings and climate action to reduce GHG emissions. The various parties, their roles and interests in the BCBPP are summarized below:

To: City Manager  
From: Director Planning and Building  
Re: BC Benchmarking Pilot Program to Reduce Energy Use and Emissions From Buildings  
2019 December 11 ..... Page 3

Organization	Role	Interest
<u>OPEN Green Building Society</u>	Non-profit society, responsible for project coordination; manage funding and reporting	Support green buildings and transparency
OPEN Technologies	Affiliated with OPEN Green Building Society, provide software tools and program services	
Natural Resources Canada	Federal government entity, provide project funding for BCBPP	Federal government climate action
Province of BC	Participant	Aligns with Clean BC – a provincial plan to transition to a low carbon future
BC Hydro	Funding contribution; data and program liaison	Aligns with goals of Sustainable Communities program – a plan to help local governments improve energy efficiency and reduce GHG emissions
Metro Vancouver*	Participating government; possible future project coordination post-pilot	Regional climate action; exploring future GHG regulation for buildings
Core participating local governments in Metro Vancouver*	Recruit participants; in-kind support to program	Climate action; build support for coordinated benchmarking program

\*Core participants include Metro Vancouver; the cities of Vancouver, Richmond, Surrey, New Westminster, and Burnaby (pending Council endorsement of this report). Other municipalities may be recruited to join the program.

The pilot program is funded by NRCAN and BC Hydro; funding from municipal partners has not been requested.

The objective of the BC Benchmarking Pilot Project (BCBPP) is to test and demonstrate the feasibility and benefits of energy benchmarking by various stakeholders, in a coordinated manner that provides consistency among local governments, while building the case for a provincial scale program.

The BCBPP was initiated in the fall of 2019 and will finish in the spring of 2021. Outreach and communication to recruit volunteer participants in the program and to collect information about civic buildings that are participating in the program will begin in January 2020.



To: City Manager  
From: Director Planning and Building  
Re: BC Benchmarking Pilot Program to Reduce Energy  
Use and Emissions From Buildings  
2019 December 11 ..... Page 4

The specific goals of the BCBPP are to:

1. support energy benchmarking and disclosure of energy use in British Columbia as a driver for reducing building energy use and emissions, as well as provide a pathway and compliance tool for future regulations that could be streamlined province-wide; and,
2. promote an understanding and appreciation of benchmarking and disclosure by stakeholders, increase its acceptance by building owners and build overall industry capacity.

A main outcome of the pilot program will be a report documenting lessons learned for designing and operating an energy benchmarking program, with specific consideration given to building recruitment and participation, data validation, and strategies for overcoming barriers to participation and disclosure of building operation and energy use data.

### **3.2 How Does the BCBPP Work?**

The core activity of the pilot program is the recruitment of building owners and managers to voluntarily participate in the program. Each participating municipality is responsible for recruitment within their jurisdiction and the target is to recruit twenty (20) privately owned buildings. The program will target large high-rise multi-family, commercial, industrial or institutional buildings. Each municipality is required to also include thirty (30) civic buildings in the pilot program. The program can be described in six steps, as shown below.

**Step 1a.** Municipal staff identify privately owned buildings for recruitment into the pilot program. Recruitment takes the form of a letter or email to the building manager, with information about the program and encouragement to the building manager / owner to visit the pilot project website.

**Step 1.** Building manager / owner visits website to learn more about the pilot program.

**Step 2.** Building manager / owner registers to indicate interest in joining the pilot program.

**Step 3.** OPEN reaches out to the registered party to help them set up an account with Energy Star Portfolio Manager<sup>1</sup> (ESPM), link the account to the building's utility provider(s) and provide specifications about building operation, size and design, among other parameters. In turn, ESPM will give the owner / manager valuable information about their building and its energy usage and GHG emissions.

**Step 4.** OPEN requests that the registered party share their building's data via ESPM to a secure database developed by OPEN so that the pilot program can understand energy usage throughout the region.

**Step 5.** Once the data is shared, OPEN sends the registered party a scorecard benchmarking their building against the region's other buildings that have also joined the program.

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<sup>1</sup> Energy Star Portfolio Manager (ESPM) is a commonly used online tool used by building managers to measure and track energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. The tool is free to use.

To: City Manager  
From: Director Planning and Building  
Re: BC Benchmarking Pilot Program to Reduce Energy  
Use and Emissions From Buildings  
2019 December 11 ..... Page 5

**(Optional) Step 6.** The registered party consents to be included on a public disclosure map.

The inclusion of civic buildings by a participating municipality would involve Steps 3 to 6.

### 3.3 What is the City of Burnaby's Role in the BCBPP?

As a participating local government, the City of Burnaby will provide in-kind staff resources, primarily to recruit owners and managers of Burnaby buildings to voluntarily join the program. Staff will identify and reach out to key developers and owners of large commercial, office and/or industrial properties to seek their participation, following the steps described above. City staff may also reach out to the Burnaby Board of Trade to recruit participants from their membership.

Approximately thirty (30) civic buildings and up to twenty (20) privately owned buildings in Burnaby are proposed to be targeted for enrollment. City Facilities Management has confirmed that including this number of civic buildings in the program is feasible.

Staff will also be required to coordinate amongst the various participating project partners to develop consistent messaging and outreach materials for building recruitment. The total required in-kind staff time anticipated will be manageable within existing work programs for green buildings and building operations.

### 3.4 What are the Benefits of Participating in the Pilot Program to Burnaby?

The BCBPP offers significant funding, intellectual capital and technical support to the City of Burnaby in exchange for a reasonable and modest investment of staff time to support our participation in the program. In turn, the program will help to raise the profile and support for energy benchmarking in our community, building capacity for benchmarking amongst staff and in the community. The pilot program also directly aligns with the goals, objectives and strategies of the City's ESS and CEEP to improve building energy performance and reduce GHG emissions.

A longer term goal of the BCBPP is to normalize programs for energy benchmarking and disclosure, which may lead to province wide development and adoption of such a program. In this regard, a reasonable and modest level of staff resources invested in the BCBPP may help catalyze a broader program that aligns with Council's direction as expressed in the ESS/CEEP and updated community GHG targets and 'climate emergency'.

### 3.5 How does this Pilot Program Differ from the City's Green Building Policy?

The City of Burnaby has a requirement for energy benchmarking for new Part 3 buildings within its recently adopted green building policy<sup>2</sup>, which is aligned with the City's ESS and CEEP. Burnaby's recent climate emergency declaration and updated community emission reduction targets further strengthen the imperative to reduce GHG emissions in new and existing buildings.

<sup>2</sup> [www.burnaby.ca/greenbuildings](http://www.burnaby.ca/greenbuildings)

To: City Manager  
 From: Director Planning and Building  
 Re: BC Benchmarking Pilot Program to Reduce Energy  
 Use and Emissions From Buildings  
 2019 December 11 ..... Page 6

The BCBPP provides a coordinated and scalable effort to reduce emissions in existing buildings, which is a difficult market segment for the City to address on its own.

The City's policy requires a developer to register an account with ESPM and to make this data viewable by City staff (not the public), as a condition of a building permit for a new building (Part 3 building). This data can then be analyzed by the City as new buildings are constructed, but there is no provision to provide regular benchmarking data back to the building owner / manager. However, the BCBPP is different from the City's Green Building policy because the pilot program aims for a higher level of public disclosure in the form of the scorecard and optional public map display on the program's website.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The BC Benchmarking Pilot Program (BCBPP) presents a significant opportunity for the City of Burnaby to promote energy benchmarking and disclosure to improve the operating performance of existing buildings and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Burnaby. The pilot program will also help to grow the City's and the community's knowledge and capacity in this area. Energy benchmarking aligns with goals, strategies and actions in the City's Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Community Energy and Emissions Plan and is also consistent with Council's direction recently expressed by the declaration of a 'climate emergency' and adoption of new GHG reduction targets.

Participation in the program will require modest amounts of time from staff, primarily to undertake outreach to recruit building owners and managers to participate in the program and to report building specifications and energy use to the OPEN team for select civic buildings. The staff time required can be accommodated as part of existing work programs focused on green buildings and building operations management.

It is recommended that Council endorse Burnaby's participation in the BC Benchmarking Pilot Program. With Council's endorsement, staff will notify the program partners, and coordinate the City's involvement in the program.



E. W. Kozak, Director  
 PLANNING AND BUILDING

MS:sa

cc: Director Engineering  
 Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services  
 Director Corporate Services  
 Director Finance  
 Chief Librarian  
 Assistant Director Engineering Facilities Management  
 City Clerk

## Section 2 Council Correspondence 2020.01.20

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**From:** EA Revitalization EAO:EX <EA.Revitalization@gov.bc.ca>

**Sent:** December-16-19 12:29 PM

**To:** EA Revitalization EAO:EX <EA.Revitalization@gov.bc.ca>

**Subject:** EA Revitalization Update: Environmental Assessment Act in force Dec 16th

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. If you feel this email is malicious or a scam, please forward it to [phishing@burnaby.ca](mailto:phishing@burnaby.ca)

Good Afternoon:

The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) is pleased to announce that British Columbia's new *Environmental Assessment Act*, 2018 (the Act), is now in force. The Act can be found [here](#). You are receiving this message because we believe your organization is the holder of an Environmental Assessment Certificate or Exemption Order.

The Act and supporting regulations address the three major objectives of EA revitalization: advancing reconciliation with Indigenous nations, enhancing public confidence in the EA process, and continuing to protect the environment while offering pathways to sustainable project approvals.

Several features of the Act will increase regulatory certainty for certificate holders – for example, Environmental Assessment Certificates can now be amended by the EAO at the recommendation of a permitting agency, creating efficiency in the regulatory continuum. The EAO will continue to coordinate compliance and enforcement activity with our regulatory partners using modernized compliance and enforcement tools that will enhance our established compliance and enforcement program.

We are committed to process consistency and regulatory certainty and recognize that you will want to know more about how the Act will affect certificate holders. The following resources are currently available:

- An overview of the new EA process is set out in our Intentions Paper, with Post-Certificate change described on page 23:  
[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/environmental-assessments/environmental-assessment-revitalization/documents/ea\\_revitalization\\_intentions\\_paper.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/environmental-assessments/environmental-assessment-revitalization/documents/ea_revitalization_intentions_paper.pdf)
- Frequently Asked Questions on EA revitalization are available here:  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/environmental-assessments/environmental-assessment-revitalization/frequently-asked-questions-about-environmental-assessment-revitalization>)

Referred to:

Environment Committee (2020.01.30)

Copied to:

City Manager, Dir. Corporate Services, Dir. Engineering, Dir. Parks, Rec. & Cultural Services

- Frequently Asked Questions on the transition process to the new Act are available here: (<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/environmental-assessments/environmental-assessment-revitalization/transition-provisions>)

We have been working on a significant collection of guidance documents that will help guide the new process that will be released as they become available – with a focus on those that are required in early stages of the EA process and for the administration of existing certificates. This guidance has had substantial input from a wide audience of proponents, environmental assessment practitioners, Indigenous nations, and stakeholders. There is also a dedicated team of staff in this office that will be supporting the first projects that require, for example, an amendment, extension, or certificate transfer. We anticipate that there will be substantial “learning by doing” in the first months and will be updating our guidance to reflect these lessons learned “on the ground” – as such we will be welcoming feedback on an ongoing basis.

We will also be announcing ongoing learning and development opportunities early in the new year. Watch our website in the coming weeks as learning opportunities are announced, and as guidance documents are released and refined.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/environmental-assessments>

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the new Environmental Assessment process, please email [ea.revitalization@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ea.revitalization@gov.bc.ca) (and your sector lead or [eao.compliance@gov.bc.ca](mailto:eao.compliance@gov.bc.ca), as applicable) - we look forward to continuing our work with you.

## Section 2 Council Correspondence 2019.12.12

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**From:** EP.RPY / SAR.PYR (EC) <[ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 27, 2019 9:29 AM

**To:** EP.RPY / SAR.PYR (EC) <[ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca)>

**Subject:** Recovery documents posted as final to the Species at Risk Public Registry

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Hello,

Please note that the following recovery documents have been posted as final on the Species at Risk Public Registry:

- The **Recovery Strategy for the Western Rattlesnake (*Crotalus oreganus*), the Great Basin Gophersnake (*Pituophis catenifer deserticola*) and the Desert Nightsnake (*Hypsiglena chlorophaea*) in Canada**. The Western Rattlesnake (threatened), the Great Basin Gophersnake (threatened), and the Desert Nightsnake (endangered) are found in the southern interior of British Columbia.
  - To view the document go to [Recovery Strategy for the Western Rattlesnake \(\*Crotalus oreganus\*\), the Great Basin Gophersnake \(\*Pituophis catenifer deserticola\*\) and the Desert Nightsnake \(\*Hypsiglena chlorophaea\*\) in Canada \[Final Version\]](#)
- The **Recovery Strategy for the Bent Spike-rush (*Eleocharis geniculata*), Southern Mountain population, in Canada**. The Bent-Spike Rush is an endangered plant found in the southern interior of British Columbia.
  - To view the document go to [Recovery Strategy for the Bent Spike-rush \(\*Eleocharis geniculata\*\), Southern Mountain population, in Canada \[Final Version\]](#)
- The **Recovery Strategy for the Batwing Vinyl Lichen (*Leptogium platynum*) in Canada**. The Batwing Vinyl Lichen is an endangered lichen found on southern Vancouver Island in British Columbia.
  - To view the document go to [The Recovery Strategy for the Batwing Vinyl Lichen \(\*Leptogium platynum\*\) in Canada \[Final Version\]](#)
- The **Action Plan for the Porsild's Bryum (*Mielichhoferia macrocarpa*) in Canada**. The Porsild's Bryum is a threatened moss found from one location in northern British Columbia, in Muncho Lake Provincial Park.
  - To view the document go to [Action Plan for the Porsild's Bryum \(\*Mielichhoferia macrocarpa\*\) in Canada \[Final Version\]](#)

Should you have any comments or questions please contact us at:

**Species at Risk Recovery Unit**

Canadian Wildlife Service – Pacific Region  
 Environment and Climate Change Canada  
 5421 Robertson Road, Delta, BC, V4K 3N2  
 Email: [ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.ep.rpy-sar.pyr.ec@canada.ca)

**Referred to:**

[Environment Committee \(2020 Date To Be Determined\)](#)

**Copied to:**

City Manager                      Dir. Engineering  
 Dir. Corporate Services      Dir. Planning and Building  
 Dir. Public Safety and Community Services

## Section 2 Council Correspondence 2012.12.12



George Clulow [REDACTED] Burnaby BC, [REDACTED]

December 10, 2019

Mayor and Council  
c/o Office of the City Clerk  
4949 Canada Way  
Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2

Plastic Pollution in Eagle Creek

Mayor and Council,

I was very pleased to read the Fall/Winter edition of CityConnect – A Time for Action- Climate Change.

I commend council on their approach to the Climate Emergency and the interim targets set for the reduction of carbon emissions by the City. I look forward to reading the full plan under development by staff.

The environmental crisis, as you know, extends beyond pollution of the atmosphere. As the recent CityConnect article Making Streams a Welcoming Habitat for Fish and Wildlife notes: "Creeks and Streams have significant natural, cultural and recreational value."

With the first significant rainfall each fall, the mouth of Eagle Creek, where it enters Burnaby Lake, deposits literally hundreds of golf balls washed downstream from Burnaby Mountain Golf Course and Driving Range. This is serious pollution of an important salmon bearing stream, and of the mudflats that are vital habitat for many birds that use the lake.

We know that plastic pollution is a global problem for the world's oceans. Burnaby Lake of course drains into the Pacific Ocean via the Brunette and Fraser rivers. In the interim the balls contaminate the lake for years.

The attached picture captures just a tiny piece of the problem and at least 20 balls can be seen in this small sample.

I am requesting council to ask staff to investigate this issue and prepare a plan to eliminate this pollution of the lake.

Yours sincerely,

George Clulow

Copied to:  
City Manager  
Dir. Corporate Services  
Dir. Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services  
Dir. Engineering

Referred to:  
Environment Committee  
(2020 Date to be Determined)



Golf balls and birds at the mouth of Eagle Creek, Burnaby Lake







Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services  
Administration Office

## INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE DATE: 21 JAN 2020

FROM: DAVID O'CONNOR  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GOLF

SUBJECT ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS – BURNABY LAKE

We are thankful that Mr. Clulow has brought the issue of golf balls being washed downstream into Burnaby Lake to our attention. The management of the City of Burnaby's golf course lands is aligned with the City's progressive Corporate Strategic Plan with respect to offering a healthy lifestyle and environment for its citizens. Sustainability is a key part of the City's mandate which includes the management and operations of its golf courses. Staff have adopted a strong ethical agronomic-based program for its cultural practices to ensure that environment responsibilities remain a priority. Best Management practices are being utilized to enhance and develop the golf courses' natural ecosystems.

The Burnaby Mountain Golf Course has been in existence for fifty years and is located 2.7 kilometers upstream from Burnaby Lake. The Driving Range is not located near the Eagle Creek waterway system but two Fairways (#8 and #9) play adjacent to it. The boundaries and creek banks remain a forested area populated with dense brush which makes it more difficult for errant balls to reach the stream. Staff have inspected samples of the golf balls in question and they appear to be decades old and are a combination of both old range balls and standard balls. It has been our experience that some individuals have been known to use various open park spaces as their private practice areas for golf which is not a safe nor an acceptable practice.

We will investigate with our colleagues in Parks and Engineering about the possibility of developing a capture system at the mouth of the main culverts system at Broadway to mitigate any concerns of golf balls entering eagle creek from this location. We are intentional in our efforts to develop and promote both the enhancement of healthy greenspaces and the conservation of natural wildlife species. City staff are proud to be pro-active environmental stewards of our beautiful golf courses, parks, and green spaces within the City.

DOC:lmr

## Section 2 Council Correspondence 2019.12.12

---

**From:** Anna Barford <anna@georgiastrait.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 28, 2019 4:58 PM  
**To:** Clerks <Clerks@burnaby.ca>  
**Cc:** Mayor <Mayor@burnaby.ca>; Andrew Gage <Andrew\_Gage@wcel.org>  
**Subject:** Invitations from Vancouver and Victoria to collaborate on Accountability for Climate Change

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To the Mayor and Council of the City of Burnaby,

Attached please find a letter and enclosure for their information and an invitation.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to myself, or Andrew Gage CC'd here, if there are any questions, concerns, or opportunities for engagement.

Sincerely,

~~~~~

Anna Barford

Community Organizer - Climate accountability campaign

Unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) people

[www.GeorgiaStrait.org](http://www.GeorgiaStrait.org) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Newsletter](#) | [Volunteer](#)

~~~~~  
*Georgia Strait Alliance - Caring for our Coastal Waters*  
 ~~~~~

Referred to:

Environment Committee (2020 - Date to be determined)

Copied to:

City Manager

Dir. Corporate Services

Dir. Engineering

Dir. Planning and Building

Main Office:  
208-477 Wallace St., Nanaimo, BC V9R 5B7  
Phone: 250-753-3459 | Fax: 250-753-2567



Suite 90 (Mezzanine) 425 Carrall St.  
Vancouver, BC V6B 6E3  
Phone: 604-633-0530

Date: November 28, 2019  
City of Burnaby  
Via [clerks@burnaby.ca](mailto:clerks@burnaby.ca)  
Attn: Mayor and Council

**Re: Invitations from Vancouver and Victoria to collaborate on Accountability for Climate Change**

Thank you for your leadership in supporting moves towards Accountability for Climate Change. The stories you have told in your letters, to the global fossil fuel companies and the Provincial government, have contributed to the global conversation by bringing in your local perspectives. We know that the Carbon Majors are starting to hear your messages because the way that Saudi Aramco, Shell, and other global companies are talking about climate change and their business models is shifting. While these corporations are not yet walking the walk, they are taking the first steps to notify their shareholders of liability risks associated with their products and to distance themselves from coalitions that promote climate denial. They need to move further to align their business decisions with the Paris Accord.

It's important to keep the pressure on.

On June 27th 2019, Vancouver City Council passed a motion instructing Mayor Kennedy Stewart to reach out to local governments across Canada to investigate possible joint legal strategies to hold fossil fuel companies accountable for climate costs. There are obvious advantages to municipalities working together on this issue.

As well, at the recent UBCM Convention, the City of Victoria announced that Joseph Arvay, one of Canada's top litigators, is drafting a legal opinion about the potential for a class action lawsuit by BC communities against fossil fuel companies, seeking compensation for climate costs. We understand that Mr. Arvay will be making the opinion available to interested municipalities on a confidential basis.

We are writing today to encourage you to explore the legal options related to climate costs for your own local governments. It is significant that many BC local governments have already written letters to fossil fuel companies pointing out the moral responsibility of those companies for local climate costs. However, recovering climate costs from fossil fuel companies and transforming their business practices may require stronger action.

We ask that you reach out directly to Victoria's Mayor and Council ([mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca](mailto:mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca)) and to the Vancouver Mayor's office ([Kennedy.Stewart@vancouver.ca](mailto:Kennedy.Stewart@vancouver.ca)), and the two councillors who moved this motion ([Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca](mailto:Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca) and [Christine.boyle@vancouver.ca](mailto:Christine.boyle@vancouver.ca)) to discuss options and opportunities for collaboration. Legal strategies offer pathways to a fairer allocation of climate costs like infrastructure upgrades, and can have an impact on global corporate responsibility. Litigation is one legal strategy (although not the only one), and we've enclosed a backgrounder for local governments on what a class action lawsuit by BC local governments might look like.

Understanding the pros and cons of available legal strategies does not commit you to a particular next step, but allows you to be better informed.

The fights about tobacco, asbestos and opioids have shown that when powerful companies believe that they can make a lot of money while leaving consumers and taxpayers to pay for the damages associated with the use of their products, the resulting business decisions harm us all. Fossil fuel companies have known since the 1960s that their products would contaminate the global atmosphere, causing temperatures and sea levels to rise, increased drought and extreme weather, etc. Rather than working to address climate change, the companies worked to delay action - and they will continue to prioritize developing their fossil fuel reserves if they can expect to make still more profits without paying any of the costs.

We know that your climate action and leadership is not limited to corporate climate accountability, and want to commend you for your work in reducing your own greenhouse gas footprint. We know that if every level of government followed the leadership that you are showing, we would be better off.

We are writing to extend our support for your council taking these actions, and our interest in working with you to explore legal strategies to get real climate action, and to amplify and celebrate your climate leadership in all activities.

Sincerely:



Anna Barford  
Community Organizer  
Georgia Strait Alliance



Andrew Gage  
Staff Lawyer  
West Coast Environmental Law



**Georgia Strait Alliance**  
*Caring for Our Coastal Waters*



CC Mayor Hurley ([mayor@burnaby.ca](mailto:mayor@burnaby.ca))

Encl

# SUING FOSSIL FUEL GIANTS

## AN INTRODUCTION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Andrew Gage, Staff Counsel

In January 2017, over 50 BC-based environmental groups asked the province's local governments to consider a class action lawsuit to recover a share of their climate-related costs from global fossil fuel companies. Since then the State of Rhode Island, New York City, San Francisco and a dozen other local governments in the U.S. have launched such lawsuits, and in BC there is growing interest in ways to pay for rising costs of climate change and to press fossil fuel companies to pay a fair share of those costs.

### Why do climate lawsuits matter to our communities and our planet?

BC communities face millions, and collectively, billions, of dollars of expenditures to prepare for and recover from events made worse by climate change (wildfires, flooding, coastal erosion, drought, etc.). Canada is warming twice as fast as the global average, and in 2018 Canadian governments paid an estimated \$5.7 billion to rebuild public infrastructure harmed by extreme weather,<sup>1</sup> much of it attributable to climate change.

Currently taxpayers pay all of these costs. At the local level, elected officials who want to maintain existing levels of services will need to find ways to pay for mounting climate costs. Provincial and federal funding is uncertain, and raising local taxes is challenging.

### Fossil fuel giants should pitch in to address climate costs

Fossil fuel companies — Chevron, ExxonMobil and other global corporations — share responsibility for causing climate change, as do all of us who use their products. Unlike

taxpayers, however, the fossil fuel companies are escaping responsibility for climate costs. Climate litigation can hold fossil fuel companies legally accountable for a fair share of the bill.

Demanding that fossil fuel companies take responsibility for harm caused by their products reduces the burden on taxpayers. It also helps fossil fuel companies, their investors and governments value the costs and benefits of oil, gas and coal more realistically by including some of the climate costs of fossil fuel products on the corporate balance sheet. Corporate behaviour and investment is already shifting as a result of climate litigation, with companies investing more in renewable energy and disclosing risks related to fossil fuels.

### Like climate change, climate litigation has a global impact

Climate litigation targets global fossil fuel companies for their *global* operations, giving local governments the power to demand accountability beyond Canada's borders. Canadian law on international disputes allows BC municipalities to sue global companies in Canadian courts because harm is experienced in BC.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Insurance Bureau of Canada. [“Severe Weather Causes \\$1.9B in Insured Damage in 2018”](#) (Jan. 16, 2019). For every \$1 paid out in insurance, IBC estimates that Canadian governments pay out \$3 to recover public infrastructure. \$1.9B in insured losses means approx \$5.7 billion in taxpayer costs.

<sup>2</sup> Gage, A. and Wewerinke, M. [Taking Climate Justice into our own Hands](#). (Vancouver: West Coast Environmental Law, 2015).

### What might a class action lawsuit look like?

The specifics would be up to the local governments and their lawyers. However, based on our research, and with input from senior litigation specialists, West Coast has the following general recommendations:

|                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>A class action</b>                                            | A class action would reduce the costs of multiple lawsuits by allowing plaintiffs to work together to settle key questions of fossil fuel company responsibility for climate change. BC's class action rules protect parties from having to pay the other side's legal fees if they lose.                                                                                |
| <b>Brought by local governments for climate adaptation costs</b> | Legally, to protect their citizens, local governments must build infrastructure now to withstand future climate patterns, based on the best available science. A court is likely to accept the link between current costs and climate change, giving the municipalities the right to sue to recover the costs.                                                           |
| <b>In nuisance</b>                                               | Nuisance is unreasonable interference with property, including municipal infrastructure (private nuisance) or with our common rights and interests in a healthy global atmosphere (public nuisance).                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Against fossil fuel companies</b>                             | Just five companies (Chevron, Exxon Mobil, Saudi Aramco, British Petroleum and Shell) are responsible for approximately 14% of historic greenhouse gas emissions. <sup>3</sup> A lawsuit could claim a contribution from each company based on their respective percentage as well as the efforts of companies to mislead the public and delay action on climate change. |

Big Tobacco, Asbestos, and Big Pharma all learned that if you sell products that you know will cause massive harm, sooner or later you will be sued.<sup>4</sup> The same goes for the fossil fuel industry.

### How can we manage the costs of litigation?

Class actions provide for flexibility in funding. Options to manage costs include:

- sharing the costs, based on each community's ability to pay and desire to play an active role in the litigation;
- crowdfunding from members of the public;
- funding from private foundations or philanthropists; and
- hiring lawyers and experts willing to work at a reduced rate, or on a contingency basis.

The first stage of a class action lawsuit is to ask a judge to certify that the case should be allowed to proceed as a class action. Successful certification may raise the profile of the case and increase options for funding (including using any settlements to fund the litigation against remaining companies).

Parties in class action lawsuits in BC are not generally required to pay defendants' legal costs.

<sup>3</sup> R. Heede. *Tracing anthropogenic carbon dioxide and methane emissions to fossil fuel and cement producers, 1854-2010*, Climatic Change [Vol. 122: 1-2, January 2014], pp. 229-241.

<sup>4</sup> M. Olszynski et al. *From Smokes to Smokestacks: Lessons from Tobacco for the Future of Climate Change Liability*. Georgetown Environmental Law Review [Vol 30:1] 1.

### Why sue fossil fuel companies?

There's no way around it: solving climate change means dealing with our collective fossil fuel dependency. Plentiful and relatively cheap energy from fossil fuels has benefitted modern society, but we're now realizing that there were enormous deferred costs to our communities.

In a society relying on fossil fuels, we're all responsible for climate change. That means that both consumers AND producers need to take responsibility. Fossil fuel companies, along with consumers, *share* responsibility for climate change.

Right now taxpayers carry the entire burden of climate costs caused by fossil fuels, while fossil fuel producers continue to make a lot of money from selling them. Asking companies to bear *some* of those costs is not about blaming the industry or denying individual responsibility – it's about acknowledging our shared responsibility.

Chevron, Exxon Mobil and other fossil fuel companies knew in the 1960s that their products would cause climate change and devastating impacts to communities around the world. Still, they chose to:

- undermine technology in solar, wind and low-emission vehicles (among others) that could have offered consumers less-polluting choices;
- fund and participate in misinformation campaigns designed to mislead the public (consumers) on climate science;
- lobby against laws and international agreements intended to fight climate change.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> CIEL. *Smoke and Fumes: The Legal and Evidentiary Basis for Holding Big Oil Accountable for the Climate Crisis* (November 2017), last accessed 10 April 2019.

### How long will climate litigation take?

On average class action lawsuits in Canada take three to four years, but complex litigation against fossil fuel companies could take significantly longer. However, once a class action is filed it would have immediate impacts.

Facing climate lawsuits in the U.S. and possible litigation elsewhere, oil giants like Chevron<sup>6</sup> and Saudi Aramco<sup>7</sup> have already warned their investors to factor this type of litigation into their investment decisions. As well, oil giants have demonstrated an increased interest in climate action since being sued:

- ExxonMobil endorsed a proposal for a U.S. carbon tax starting at \$40/tonne that would also protect oil companies against U.S. litigation<sup>8</sup> – a cynical move, but it shows how seriously the company takes the risks of litigation.
- Shell increased investments in renewable energy to \$2 billion/year shortly after being sued in the U.S., and has plans to increase that to \$4 billion/year;<sup>9</sup>
- Shell, and to a lesser extent Chevron and ExxonMobil, have recently withdrawn from industry associations that oppose climate action.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>6</sup> ThinkProgress. [“Chevron is first oil major to warn investors of risks from climate change lawsuits”](#) (Mar. 2, 2017).

<sup>7</sup> Climate Home News. [“Saudi Aramco says climate lawsuits ‘could result in substantial costs’”](#) (Apr. 2, 2019).

<sup>8</sup> Vox. [“Exxon is lobbying for a carbon tax. There is, obviously, a catch.”](#) (Oct. 18, 2018).

<sup>9</sup> The Guardian. [“Shell says it wants to double green energy investment”](#) (Dec. 26, 2018).

<sup>10</sup> Reuters. [“Citing climate differences, Shell walks away from U.S. refining lobby”](#) (Apr. 2, 2019).



### Why litigate, instead of carbon pricing?

A global price on carbon for the actual costs of burning fossil fuels would be ideal. Such a price would shift investment decisively to renewables, while providing revenue to communities harmed by climate change. A global price would not allow companies to move around to avoid it.

But global pricing systems – for example, the International Oil Spill Compensation Funds – have often emerged *as the result* of national efforts to secure liability (through courts or legislation) against international polluters.<sup>11</sup>

Without the possibility of litigation, fossil fuel producing countries have in the past opposed carbon pricing proposals, leaving it to individual countries to take action. In Canada, a carbon price (unlike a lawsuit under Canadian law) applies only to Canadian emissions, affecting only a small portion of global GHG emissions.

In the absence of strong global action to regulate greenhouse gases, litigation is a way for communities to build momentum for corporate and government climate action.

### How do climate accountability letters and legislation relate to a class action lawsuit?

Many BC communities are sending climate accountability letters to fossil fuel companies demanding compensation, and calling on the provincial government to enact a law to clarify the legal responsibility of these companies. Along with litigation, climate accountability letters and legislation are important tools in the toolbox for holding fossil fuel companies accountable for harm caused by their products.<sup>12</sup>

Climate accountability letters are an accessible way for a community to call attention to the moral and legal responsibility of fossil fuel companies for local climate costs. They help shift corporate and public dialogue about who should pay for climate costs, and demonstrate to courts, legislators and corporations that there is public interest in seeing fossil fuel companies pay a fair share. They do not commit a local government to taking other legal action.

Climate lawsuits can, and should, be brought under existing legal rules – but fossil fuel companies and their corporate lawyers are going to aggressively argue that those rules shouldn't apply to them. A *Liability for Climate-related Harms Act* could answer fundamental questions and shorten years of litigation and appeals. Similar to the *Tobacco Damages Recovery Act* from the 1990s, and the more recent *Opioid Damages and Health Care Recovery Act*, BC could enact legislation that would clarify liability around climate costs.<sup>13</sup>

### Conclusion

A lawsuit by BC's local governments against global fossil fuel companies for climate costs will ensure that governments, corporations and investors start to address the true costs of fossil fuels in their financial decisions. Knowing that they may need to pay for the harm caused by their products gives these companies a strong incentive to invest their considerable expertise and resources in building a sustainable future. At the same time climate litigation helps ensure our communities have the resources needed to protect themselves from climate change.

For more information, contact Staff Lawyer Andrew Gage at [agage@wcel.org](mailto:agage@wcel.org).

<sup>11</sup> P.D. Lowry. *The Shipowner and Oil Pollution Liability*. McGill Law Journal (1972) Vol 18(4) 577.

<sup>12</sup> Gage, A. [Climate Accountability Letters: An Introduction for Local Governments](#). (West Coast Environmental Law, 2017).

<sup>13</sup> Gage, A. and Wewerinke, M. [Taking Climate Justice into our own Hands](#) (West Coast Environmental Law, 2015).





Planning and Building Department

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## INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: 2020 January 17

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

FILE: 2410 20  
*Reference: Environment Committee*

**SUBJECT: 2020 ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS PROGRAM**

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This memo and *attachments (3)* provides the Environment Committee with information about the City's Environmental Awards Program ([www.burnaby.ca/environmentawards](http://www.burnaby.ca/environmentawards)). *Attached* are a copy of this year's promotional poster, Terms of Reference and Nomination Form for your information and use. Committee members are encouraged to raise awareness of the program through their networks and to encourage nomination of worthy candidates in one of the six award categories. The call for nominations is now open and closes on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Also be advised that the Environment Committee will be involved in the process of reviewing the nominations and recommending award recipients to Council for approval. Planning Department staff will support the process by presenting the nominations received and making preliminary recommendations in a report to the Environment Committee. Based on the Committee's input, a second report will be prepared that recommends a list of award recipients to Council for approval. Award recipients will be invited to receive their award at a regular meeting of Council scheduled tentatively for June 22.

Committee members may contact Mark Sloat, Ecosystem Planner, with any questions about the Environmental Awards Program. Additional hard copies of the poster, Terms of Reference and Nomination Form are available on request.

E.W. Kozak, Director  
PLANNING AND BUILDING

MS:sa

### *Attachments*

*R:\Long Range Clerical\XOX\MS-Environment Awards 2020\Memo to EX re Environment Awards Program.docx*

# ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS 2020

**NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS**

**DEADLINE: APRIL 3, 2020**

The Environmental Awards Program recognizes contributions made by individuals, community groups, businesses and organizations to environmental stewardship and sustainability in Burnaby.

We are currently seeking nominations for the following categories:

- **Business Stewardship**
- **Green Choices**
- **Communications**
- **Planning & Development**
- **Community Stewardship**
- **Youth**

**TO MAKE A NOMINATION:**

Call 604-294-7400 or visit [burnaby.ca/40-environmentawards](http://burnaby.ca/40-environmentawards)





# ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS 2020

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

The City of Burnaby's Environmental Awards Program recognizes the outstanding contributions of individuals, community groups, businesses and organizations to environmental sustainability in our community. Help us recognize Burnaby's environmental leaders by making a nomination today.

*Nomination  
Deadline:  
April 3, 2020*

### Award Categories

#### 1 Business Stewardship

This category recognizes Burnaby-based businesses, whose business practices and stewardship activities promote environmental sustainability in the workplace or community. Businesses should demonstrate excellence in raising awareness of environmental issues with staff/clients, reducing their ecological footprint in areas such as energy or water use, waste reduction, purchasing and transportation and/or enhancing or rehabilitating the City of Burnaby's environment.

#### 2 Communications

This category includes all forms of print and digital media, video, audio or multi-media presentations, and outreach or campaigns that help to increase the understanding of environmental issues or promote environmentally sustainable behaviors in our community. The nominated work should demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of an environmental issue or sustainability and its relationship to Burnaby's citizens.

#### 3 Community Stewardship

This category recognizes individuals, community groups and organizations that have actively promoted environmental stewardship in the City of Burnaby for several years. Their efforts have increased public awareness of an environmental issue or notably enhanced or rehabilitated the City's environment.

#### 4 Green Choices

This category recognizes residents of Burnaby, including individuals, community groups, organizations, strata councils, and institutions, that demonstrate an exemplary commitment to environmental sustainability in the home, garden and community through any of the following means: household energy conservation, waste reduction, green waste recycling, water efficiency, innovation in natural garden practices and native plant landscaping, local food production, active transportation and other sustainable lifestyle choices.

#### 5 Planning & Development

This category highlights developments that demonstrate strategic planning, innovative environmental features and green building technologies that reduce energy use and emissions, reuse materials, use water efficiently, employ innovative approaches to stormwater and wastewater management, encourage active transportation, and protect and enhance aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. Developments may range in scale from large commercial, industrial, institutional or residential projects to individual new or renovated buildings.

#### 6 Youth

This category recognizes the contributions that children or teenagers have made, either through their own initiatives or through school programs, which have enhanced public awareness of environmental sustainability issues or have notably enhanced or rehabilitated the City's environment.

### Nomination Information

Visit [burnaby.ca/environmentawards](http://burnaby.ca/environmentawards) for an online nomination form.

#### Award Process

The program includes two award designations. Environmental Awards recognize individuals and groups for outstanding environmental achievements, Environmental Stars recognize accomplishments carried out on a smaller scale. Criteria is available on our website. Awards will be presented at a Council Meeting on June 22, 2020.

#### Questions?

City of Burnaby Planning Department:  
Tel: 604-294-7400  
Email: [planning@burnaby.ca](mailto:planning@burnaby.ca)

**Nomination Deadline:**  
**April 3, 2020**



# ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS 2020

## NOMINATION FORM

The City of Burnaby's Environmental Awards Program recognizes the outstanding environmental achievements of individuals, community groups, businesses and organizations in Burnaby. We are currently seeking nominations in the categories of Business Stewardship, Communications, Community Stewardship, Green Choices, Planning and Development and Youth\*.

To be considered for an award, please complete this form by April 3 and submit it through one of the following methods:

- Drop off this hard copy to City of Burnaby Planning Department at 4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2
- Email a scanned copy to [planning@burnaby.ca](mailto:planning@burnaby.ca)
- Complete the online form: [burnaby.ca/environmentawards](http://burnaby.ca/environmentawards)

Awards will be presented at the regular meeting of Council on June 22. Help us recognize Burnaby's environmental leaders by making a nomination today!

[burnaby.ca/environmentawards](http://burnaby.ca/environmentawards)

### Nominee's Name and Contact Information

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

### Award Category

- ☐ Business Stewardship    ☐ Communications    ☐ Community Stewardship  
☐ Green Choices    ☐ Planning & Development    ☐ Youth

### Brief description of nominee's environmental achievement(s)

Please attach a separate sheet.

The City's Environmental Sustainability Strategy contains 10 goals shown here. Learn more about each goal at [burnaby.ca/environmentawards](http://burnaby.ca/environmentawards). Please indicate which ESS goal(s) you think the environmental achievements of your nominee contribute towards.

- ☐ Green    ☐ Move    ☐ Conserve  
☐ Flow    ☐ Build    ☐ Live  
☐ Prosper    ☐ Manage  
☐ Breathe    ☐ Nourish

### Name and contact information of two references that have knowledge of the nominee's environmental achievement(s)

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

### Your Name and Contact Information

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Please complete each section of this form, all information is required.

\*The City is not compelled to recommend award winners to Council in any or all categories if they feel there are no appropriate candidates in a given year.

### Environmental Awards Program

Form deadline: April 3, 2020 | [burnaby.ca/environment](http://burnaby.ca/environment)

-42-



**From:** Nick Kvenich [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January-27-20 4:31 PM  
**To:** treeline; environment; Mayor  
**Subject:** Planting the right trees for the environment nk 20 01 27

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. If you feel this email is malicious or a scam, please forward it to [phishing@burnaby.ca](mailto:phishing@burnaby.ca)

The Mayor, Mike Hurley declared a Climate emergency in Burnaby last year.

However I question whether the Mayor and the Environment committee of council are walking the talk.

In a time when we should planting coniferous (fir) trees, we are instead planting deciduous trees.

Case in point: The Kensington Boulevard in Central Valley. What a waste.

This contradicts the steps for an improved environment. Deciduous trees go dormant once the leaves fall off in the autumn. This means virtually no absorption of Carbon Dioxide and Oxygen.

We should be planting coniferous trees which would add to the Oxygen levels all year around.

Now there are certain deciduous trees, like Alder which add to soil composition in prepping the next generation forest of trees.

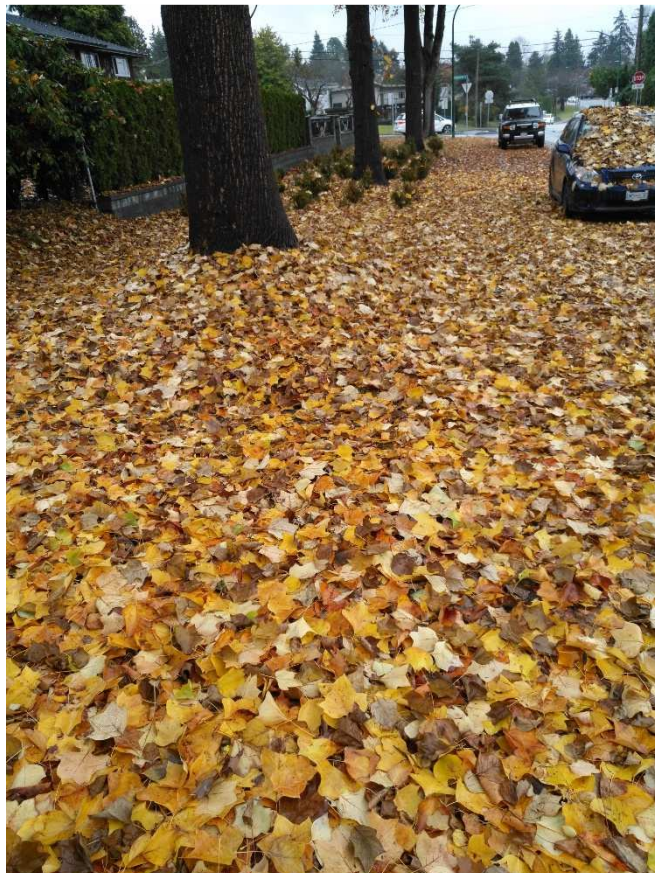
Taxpayers in Burnaby are required to keep sidewalks and drains cleared, by the congestion caused by deciduous trees. Again...a wasted effort. See the pictures taken east of Holdom to about Kensington. Also adds to a street safety driving risk in wet weather. What about City costs.

Finally I have a question, why are Palm trees being planted west of Willingdon on Lougheed. What an expensive venture at say \$1, 000 for each of the approx. 6 plants. They are not even a native species in our environment. Careless move.

Nick Kvenich: Environmentally concerned Citizen in Burnaby

[REDACTED]







Meeting 2020 January 29

## COMMITTEE REPORT

**TO:** CHAIR AND MEMBERS  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

**DATE:** 2020 January 17

**FROM:** DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

**FILE:** 33000-01  
*Reference: Environment Week*

**SUBJECT:** 2020 ENVIRONMENT WEEK PROGRAM

**PURPOSE:** To seek approval for the proposed approach for 2020 Environment Week

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **THAT** Council approve the proposed approach for 2020 Environment Week.
2. **THAT** Council approve an expenditure of \$4,500 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions' operating budget for promoting and advertising Environment Week.
3. **THAT** Council approve expenditures of \$3,400 and \$5,900 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions' operating budget to support one Repair Café organized for Environment Week and two additional Repair Cafés in the summer and fall of 2020, as a pilot project.

**REPORT**

**1.0 BACKGROUND**

The City of Burnaby's Environment Week program aims to promote environmental sustainability, awareness and stewardship through a range of environmentally-themed free public events and activities. It is coordinated by the City and is an opportunity for Burnaby residents, local community groups, businesses, CUPE Local 23 and other government agencies to come together to recognize and celebrate our community and the environment.

This report seeks Council approval for the proposed approach for the 2020 Environment Week program and authorization for separate expenditures of \$4,500, \$3,400 and \$5,900 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions operating budget to promote and advertise the program and to partner with Metro Van Repair Café to deliver a series of Repair Cafés as a pilot program.

A second report presenting a more detailed program for Burnaby Environment Week 2020 will be brought to Environment Committee and Council for approval this coming March.

To: Environment Committee  
 From: Director Planning and Building  
 Re: 2020 Environment Week Program  
 2020 January 17.....Page 2

## 2.0 POLICY AND PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Burnaby's Environment Week program aligns with the policy and planning framework established by the City of Burnaby's Official Community Plan (1998), Environmental Sustainability Strategy (2016) and Corporate Strategic Plan (2017).

### 2.1 Official Community Plan

Section 3.2.2 of the Official Community Plan (OCP) contains the strategy of *An Environmentally Aware Community*. This strategy encourages environmental protection and shared stewardship, sharing of environmental information with the community, and meaningful community participation in environmental decision making. The OCP identifies Community Involvement and Shared Stewardship as a component of Burnaby's Environmental Policy Framework with an objective to 'increase public environmental awareness and responsibility through public information programs'.

### 2.2 Environmental Sustainability Strategy

The Environmental Sustainability Strategy (ESS) is a plan for Burnaby's 'green future' and sets directions for environmental protection, stewardship, enhancement, and resilience in the city. The framework of the ESS consists of ten sustainability themes, each with a goal and supporting strategies and actions. The "Manage" theme of the ESS focuses on governance, education and partnerships and identifies a goal of an 'environmentally aware and engaged community working together to improve Burnaby's environmental performance'. Several of the identified strategies relate to Burnaby Environment Week and its goal of promoting environmental awareness and stewardship.

- Educate citizens about ecology and sustainability (Strategy 10.1)
- Explore innovative ways to engage the public on environmental issues (Strategy 10.2)
- Develop and nurture community partnerships (Strategy 10.6)

### 2.3 Corporate Strategic Plan

Environmental awareness and stewardship initiatives align with the following goals and sub-goals of the Corporate Strategic Plan:

- **A Connected Community**
  - Social connection – Enhance social connections throughout Burnaby
  - Partnership – Work collaboratively with businesses, educational institutions, associations, other communities and governments
- **A Healthy Community**
  - Healthy life – Encourage opportunities for healthy living and well-being



To: *Environment Committee*  
 From: *Director Planning and Building*  
 Re: *2020 Environment Week Program*  
 2020 January 17.....Page 3

- Healthy environment – Enhance our environmental health, resilience and sustainability
- Lifelong learning – Improve upon and develop programs and services that enable ongoing learning
- Community involvement – Encourage residents and businesses to give back to and invest in the community

### **3.0 PROPOSED APPROACH FOR BURNABY ENVIRONMENT WEEK 2020**

#### **3.1 Schedule**

Environment Week is proposed for Saturday, June 6 to Sunday, June 14. Burnaby Environment Week is linked to Canadian Environment Week and World Environment Day, which take place annually in early June.

#### **3.2 Program**

The goal of Environment Week is to promote environmental awareness, sustainability and stewardship. The following activities, events and communications are proposed for 2020 to align with this goal. The finalized program, including a detailed description of each program element, will be presented in a report to the Environment Committee this coming March. We anticipate that other activities and events will be added.

- **Bike to Work Week** (May 25 to May 31) and the **Commuter Challenge** (May 31 to June 7).
- **Environment Week Display** at Hats Off Day in Burnaby Heights (Saturday, June 6).
- **Wild About Burnaby Lake**, stewardship event presented by Metro Vancouver Parks and Burnaby Lake Park Association (Sunday, June 7).
- **(NEW) Environmental Awareness, Sustainability and Stewardship Digital Content on City Social Media Channels** (Monday, June 8 to Friday, June 12).
- **Deer Lake Guided Canoe Trips** (Tuesday, June 8).
- **Lower Mainland Green Team, Community Stewardship Event** (Saturday, June 13, location to be determined).
- **Burnaby Eco-Centre Open House** (Saturday, June 13).
- **Car Trunk Sale – Environment Week Edition** at Bill Copeland Arena, (Saturday, June 13).

To: Environment Committee  
 From: Director Planning and Building  
 Re: 2020 Environment Week Program  
 2020 January 17.....Page 4

- (NEW) Proposed Burnaby Repair Café (date, time and location to be determined pending approval of an expenditure to support this activity as outlined in this report).

### 3.3 New Program Elements for 2020

#### *Digital Content for Social Media*

To promote Burnaby Environment Week to a broader segment of residents, proposed is the development of environmentally themed digital content for distribution on City social media channels from Monday, June 8 to Friday, June 12. One communication per day is planned. Digital content will be developed by the City's Communications Department with input from staff of various departments involved with Environment Week. Message content has not been developed yet, but could be organized around a specific theme, could consist of 'fun facts' about Burnaby's ecosystems or provide information about City environmental projects or policies and plans in development. Messaging could also aim to be engaging and interactive. More detailed information regarding message content will be presented in the next report to Environment Committee.

#### *Repair Café*

A Repair Café pilot project is proposed, pending Council authorization of the expenditures outlined in Section 4 of this report.

Metro Van Repair Café (MVRC) is a non-profit association that organizes Repair Cafés in the Lower Mainland. MVRC appeared as a delegation to the Environment and Social Planning Committee on 2019 November 5, requesting partnership and funding to start and run a Burnaby Repair Café. Arising from the meeting, the Committee requested that staff contact the delegation and arrange for a Repair Café event as a pilot project during 2020 Environment Week.

A Repair Café is described by MVRC as a 'community gathering for the local public to learn how to fix their broken items with the help of experienced volunteers'. The mission of MVRC is to 'promote the repair of consumer products in order to increase environmental sustainability, create connected and inclusive communities, and strengthen the local economy. A Repair Café delivered by MVRC for Burnaby supports goals of the City's Environmental Sustainability Strategy under the themes of Conserve and Manage, as well as several strategic priorities in City's Social Sustainability Strategy.

For Environment Week, the proposed Repair Café would take place in a public space (a community centre, for example) and would consist of different repair stations at which volunteers fix visitor's items one-on-one. MVRC would be responsible for organizing and delivering the event, including recruiting and managing all volunteers, event set-up, organization and management, social media content and promotion, and collecting, processing and reporting on participant surveys to measure success of the pilot.

To: *Environment Committee*  
 From: *Director Planning and Building*  
 Re: *2020 Environment Week Program*  
 2020 January 17.....Page 5

MVRC recommends the pilot Repair Café for Burnaby consist of three (3) Repair Cafés, the first delivered during Environment Week and then two more, one delivered in the summer and one in the fall. The estimated cost for MVRC to deliver the first event is \$5,100. The cost to deliver the next two events is \$2,950 per event. The cost of the first event is higher because of the time required to initially recruit volunteers. The remaining two events build on the momentum of the first event. The total cost to deliver the three events is \$11,000.

As outlined in Section 4, this report recommends Council authorize separate expenditure requests to support the pilot program, the first for the initial event to take place during Environment Week, and the second for the two remaining events in the summer and fall, which take place outside of Environment Week. Staff would engage with MVRC to plan the Environment Week Repair Café, including the date, location and time, pending Council approval of the expenditures.

### **3.4 Returning Events and Activities**

Events and activities carried over from previous years are described briefly below.

In support of Environment Week, Burnaby businesses, institutions and residents will be encouraged to participate in Bike to Work Week and the Commuter Challenge, both of which are organized by external agencies. The Environment Week display at Hats Off Day will focus on ecosystem restoration projects in Burnaby and will include a giveaway of the most recent version of the Waterways of Burnaby poster, completed in 2019.

Two environmental stewardship events are planned. The first is Wild About Burnaby Lake, which will be delivered by Metro Vancouver Parks and the Burnaby Lake Park Association, in partnership with the City of Burnaby, for the fourth consecutive year. The second is an ecosystem restoration event led by the Lower Mainland Green Team, working with one of Burnaby's Streamkeeper groups on a project in a Burnaby park or on City lands.

Free guided canoe trips on Deer Lake, an open house at the Burnaby Eco-Centre and the Environment Edition Car Trunk Sale (to promote reuse of common household items) are other popular events from previous years that will take place again in 2020.

### **4.0 REQUESTED EXPENDITURES**

Council approval of the following expenditures from the Boards, Committees and Commissions operating budget is sought in support of Burnaby Environment Week 2020, including the Repair Café pilot project:

- \$4,500 to promote and advertise Environment Week;
- \$3,400 for MVRC to deliver the first Repair Café during Environment Week; and
- \$5,900 for MVRC to deliver two more Repair Cafés in 2020, in the summer and fall.

In previous years, Council has approved expenditures ranging from \$5,500 to \$6,800 to promote and advertise Environment Week. The lesser amount of \$4,500 requested this year reflects a shift

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 From: Director Planning and Building  
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over time using the City's social media and digital channels for promotion and advertising, which costs less than print media used more frequently in the past. The City's Communications Department will develop a promotion and advertising strategy to use these funds. The second expenditure of \$3,400 covers a portion of the \$5,100 MVRC estimate to deliver the first Repair Café during Environment Week. The remaining amount of \$1,700 can be covered with unallocated Environment Week annual operating funds.

The third expenditure of \$5,900 is requested to deliver two more Repair Cafés, taking place in the summer and fall, outside of Environment Week, in order to complete the pilot program. The funding for the two additional Repair Café events is requested now in conjunction with the other 2020 environmental awareness activities.

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

Environment Week celebrates Burnaby's ongoing commitment to environmental sustainability and stewardship and provides an opportunity to engage with our residents and community partners. The program for 2020 proposes adding two new elements: environmentally themed digital content on the City's social media channels to broaden public engagement and a Repair Café pilot project delivered by Metro Van Repair Café to support environmental sustainability and build community. A more detailed schedule and program for Environment Week will be brought forth to the Environment Committee and to Council for approval this coming March.

It is recommended that the Committee seek Council approval of the proposed approach for the 2020 Environment Week program and that the Committee seek Council approval of three expenditures, \$4,500, \$3,400 and \$5,900, to promote and advertise Environment Week and to partner with MVRC to deliver a series of three Repair Cafés as a pilot project for the City.



E.W. Kozak, Director  
 PLANNING AND BUILDING

MS/sa

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 Director Corporate Services  
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 Director Engineering  
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 Chief Librarian  
 Officer in Charge, RCMP  
 Fire Chief  
 Manager, Environmental Engineering  
 City Clerk  
 President, CUPE Local 23



## COMMITTEE REPORT

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**TO:** CHAIR AND MEMBERS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE      **DATE:** 2020 January 20

**FROM:** DIRECTOR ENGINEERING      **FILE:** 33000-00

**SUBJECT:** **IMPACT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

**PURPOSE:** To respond to the Committee's request to review and report on the feasibility and advisability of banning the sale of tobacco products in the City.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **THAT** the Committee receive this report for information.

**REPORT****INTRODUCTION**

The Environment and Social Planning Committee received a presentation from Ms. Claire Preston on the Impact of Tobacco Products on the Environment. Ms. Preston provided background information and requested that the Committee support biodegradable options such as paper filters, 100% organic products; e-cigarettes and vaping; and ban the sale of regular commercial grade cigarettes that are not compostable.

Arising from discussion, the Committee adopted a motion that the matter be referred to staff to prepare a memorandum on the advisability and feasibility of banning the sale of tobacco products in the City. This report responds to that request and summarizes actions currently undertaken by the City to address the impacts of tobacco products on the environment and tobacco sale regulations within the provincial context.

**POLICY SECTION**

The response to Committee is aligned with the City of Burnaby Corporate Strategic Plan supporting the following goals and sub-goals of the plan:

To: CHAIR AND MEMBERS ENVIRONMENT  
COMMITTEE  
From: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING  
Re: IMPACT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS ON THE  
ENVIRONMENT

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## Goals

- A Healthy Community
  - Healthy life –  
Encourages opportunities for healthy living and well-being
  - Healthy environment –  
Enhance our environmental health, resilience and sustainability
- A Dynamic Community
  - Community development –  
Manage change by balancing economic development with environmental protection and maintaining a sense of belonging
- A Thriving Organization
  - Organizational culture –  
Ensure that our core values are reflected in our policies, programs and service delivery

## DISCUSSION

### Provincial Regulation

In British Columbia, the sale and use of tobacco and vapour products is regulated and enforced by a number of provincial laws, regulations and policy, including the *Tobacco and Vapour Products Control Act*, *Tobacco and Vapour Products Control Regulation*, *Compliance and Enforcement Policy Manual*, and *Tobacco Tax Act*.

Legislation is a key tool in reducing tobacco and vapour product use and covers extensive areas including where products may be sold or distributed; where products may be used (such as bans on use in indoor public and work places, in schools and on school grounds); and restrictions on retail display, advertising or promotion of the use of tobacco products.

Enforcement of the legislation is conducted by Enforcement Officers employed by Health Authorities and includes activities such as retailer education, public education, stakeholder relations, inspections, surveillance operations, and administrative tribunals.

### Burnaby Bylaw

In the City of Burnaby, littering is not permitted on any City property in accordance with the *Solid Waste and Recycling Bylaw 2010, Section 8(2)*:

To: CHAIR AND MEMBERS ENVIRONMENT  
COMMITTEE  
From: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING  
Re: IMPACT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS ON THE  
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*No person shall deposit or cause to be deposited any waste, garbage, or material on any street, sidewalk, boulevard, park or other lands owned by the City or other public property or upon private property whether owned by that person or not except in a receptacle or facility designed and intended for such waste, garbage, or material.*

There are penalties associated with contraventions of this section of the bylaw and enforcement is undertaken as appropriate.

### **Current Tobacco Waste Management Strategies**

The City recognizes that waste such as filters from cigarettes have the potential to enter the environment and pose a risk to local waterways, and wildlife. In order to address waste generated from cigarette filters and other small debris, the City utilizes a few different management strategies. The City's litter management program includes the management of approximately 520 waste receptacles at bus stops, major arterial roads and major urban areas for the deposit of waste and recyclable materials, as well as routine removal of litter and debris from roads, lanes and pedestrian pathways. In addition to litter management, the City undertakes regular street sweeping and maintenance of catch basins which helps to prevent small litter items from entering the City's storm sewer system and waterways.

### **CONCLUSION**

The presentation from Ms. Claire Preston provided information on the impact of tobacco products on the environment and requested a ban on the sale of regular commercial grade cigarettes that are not compostable. Staff recommend that the City continue with current practices of litter management, street sweeping and catch basin maintenance to reduce the potential risk of filters from cigarettes entering the environment and posing risk to local waterways and wildlife. As outlined in this report, the sale and use of tobacco and vapour products is regulated and enforced by a number of provincial laws, regulations and policy and as such, it is not recommended that Burnaby pursue any additional ban on the sale of tobacco products.



Leon A. Gous, P.Eng., MBA  
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

JL/ac

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Director Corporate Services  
Director Public Safety and Community Services  
City Clerk



## COMMITTEE REPORT

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**TO:** CHAIR AND MEMBERS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE      **DATE:** 2020 January 20

**FROM:** DIRECTOR ENGINEERING AND DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES      **FILE:** 36500-00

**SUBJECT:** ELIMINATION OF SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAGS, STRAWS, UTENSILS AND CONTAINERS AT CITY FACILITIES

**PURPOSE:** To respond to the Committee's request to provide feedback on the feasibility and advisability for elimination of single use plastic bags, straws, utensils and containers at City Facilities.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **THAT** the Committee recommend Council to:
  - a. Continue with current practices to eliminate single use plastic bags, straws and utensils at City civic facilities; and
  - b. Direct staff to continue to evaluate and phase out single-use plastic containers at City facilities as suitable alternative products become available.

**REPORT****INTRODUCTION**

On 2019 March 28, the Environment and Social Planning Committee brought forward a motion regarding single use plastic bags and straws and on 2019 June 04 on single use plastic utensils and containers. The Committee requested that staff report back on the feasibility and advisability of eliminating the use of single use plastic bags, straws, utensils and containers at City facilities and of a City-wide ban on these single use plastic items. This report addresses City facilities only. A report on the City-wide ban will follow subsequently.



To: CHAIR AND MEMBERS ENVIRONMENT  
COMMITTEE  
From: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING  
Re: ELIMINATION OF SINGLE USE PLASTIC  
BAGS, STRAWS, UTENSILS AND  
CONTAINERS AT CITY FACILITIES

2020 January 20..... Page 2

Arising from discussion, the Committee further requested that dog "biodegradable" plastic bags be included in the staff review. This report responds to these requests and summarizes current work underway on single use items.

## **POLICY SECTION**

The response to Committee is aligned with the City of Burnaby Corporate Strategic Plan supporting the following goals and sub-goals of the plan:

### **Goal**

- An Inclusive Community
  - Serve a diverse community –  
Ensure City services fully meet the needs of our dynamic community.
- A Healthy Community
  - Healthy life –  
Encourages opportunities for healthy living and well-being
  - Healthy environment –  
Enhance our environmental health, resilience and sustainability
- A Dynamic Community
  - Community development –  
Manage change by balancing economic development with environmental protection and maintaining a sense of belonging
- A Thriving Organization
  - Organizational culture –  
Ensure that our core values are reflected in our policies, programs and service delivery

## **BACKGROUND**

The City implemented a civic facility waste reduction program for both front of house and back of house in 2013 that included the separation of garbage, mixed containers, mixed paper, food scraps and food-soiled paper products. Development of the program included facility assessments for space and access for separated material collection receptacles, waste audits to determine the composition of the waste stream and to identify materials being distributed through city food services that could be included in the separated programs, and to look at alternative options for food packaging.

To: CHAIR AND MEMBERS ENVIRONMENT  
COMMITTEE  
From: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING  
Re: ELIMINATION OF SINGLE USE PLASTIC  
BAGS, STRAWS, UTENSILS AND  
CONTAINERS AT CITY FACILITIES

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## **SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAGS, STRAWS, UTENSILS AND CONTAINERS**

### **a. Elimination of Single Use Plastic Items at Civic Facilities**

During the civic facility waste reduction program development, plastic bags and straws were not identified as large components of the waste stream and distribution of plastic bags were not found to commonly occur at civic facilities. As part of the corporate implementation of separated food scraps collection, Burnaby Food Services shifted towards packaging that could be recycled or composted within the new corporate program. Food services introduced compostable products such as wooden cutlery and hot food take out containers, eliminated single serve condiments where appropriate, and phased out the use of plastic straws.

### **b. Single Use Plastic Bags**

The majority of civic facilities have phased out the use of plastic bags. Where bags are required for retail purchases, paper bags are being used. The remaining departments that are still using plastic bags have either already committed to switching to paper bags once the plastic bag stock is depleted or have identified them as reusable.

### **c. Single Use Plastic Straws**

Food Services have removed all single use plastic straws from restaurants and cafes. Paper-based straws are available upon request.

### **d. Single Use Plastic Utensils**

Food Services have phased out single use plastic utensils in favour of wooden or compostable products.

### **e. Single Use Plastic Containers**

Food Services have been working towards finding alternatives to single use plastic containers. Fountain beverages and cups are currently being phased out of civic facilities in favour of sealed container beverages, such as cans. The use of plastic beer cups at outdoor events is also being reviewed and a switch to using cans instead of kegs and cups is under consideration.

There are challenges around finding suitable alternatives for pre-packaged and prepared meals. Packaging is required to be visibly clear so that the customer can see the item and be microwave friendly. Where appropriate, paper or compostable plastic are being used, however, suitable alternatives are not always available in the marketplace. As new products are introduced, they are evaluated for viability of application by Food Services.

To: CHAIR AND MEMBERS ENVIRONMENT  
COMMITTEE  
From: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING  
Re: ELIMINATION OF SINGLE USE PLASTIC  
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## BIODEGRADABLE DOG WASTE BAGS

The environmental benefits of using biodegradable or compostable bags for dog waste is debatable. Biodegradable plastics do not decompose through standard composting operations and are therefore not accepted at the region's Green Waste Processing Facilities.

Biodegradable plastics are similar to other plastics but have been treated with an additional chemical agent which accelerates the breakdown process. Research suggests this may actually lead to an increase in the amount of small plastic particles in the environment. In addition, patrons may demonstrate an increased tendency to dispose of biodegradable plastic dog waste bags in parkland if they believe the bags and contents will decompose naturally.

The Parks Department has installed "red box" dog waste receptacles at select dog off-leash areas. Waste from these receptacles is collected and brought to a central facility where the bags and contents are separated. The contents are then disposed of at a waste treatment plant and the bags are incinerated.

## CONCLUSION

The City's civic facilities have largely eliminated single use plastic bags, straws and utensils. Staff recommend that current initiatives being undertaken by Food Services continue to phase out single use plastic containers and introduce paper or compostable alternatives as these products become available.



Leon A. Gous, P.Eng., MBA  
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING



Dave Ellenwood  
DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION &  
CULTURAL SERVICES

JL/ac

Copied to: City Manager  
Director Corporate Services



## COMMITTEE REPORT

**TO:** CHAIR AND MEMBERS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE **DATE:** 2020 January 20

**FROM:** DIRECTOR ENGINEERING **FILE:** 36500-00

**SUBJECT:** TEXTILE DIVERSION PROGRAMS AT THE CITY OF BURNABY

**PURPOSE:** To respond to the Committee's request to provide a report on the advisability and feasibility of embarking on new initiatives to support textile diversion.

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **THAT** the Committee receive this report for information.

**REPORT**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Environment and Social Planning Committee, at its open meeting on 2019 November 05, heard a delegation from Mr. Simon Langer, National Manager, Government and Strategic Partnerships, Diabetes Canada; and Dr. Calvin Lakhan, Co-Investigator *The Waste Wiki* Project, Faculty of Environmental Sciences, York University. The delegation sought participation in York University's National Textile Diversion Study and creation of a formal Textile Diversion Program at the City of Burnaby

**POLICY SECTION**

The response to Committee is aligned with the City of Burnaby Corporate Strategic Plan supporting the following goals and sub-goals of the plan:

**Goals**

- An Inclusive Community
  - Serve a diverse community –  
Ensure City services fully meet the needs of our dynamic community.

To: CHAIR AND MEMBERS ENVIRONMENT  
COMMITTEE  
From: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING  
Re: TEXTILE DIVERSION PROGRAMS AT THE  
CITY OF BURNABY

2020 January 20..... Page 2

- A Healthy Community
  - Healthy life –  
Encourages opportunities for healthy living and well-being
  - Healthy environment –  
Enhance our environmental health, resilience and sustainability
  - Community Involvement –  
Encourage residents and businesses to give back to and invest in the community
- A Dynamic Community
  - Community development –  
Manage change by balancing economic development with environmental protection and maintaining a sense of belonging
- A Thriving Organization
  - Organizational culture –  
Ensure that our core values are reflected in our policies, programs and service delivery

## BACKGROUND

### History

Access to charitable organization clothing donation bins has been provided to Burnaby residents for many years. Regretfully, the user experience and public response has not always been positive. History has shown that the area surrounding the clothing donation bins frequently attracts illegal dumping. Burnaby resident had become tired of the unsightly conditions surrounding the donation bins. In 2015, the City took action to regulate donation bins by prohibiting their placement on public lands.

Donation bins were also featured recently in the news for unfortunate reasons. Underprivileged citizens were becoming injured while trying to enter the donation bins through the donation hatch to retrieve articles from inside.

### Textile Recycling Programs at the City of Burnaby

The City of Burnaby presently partners with charitable organizations by hosting clothing donation bins at the Eco-Centre. These bins are closely monitored by staff during business hours and securely locked after hours to prevent access.

To: CHAIR AND MEMBERS ENVIRONMENT  
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From: DIRECTOR ENGINEERING  
Re: TEXTILE DIVERSION PROGRAMS AT THE  
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In addition, five Return-It Depots in Burnaby have also recently launched a Textiles Recycling Pilot Program. This initiative accepts household textiles items including footwear and damaged clothing.

2018 waste stream audits for the City of Burnaby indicated that clothing textiles composed approximately 2.2% of the single family waste stream and 3.1% of the multi-family waste stream. Although measurable, these diversion rates do not represent the significant waste stream proportions suggested by the delegation.

### **York University Study**

The York University Study was developed with the objective of gaining a better understanding of the quantity of textiles entering the waste stream, identifying social, economic, and environmental factors which effect textile diversion rates, identifying the optimal clothing donation bin placement locations, and to create a best practices guide for local government textile diversion programs (using donation bins).

Partnering benefits to the charitable organization were primarily identified through the use of City brand recognition on the donation bins (logo sharing).

Partnering benefits to the City were identified as the opportunity to increase textile diversion and to exchange data relating to textile collection rates and composition, all in effort to create best practices.

### **CONCLUSION**

The City of Burnaby, and Metro Vancouver region as a whole, is currently well served with access to clothing donation bins on private lands. Select charitable organizations additionally offer curbside collection through telephone marketing campaigns. Current diversion rates are better than described for regions outside of Metro Vancouver. The City of Burnaby will continue to support and participate in education and outreach programs such as the Metro Vancouver "Think Thrice About Your Clothes."



Leon A. Gous, P.Eng., MBA  
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

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