



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE A G E N D A

Tuesday, October 6, 2020, 5:00 p.m.
Council Committee Room, City Hall
4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, BC

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1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	
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3.4 Nancy Lim - Ban On Rodent Control Poisons

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Council Correspondence Package 2020.08.13 The City of Burnaby received 86 similar emails on this matter and are available for viewing in the Clerk's Office.

Council, at their meeting on 2020 August 24, requested that staff respond to all correspondents to advise that the City does not use rodenticide in its operations. Rodenticide use is permitted under the Integrated Pest Management Act and Regulation, administered by the BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy. The Ministry relies on the federal Pest Control Products Act and Health Canada, to evaluate and determine acceptable uses for pesticides registered for sale in BC.

3.5 Memorandum from the Acting City Clerk - Re: 2020 Environmental Awards Program

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4. NEW BUSINESS

5. INQUIRIES

6. ADJOURNMENT



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE M I N U T E S

**Wednesday, June 24, 2020, 5:00 p.m.
Council Chamber, City Hall
4949 Canada Way, Burnaby, BC**

PRESENT: Councillor Joe Keithley, Chair
Councillor Colleen Jordan, Vice Chair
Councillor James Wang, Member
Trustee Peter Cech, Burnaby School Board *(participated electronically)*
Ms. Mary Lumby, Resident Representative *(participated electronically)*
Ms. Tara Shushtarian, Resident Representative *(participated electronically)*
Ms. Tessa Vanderkop, Burnaby Board of Trade *(participated electronically)*
Ms. Cynthia Van Ginkel, Resident Representative *(participated electronically)*
Mr. Andrei Zawadzki, Resident Representative

ADVISORY ORGANIZATIONS: Mr. Jerry Muir, BC Hydro *(participated electronically)*
Mr. Darin Wong, Fortis BC *(participated electronically)*
Ms. Deborah Harford, Simon Fraser University *(participated electronically)*

STAFF: Mr. Dipak Dattani, Director Corporate Services
Ms. Simone Rousseau, Manager Environmental Services *(participated electronically)*
Mr. Erik Schmidt, Manager, Solid Waste & Recycling *(participated electronically)*
Ms. Heather Edwards, Manager Parks Planning, Design & Development *(participated electronically)*
Mr. Mark Sloat, Environmental Planner *(participated electronically)*
Ms. Monica Macdonald, Administrative Officer
Ms. Lauren Cichon, Council Support Assistant

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the Open Committee meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and conducted the roll call. The following members and staff participated electronically: Trustee Cech, Ms. Lumby, Ms. Shushtarian, Ms. Vanderkop, Ms. Van Ginkel, Ms. Harford, Mr. Muir, Mr. Wong, Ms. Rousseau, Mr. Schmidt, Ms. Edwards, and Mr. Sloat.

For the benefit of those participating electronically, the Chair read out the names of members and staff physically present at the meeting.

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

The Chair welcomed two new Resident Representatives, Ms. Tara Shushtarian and Ms. Cynthia van Ginkel, to the Committee.

2. **MINUTES**

2.1 **Minutes of the Environment Committee Open meeting held on 2020 January 29**

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR JORDAN

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WANG

THAT the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 2020 January 29 be now adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **PRESENTATIONS**

Without objection, the Chair requested that the order of the presentations in the agenda be changed to hear item 3.3 first.

3.3 **New Burnaby Transportation Plan - Phase 2 (x-ref. Item 4.5)**

Ms. Renee De St. Croix, Senior Long Range Planner, provided an overview of Phase 2 of the new Burnaby Transportation Plan.

The speaker advised that the Plan update is being undertaken in three phases, commencing in 2017 July and terminating in 2021 March. Each phase includes research, policy and plan development, public consultation and reporting.

Phase 1 provided direction for the Plan and determined the vision, themes, and goals. Six themes were addressed as the major topic areas: accessible; safe;

healthy; green; prosperous; and connected. Public consultation engaged 2,000 individuals through 17 public events and 14 stakeholder meetings.

The update is currently in Phase 2, which is building proposals for the targets, big moves, policies, and networks to be used as the basis for the Phase 2 Public Consultation Program. The proposed targets (i.e. vision zero, mode shift, and zero emissions) enable the City to measure and monitor its progress. Key actions comprise the proposed big moves, creating change and assisting with achieving the targets. Each major transportation topic area will include a big move. Thirty-six policies are proposed to provide direction in conjunction with the major transportation topic areas (i.e. land use, public realm, and transportation; walking and accessibility; cycling; public transit; goods and services movement; and driving).

Staff stated that Phase 3 will be undertaken from 2020 November to 2021 March to confirm a draft Plan, which will include actions for the 36 policies and an Implementation Strategy.

In conclusion, Ms. De St. Croix advised that public consultation for Phase 2 will begin in 2020 July and conclude 2020 fall, and will be followed with a Public Consultation Summary Report to Council.

The normal order of the agenda resumed.

3.1 Climate Emergency: Burnaby's Climate Action Framework (x-ref. Item 5.1)

Mr. Dipak Dattani, Director Corporate Services and **Ms. Ellen Pond**, Director C2MP, provided an overview of Burnaby's Climate Action Framework. The Framework outlines 'Big Moves' and 'Quick Starts' to ensure that climate action continues to progress within the City across all sectors, at a pace commensurate with the City's updated community carbon pollution reduction targets.

Mr. Dattani advised that in 2019 September Council adopted a resolution declaring a Climate Emergency, which set new carbon reduction targets for the City. The targets included: 45% reduction by 2030; 75% by 2040 and carbon neutral by 2050. Further, Council committed to bring forward a Community Climate Action Framework, and accelerated climate action, like the public Electric Vehicle charging pilot project.

Ms. Pond advised that the Framework builds on the City's Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Community Energy and Emissions Plan. It takes a holistic approach and focuses on goals of capacity and resilience, and emissions reduction; and includes seven 'Big Moves'. The following summarizes the goals (in bold) and 'Big Moves':

Capacity and Resilience

1. Climate Leadership
2. Resilient Neighbourhoods
3. Healthy Ecosystems

Transportation

4. Accelerated Mode Shift
5. Zero-Emission Vehicles

Buildings

6. Zero-Emission Buildings – New Zero New
7. Zero-Emission Buildings – Retrofits

Further, each 'Big Move' has three to four associated 'Quick Start' actions, which are detailed in the report.

In conclusion, Mr. Dattani advised that success requires sustained resourcing for climate action; strong climate commitments, action and resourcing from senior governments; and support from businesses and residents in the community.

Arising from discussion, the Committee introduced the following motion:

MOVED BY MS. LUMBY

SECONDED BY MS. VAN GINKEL

THAT item 5.1 Reports be brought forward for consideration at this time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5.1 Report from the Director Corporate Services and the Director Planning and Building - Re: Climate Action Framework

The Director Corporate Services and the Director Planning and Building submitted a report seeking authorization for a Climate Action Framework which outlines 'Big Moves and Quick Starts' to ensure that climate action continues to progress within the City.

The Director Corporate Services and the Director Planning and Building recommended:

1. THAT the Committee recommend to Council to:
 - a) approve the Climate Action Framework, as outlined in Section 5 of this report;
 - b) direct staff to bring forward a separate report on a City Energy Strategy showing corporate leadership in reducing carbon emissions and energy use; and,

- c) direct staff to publicly report annually on the Climate Action Framework's progress and the City's Corporate Energy Strategy implementation.

MOVED BY MS. SHUSHTARIAN

SECONDED BY MR. ZAWADZKI

THAT the recommendation of the Director Corporate Services and the Director Planning and Building be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The normal order of the agenda resumed.

3.2 City Energy Strategy (x-ref. Item 5.2)

Mr. Dipak Dattani, Director Corporate Services, provided an overview of the City's Energy Strategy.

Mr. Dattani advised that the City Energy Strategy sets a carbon neutral target of 2040, which is ten years ahead of the community target. Developed by a cross-developmental staff team, the Strategy provides a framework and outlines four 'Big Moves' with associated areas of action and action phasing.

**Councillor Jordan left the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and returned at 6:04 p.m.*

The speaker noted that the total corporate emissions are mainly from Fleet and Facilities natural gas. The data shows that, between 2016 and 2019, fleet emissions have remained constant, heavy-duty vehicles are the largest contributor, and facility emissions are in decline. To be carbon neutral by 2040, the energy transition will rely heavily on grid electricity, with some diesel and natural gas renewables.

In conclusion, Mr. Dattani advised that the City Energy Strategy aligns with the (Community) Climate Action Framework and uses four of the seven community 'Big Moves', including: Climate Leadership, Zero Emission Vehicles (Green Fleet and Equipment), Zero Emission Buildings - Net Zero New, and Zero Emission Buildings - Retrofits.

The Committee inquired regarding any City Energy Strategy pit falls or hurdles.

Mr. Dattani advised that there are two main challenges: 1) retrofitting existing buildings to zero emissions; and 2) leading staff to a new way of doing business as the City shifts from a decentralized to a centralized model.

Arising from discussion, the Committee introduced the following motion:

MOVED BY MS. VANDERKOP
 SECONDED BY TRUSTEE CECH

THAT item 5.2 Reports be brought forward for consideration at this time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5.2 Report from the Director Corporate Services - Re: City Energy Strategy

The Director Corporate Services submitted a report seeking authorization for the City's Energy Strategy.

The Director Corporate Services recommended:

1. THAT the Committee recommend Council to approve the City Energy Strategy, as outlined in Section 4 of this report.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR JORDAN
 SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR WANG

THAT the recommendation of the Director Corporate Services be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The normal order of the agenda resumed.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

4.1 Correspondence from Environment and Climate Change Canada - Re: Consultation on Amending Schedule 1 of the Species at Risk Act

Correspondence was received from Environment and Climate Change Canada advising on a proposal to amend Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* for 17 terrestrial species, and inviting public comment on the proposal by 2020 May 07 for species under a normal consultation process and by 2020 October 07 for species following an extended consultation process.

Staff advised that only one of the species included on this list is found in the Lower Mainland, and it is being reviewed for possible comment.

4.2 Correspondence from Metro Vancouver - Re: Invasive Species Education and Outreach Materials

Correspondence was received from Metro Vancouver providing a copy of the above noted report adopted at the Metro Vancouver Regional District meeting held on 2020 February 28. The report provides information on two new outreach

products, an online course and a public brochure, to raise awareness about invasive species of concern across the region.

Staff provided an overview of the work they do with invasive species, including: facilitating a public workshop each spring; participating on the Invasive Species Council of BC; and working with many organizations on removal, which includes hands-on public education.

The Committee expressed concern regarding the cost and difficulty of removing knotweed, and appealed to the public to report any sightings of the weed.

Staff advised that knotweed is a very aggressive plant, all park spaces have been inventoried, and a treatment plan and schedule for removal is in place. Further, Parks staff (grass-cutters) undergo extensive training on plant handling, as well as staff are very engaged with the public. The public are asked to call the City to report knotweed.

4.3 Correspondence from Earth Day Canada - Re: Participation in Earth Day Canada 2020 Campaign

Correspondence was received from Earth Day Canada providing information on the Earth Day Canada 2020 Campaign, and seeking support for a partnership with the City in this year's event to be held 2020 April 22.

4.4 Memorandum from the Director Planning and Building - Re: 2020 Environmental Awards Program Status Update

A memorandum was received from the Director Planning and Building providing information on the status of the 2020 Environmental Awards Program.

Staff advised that as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the normal nomination review and award process was put on hold. Staff is proposing to review the nominations and prepare a report to Council for the closed agenda on 2020 September 14 recommending recipients; and, upon Council approval, submit a report for the Open Council meeting on 2020 September 28 for public announcement of the awards.

4.5 Memorandum from the Administrative Officer - Re: New Burnaby Transportation Plan - Phase 2

A memorandum was received from the Administrative Officer advising that Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2020 February 10, adopted the above noted report endorsing the public consultation proposals and authorizing staff to initiate a process for Phase 2 public consultation towards the development of a new Burnaby Transportation Plan.

4.6 Memorandum from the Administrative Officer - Re: Employee Transit Incentive Program

A memorandum was received from the Administrative Officer advising that Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2020 February 24, adopted the above noted report proposing revisions to the Employee Transit Incentive Program.

4.7 Memorandum from the Deputy City Clerk - Re: 2019 Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program Report

A memorandum was received from the Deputy City Clerk advising that Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2020 May 11, adopted the above noted report providing information of the climate actions and corporate emissions reported in the 2019 Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) Report, and fulfilling the annual CARIP grant requirement to report publicly.

Staff advised that the City receives approximately \$350,000 each year through the Program which is put into the Climate Action Reserve fund.

4.8 Memorandum from the Deputy City Clerk - Re: 2019 Annual Solid Waste And Recycling Report - Highlights And Looking Ahead

A memorandum was received from the Administrative Officer advising that Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2020 June 01, adopted the above noted report presenting the 2019 annual report on the City's Integrated Solid Waste and Recycling Program.

Staff advised that the Solid Waste and Recycling 2019 Annual Report is available on the City website.

4.9 Memorandum from the Deputy City Clerk - Re: Annual Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Report (2019)

A memorandum was received from the Deputy City Clerk advising that Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2020 June 08, adopted the above noted report presenting the City's Annual Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Report for 2019.

Staff advised that the Annual Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Report for 2019 will be posted on the City website, and available at Burnaby Public Libraries.

5. **REPORTS**

5.1 **Report from the Director Corporate Services and the Director Planning and Building - Re: Climate Action Framework**

This item was dealt with earlier in the agenda.

5.2 **Report from the Director Corporate Services - Re: City Energy Strategy**

This item was dealt with earlier in the agenda.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business brought before the Committee at this time.

7. **INQUIRIES**

There were no inquiries brought before the Committee at this time.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Without objection, the Environment Committee Open meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

CHAIR

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

From: Anitra Paris <Anitra.Paris@cleanenergybc.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2020 4:17 PM
Cc: Laureen Whyte <Laureen.whyte@cleanenergybc.org>
Subject: RE: Clean Energy BC - Bill 17 proposed amendments to Clean Energy Act

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. **The City will never ask for personal or account information or account password through email.** If you feel this email is malicious or a scam, please forward it to phishing@burnaby.ca

Hello,

This is a follow up to a media backgrounder provided about Bill 17 on June 29th 2020.

If the amendments proposed in Bill 17 to remove self-sufficiency are also concerning to your community then we encourage you to submit a letter to your MLA regarding this issue. Please see an example template attached above.

Clean Energy BC's Executive Director, Laureen Whyte is available if you have any further questions. Please let me know if you would like to arrange a call.

Thank you,
 Anitra Paris
 Operations & Policy Manager



354-409 Granville Street | Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2, Canada
 Mobile: 778.228.4711 | Office: 604.568.4778 | Toll Free: 1.855.568.4778 | Fax: 604.568.4724
 Located on the unceded traditional territories of the Squamish (Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw),
 Tsleil-Waututh (Selilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh), and Musqueam (xʷməθkʷəy̓əm) First Nations
anitra.paris@cleanenergybc.org
www.cleanenergybc.org

From: Anitra Paris
Sent: June 29, 2020 11:21 AM
Cc: Laureen Whyte <Laureen.whyte@cleanenergybc.org>
Subject: Clean Energy BC - Bill 17 proposed amendments to Clean Energy Act

Hello,

We are reaching out to you regarding the introduction to the BC legislature last week of Bill 17. Of concern, is the proposal to repeal the self-sufficiency requirement of the Clean Energy Act, which would have significant detrimental effects on independent power production (IPP) in BC. The Bill proposes to enable BC Hydro to purchase imported electricity from the US, instead of continuing to rely mostly on renewable power projects in this province.

This will also impact Indigenous owned, partnered and participating IPPs.

Importantly as we begin to consider economic recovery from the Covid 19 pandemic, we believe this is a bad time to stop the clean, sustainable economic development – jobs, local purchase, and taxes - throughout BC that the IPP industry provides.

Please find attached a backgrounder explaining the issues we believe are important. We want to ensure that communities throughout the province are aware of the potential impacts.

Please contact our Executive Director Laureen Whyte (laureen.whyte@cleanenergybc.org) or myself if you would like to discuss this issue.

Thank you,
Anitra Paris
Operations & Policy Manager



354-409 Granville Street | Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2, Canada
Mobile: 778.228.4711 | Office: 604.568.4778 | Toll Free: 1.855.568.4778 | Fax: 604.568.4724
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Tsleil-Waututh (Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh), and Musqueam (xʷməθkʷəy̓əm) First Nations*
anitra.paris@cleanenergybc.org
www.cleanenergybc.org

MEDIA BACKGROUNDER

Bill 17 - 2020 Clean Energy Amendment Act, 2020

Created in 1961, BC Hydro (BCH) has enjoyed a near monopoly of the generation and distribution of power in the province. Like crown corporation utilities in other provinces, BCH takes seriously its mandate to deliver inexpensive, reliable electricity to ratepayers. Historically, that has meant big hydro megaprojects. Those legacy assets are considered the crown jewel of BC's power system and hydropower is BCH's preferred method of generating power.

The provincial government decided in 2007 to support the wind and solar in addition to small hydro. The new guiding principle was "self-sufficiency," the requirement that there always be enough power generated within BC to meet provincial needs, at a predictable cost. Imported electricity prices were very high, and at 18% of its portfolio, BCH deemed import levels were too high. BCH created the Standing Offer Program and entered into energy purchase agreements (EPAs) with Clean Energy BC members, the independent power producers. The utility was forecasting steady demand growth and welcomed the new supply, even though its pricing reflected the earlier phase of technology development.

Then the global financial system collapsed in 2008. The subsequent Great Recession reduced demand for electricity and consumption did not return to former levels until 2017. Suddenly, BCH had too much electricity.

Two years ago, BCH began terminating "mom and pop" small hydro projects that had supplied clean electricity for decades. Last year the Standing Offer Program was suspended. Then, the 2019 *Zapped* report alleged that BCH had bought too much electricity at excessive prices, leading to suspicions that the contracts were "sweetheart deals" for friends of the government. Although Clean Energy BC used BCH and BC Utilities Commission data to credibly refute *Zapped's* data and conclusions shortly after it was published, the public relations damage was done.

Now the BC government wants to end self-sufficiency, effectively putting independent power producers out of business even if that means stranded assets and in some cases, bankruptcy. Without self-sufficiency, if BCH needs extra electricity, it would revert back to buying it on the Mid C spot market.

Clean Energy BC applauds the government for requiring that power to be certified as clean. That's the part the government got right. The rest of the strategy that underpins Bill 17 is a poorly conceived mess.

By trying to fix problems created by previous governments, Victoria is instead making a bad situation much, much worse.

Where BC went wrong

The problem started with the government's 2007 decision to shift the cost of developing a renewable energy sector to BCH, essentially hiding that cost on the utility's balance sheet rather than the Province's.

This is not how other jurisdictions have stimulated renewables development. The most common tool is some form of a feed-in tariff. These are long-term contracts based upon the cost to produce power from nascent energy technologies. They often include the option to lower the price paid as those technologies mature and produce ever cheaper electricity.

Texas, for example, implemented renewable energy portfolios under Gov. George W. Bush in the late 1990s and now gets 17 per cent of its electricity from wind and a growing percentage from solar. Germany, Denmark, California, Ontario - the list is a long one of national and sub-national governments that paid more for renewable energy in order to kick start the technology and the industry.

One of the advantages of feed-in tariffs is that the financial support is provided by governments - not directly by ratepayers - and acknowledged as a subsidy. And reporting in public budgets is transparent. Had the BC government taken this approach and not shifted financial responsibility for EPAs to BCH, the British Columbia IPP narrative would likely be very different.

As it stands now, in part because of the disputed analysis in *Zapped*, IPPs are viewed by the government as a costly and unnecessary burden, contracts that must be shed to help BCH reduce costs and repair its damaged balance sheet. In fact, this is probably the dominant narrative within the province.

Judging by Friday's story in *Victoria Now*, this is already Minister Bruce Ralston's narrative: "It will give a certain flexibility to the utility so that it will be able to import, particularly from jurisdictions where there is a 100-per-cent clean standard, rather than the self-sufficiency requirement, which was basically designed to make sure that private power companies were able to prosper," Ralston said.

Another wrinkle to the existing narrative is the preference for public ownership by many members of the BC NDP caucus.

From Clean Energy BC's point of view, Bill 17 damages far more than it repairs. Below are four arguments for scrapping the legislation and embracing IPPs as partners, not adversaries.

Undermining BC's energy security

Minister Ralston argues that BC can import power any time it needs to. Will that always be true in the future?

British Columbia isn't the only jurisdiction electrifying its economy in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. US states like Washington and California, from which Powerex imports electricity, are preparing to aggressively shift transportation, industry, and buildings off fossil fuels. Just like BC.

Will those jurisdictions have enough inexpensive, clean power generation to electrify their economies and surplus for British Columbia? The BC government is gambling that they will and that cheap power will continue for decades, conveniently forgetting other times - such as the early 2000s - when prices spiked as high as \$250/MWh.

What if electricity demand in those states outstrips supply and prices rise? What if climate change continues to exacerbate California wildfires, increasing the threat of taking the state's power supply offline? What about when drought inevitably returns to the Western United States, reducing hydro generation and raising prices?

Increasing dependence upon the Mid C spot market just as regional jurisdictions begin to electrify their economies in response to the climate crisis is a short-sighted strategy that could easily backfire, leading to decreased energy security and higher rates for BC ratepayers.

Wind and solar are lowest cost power generation options

Feed-in tariffs in other jurisdictions provided important support that allowed wind costs to decline from \$101/MWh in 2009 to \$28/MWh in 2019; the drop in costs is even more dramatic for solar, which fell from \$323/MWh to \$32/MWh, according to Lazard's levelized cost of energy study. Compare those numbers to new natural gas combined cycle at \$44 and new coal at \$66.

Last year, an Alberta government renewables auction saw a record low price of \$37/MWh for wind power.

Please note that these costs are unsubsidized and do not include the effect of carbon taxes, which would further favour wind and solar. Furthermore, a recent Wood Mackenzie study estimates that wind costs will fall another 17% by 2025. Factor in the rapidly falling cost of battery storage and there is no doubt renewables are the least cost option for British Columbia.

British Columbia's approach to building out IPPs may not have been as effective as other jurisdictions, but the province now boasts a robust IPP industry just as wind and solar have



become the world's lowest-cost form of power generation. By comparison, power from Site C is estimated to cost as much as \$83/MWh - or even higher if billion dollar cost overruns continue.

The BC government is sabotaging the potential for abundant cheap electricity in favour of some of the highest cost power in the world. It doesn't have to be like this.

Clean Energy BC members are ready and willing to help the BC Government and BCH achieve the ambitious electrification strategy set out in CleanBC while keeping electricity prices low for ratepayers.

In fact, IPPs are the BC government's only chance of producing enough power to electrify the provincial economy over the next 30 years.

Meeting CleanBC targets impossible without wind, solar

"Will BC have enough electricity to support electric vehicles? The answer was no. Mungall asserted BC will need the equivalent of five Site C dams to power the transition from fossil fuels that is envisioned in CleanBC. Heyman said BC has enough electricity for 5-10 years but will need to work now to develop offshore wind power, geothermal and solar resources as well as developing better battery storage technology." - Kathy Hartman, The Valley Voice, November 21, 2019.

The ministers may be optimistic about needing just five Site C dams. Site C will produce 5,100 GWh of electricity per year, roughly 10 per cent of BC's current requirements. In a 2017 submission to the BC Utilities Commission, energy consultant Davis Swan estimated that converting provincial consumption of gasoline (diesel was not included) and natural gas would require just over 90,000 GWh of generation capacity, or roughly 18 Site C dams.

Whether it's the equivalent of five or 18 Site C dams, CEBC agrees with Minister Heyman that BC has a very short runway to begin building a tremendous amount of renewable energy capacity if CleanBC goals are to be achieved.

To the best of CEBC's knowledge, an actual plan to electrify the BC economy as called for by CleanBC has never been developed. But the comments from Ministers Mungall and Heyman suggest the BC government has done at least some preliminary analysis that concluded non-BCH power generation of renewable energy will be required.

There are only two ways to acquire the necessary amount of electricity: import risky electricity from the United States as contemplated by Bill 17 or build the generating capacity in BC.

Clean Energy BC members have already invested \$9 billion and are ideally positioned to further invest in new capacity. In fact, the culmination of the IPP program begun in 2007 has perfectly



positioned British Columbia to create a strong working partnership between the provincial crown utility and the small private power producers.

If the BC government chooses not to take this route, how will the CleanBC electrification objectives be met? The only sensible answer is that they most likely will not be achieved.

First Nation and community economic development opportunities

First Nations are leading developers of renewable energy in British Columbia. Feedback in 2017 from 102 BC First Nations and three tribal councils identified 78 operational projects with a total generation of 1,836 MW, while two-thirds of respondents had 48 projects in planning or construction. Overall, 98% of respondents indicated existing involvement or a desire to be involved with the renewable energy industry.

The business and job opportunities in First Nations and remote communities are invaluable. Local power generation displaces expensive, polluting diesel generators.

Clean power is aligned with Indigenous ways and the desire to live in harmony with fragile ecosystems. Now that British Columbia has formally adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, enabling First Nations to continue investing in renewable energy projects is an important component of reconciliation. The BC Utilities Commission recently recommended that BC amend the Utilities Commission Act to align with UNDRIP.

First Nations investment in renewable energy is an opportunity that British Columbia cannot afford to miss.

Conclusion

Last year, highly respected Canadian think tank Pembina Institute convened a forum of key stakeholders to discuss how CleanBC should be implemented. The subsequent report contains three key recommendations. The third recognizes “the need for a diversity of clean energy solutions to reduce fossil fuel dependence across B.C.’s economy.”

Ministers Heyman and Mungall publicly acknowledge BC needs renewable energy equivalent to at least five Site C dams to meet CleanBC goals. At the same time, Minister Ralston is pushing Bill 17 to kneecap independent power producers, the only sector that has the capacity to build the required renewable capacity. The government’s own cabinet ministers are sending mixed messages to British Columbians.

That confusion is reflected in the interim report of the Phase 2 review of BC Hydro. The review was expected to provide a roadmap for implementing CleanBC, especially addressing how electrification goals would be achieved. Instead, it “bogs down in vague discussions of secondary issues, makes several oddball proposals and invites a further round of public input



on a list of largely rhetorical questions,” as the BC Sustainable Energy Association aptly describes the report.

The government’s strategy for power generation and distribution is a mess. One thing, however, is clear: Clean Energy BC members represent the future of the global energy system. Across the planet, hundreds of billions are being invested in wind and solar farms. Wind/solar + storage + legacy systems like natural gas and hydro = the 21st century electricity model.

The low cost of renewable energy tells the story: BCH is building Site C at a cost of \$83/MWh while ignoring wind at \$28/MWh and solar at \$32/MWh.

Why are the BC government and BCH stuck in the 20th century?

Dear [MLA]:

Although there are some positive aspects to Bill 17, we are concerned about the negative implications of removing self-sufficiency from the Clean Energy Act.

We urge that Bill 17 be amended to remove the provision to repeal self-sufficiency from the Clean Energy Act.

Repealing self-sufficiency in Bill 17, would lead to more reliance by BC Hydro and Powerex on the spot market to meet BC's future electricity demand, exposing BC ratepayers to the uncertain supply and prices that led to the policy of self-sufficiency in the first place. Although there is currently availability and the price of excess electricity from the US is low, that could change with weather and drought conditions, or more wildfires. Further, the transmission system in the US is constrained.

In no industry does government argue for importing rather than generating goods and services right here in BC. BC should be fostering local renewable energy, encouraging investment in BC's economy, and the economic benefits that independent power projects deliver - not relying on more subsidized imports from the US.

Independent power projects offer much-needed investment in our economy, family-supporting jobs, business for local goods and services, taxes and fees, and a stream of revenue for communities and First Nations that own, invest or share in revenue from their operation. Renewable energy projects are viewed globally as a valuable part of a resilient and green recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. At a time when we are preparing for economic recovery, energy investments should benefit British Columbians.

Sincerely,

cc.

Premier John Horgan
 Minister Bruce Ralston, Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources
 Adam Olsen, Leader, BC Green Party
 Greg Kylo, Energy Critic, Liberal Party of BC
 Andrew Weaver, Independent MLA

Board and Information Services
 Tel. 604 432-6250 Fax 604 451-6686

File: CR-12-01
 Ref: RD 2020 Jul 3

JUL 20 2020

Kate O'Connell, City Clerk
 City of Burnaby
 4949 Canada Way
 Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2
VIA EMAIL: kate.oconnell@burnaby.ca

Dear Ms. O'Connell:

**Best Management Practices for Invasive Species:
 Purple Loosestrife, Reed Canarygrass, Wild Chervil, and Yellow Flag Iris**

At its July 3, 2020 regular meeting, the Board of Directors of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (Metro Vancouver) adopted the following resolution:

That the MVRD Board:

- a) receive for information the report dated May 22, 2020, titled "Best Management Practices for Invasive Species: Purple Loosestrife, Reed Canarygrass, Wild Chervil, and Yellow Flag Iris"; and*
- b) direct staff to forward the Best Management Practices to member jurisdictions for information.*

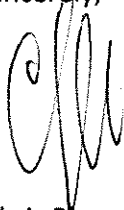
Metro Vancouver worked with the Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver, member jurisdictions and other local experts to produce new best management practices for four priority invasive plants - purple loosestrife, reed canarygrass, wild chervil, and yellow flag iris. These guides build on an existing library of technical guidance for eleven other priority invasive species - knotweeds, giant hogweed, European fire ant, European chafer beetle, Himalayan blackberry, Scotch broom, English holly, English and Irish ivies, yellow archangel, Himalayan balsam, and parrot's feather. These documents provide locally-relevant information about how to identify, track, report, dispose of, prevent further spread, and effectively control these species, as well as regulatory requirements, monitoring and restoration tips, references and additional resources. The four newest best management practice guides (purple loosestrife, reed canarygrass, wild chervil, and yellow flag iris) also include a new section that describes how each invasive species may adapt as our climate changes.

The best management practices and other resources can be found on metrovanancouver.org by searching for 'invasive species'. Enclosed is a copy of the staff report for your information.

39890979

If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Bates-Frymel, Senior Regional Planner, Regional Planning and Housing Services, by email at Laurie.Bates-Frymel@metrovancover.org or by phone at 604-436-6787.

Sincerely,



Chris Plagnol
Corporate Officer

CP/HM/lbf

Encl: Report dated May 22, 2020, titled "Best Management Practices for Invasive Species: Purple Loosestrife, Reed Canarygrass, Wild Chervil, and Yellow Flag Iris" (Doc# 39200440)

To: Climate Action Committee

From: Laurie Bates-Frymel, Senior Planner
Regional Planning and Housing Services Department

Date: May 22, 2020 Meeting Date: June 19, 2020

Subject: **Best Management Practices for Invasive Species: Purple Loosestrife, Reed Canarygrass, Wild Chervil, and Yellow Flag Iris**

RECOMMENDATION

That the MVRD Board:

- a) receive for information the report dated May 22, 2020, titled “Best Management Practices for Invasive Species: Purple Loosestrife, Reed Canarygrass, Wild Chervil, and Yellow Flag Iris”; and
 - b) direct staff to forward the Best Management Practices to member jurisdictions for information.
-

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Building on an existing library of technical guidance for eleven priority invasive species, Metro Vancouver has again worked with the Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver, member jurisdictions and other local experts to produce a set of additional best management practices – this time for purple loosestrife, reed canarygrass, wild chervil, and yellow flag iris. These documents provide information about how to identify, track, report, dispose, prevent further spread and effectively control these species, as well as regulatory requirements, monitoring and restoration tips, references and additional resources. New this year, each best management practice guide also describes how each of these invasive species may adapt as our climate changes.

PURPOSE

To provide the Climate Action Committee and the MVRD Board with four new invasive species best management practices documents for information.

BACKGROUND

In 2018 and 2019, the Climate Action Committee received reports regarding best management practices for knotweed species, giant hogweed, European fire ant, European chafer beetle, Himalayan blackberry, Scotch broom, English holly, English and Irish ivies, yellow archangel, Himalayan balsam, and parrot’s feather. Those reports also identified the next set of species for which locally-tested best management practices would be most valuable, based on input from member jurisdictions on the Regional Planning Advisory Committee – Invasive Species Subcommittee: purple loosestrife, reed canarygrass, wild chervil, and yellow flag iris. This report presents the best management practices that have been developed for those four species.

Invasive species best management practices are a Climate Action Committee Work Plan item for the second quarter of 2020.

THE NEED FOR AND DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Invasive species are non-native flora or fauna that out-compete native species and can be highly destructive and difficult to control. They can threaten property and recreational values, infrastructure, agriculture, public health and safety, as well as ecological health. According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, invasive species are one of the biggest causes of biodiversity loss and species extinctions, and are also a global threat to food security and livelihoods.

In 2016, the Regional Planning Advisory Committee-Invasive Species Subcommittee raised concern about inconsistent invasive species management practices across the region, and the need for locally-tested, practitioner-focussed guidance. They requested the development of regionally-appropriate best management practices for priority invasive species. In October 2018, the MVRD Board adopted the *Ecological Health Framework*, which illustrates Metro Vancouver's role in protecting and enhancing ecological health as it relates to its services and functions, and supporting regional efforts. The *Framework* commits Metro Vancouver to “develop and employ best practices in the management of invasive species on Metro Vancouver lands and promote their use region-wide”.

Metro Vancouver retained the Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver (ISCMV) to create the best management practice documents. The target audiences are local government staff, crews, project managers, contractors, consultants, developers, stewardship groups, and others who have a role in invasive species management. The best management practices include technical guidance about identification, tracking, reporting, effective prevention and control strategies, regulatory requirements, disposal, monitoring and restoration, as well as references and additional resources. This guidance is based on the best available scientific expertise and local experience.

OVERVIEW OF LATEST FOUR BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (REFERENCES 1-4)

The best management practices for purple loosestrife (Reference 1), reed canarygrass (Reference 2), wild chervil (Reference 3), and yellow flag iris (Reference 4) have been reviewed by members of the RPAC-Invasive Species Subcommittee and additional local experts. An overview of each document is provided below.

Purple Loosestrife

A serious wetland invader, purple loosestrife was first introduced to North America in the 1800s and has spread across the continent. It reproduces prolifically by root fragments and seeds; in fact, a single mature plant can produce more than two million seeds each year. Provincial legislation requires purple loosestrife control. If left uncontrolled, this plant will spread rapidly, outcompeting native species, reducing biodiversity, trapping sediments, and potentially impeding drainage.

Neogalerucella beetles, purple loosestrife's natural predator in Europe, have been approved for use on purple loosestrife in BC, but efficacy varies with environmental conditions. It is possible to manually remove newly established infestations by pulling or digging.

Reed Canarygrass

Although there is some debate about the origins of reed canarygrass in BC, local research suggests that cultivars were introduced from Europe and Asia to support agricultural conversion of wetlands

in the early 1900s. This plant reproduces by seed and vegetatively, forming dense, persistent monocultures in wetlands, ditches, floodplains, and wet meadows.

Control of reed canarygrass is challenging, especially considering it is often found in sensitive ecosystems. Most experts agree that the best long term strategy is to plant a diversity of native species in the area that will block sunlight since reed canarygrass is shade intolerant. Some success may be possible for dense patches by covering with a material that suppresses growth such as cardboard, mulch or geotextile. Small patches can be manually removed with a shovel.

Wild Chervil

Native to Europe, wild chervil spreads rapidly by both seed and plant fragments. It can outcompete native BC plants, pasture and hay crops, and is particularly damaging in riparian habitats. Wild chervil may also play a role in spreading a virus that can kill edible crops such as carrots and celery.

Pulling or digging out the entire taproot can be effective for small patches prior to flowering. Gloves should be worn during removal since wild chervil may cause skin irritation. For larger infestations, tilling or herbicide application can be effective, but both require trained staff. Care must be taken to minimize damage to the surrounding environment and all relevant laws must be followed, including municipal pesticide bylaws that may prohibit the use of certain herbicides.

Yellow Flag Iris

This plant was introduced to North America from the temperate regions of Eurasia as an ornamental wetland garden plant in the early 1900s. It spreads by seed and rhizome fragmentation, tolerates freshwater, brackish, and saline environments and can withstand extended periods of drought. It has been known to outcompete native cattails, sedges, and rushes, reducing habitat for birds, fish, and amphibian species. Provincial legislation requires yellow flag iris control.

Small patches of yellow flag iris can be removed by hand and cutting works in some aquatic sites. Covering the plants with a barrier/matting has also provided effective control in several cases.

Prevention and Disposal

As with all invasive species, prevention (e.g., using invasive species-free soil, planting non-invasive plants, cleaning vehicles and equipment) is the most economical and effective way to reduce the risk of spread over the long term. These best management practice guides provide a link to a list of possible disposal facilities, but practitioners should always contact the disposal facilities beforehand to confirm the facility will accept the material. Invasive plants should not be placed in backyard composters as the temperature may not become hot enough to destroy the seeds and roots.

Climate Adaptation

This set of best management practice documents features a new section on 'Climate Adaptation' that describes how each species may adapt as our climate changes based on their ability to withstand warmer temperatures, summer drought, warmer wetter winters, and an extended growing season.

NEXT STEPS

To increase awareness of these best practices, staff recommends circulation to member jurisdictions, as per Alternative 1.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the MVRD Board:
 - a) receive for information the report dated May 22, 2020, titled "Best Management Practices for Invasive Species: Purple Loosestrife, Reed Canarygrass, Wild Chervil, and Yellow Flag Iris"; and
 - b) direct staff to forward the Best Management Practices to member jurisdictions for information.
2. That the Climate Action Committee receive for information the report dated May 22, 2022, titled "Best Management Practices for Invasive Species: Purple Loosestrife, Reed Canarygrass, Wild Chervil, and Yellow Flag Iris", and provide alternate direction to staff.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2019 MVRD Board-approved Regional Planning budget included \$20,000 for best management practices presented in this report. Under both Alternative 1 and 2, best management practices documents have been prepared within approved budgets. Under Alternative 1, these documents will be shared with member jurisdictions.

CONCLUSION

A Climate Action Committee work plan item for the second quarter of 2020, best management practices have been compiled for four additional invasive species found within the Metro Vancouver region: purple loosestrife, reed canarygrass, wild chervil, and yellow flag iris. These documents provide locally-tested technical guidance about identification, tracking, reporting, climate adaptation, effective prevention and control strategies, regulatory requirements, disposal, monitoring and restoration, as well as references and additional resources. Staff recommend Alternative 1, that the Board receive the latest invasive species best management practices documents for information, and direct staff to forward them to member jurisdictions.

References

1. Best Management Practices for Purple Loosestrife in the Metro Vancouver Region - June 2020
2. Best Management Practices for Reed Canarygrass in the Metro Vancouver Region - June 2020
3. Best Management Practices for Wild Chervil in the Metro Vancouver Region - June 2020
4. Best Management Practices for Yellow Flag Iris in the Metro Vancouver Region - June 2020



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

File: CR-12-01
 Ref: RD 2020 May 29

JUL 15 2020

The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson
 Minister of Environment and Climate Change
 Environment and Climate Change Canada
 House of Commons
 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
 VIA EMAIL: Jonathan.Wilkinson@parl.gc.ca

The Honourable George Heyman
 Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
 Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
 PO Box 9047 Stn Prov Gov
 Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
 VIA EMAIL: ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Wilkinson and Minister Heyman:

Low Carbon Economic Stimulus Funding in Response to COVID-19

On behalf of the Metro Vancouver Board of Directors, I am writing to urge the Federal and Provincial governments to ensure economic stimulus funding is directed to low carbon initiatives.

At its May 29, 2020 regular meeting, the Board of Directors of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (Metro Vancouver) adopted the following resolution:

That the MVRD Board write letters to the provincial Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change, and other appropriate government agencies to call for economic stimulus funding to be directed to low carbon initiatives.

The emergence of COVID-19 has led to dramatic health, social, and economic shifts as our communities face the all-encompassing challenge of responding to and overcoming this crisis. Policy makers at all orders of government have naturally been focused on critical near-term decisions on public health and employment. Unfortunately, this has also lowered the priority placed on climate change action as public health and social security measures have taken precedence.

However, when making decisions with long-term impacts, it is critical that we maintain our focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. In the past, the Federal and Provincial governments have used stimulus spending to reinvigorate stressed economies. Economic stimulus measures to support economic recovery following the impact of COVID-19 should have a specific focus on economic growth in low carbon jobs and sectors that are sustainable over the long term. The equitable distribution of benefits is essential as the impacts of both COVID-19 and climate change will likely be felt disproportionately by the most vulnerable, so it will be critical to prioritize actions that build resiliency and reduce inequalities.

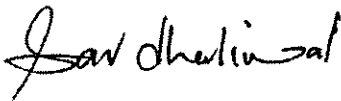
38913250

Through *Climate 2050*, the region's 30-year climate action strategy, Metro Vancouver is committed to building a carbon neutral and climate resilient region by 2050. The actions necessary to reach carbon neutrality and strengthen the resiliency of the region will only be possible with strong policy alignment and collaboration between all levels of government. Federal and Provincial investment in infrastructure programs and projects that support low carbon alternatives, long-term economic stability and climate resiliency should be central to the composition of new economic stimulus funding. This spending must align with our shared objectives of economic recovery for communities, the equitable distribution of benefits, and the creation of economic growth in low carbon sectors that are sustainable over the long term.

A copy of the staff report is enclosed for your information. We would be happy to provide additional details on specific projects and initiatives and discuss with your staff.

If you have any questions, please contact Roger Quan, Director, Air Quality and Climate Change, by phone at 604-436-6770 or by email at Roger.Quan@metrovancover.org.

Yours sincerely,



Sav Dhaliwal
Chair, Metro Vancouver Board

SD/NC/mb

cc: Hon. Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, Infrastructure Canada
Hon. Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Natural Resources, Natural Resources Canada
Hon. Bruce Ralston, Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
Hon. Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Hon. Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
Metro Vancouver Member Jurisdictions

Encl: Report dated May 15, 2020, titled "Low Carbon Economic Stimulus Funding in Response to COVID-19". (39110011)

38913250

To: MVRD Board of Directors

From: Climate Action Committee

Date: May 15, 2020 Meeting Date: May 29, 2020

Subject: **Low Carbon Economic Stimulus Funding in Response to COVID-19**

CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That the MVRD Board:

- a) write letters to the provincial Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change, and other appropriate government agencies to call for economic stimulus funding to be directed to low carbon initiatives; and
 - b) forward copies of each letter to member jurisdictions for information.
-

At its May 15, 2020 meeting, the Climate Action Committee considered the attached report dated April 16, 2020, titled "Low Carbon Economic Stimulus Funding in Response to COVID-19. The Committee noted that some member jurisdictions may wish to consider similar letters to the provincial and federal governments and subsequently amended the recommendation as presented above in underline style.

Attachment

"Low Carbon Economic Stimulus Funding in Response to COVID-19", dated April 16, 2020

To: Climate Action Committee

From: Morgan Braglewicz, Policy Analyst
Parks and Environment Department

Date: April 16, 2020 **Meeting Date:** May 15, 2020

Subject: **Low Carbon Economic Stimulus Funding in Response to COVID-19**

RECOMMENDATION

That the MVRD Board write letters to the provincial Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change, and other appropriate government agencies to call for economic stimulus funding to be directed to low carbon initiatives.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The response to COVID-19 is currently focused on critical near-term decisions on key issues such as public health and high levels of unemployment. Once these issues begin to stabilize, the Provincial and Federal government will turn to decisions on how to stimulate economic recovery. Historically, government stimulus funding has focused on programs and public work projects. Despite support for “green stimulus” measures following the 2008 Great Recession, the potential to invest funding into low carbon initiatives went largely unrealized. Already, there have been public demands for post COVID-19 economic stimulus funding to go to the oil and gas sector. However, many organizations are advocating for low carbon initiatives to form the core of Canada’s economic stimulus spending, rather than investment in oil and gas. Metro Vancouver has an opportunity to add its voice in calling for the development of stimulus spending that is equitable and accelerates the growth of a resilient, low carbon economy, to support achievement of the climate goals that have been established for the region.

PURPOSE

To provide the Climate Action Committee with an overview of the challenges and opportunities for climate action during and after the COVID-19 crisis, and the potential impact of a letter from the MVRD Board advocating for increased spending on low carbon economic stimulus to align with Metro Vancouver’s climate action goals.

BACKGROUND

Through *Climate 2050*, Metro Vancouver is committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050 and ensuring the equitable implementation of actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Achieving this goal will only be possible with strong alignment and collaboration between all levels of government. As the Provincial and Federal governments implement economic stimulus measures to support economic recovery following the impact of COVID-19, Metro Vancouver should ensure that Provincial and Federal spending align with the shared objectives of economic recovery for communities, the equitable distribution of benefits, and the creation of economic growth in low carbon sectors that are sustainable over the long term.

COVID-19 CHALLENGES AND LEARNINGS

The emergence of COVID-19 has led to drastic health, social, and economic shifts as our communities face the all-encompassing challenge of overcoming this virus. Policy makers at all orders of government have been focused on critical near-term decisions on public health and employment crises. In recent weeks, the Provincial and Federal governments have announced unprecedented levels of economic support for individuals and businesses impacted by COVID-19. Inevitably, in the near term the COVID-19 crisis will lower the priority placed on climate change action as public health and social security measures take precedence. However, as decisions on economic stimulus spending are made, these decisions will have an effect on climate action.

Supporting a Low Carbon Future

Now, more than ever before, Canada and BC have an opportunity to accelerate the development of an economy that is sustainable in a low carbon future. It will be tempting for BC and Canada to fall back on existing economic pillars, which include the fossil fuel industry, as decisions are made to stabilize and revitalize the economy. Low oil prices are an additional complicating factor, as they simultaneously illustrate the precariousness of the oil and gas sector while also undermining the business case for energy efficiency or fuel switching. Propping up the oil and gas sector through stimulus spending may support near-term economic recovery for some, but it is at odds with Canada and BC's climate commitments and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Low carbon programs and projects that support long-term economic stability and climate resiliency should be central to the composition of new economic stimulus funding.

Implications for Climate Action

There will be important lessons to be learned from governments' reactions to the COVID-19 crisis that can potentially be applied to a renewed approach to climate action in a post COVID-19 environment. The response to COVID-19 has demonstrated that institutions can be nimble in decision-making, and change their processes quickly under pressure. It has also demonstrated that individuals are capable of changing long-held behaviours, though it remains to be seen how persistent those behaviour changes will be. Finally, impacts of both COVID-19 and climate change will likely be felt disproportionately by the most vulnerable, so it will be critical to prioritize actions that build resiliency and reduce inequalities.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS FUNDING

Historically, governments have put money into programs and public works projects to stimulate the economy following significant economic downturns. Most notably, Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal following the Great Depression of the 1920s and 1930s focused on providing relief for unemployed workers, recovery of the economy, and reform of the financial system. More recently, widespread economic stimulus was needed after the Great Recession of 2008. The role of "green stimulus" measures was widely discussed at the time. Despite analysis on the potential for "green stimulus" measures following the recession, this potential went largely unrealized as stimulus spending did not prioritize low carbon initiatives. In Canada, under 10% of all economic stimulus spending in 2009 was spent on "green stimulus" measures, amounting to approximately \$3.4 billion (Reference 1). Additionally, while the New Deal included a strong social component, significant amounts of stimulus spending after the 2008 Great Recession went to large financial institutions, leading to an inequitable distribution of the benefits from stimulus measures.

Low Carbon Stimulus Funding Mechanisms

There are numerous examples of mechanisms that can stimulate low carbon economic growth. Job creation and skills training can be focused on new low carbon sectors; investment can flow to low carbon infrastructure and renewable energy; industry investment can be tied to new environmental regulations; and tax instruments such as tax cuts, credits, exemptions, and subsidies can be introduced to direct spending in ways that decrease emissions and increase climate resilience. Many of these tools can be applied in a way that provides support and opportunities for more vulnerable individuals and communities.

Post COVID-19 Economic Stimulus Funding

The Federal and Provincial governments have already provided economic support for those impacted by COVID-19, and have indicated that they will announce economic recovery spending in the coming months. There will be a narrow window to determine how this money is spent, and how much of it goes to low carbon initiatives. Notably, the Federal government has already announced \$1.7 billion dollars in funding to go to the cleanup of orphaned oil and gas wells in western provinces, including BC. Given the relatively limited focus on low carbon initiatives in 2009 Canadian economic stimulus spending, and the current call from some Provincial Governments to stimulate the oil and gas sector, advocacy on this issue is likely needed to push significant spending into low carbon initiatives with an equitable distribution of benefits.

Several organizations have already been advocating for low carbon initiatives to drive economic stimulus spending. The International Energy Agency has advocated for clean energy to be at the heart of economic stimulus (Reference 2). In Canada, 265 academics submitted a letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau opposing an oil and gas bailout as part of Canadian economic stimulus spending (Reference 3). Some organizations, including the Pembina Institute, Efficiency Canada, and the Canada Green Building Council, have already developed sector-specific recommendations and strategies to support low carbon stimulus spending. Additionally, a number of Metro Vancouver member jurisdictions have raised this issue. Metro Vancouver has an opportunity to add its voice to other organizations' in calling for the development of stimulus spending that is equitable and accelerates the growth of a resilient, low carbon economy.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the MVRD Board write letters to the provincial Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change, and other appropriate government agencies to call for economic stimulus funding to be directed to low carbon initiatives.
2. That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated April 16, 2020, titled "Low Carbon Economic Stimulus Funding in Response to COVID-19" and provide alternate direction to staff.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with Alternative 1 in this report.

CONCLUSION

COVID-19 has already transformed our communities in profound ways. As critical near-term decisions help to stabilize public health and social support, the Provincial and Federal governments will begin to make decisions on economic stimulus spending to revitalize the economy. While economic recovery is the priority in these decisions, it is also important that they align with Metro Vancouver's *Climate 2050* commitments, as well as provincial and federal commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ensure the equitable distribution of benefits. Additionally, the economic transformations that are created through stimulus spending should support growth that is sustainable in the long term in a low carbon economy. However, some Provinces have already been calling for stimulus spending to go to the recovery of the oil and gas sector. Many other organizations are advocating for the implementation of low carbon economic stimulus measures.

Staff recommend Alternative 1, that the Board write letters to the provincial Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change and other agencies as appropriate, to call for economic stimulus funding to be directed to low carbon initiatives.

References

1. [Green Stimulus Measures](#)
2. [International Energy Agency Calls for Clean Energy Measures](#)
3. [Letter from 265 Academics on Economic Recovery Planning](#)

From: Nancy Lim [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 10:40 AM
To: Mayor <Mayor@burnaby.ca>
Subject: I want you to help animals

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. **The City will never ask for personal or account information or account password through email.** If you feel this email is malicious or a scam, please forward it to phishing@burnaby.ca

Dear Mike Hurley (Mayor), Burnaby,

Congratulations on becoming my next Member of Parliament. As one of your constituents, I am writing to express my concerns, which I hope you share, for animal welfare in Canada. In the recent election I voted for animals; and recently with the help of a survey hosted by Humane Canada, I am happy to share Canadians' top three animal welfare priorities: Re-introduction and passage of Bill S-214 (ban on cosmetic testing on animals). The creation of an all-party committee to review existing animal welfare legislation and make recommendations for improvements. Funding provided to strengthen our legal system's response to animal cruelty through training for enforcement officers, Crown Prosecutors and judges regarding animal cruelty crimes. I am also concerned about:

The wide-spread use of poisons in rodent control is killing our wildlife and harming greenspaces and waterways. Municipalities can play a key role in reducing rodenticide use and educating residents on preventative and alternative control measures.

Taking action to address which pest control measures are used on municipal property can make a significant change and show leadership on environmental, animal welfare and public health issues in local communities. The District of North Vancouver and the District of Saanich recently passed motions to ban rodenticide use on all municipal properties – I am now asking you to do the same for our community.

The BC SPCA is dedicated to supporting humane pest control and has spent years developing research partnerships, setting evidence-based wildlife-friendly standards through its AnimalKind accreditation program for wildlife and pest control companies, and working with municipalities to make local change. Each community has a role in preventing the suffering of animals and this action taken by Mayor and Council will be supported by the BC SPCA, other environmental and animal organizations, and residents.

I hope you will help make these issues a priority when you represent our riding, and, in the work you take on during this Parliament. If you would like to know more about Humane Canada and the work they do on behalf of Humane Societies and SPCAs, I invite you to visit www.humanecanada.ca. Congratulations again, and I look forward to the work you will do to improve the state of animal welfare in Canada. Sincerely,

Nancy Lim

[REDACTED]
 Burnaby, BC [REDACTED]
 Canada
 [REDACTED]

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: 2020 SEPTEMBER
29

FROM: ACTING CITY CLERK

FILE: 02410-20

SUBJECT: 2020 ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS PROGRAM
ITEM NO. 6.5.,MANAGER'S REPORTS, COUNCIL 2020 SEPTEMBER
28

Burnaby City Council, at the Open Council meeting held on 2020 September 28, received the above noted report and adopted the following recommendations contained therein:

1. THAT Council receive the report for information.
2. THAT Council approve the proposed Terms of Reference and call for nominations for the 2021 Environmental Awards Program and an expenditure of \$2,500 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions' operating budget for promotion and advertising.
3. THAT a copy of the report be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information.

Please find attached a copy of the report for your information.



Blanka Zeinabova
Acting City Clerk



Meeting 2020 September 28

COUNCIL REPORT

TO: CITY MANAGER **DATE:** 2020 Sept 23

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING **FILE:** 33000 01
Reference: Environmental Awards

SUBJECT: 2020 ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS PROGRAM

PURPOSE: To recommend recipients of the 2020 City of Burnaby Environmental Awards Program for Council approval and to approve the terms of reference, call for nominations and a \$2,500 expenditure for promoting and advertising the 2021 program.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council receive this report for information.
2. **THAT** Council approve the proposed Terms of Reference and call for nominations for the 2021 Environmental Awards Program and an expenditure of \$2,500 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions' operating budget for promotion and advertising.
3. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to the Environment Committee for information.

REPORT

1.0 BACKGROUND

The City of Burnaby's Environmental Awards Program recognizes the outstanding contributions made by individuals, groups, organizations, institutions, and businesses to environmental stewardship and sustainability in our community. These contributions support the ten goals of Burnaby's Environmental Sustainability Strategy (2016).

There are six categories of environmental awards: Business Stewardship, Communications, Community Stewardship, Green Choices, Planning and Development, and Youth. There are two designations in each category:

- **Environmental Awards**, for recognition of environmental achievements of a larger scale, such as long-term commitments to an organization or cause, leadership of numerous other individuals, and projects of a significant size and relatively complex scope; and

To: City Manager
 From: Director Planning and Building
 Re: 2020 Environmental Awards Program
 2020 September 23..... Page 2

- **Environmental Stars**, for recognition of environmental achievements of a smaller or more individual scale that may nevertheless serve to catalyze larger initiatives and inspire others.

At the direction of Council, in a given year, one (1) Environmental Award and a maximum of two (2) Environmental Stars may be awarded in each category.

This report recommends two (2) Environmental Awards and two (2) Environmental Stars for Council's approval. It is proposed that this year's recipients be announced to the public at the Regular Meeting of Council on 2020 September 28.

2.0 CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN

The Environmental Awards Program aligns with the *Corporate Strategic Plan* by supporting the following goals and sub-goals of the 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 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 NOMINATION REVIEW AND 2021 AWARDS PROGRAM

The 2020 nomination period opened in January and closed on April 3. It was promoted at civic facilities and to Burnaby's environmental community, published on the City's website, promoted on the City's social media channels, and advertised in local newspapers. The City received six (6) nominations in four award categories.

As indicated to the Environment Committee at the meeting of 2020 June 9, the lower number of nominations was expected because of the declaration of a public health emergency for COVID-19, which also resulted in changes to the nomination review process and the timeline and approach for issuing awards. We are hopeful the regular program and schedule can resume in 2021 with the call for award nominations proposed for the first quarter of the year, followed by review of nominations by the Environment Committee and announcement of award recipients coinciding with Environment Week in June. *Enclosed* with this report is a copy of the 2021 Terms of Reference for the awards program (see *Attachment 1*) and requested is an expenditure of \$2,500 from the Boards, Committees and Commissions operating budget to promote and advertise the program in 2021.

To: City Manager
 From: Director Planning and Building
 Re: 2020 Environmental Awards Program
 2020 September 23..... Page 3

4.0 2020 ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS AND STARS

At the Closed Council meeting of 2020 September 14, the following nominees for Environmental Awards and Environmental Stars was approved.

4.1 Environmental Awards

In the category of Community Stewardship: Elmer Rudolph

Elmer Rudolph has shown outstanding commitment to community stewardship, conservation and environmental protection with efforts that have rehabilitated Burnaby's natural environment.

Since recognition with an environmental award in 1996, in the very first year of Burnaby's awards program, Mr. Rudolph undertook an additional 24 years of volunteer service in the protection of Burnaby's diverse ecosystems. Mr. Rudolph is a former member and president of the Sapperton Fish & Game Club where he has volunteered his time since 1984 leading conservation initiatives and rehabilitation programs in the Brunette watershed. He has consistently demonstrated his commitment to community stewardship through his actions and by advocating for the ecological health of Brunette River and Burnaby Lake. Over the years, he has advocated for pollution prevention and improving water quality. He has worked on rehabilitation projects that include the installation of large woody debris and instream weirs, and the cleaning out of spawning beds to provide opportunities for successful salmon reproduction.

In 1997, Mr. Rudolph played a key role in starting a community fish hatchery in Burnaby, which has enhanced salmon populations in the Brunette River watershed, including significant salmon-bearing streams in Burnaby such as Eagle Creek, Still Creek, Beecher Creek, Guichon Creek, and Deer Lake Brook. The community hatchery operates through the Salmonid Enhancement Program of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, which works to conserve fish stocks, rebuild the salmon population and improve fish habitats. Each year Mr. Rudolph volunteers his time to work on salmon rehabilitation projects, to coordinate and manage volunteers, and to advocate for the protection and conservation of salmon. He also spends time with the younger generation to involve them in initiatives and provide education on the importance of species conservation.

Mr. Rudolph has played an exemplary role in community stewardship for the Brunette River and has inspired those who have worked alongside him as well as his community. His dedication, leadership and commitment to community stewardship initiatives to protect Burnaby's diverse ecosystem has made a positive impact on species conservation while demonstrating the importance of community action for environmental protection.

In the category of Green Choices: HUB Cycling Burnaby Committee

In 1998, **HUB Cycling** was established in an effort to improve cycling conditions around the Metro Vancouver area. Their mission is to educate people through action by hosting events to discuss the benefits of cycling for healthier, happier and more connected communities. The HUB cycling network currently has 3,000 members and over 40,000 direct supporters, with 10 volunteer committees spread across Metro Vancouver.

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The Burnaby Committee of HUB Cycling has supported Burnaby's vision for active transportation by advocating for many cycling facility improvements, including a separated cycle path to connect the Sea to River Bikeway over the Gilmore Avenue overpass of Highway 1. Beginning in 2014, their support for this project helped raise awareness for the separated cycle path and identify safety issues with existing cycling infrastructure. Specific activities included building public support for this project through cycling campaigns, which included 250 postcards sent to City Council supporting the separated cycle path, along with letters from major employers and individual employees in support of the project. They also made recommendations that informed the final design of the project. Approved by City of Burnaby Council in February 2019, construction of improvements to the overpass are now underway.

The Burnaby Committee of HUB Cycling continues to play an important part in advocating for safe infrastructure, working towards community linkages and promoting active transportation in Burnaby.

4.2 Environmental Stars

In the category of Youth: Burnaby Youth Sustainability Network, Emily Ng and Azzam Hag

The **Burnaby Youth Sustainability Network (BYSN)** is a youth-led organization that strives to create networks among Burnaby high school students for education and awareness of environmental issues and sustainability. The BYSN is made of a new group of student leaders each year.

Emily Ng was actively involved in conservation initiatives that focused on protecting local species and helped secure a government grant so her school could lead a hydroponics study designed to protect local salmon species. Emily promoted sustainable consumption and awareness around reducing waste by organizing school events such as the Bring Your Own Cup hot chocolate sale, as well as the thrift store project for repurposing used items. Emily is passionate about sustainability issues and is always looking for innovative ways to minimize pollution to the environment from the clothing industry by exploring alternate methods for sustainable fabric dyes using food waste.

Azzam Hag led the Burnaby South Green Team in starting a school wide gardening program, managed the school's greenhouse and promoted pollinator friendly gardens at his school. Each week, Azzam ran lunchtime meetings to raise awareness and discuss different environmental issues, such as plastic pollution and sustainable lifestyles that focus on waste reduction. Azam also took initiative to re-install the collection program for soft plastics in the school district to reduce waste and properly sort recyclable materials.

Although the public health emergency in BC disrupted the school year, the achievements of these two members of the BYSN are worthy of recognition.

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5.0 CONCLUSION

The City of Burnaby Environmental Awards Program recognizes significant environmental achievements of individuals, community groups, organizations, institutions, and businesses in our community. These achievements support the ten goals of the City's Environmental Sustainability Strategy, which challenges all of us to take action. For 2020, two (2) Environmental Awards and two (2) Environmental Stars are recommended for Council approval at the Closed Meeting on 2020 September 14, followed by public announcement at the Regular Council meeting on 2020 September 28. This report also requests Council approve the 2021 terms of reference and call for nominations.



E.W. Kozak, Director
 PLANNING AND BUILDING

MS/sa
Attachment

Copied to: Director Corporate Services
 Acting City Clerk

R:\Long Range Clerical\DOCSMS\Council Reports\2020\2020 Environmental Awards Program (2020.09.28).docx

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS 2021

TERMS OF REFERENCE

*Nomination
Deadline:
T.B.D.*

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.

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 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.

Questions?

City of Burnaby Planning Department:
Tel: 604-294-7400
Email: planning@burnaby.ca

**Nomination Deadline:
T.B.D.**