

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT  
FINANCE AND INTERGOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**Wednesday, January 15, 2020**

**1:00 pm**

**28<sup>th</sup> Floor Committee Room, 4730 Kingsway, Burnaby, British Columbia**

**REVISED AGENDA<sup>1</sup>**

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**1.1 January 15, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee adopt the agenda for its regular meeting scheduled for January 15, 2020 as circulated.

**2. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**2.1 October 16, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee adopt the minutes of its regular meeting held October 16, 2019 as circulated.

**3. DELEGATIONS**

**4. INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

**5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR STAFF**

**5.1 2020 Finance and Intergovernment Committee Priorities and Work Plan**

*Designated Speaker: Jerry Dobrovolny, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer*

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee endorse the work plan as presented in the report dated December 16, 2019 titled "2020 Finance and Intergovernment Committee Priorities and Work Plan".

**5.2 Authorization to Attend 2020 Standing Committee Events**

*Designated Speaker: Chris Plagnol, Corporate Officer*

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee approve attendance at the following events within the 2020 Leadership and Engagement program budget:

- Adaptation Canada 2020

---

<sup>1</sup> Note: Recommendation is shown under each item, where applicable.

- APA National Planning Conference 2020
- AWWA Annual Conference 2020
- AWWA – Sustainable Water Management Conference 2020
- BioCycle Connect West 2020 Conference
- BC Recreation and Parks Association Symposium 2020
- Canadian Housing and Renewal Association National Congress 2020
- Canadian Odour Conference 2020
- City Age 2020
- Electric Mobility Canada “EV 2020”
- Housing Central Conference 2020
- Indigenous Relations Seminar 2020
- International Economic Development Council 2020 Annual Conference
- National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference 2020
- Special Parks District Forum 2020
- Rail~Volution 2020
- Recycling Council of Alberta 2020 Waste Reduction Conference
- Recycling Council of BC 2020 Conference and Trade Show
- Utility Management Conference 2020
- Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference 2020
- Additional events approved by the Board Chair that align with the priorities of the appropriate standing committee

**5.3 Authorization to Attend 2020 International Events**

*Designated Speaker: Heather Schoemaker, General Manager, External Relations*

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee approve attendance at the following international events within the 2020 Leadership and Engagement program budget:

- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) World Council Meeting
- ICLEI Resilient Cities 2020
- World Urban Forum 10
- 2020 Study Tour
- Additional international conferences identified by the Chair that align with the priorities of the Leadership and Engagement Program

**5.4 MVRD Procedure Amending Bylaw No. 1297, 2020**

*Designated Speaker: Chris Plagnol, Corporate Officer*

That the MVRD Board:

- a) give first, second and third reading to *Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Amending Bylaw Number 1297, 2020*; and
- b) pass and finally adopt *Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Amending Bylaw Number 1297, 2020*.

**5.5 Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy Amendments**

*Designated Speaker: James Stiver, Division Manager, Growth Management and Transportation, Regional Planning and Housing Services and Conor Reynolds, Division Manager, Air Quality and Climate Change Policy, Parks and Environment*

That the MVRD Board approve the revised *Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy* and the associated Application Guide as presented in the report dated December 18, 2019, titled “Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy Amendments”.

**5.6 Metro Vancouver’s 2019 Zero Waste Conference**

*Designated Speaker: Heather Schoemaker, General Manager, External Relations and Ann Rowan, Division Manager, Collaboration and Engagement, External Relations*

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee receive for information the report dated December 13, 2019 and titled “Metro Vancouver’s 2019 Zero Waste Conference.”

**5.7 2019 International Events**

*Designated Speaker: Heather Schoemaker, General Manager, External Relations*

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee receive for information the report dated January 2, 2020, titled, “2019 International Events”.

**5.8 Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program**

*Designated Speaker: Peter Navratil, General Manager, Liquid Waste Services and Paul Henderson, General Manager, Solid Waste Services*

That the GVS&DD Board direct staff to submit applications for grant funding through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Green Infrastructure: Environmental Quality Sub-Stream for the following projects, as described in the report dated December 19, 2019, titled “Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program”:

- a) North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant Tertiary Upgrade with a total estimated cost of \$30 million – 73.33% from Canada and the Province of British Columbia and a 26.67% GVS&DD funding commitment in the amount of \$8,001,000 toward the project; and
- b) Waste-To-Energy Facility District Energy Program with a total estimated cost of \$30 million – 73.33% from Canada and the Province of British Columbia and a 26.67% GVS&DD funding commitment in the amount of \$8,001,000 toward the project.

**6. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**6.1 Correspondence dated November 21, 2019 regarding the Regional Economic Prosperity Service from Minister Ralston**

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

**8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS**

**9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING**

*Note: The Committee must state by resolution the basis under section 90 of the Community Charter on which the meeting is being closed. If a member wishes to add an item, the basis must be included below.*

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee close its regular meeting scheduled for January 15, 2020 pursuant to the *Community Charter* provisions, Section 90 (1) (g) as follows:

“90 (1) A part of the meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

(g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the regional district.”

**10. ADJOURNMENT/CONCLUSION**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee adjourn/conclude its regular meeting of January 15, 2020.

---

Membership:

Buchanan, Linda (C) - North Vancouver City  
Dhaliwal, Sav (VC) - Burnaby  
Booth, Mary-Ann - West Vancouver  
Brodie, Malcolm - Richmond

Coté, Jonathan - New Westminster  
Froese, Jack - Langley Township  
Hurley, Mike - Burnaby  
McCallum, Doug - Surrey

McCutcheon, Jen - Electoral Area A  
McEwen, John - Anmore  
Stewart, Kennedy - Vancouver  
Stewart, Richard - Coquitlam

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT  
FINANCE AND INTERGOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) Finance and Intergovernment Committee held at 1:04 p.m. on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 in the 28<sup>th</sup> Floor Committee Room, 4730 Kingsway, Burnaby, British Columbia.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chair, Mayor Linda Buchanan, North Vancouver City  
 Vice Chair, Councillor Sav Dhaliwal, Burnaby\*  
 Mayor Mary-Ann Booth, West Vancouver  
 Mayor Malcolm Brodie, Richmond\*  
 Mayor Jonathan Coté, New Westminster\*  
 Mayor Jack Froese, Langley Township\*  
 Mayor Doug McCallum, Surrey\*  
 Mayor John McEwen, Anmore  
 \* Also member of the George Massey Crossing Task Force

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mayor Mike Hurley, Burnaby  
 Mayor Kennedy Stewart, Vancouver  
 Mayor Richard Stewart, Coquitlam

**GEORGE MASSEY CROSSING TASK FORCE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor George Harvie, Delta  
 Mayor Val van den Broek, Langley City  
 Mayor Darryl Walker, White Rock

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Carol Mason, Chief Administrative Officer  
 Janis Knaupp, Legislative Services Coordinator, Board and Information Services

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**1.1 October 16, 2019 Regular Meeting Agenda**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee:

- a) amend the agenda for its regular meeting scheduled for October 16, 2019 by varying the order of the agenda to consider Section 9. Resolution to Close Meeting prior to Section 3. Delegations; and
- b) adopt the agenda as amended.

**CARRIED**

## **Agenda Varied**

Pursuant to Item 1.1, the order of the agenda was varied to consider Section 9. Resolution to Close Meeting at this point.

## **9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING**

### **It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee close its regular meeting scheduled for October 16, 2019 pursuant to the *Community Charter* provisions, Section 90 (1) (a), (g), (k) and (m) as follows:

- “90 (1) A part of the meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:
- (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the regional district or another position appointed by the regional district;
  - (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the regional district;
  - (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a regional district service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the board or committee, could reasonably be expected to harms the interests of the regional district if they were held in public; and,
  - (m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting.”

**CARRIED**

## **Adjournment/Reconvene**

The Finance and Intergovernment Committee adjourned its regular meeting of October 16, 2019 at 1:05 p.m. to convene a closed meeting, and reconvened at 1:24 p.m. with the following members being in attendance:

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chair, Mayor Linda Buchanan, North Vancouver City  
Vice Chair, Councillor Sav Dhaliwal, Burnaby  
Mayor Mary-Ann Booth, West Vancouver  
Mayor Malcolm Brodie, Richmond  
Mayor Jonathan Coté, New Westminster  
Mayor Jack Froese, Langley Township  
Mayor Mike Hurley, Burnaby  
Mayor Doug McCallum, Surrey  
Mayor John McEwen, Anmore  
Mayor Richard Stewart, Coquitlam (arrived at 1:42 p.m.)

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mayor Kennedy Stewart, Vancouver

## **Agenda Order Resumed**

The order of the agenda resumed with Section 2. Adoption of the Minutes being before the Committee.

### **2. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

#### **2.1 September 18, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes**

##### **It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee adopt the minutes of its regular meeting held September 18, 2019 as circulated.

**CARRIED**

### **3. DELEGATIONS**

#### **3.1 Roderick Louis**

The delegation was not present when called upon by the Chair.

### **4. INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

#### **4.1 Kelly Lownsborough, Director, Financial Planning and Analysis, TransLink**

Kelly Lownsborough spoke to Item 5.2 of the agenda related to TransLink's application for \$149.12 million in Gas Tax Funds, through the *Greater Vancouver Regional Fund*, for 2021 fleet expansion and modernization highlighting the scope of the request, budget, project benefits, and rationale for vehicle propulsion choices.

In response to questions, TransLink updated members on the rationale for a phased approach to fleet electrification and fuel choices for HandyDart.

Presentation material titled "Application for Federal Gas Tax Funding from the Greater Vancouver Regional Fund for 2021 Fleet Expansion and Modernization" is retained with the October 16, 2019 agenda.

##### **It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee further amend the agenda by varying the order of the agenda to consider Item 5.2 at this point.

**CARRIED**

## **Agenda Varied**

The order of the agenda was varied to consider Item 5.2 of the agenda at this point.

## 5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR STAFF

### 5.2 TransLink Application for Federal Gas Tax Funding for 2021 Fleet Expansion and Modernization

Report dated October 8, 2019 from Raymond Kan, Senior Planner, Regional Planning, seeking MVRD Board approval of TransLink's request for \$149.12 million in federal gas tax funding from the *Greater Vancouver Regional Fund* under Metro Vancouver's *Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy*.

#### **It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the MVRD Board approve \$149.12 million in funding from the *Greater Vancouver Regional Fund* for the following transit projects proposed by TransLink in its *Application for Federal Gas Tax funding for 2021 Fleet Expansion and Modernization* as attached to the report dated October 8, 2019, titled "TransLink Application for Federal Gas Tax Funding for 2021 Fleet Expansion and Modernization":

- a) Project 1 – Year 2021 Conventional 60-ft Hybrid Bus, 40-ft Hybrid Bus, and 40-ft Battery Electric Bus Purchases for Fleet Expansion;
- b) Project 2 – Year 2021 HandyDART Vehicle Purchases for Fleet Replacement;
- c) Project 3 – Year 2021 HandyDART Vehicle Purchases for Fleet Expansion;
- d) Project 4 – Year 2021 Community Shuttles Vehicle Purchases for Fleet Replacement;
- e) Project 5 – Year 2021 Community Shuttle Vehicle Purchases for Fleet Expansion; and
- f) Project 6 – Mark 1 SkyTrain Cars Refurbishment.

**CARRIED**

### **Agenda Order Resumed**

The order of the agenda resumed with Item 5.1 being before the Committee.

### 5.1 George Massey Crossing Project – Results of Technical Evaluation on the Six Short Listed Options

Report dated October 2, 2019 from Neal Carley, General Manager, Planning and Environment, and Heather McNell, Director, Regional Planning providing an update on the Province's George Massey Crossing Project technical evaluation of short-listed options to replace the Tunnel, and presenting for consideration the recommended option from the George Massey Crossing Task Force for consideration by the Finance and Intergovernment Committee.

In response to questions, provincial staff informed members about:

- projected costs being comparable for a six- or eight-lane tunnel option
- a bridge option requiring an amendment to the existing environmental certificate, having more impact on Deas Island Regional Park than a tunnel option, as well as noise, light and shade impacts
- tunnel construction having a temporary impact on fish and migratory birds



1:42 p.m. Mayor R. Stewart arrived at the meeting.

Members considered adding dedicated transit lanes in part b) of the recommendation.

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the MVRD Board:

- a) receive for information the report titled “George Massey Crossing Project – Results of Technical Evaluation on the Six Short Listed Options” dated September 24, 2019;
- b) based on the Province’s technical analysis, endorse a new eight-lane immersed-tube tunnel with multi-use pathway, including two transit lanes, as the preferred option for the George Massey Crossing for the purposes of public engagement; and
- c) request the Province to develop further plans to improve transit, along the entire Highway 99 corridor, to improve transit speed, reliability and capacity.

**CARRIED**

**5.2 TransLink Application for Federal Gas Tax Funding for 2021 Fleet Expansion and Modernization**

This item was previously considered.

**5.3 2020 - 2024 Financial Plan – Regional District Service Areas**

Report dated October 8, 2019 from Carol Mason, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer and Dean Rear, Acting Chief Financial Officer/General Manager, Financial Services, presenting the 2020-2024 Financial Plan for Regional District Service Areas of E911 Emergency Telephone Service, General Government Administration, General Government Zero Waste Collaboration Initiatives, Labour Relations, Regional Emergency Management, Regional GPS, Regional Economic Prosperity and Sasamat Fire Protection Service, for consideration by the Finance and Intergovernment Committee.

Members were provided a presentation regarding the 2020-2024 Financial Plan for Regional District Services Areas and the 2020-2024 Financial Plan for the Centralized Support Program as presented in Item 5.4 of the agenda.

Members discussed:

- alignment between the proposed budget and Board Strategic Plan
- utility and non-utility regional district services provided by Metro Vancouver
- proposed increases for the Regional Parks and Regional Housing functions

In response to comments, members were informed about:

- only the Regional District Service Areas and Centralized Support Programs being before the Committee for its consideration at this point

- the establishment of Metro Vancouver’s separate legal entities, services and membership eligibility

Concerns were expressed about affordability and overall household impact from the proposed 2020-2024 budget for all Metro Vancouver entities, including the cumulative long-term projected annual increases.

**Request of Staff**

Staff was requested to update the presentation material related to the 2020-2024 Financial Plan for Regional District Service Areas to clearly differentiate between the Regional District Areas and overall Metro Vancouver Budget, in preparation for the October 23, 2019 Board Budget Workshop.

Presentation material titled “2020-2024 Financial Plan Metro Vancouver Regional District” related to Items 5.3 and 5.4 of the agenda is retained with the October 16, 2019 agenda.

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee endorse the 2020-2024 Financial Plan for the Regional District Service Areas as presented in the report titled “2020-2024 Financial Plan – Regional District Service Areas”, dated October 8, 2019 and forward it to the Board Budget Workshop on October 23, 2019 for consideration.

**CARRIED**

**5.4 2020-2024 Financial Plan – Centralized Support Program**

Report dated October 7, 2019 from Carol Mason, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer and Dean Rear, Acting Chief Financial Officer/General Manager, Financial Services, presenting the 2020-2024 Financial Plan for the Centralized Support Program including Corporate Services, External Relations, Financial Services, Human Resources, Indigenous Relations and Legislative Services, for consideration by the Finance and Intergovernment Committee.

Presentation material titled “2020-2024 Financial Plan Metro Vancouver Regional District” related to Items 5.3 and 5.4 of the agenda is retained with the October 16, 2019 agenda.

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee endorse the 2020-2024 Financial Plan for the Centralized Support Program as presented in the report titled “2020-2024 Financial Plan – Centralized Support Program” dated October 7, 2019 and forward it to the Board Budget Workshop on October 23, 2019 for consideration.

**CARRIED**

## 5.5 **Cost Apportionment Bylaw Amendment – Allocation of Costs for Tertiary Treatment**

Report dated October 4, 2019 from Peter Navratil, General Manager, Liquid Waste Services and Dean Rear, Acting Chief Financial Officer/General Manager, Financial Services, seeking Board adoption of *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District (GVS&DD) Cost Apportionment Amending Bylaw No. 331, 2019*, to define tertiary treatment as a third tier for cost sharing across the GVS&DD.

Members were updated on the proposed amendments.

### **Request of Staff**

Staff was requested to correct the report dated October 4, 2019, titled “Cost Apportionment Bylaw Amendment – Allocation of Costs for Tertiary Treatment”, on page 3 of the report, in the paragraph following Table 1, by replacing the phrase “a reduction of \$6 to the North Shore” with the phrase “a reduction of \$8 to the North Shore”, prior to being forwarded to the November 1, 2019 Board meeting.

Comments were offered about the need to understand future capital costs associated with other regional wastewater treatment facilities. Concern was expressed about precedent-setting cost allocation for future projects.

In response to questions, members were informed about:

- board direction to move forward with a regional model and tertiary treatment, and benefits of a regional versus sewerage area model
- staff efforts to develop the 10- and 30-year financial plans
- future capital costs for the potential of adding tertiary filtration at other regional wastewater facilities is currently unknown
- status of the Annacis Wastewater Treatment Plant indicative design phase

### **It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the GVS&DD Board:

- a) approve the amendments to the *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Cost Apportionment Bylaw No. 283, 2014* for the allocation of charges for tertiary treatment;
- b) give first, second and third reading to *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Cost Apportionment Amending Bylaw No. 331, 2019*; and
- c) pass and finally adopt *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Cost Apportionment Amending Bylaw No. 331, 2019*.

**CARRIED**

## 5.6 **Manager’s Report**

Report dated October 1, 2019 from Carol Mason, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer, updating the Finance and Intergovernment Committee on the Committee’s 2019 Work Plan.

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee receive for information the report dated October 1, 2019, titled "Manager's Report".

**CARRIED**

**6. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**6.1 Correspondence re Rural Designation for Grant Eligibility – September 30, 2019**

Correspondence dated September 30, 2019, addressed to MVRD Board Chair Sav Dhaliwal, from Sarah Fraser, Executive Director, Regional Economic Operations Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, responding to the MVRD Board's request for the Province to reconsider designating the Village of Lions Bay as an eligible community under the Rural Dividend Program.

**6.2 Proposed 2020 Metro Vancouver Position Requests**

On-table report dated October 15, 2019 from Carol Mason, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer and Dean Rear, Acting General Manager, Financial Services/Chief Financial Officer, providing the Metro Vancouver Board of Directors rationale for proposed new permanent positions to be considered as part of the 2020 Metro Vancouver Budget process, for consideration at its October 23, 2019 Board Budget Workshop.

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee receive for information the following Information Items:

6.1 Correspondence re Rural Designation for Grant Eligibility – September 30, 2019

6.2 On-table report dated October 15, 2019, from Carol Mason, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer and Dean Rear, Acting General Manager, Financial Services/CFO, titled "Proposed 2020 Metro Vancouver Position Requests", regarding rationale for proposed new permanent positions to be considered as part of the 2020 Metro Vancouver Budget process, for the Board's consideration.

**CARRIED**

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

No items presented.

**8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS**

No items presented.

**9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING**

This item was previously considered.

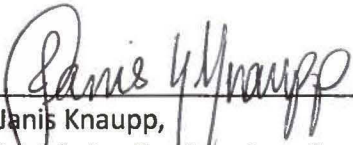
10. **ADJOURNMENT/CONCLUSION**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee adjourn its regular meeting of October 16, 2019.

**CARRIED**

(Time: 3:04 p.m.)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janis Knaupp,  
Legislative Services Coordinator

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda Buchanan, Chair

---

To: Finance and Intergovernment Committee

From: Jerry Dobrovolny, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer

Date: December 16, 2019 Meeting Date: January 15, 2020

Subject: **2020 Finance and Intergovernment Committee Priorities and Work Plan**

---

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee endorse the work plan as presented in the report dated December 16, 2019 titled “2020 Finance and Intergovernment Committee Priorities and Work Plan”.

---

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report presents the priorities and work plan for the Finance and Intergovernment Committee in 2020. Key actions are consistent with the endorsed 2020 Budget and Annual Work Plans for the Regional District Service Areas and Centralized Support Program, the Committee’s Terms of Reference, and the *Board Strategic Plan*.

### **PURPOSE**

To provide the Finance and Intergovernment Committee with the priorities and work plan for the year 2020.

### **BACKGROUND**

At its October 16, 2019 meeting, the Finance and Intergovernment Committee endorsed the 2020 Budget and Annual Work Plans for the Regional District Service Areas and Centralized Support Program, which served as the basis for the 2020 Budget approved by the MVRD Board on November 1, 2019. The 2020 Annual Work Plans included a list of key actions that has been used to develop the Finance and Intergovernment Committee’s work plan presented in this report.

The work plan presented in this report is consistent with the Finance and Intergovernment Committee’s terms of reference (Attachment 2) and with the *Board Strategic Plan* and is being brought forward for the Committee’s information, review and endorsement.

### **2020 WORK PLAN**

The Finance and Intergovernment Committee is the standing committee of the Metro Vancouver Board that provides advice and recommendations on policies, bylaws, plans, programs, budgets, and issues related to the general government and corporate activities for the governing bodies of Metro Vancouver. In addition, it serves as the Board Executive Committee and provides guidance and oversight on all personnel matters.

Key actions in the 2020 Work Plan for the Committee are described below and listed according to the Committee responsibilities in its Terms of Reference.

- Project review methodology.
- Next phase in development of the Long-Term Financial Plan.
- Development and implementation of communications strategies to build relations with orders of government and other agencies.
- Metro Vancouver’s Leadership and Engagement Program oversight.

The 2020 Work Plan for the Finance and Intergovernment Committee is provided in Attachment 1, including the expected time frame for reports to this Committee. The Committee will be updated on the status of the actions and projects in this work plan on a monthly basis per the Committee’s schedule.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee endorse the work plan as presented in the report dated December 16, 2019, titled “2020 Finance and Intergovernment Committee Priorities and Work Plan”.
2. That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee endorse the work plan as presented in the report dated December 16, 2019, titled “2020 Finance and Intergovernment Committee Priorities and Work Plan” with the amendments provided at the Finance and Intergovernment Committee January 15, 2020 meeting.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The priorities in the 2020 Work Plan of the Finance and Intergovernment Committee are consistent with the 2020 Budget approved by the MVRD Board on November 1, 2019 and with key actions included in the 2020 Annual Work Plans.

**CONCLUSION**

The work plan presented in this report conveys the priorities for the Finance and Intergovernment Committee in 2020 and is consistent with its terms of reference and the 2020 Budget approved by the MVRD Board. Staff recommends that Alternative 1 be approved.

**Attachment**

1. Finance and Intergovernment Committee 2020 Work Plan
2. Finance and Intergovernment Committee Terms of Reference

34136913

## Finance and Intergovernment Committee 2020 Work Plan

Report Date: January 15, 2020

## Priorities

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter</b>	<b>Status</b>
2020 Standing Committee Events	In Progress
2020 International Program	In Progress
Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy Amendments	In Progress
2019 Zero Waste Conference	In Progress
2019 International Events	In Progress
National Zero Waste Council	In Progress
Litigation Updates	In Progress
Procedure Bylaw Amendment	In Progress
Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program	In Progress
Long-Term Financial Plan	In Progress
GVWD Development Cost Charge Update	Pending
Poplar Landing Update	Pending
Project Review Methodology	Pending
Intergovernmental Communications and Engagement Update	Pending
Board Policies (As Required/Applicable)	Pending
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter</b>	
2021 Budget Schedule	Pending
2019 Statement of Financial Information	Pending
First Nations – Intergovernmental Relationships	Pending
Intergovernmental Communications and Engagement Update	Pending
Board Policies (As Required/Applicable)	Pending
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter</b>	
TransLink Federal Gas Tax Application	Pending
Litigation Updates	Pending
Intergovernmental Communications and Engagement Update	Pending
Board Policies (As Required/Applicable)	Pending
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Quarter</b>	
Annual Budget and Five Year Financial Plan – Regional District Service Areas and Corporate Support	Pending
First Nations – Intergovernmental Relationships	Pending
Intergovernmental Communications and Engagement Update	Pending
Board Policies (As Required/Applicable)	Pending



## Finance and Intergovernment Committee

### Terms of Reference

The Finance and Intergovernment Committee is the standing committee of the Metro Vancouver Board that provides advice and recommendations on the annual and long-term budgets for Metro Vancouver's Districts, the financial policies for the Districts, and Metro Vancouver's strategic relationships with other governments, agencies, and communities.

#### Committee Responsibilities

Within the scope of the *Board Strategic Plan*, Metro Vancouver management plans, Board policies, and *Metro Vancouver Financial Plan*, the Committee provides guidance and oversight to staff in the development of annual and long-term budgets, development and application of financial policies, and development of strategies and positions to manage inter-governmental relations and address specific initiatives that are undertaken by other agencies. Specific Committee responsibilities include the following:

- Guiding and monitoring the development of annual and long-term financial plans for consideration by the Board;
- Guiding the development of financial policies for consideration by the Board;
- Overseeing the development and implementation of communications strategies and other strategies to manage relations with other orders of governments, and with other agencies;
- Developing, for consideration by the Board, Metro Vancouver's positions on initiatives taken by other governments and agencies;
- Reviewing senior government policy and legislative initiatives that affect, or that may affect, governance of the region;
- Reviewing and recommending action to address initiatives that do not fall within the purview of another Metro Vancouver standing committee;
- Overseeing revisions to and implementation of Metro Vancouver's International Engagement Program; and
- Providing oversight and engaging leaders from government, business, academia, and the non-profit sector in dialogue on regional economic prosperity, including initiatives to promote the regions' economic strengths and livability, and produce economic analysis on the region.
- Reviewing transportation projects eligible for Federal Gas Tax Funding proposed each year by Translink, in accordance with the *Administrative Agreement on the Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia* and the *Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Board Policy*, and making recommendations to the Board on funding approvals.

#### Committee Membership and Meetings

The Chair, Vice Chair and members are appointed annually by the Chair of the Metro Vancouver Board. The Committee meets monthly, except for August and December, and holds special meetings

as required. A quorum of 50% plus one of the Committee membership is required to conduct Committee business.

**Committee Management**

The Committee Chair, or in the absence of the Chair the Vice-Chair, is the chief spokesperson on matters of public interest within the Committee’s purview. For high profile issues the role of spokesperson rests with the Metro Vancouver Board Chair or Vice Chair. On technical matters or in cases where an initiative is still at the staff proposal level, the Chief Administrative Officer or a senior staff member is the appropriate spokesperson. Where necessary and practical, the Board Chair, Committee Chair and Chief Administrative Officer confer to determine the most appropriate representative to speak.

The Chief Administrative Officer assigns a Committee Manager for the Committee. The Committee Manager is responsible for coordinating agendas and is the principal point of contact for Committee members.

---

To: Finance and Intergovernment Committee

From: Chris Plagnol, Corporate Officer

Date: December 19, 2019 Meeting Date: January 15, 2020

Subject: **Authorization to Attend 2020 Standing Committee Events**

---

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee approve attendance at the following events within the 2020 Leadership and Engagement program budget:

- Adaptation Canada 2020
- APA National Planning Conference 2020
- AWWA Annual Conference 2020
- AWWA – Sustainable Water Management Conference 2020
- BioCycle Connect West 2020 Conference
- BC Recreation and Parks Association Symposium 2020
- Canadian Housing and Renewal Association National Congress 2020
- Canadian Odour Conference 2020
- City Age 2020
- Electric Mobility Canada “EV 2020”
- Housing Central Conference 2020
- Indigenous Relations Seminar 2020
- International Economic Development Council 2020 Annual Conference
- National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference 2020
- Special Parks District Forum 2020
- Rail~Volution 2020
- Recycling Council of Alberta 2020 Waste Reduction Conference
- Recycling Council of BC 2020 Conference and Trade Show
- Utility Management Conference 2020
- Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference 2020
- Additional events approved by the Board Chair that align with the priorities of the appropriate standing committee

---

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report brings forward conferences and events for approval by Finance and Intergovernment Committee, as required by the *Remuneration Bylaw*, as these were approved in the 2020 budget. The 22 events were identified given their relevance to the various standing committee mandates; each event presents an opportunity for committee members to participate in learning, interaction and engagement with other North American organizations, and to represent Metro Vancouver. Selection of committee member participation will be considered at upcoming standing committees, which will then require Board Chair approval, as the final step.

## **PURPOSE**

To seek approval of the 2020 events and conferences, that were identified as part of the Board-approved budget, which will authorize remuneration for those members approved to attend.

## **BACKGROUND**

Pursuant to the provisions of the *Remuneration Bylaw*, authorization for committee members' travel and payment of expenses for attendance at events must be within the scope of the Board-approved budget, must be approved by the Finance and Intergovernment Committee (which has oversight over the general government budget), and finally must be approved by the Board Chair.

Events, such as conventions, conferences and seminars, are part of the general government budget, which falls under the purview of the Finance and Intergovernment Committee. As such, it is the Committee's role to determine by resolution what event(s) will be supported within the Board approved budget.

## **METRO VANCOUVER EVENT REPRESENTATION**

In November 2019, the MVRD Board approved the annual budget for general government services which includes funds set aside for committee member attendance and remuneration at events in 2020. Events are defined under the *Remuneration Bylaw* as "courses or similar education or research activities, conventions, seminars, workshops and conferences". The annual budget is developed based on events that are relevant and have value to individual Standing Committee mandates and where there is a benefit to have representation from Metro Vancouver Directors or Committee members at those events. The proposed events align with the provisions of the Board's policy titled *Metro Vancouver Leadership and Engagement Policy*.

Events will be brought forward for consideration at the relevant Standing Committees and members interested in attending events (or equivalent events, as appropriate) will submit their interest to Standing Committee Chairs for Board Chair approval. Events and the number of recommended attendees have been included in this report for consideration by the Finance and Intergovernment Committee in accordance with the *Remuneration Bylaw*, which requires a resolution from the Committee to support remuneration for attendance from the General Government budget.

The following 22 events have been submitted for representation by Metro Vancouver Standing Committees in 2020:

### **Climate Action Committee events**

#### *Adaptation Canada 2020*

- Place and Date: Vancouver, British Columbia, February 19-21, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This conference brings experts and leaders from diverse sectors, regions and jurisdictions to work on building climate change resilience in our communities, ecosystems and economy.

#### *Electric Mobility Canada "EV 2020"*

- Place and Date: Greater Toronto Area, April 27-30, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 1

- This conference will focus on modes of ground electric transportation, including mobility and how industry and government can collaborate to support the electromobility value chain.

*Canadian Odour Conference 2020*

- Place and Date: Eastern Canada, December 2020 (TBA)
- Number of attendee(s): 1
- This conference will cover topics related to air emissions, odour control, and monitoring with presentations and panel discussions featuring national and international experts.

**Finance and Intergovernment Committee events:**

*City Age 2020*

- Place and Date: North American location, Spring 2020 (TBA)
- Number of attendee(s): 1
- This conference is a platform for ideas and business development, designed to enable new partnerships among the business, government and societal decision makers.

*International Economic Development Council 2020 Annual Conference*

- Place and Date: Dallas, Texas, October 11-14, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 1
- This conference will focus on how to contribute to the transformation of local and regional economies, and how communities need to work together to advance economic growth.

**Housing Committee events:**

*Canadian Housing and Renewal Association National Congress 2020*

- Place and Date: Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, April 21-23, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This conference focuses on affordable and social housing and how governments are poised to increase capacity and innovation in sustainable affordable housing practices.

*APA National Planning Conference 2020*

- Place and Date: Houston, Texas, April 25-28, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 1
- This conference relates to planning and brings together planners as well as elected officials with a focus on research to improve planning, with ideas from housing practitioners.

*Housing Central Conference 2020*

- Place and Date: Vancouver, British Columbia, November 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This conference will focus on the latest developments in western Canadian housing sector, with inspiring speakers and colleagues from throughout the housing sector.

**Indigenous Relations Committee events:**

*Indigenous Relations Seminar 2020*

- Place and Date: Metro Vancouver location, 2 days (TBA)
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- Similar to previous years, this is for an education seminar on an indigenous relations topic for one or two committee members.

**Liquid Waste Committee events:**

*Utility Management Conference 2020*

- Place and Date: Anaheim, California, February 25-28, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This conference focuses on water and wastewater in terms of the latest approaches, practices, processes, techniques, case studies, and research.

*Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference (WEFTEC) 2020*

- Place and Date: New Orleans, Louisiana, October 3-7, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This conference provides extensive educational opportunities and access to the field's most cutting-edge technologies and services in the area of utilities.

Note: due to a scheduling conflict, the Liquid Waste Committee may send an additional two attendees to the Utility Management Conference 2020, described above, and send none to WEFTEC.

**Regional Parks Committee events:**

*National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference 2020*

- Place and Date: Orlando, Florida, October 27-29, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This conference focuses on the park and recreation community in North America.

*BC Recreation and Parks Association Symposium 2020*

- Place and Date: Victoria, British Columbia, April 29 - May 1, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This annual symposium includes education, networking and leadership development for recreation and parks professionals, and community leaders from all over BC and beyond.

*Special Parks District Forum 2020*

- Place and Date: Cincinnati, Ohio, May 17-20, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This annual forum provides in-park learning opportunities for elected representatives and staff from special park districts and regional districts across North America.

**Regional Planning Committee events:**

*Adaptation Canada 2020*

- Place and Date: Vancouver, British Columbia, February 19-21, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This conference brings experts and leaders from diverse sectors, regions and jurisdictions to work on building climate change resilience in our communities, ecosystems and economy.

*APA National Planning Conference 2020*

- Place and Date: Houston, Texas, April 25-28, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This conference relates to planning and brings together planners as well as elected officials with a focus on research to improve planning, with ideas in urban planning.

*Rail~Volution 2020*

- Place and Date: Miami, Florida, September 20-23, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This conference focuses on cities around North America that are making great strides with their public transportation systems and in building livable communities.

**Water Committee events:**

*AWWA Annual Conference 2020*

- Place and Date: Orlando, Florida, June 14-17, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This conference focuses on topics and technologies/equipment in the environment and waste management industry.

*AWWA – Sustainable Water Management Conference 2020*

- Place and Date: Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 29 - April 1, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This conference focuses on water conservation, water resources, sustainable utilities and infrastructure, urban planning, energy efficiency, stormwater and reuse.

**Zero Waste Committee events:**

*BioCycle Connect West 2020 Conference*

- Place and Date: Sacramento, California, March 30-April 2, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 1
- This conference is dedicated to organics management, and provides an opportunity to learn about the experiences of communities across North America in managing organics.

*Recycling Council of Alberta 2020 Waste Reduction Conference*

- Place and Date: Lake Louise, British Columbia, October 12-15, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 1
- The conference will cover topics such as waste reduction, recycling and resource conservation.

*Recycling Council of BC 2020 Conference and Trade Show*

- Place and Date: Whistler, British Columbia, June 10-12, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2
- This conference focuses on reducing waste and building a circular economy.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee approve attendance at the following events within the 2020 Leadership and Engagement program budget:
  - Adaptation Canada 2020
  - APA National Planning Conference 2020
  - AWWA Annual Conference 2020
  - AWWA – Sustainable Water Management Conference 2020
  - BioCycle Connect West 2020 Conference
  - BC Recreation and Parks Association Symposium 2020

- Canadian Housing and Renewal Association National Congress 2020
- Canadian Odour Conference 2020
- City Age 2020
- Electric Mobility Canada “EV 2020”
- Housing Central Conference 2020
- Indigenous Relations Seminar 2020
- International Economic Development Council 2020 Annual Conference
- National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference 2020
- Special Parks District Forum 2020
- Rail~Volution 2020
- Recycling Council of Alberta 2020 Waste Reduction Conference
- Recycling Council of BC 2020 Conference and Trade Show
- Utility Management Conference 2020
- Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference 2020
- Additional events approved by the Board Chair that align with the priorities of the appropriate standing committee

2. That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee receive the report dated December 19, 2019, titled “Authorization to Attend 2020 Standing Committee Events”.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

If the committee supports alternative 1, funds are included in the 2020 General Government budget to cover the remuneration and expenses associated with the attendance at the events listed in this report. The total budget for the 22 conference events for standing committee members to attend in 2020 is \$215,171 for both expenses and remuneration.

#### **CONCLUSION**

The *Remuneration Bylaw* requires that the Board Chair authorize remuneration associated with committee member attendance at events. The Finance and Intergovernment Committee has oversight responsibility for the general government budget and therefore this Committee is required to provide a resolution to approve the events. The events listed in this report are within the approved 2020 budget and within the scope of work for each of the designated standing committees; alternative 1 is recommended.

34054641



---

To: Finance and Intergovernment Committee

From: Heather Schoemaker, General Manager, External Relations

Date: January 2, 2020 Meeting Date: January 15, 2020

Subject: **Authorization to Attend 2020 International Events**

---

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee approve attendance at the following international events within the 2020 Leadership and Engagement program budget:

- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) World Council Meeting
- ICLEI Resilient Cities 2020
- World Urban Forum 10
- 2020 Study Tour
- Additional international conferences identified by the Chair that align with the priorities of the Leadership and Engagement Program

---

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report brings forward international conferences and events for approval by the Finance and Intergovernment Committee, as required by the Remuneration Bylaw as part of the Board adopted *Leadership and Engagement Policy*. In accordance with the policy, Metro Vancouver will participate, at both a national and at an international level, in events that promote Metro Vancouver in a leadership role or that provide opportunity for engagement and continuous improvement in the advancement of organizational goals, allows for the acquisition of knowledge and skills which directly benefit the organization and region, provides influence on decisions elsewhere in cities or regions which have a direct or indirect benefit for Metro Vancouver, offers the provision of assistance to other cities or regions in the world, and enhances Metro Vancouver's reputation in the international community. Representation and attendance at 2020 international events and conferences requires support and approval from the Finance and Intergovernment Committee.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider the attendance and remuneration of board members to attend events that are within the mandate of Metro Vancouver's international engagement objectives and to make recommendations to the Board Chair.

### BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the provision of the *Remunerations Bylaw*, authorization for committee members' travel and payment of expense for attendance at events must be within the scope of the Board-approved budget, and approved by the Finance and Intergovernment Committee (which has oversight over the general government budget), and finally must be approved by the Board Chair.

Events, such as conventions, conferences, seminars and study tours, are part of the general government budget, which falls under the purview of the Finance and Intergovernment Committee.

As such, it is the Committee's role to determine by resolution what event(s) will be supported within the Board approved budget. The final step is then to seek authorization by the Board Chair for attendance and remuneration of each event.

### **METRO VANCOUVER EVENT REPRESENTATION**

In November 2019, the MVRD Board approved the annual budget for general government services which includes funds set aside for board member attendance and remuneration at international events in 2020. Events are defined under the Remuneration Bylaw as "course or similar education or research activities, conventions, seminars, workshops and conference". The annual budget for international events is developed based on events that are relevant and have value to Metro Vancouver's vision and mandate and where there is a benefit to have representation from Metro Vancouver at those events. The proposed events align with the provisions of the Board adopted *Leadership and Engagement Policy*. The following events are submitted for representation by Metro Vancouver board members:

#### ***International Organizations:***

##### **United Cities and Local Government (UCLG)**

- **Meeting of the UCLG World Council**
  - Place and date: TBD
  - Number of attendee(s): 2

The global movement of municipal government is led by UCLG, an organization dedicated to representing and defending the interests of local governments on the world stage. Created in 2004 from the merger of three other world organizations (Internal Union of Local Authorities – IULA; the United Towns Organization – UTO; and Metropolis), UCLG is present in 136 of the 192 UN member states. Its members include individual cities as well as national associations of local governments. FCM was a founding member of UCLG and leads Canada's participation in UCLG. Metro Vancouver is a member of UCLG World Council, one of two UCLG's two governing bodies (the other being the Executive Bureau).

##### **ICLEI Resilient Cities 2020**

- Place and date: Bonn, Germany – June 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 1

Resilient Cities – the Annual Global Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation – is the global platform for urban resilience and climate change adaptation, hosted every year in Bonn. Hosted by ICLEI, Resilient Cities was first launched in 2010 with the goal of connecting local government leaders and climate change adaptations experts to discuss adaptation challenges facing urban environments around the globe and forging partnerships that could have lasting impacts for cities. Metro Vancouver is member of ICLEI.

##### **World Urban Forum 10**

- Place and date: Abu Dhabi – Feb 8 - 13, 2020
- Number of attendee(s): 2

The World Urban Forum (WUF) was established in 2001 by the United Nations to address one of the most pressing issues facing the world today: rapid urbanization and its impact on communities, cities, economies, climate change and policies. Convened by UN-Habitat, the Forum is a high level, open and inclusive platform for addressing the challenges of sustainable urbanization.

The Tenth Edition of the World Urban Forum will highlight emerging innovative approaches and practices in harnessing culture and innovation as drivers for sustainable urbanization and provide greater insights into the linkages between urbanization, culture and innovation as a basis for achieving inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements.

They will promote synergies between tradition and modernity, creating spaces for convergence in multicultural and multigenerational communities and explore the role of culture and innovation in implementation of the New Urban Agenda and achieving urban dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**Study Tour:**

- Place and date: TBD
- Number of attendee(s): 4

Study tours form an important component of Metro Vancouver’s international engagement providing an opportunity to learn from international leaders on Metro Vancouver priority issues. Study tour themes are reviewed annually to identify those topics that fall within the annual work plan and that are focused on large organizational projects or initiatives of region wide significance. Study tours are evaluated based on organizational priority and designed to maximize the benefit to both the organization as a whole and to the individual participant. The Study Tour themes for 2020 have not yet been defined.

**Conferences:**

- There are a number of international conferences that align with the priorities of the Leadership and Engagement Program, including the areas of zero waste, circular economy, economic development, climate change, water, liquid waste, resilient cities, prosperity, regional governance and others.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee approves attendance at the following international events within the 2020 Leadership and Engagement program budget:
  - United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) World Council Meeting
  - ICLEI Resilient Cities 2020
  - World Urban Forum 10
  - 2020 Study Tour
  - Additional international conferences identified by the Chair that align with the priorities of the Leadership and Engagement Program

2. That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee receive for information the report dated January 2, 2020, titled "Authorization to Attend 2020 International Events".

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

If the committee supports Alternative 1, funds are included in the 2020 budget to cover the remuneration and expenses associated with the attendance at the events listed in this report. The total operating budget for international events is \$153,101.

**CONCLUSION**

The Remuneration Bylaw requires that the Board Chair authorize remuneration associated with board member attendance at events, including international events. The Finance and Intergovernment Committee has oversight responsibility for the general government budget; therefore, this Committee is required to provide a resolution to the Board Chair to support attendees and representation at international events. The events listed in this report are within the approved 2020 budget. Alternative 1 is recommended.

34106582

---

To: Finance and Intergovernment Committee

From: Chris Plagnol, Corporate Officer

Date: December 16, 2019 Meeting Date: January 15, 2020

Subject: **MVRD Procedure Amending Bylaw No. 1297, 2020**

---

### RECOMMENDATION

That the MVRD Board:

- a) give first, second and third reading to *Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Amending Bylaw Number 1297, 2020*; and
  - b) pass and finally adopt *Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Amending Bylaw Number 1297, 2020*.
- 

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2019, the MVRD Board established the regional economic prosperity service. To support that new service, the Board Chair established a standing committee called the Regional Economic Prosperity Management Board. This 27 member standing committee comprises a cross section of representatives from various sectors, including five directors. This situation is not compliant with the *Procedure Bylaw* which stipulates that a majority of committee members must be directors. Given the unique nature of this new standing committee, an amendment to the *Procedure Bylaw* is being sought to provide an exemption to this majority-director provision.

### PURPOSE

To seek Board approval of the *Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Amending Bylaw Number 1297, 2020*, a bylaw to provide for an exemption to the requirement that a committee be composed of a majority of directors.

### BACKGROUND

In 2019, the MVRD Board established the regional economic prosperity service and considered the terms of reference for a Management Board for the service. To ensure accountability of the service to the MVRD Board, the Management Board was established as a standing committee by the Board Chair in the same fashion as other standing committees. However, this standing committee (Management Board) will not have a majority of directors as required by the *Procedure Bylaw*.

This report brings forward a proposed amendment to the *Procedure Bylaw* to seek an exemption to the majority-director rule.

### PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT

The Board's *Procedure Bylaw* establishes the general proceedings to be followed by the Boards and Committees in conducting their business, including the requirement that committee must be composed of a majority of directors.

### **Procedure Bylaw Part 14 - Committees**

The provisions related to the appointment of members to standing committees is set out in Part 14.2 of the *Procedure Bylaw*. Sub-section (4) of that part stipulates the majority-director rule as follows:

*(4) A majority of the members of a committee, except the Council of Councils' Committee, shall be directors.*

The majority-director rule is an important part of the governance model. It ensures that deliberations on the business of the regional district held at committee can be represented when the same business is brought before the Board for its consideration.

### **Exemptions to the Majority-Director Rule**

Some committees have unique membership compositions that require an exception to the majority-director rule. The Council-of-Councils is an example of that circumstance; the new Regional Economic Prosperity Management Board is another example. Pursuant to the terms of reference, this committee will comprise 27 members: 5 directors and 22 external representatives from key sectors across the region. The diversity of stakeholders necessary for this committee cannot be achieved by directors alone. Therefore, given the unique nature of this standing committee, an exception to the majority-director rule is being sought.

### **Proposed Bylaw Provision**

For the reasons outlined above, it is proposed that the section 14.2, sub-section (4) of the *Procedure Bylaw* be amended to include reference to the Management Board, as follows:

*(4) A majority of the members of a committee, except the Council of Councils' Committee and the Committee responsible for the Regional Economic Prosperity Service, shall be directors.*

### **ALTERNATIVES**

1. That the MVRD Board:
  - a) give first, second and third reading to *Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Amending Bylaw Number 1297, 2020*; and
  - b) pass and finally adopt *Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Amending Bylaw Number 1297, 2020*.
  
2. That the MVRD Board refer the report dated December 16, 2019, titled *Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Amending Bylaw Number 1297, 2020* to staff for further options related to proposed Bylaw change.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed amendment to the *Procedure Bylaw*, to bring the composition of the Management Board in compliance with the director-majority rule, does not have a financial impact.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Board's *Procedure Bylaw* requires that standing committees must comprise a majority of directors. However, the newly established standing committee called the Regional Economic Prosperity Management Board comprises a majority of non-directors. This situation has prompted the proposal for an exemption to the majority-director rule which is the basis for the proposed amendment to the Bylaw for the Board's consideration. Staff recommend alternative 1.

## **Attachments**

1. *Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Amending Bylaw Number 1297, 2020*

34071222

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT  
BYLAW NUMBER 1297, 2020**

A Bylaw to amend “Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Bylaw Number 1205, 2014”

**WHEREAS** the Board of Directors of the Metro Vancouver Regional District has adopted “Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Bylaw Number 1205, 2014”, a bylaw to regulate the proceedings of the Metro Vancouver Regional District Board and Committees; and

**WHEREAS** the Board of Directors of the Metro Vancouver Regional District wishes to amend “Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Bylaw Number 1205, 2014”;

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

1. The “Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Bylaw Number 1205, 2014” (the “Bylaw”) is hereby amended as follows:
  - a) In section 14.2 (4) of the Bylaw, by deleting in its entirety and replacing as follows:
    - (4) A majority of the members of a committee, except the Council of Councils’ Committee and the Committee responsible for the Regional Economic Prosperity Service, shall be directors.
2. This bylaw shall be cited as “Metro Vancouver Regional District Procedure Amending Bylaw Number 1297, 2020”.

Read a first, second and third time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Passed and finally adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

---

Sav Dhaliwal, Chair

---

Chris Plagnol, Corporate Officer



---

To: Finance and Intergovernment Committee

From: James Stiver, Division Manager, Growth Management and Transportation, Regional Planning and Housing Services and Conor Reynolds, Division Manager, Air Quality and Climate Change Policy, Parks and Environment

Date: December 18, 2019 Meeting Date: January 15, 2020

Subject: **Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy Amendments**

---

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the MVRD Board approve the revised *Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy* and the associated Application Guide as presented in the report dated December 18, 2019, titled “Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy Amendments”.

---

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report brings forward updates to the *Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy* and associated Application Guide, which sets out the process for Board approval of the Federal Gas Tax Fund (Greater Vancouver Regional Fund) for regional transportation projects proposed by TransLink. Substantive amendments include affirming the current practice of TransLink staff referring applications to Metro Vancouver staff to initiate the application review process; the annual reporting out by TransLink on active projects funded through the GVRF; and, the baseline assumptions for transit vehicle technology for purposes of accurately portraying emissions changes. The updated Policy and Application Guide will help improve transparency, consistency, and efficiency of the process and applications, as well as reflect a stronger climate action lens.

### **PURPOSE**

To seek approval of the updated *Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy* and associated Application Guide.

### **BACKGROUND**

At its October 26, 2018 meeting, the MVRD Board passed a resolution to:

*Direct staff to undertake a review of the Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy, in consultation with TransLink and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, and to report back to the Finance and Intergovernment Committee in 2019 with findings and, where appropriate, recommendations.*

This report provides an overview of the history of the Federal Gas Tax Agreement, the 2016 Board Policy for the allocation of Federal Gas Tax funds, the policy review and consultation findings, and a number of recommended amendments to the *Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy* and associated Application Guide.

## **FEDERAL GAS TAX FUND EXPENDITURES POLICY**

As part of the New Building Canada Plan, the Government of Canada transfers funds through the Federal Gas Tax Fund to Canadian municipalities for the building and revitalizing of public infrastructure. A renewed ten-year gas tax agreement, the Administrative Agreement on Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia (2014 Agreement), came into effect in April, 2014 and extends the Federal Gas Tax Fund to 2024.

One of the three programs set out in the 2014 Agreement is the Greater Vancouver Regional Fund (GVRF). The GVRF pools 95% of Metro Vancouver member jurisdictions' population-based allocation of gas tax funds to support eligible regional transportation projects proposed and delivered by TransLink. The GVRF program aligns with the Metro Vancouver *Board Strategic Plan* by enabling the MVRD Board to play a key role in approving the use of these funds towards the advancement of regional planning, air quality, and climate change goals. Under the terms of the Agreement, the MVRD Board must approve all eligible projects proposed by TransLink for funding. The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) holds the funds and may not transfer monies to TransLink for eligible projects until it has received an approved list from the MVRD Board.

### **Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy Review**

To support MVRD Board decisions related to approving expenditures from the GVRF, the Board adopted the *Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy* (the Policy) in May 2016. The Policy includes an Application Guide that sets out the application information requirements for each GVRF application, and a requirement for TransLink to report out on the status of active projects funded through the GVRF semi-annually.

Under the Policy, evaluation criteria have been established that allow the MVRD Board to consider applications for the use of Federal Gas Tax funds within the context of *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future*, the regional growth strategy, and the *Integrated Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan* to ensure the integration of regional land use, environmental, and transportation objectives.

### **Findings of the Policy Review**

Staff convened consultation sessions with TransLink and UBCM staff on April 30, 2019 and July 24, 2019. Overall, the consultation participants expressed appreciation for the Policy and Application Guide as they:

- Set out a clear process for submitting applications and clear criteria for evaluating applications;
- Formally align with the terms and conditions in the overarching Federal agreement; and
- Foster close coordination amongst Metro Vancouver and TransLink staff.

The participants also identified a number of areas for potential improvement. Those areas relate to: the application process, information requirements, and the semi-annual report (see Attachment 3 for documentation of the specific areas for potential improvement, and what is proposed to address these issue areas in the Policy and/or Application Guide).

In addition, since the adoption of the Policy in 2016, Metro Vancouver has adopted the *Climate 2050* Strategic Framework, and in July 2019, committed to becoming a carbon neutral region by 2050 and set an interim target of 45% reduction of greenhouse gases by 2030, compared to 2010 levels. The Metro Vancouver Board is also committed to supporting mode shift through the recent adoption of the Regional Greenways Plan.

## **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

Staff are proposing amendments to the Policy and Application Guide, as shown as red-lined amendments in Attachments 1 and 2. Many of the proposed amendments fall into the category of 'housekeeping' amendments, such as updating the 'MVRD' acronym and the names of current regional plans. Aside from those, the following are the substantive amendments that are being proposed to enhance the level of transparency, consistency, and efficiency of the process and applications.

### **1. Application Referral to Metro Vancouver**

Current Policy: The MVRD Board issues a notice to TransLink on April 1 of each year to solicit GVRF applications.

Actual Practice: The MVRD Board has never issued a notice to TransLink. Rather, TransLink staff submit an application to Metro Vancouver staff to initiate the application review process.

Proposed Amendment: TransLink staff will refer applications to Metro Vancouver staff to initiate the application review process.

Benefits: The proposed amendment is consistent with current practice.

### **2. Annual Report**

Current Policy: TransLink is required to provide semi-annual reports to the MVRD Board on projects funded through the GVRF. The reports must include for each project: updates to variances in budget and total cost, expenditures to date, project schedule, risk assessment, project progress, etc.

Actual Practice: While TransLink has been meeting this requirement, a considerable amount of effort is required to prepare these reports. They typically do not show much variance during a 6-month time period, especially for longer-term projects.

Proposed Amendment: TransLink will provide to the MVRD Board annual reports by the second quarter of each year on the status of projects funded through the GVRF as at December 31 of the preceding year.

Benefits: The same type of information will be provided to the MVRD Board with a more effective time frame. The timing of the delivery of the Annual Report also coincides with the requirement by TransLink to prepare an annual expenditure report to UBCM. TransLink staff have indicated support for this proposed amendment.

### 3. Baseline Transit Vehicle Technology and Emissions Impacts

Current Guide: The Application Guide requires emissions performance for each project, but does not specify the baseline transit vehicle technology for comparison.

Actual Practice: The baseline assumptions have differed from application to application, requiring clarification between staff.

Proposed Amendment: The following baseline transit vehicle technology assumptions are proposed, unless otherwise stated by TransLink (and including the rationale for any variations):

Vehicle Type	Baseline New Vehicle
Conventional 40-foot bus	Diesel
Conventional 60-foot bus	Diesel
Shuttle/Van	Gasoline
Other (specify)	Specified by TransLink

In addition, the expectation for the emissions impacts analysis is proposed to be amended to account for the annualized transit fleet emissions plus any incremental changes in transit fleet emissions resulting from the full deployment of any proposed expansion, modernized, or refurbished transit vehicles.

Benefits: The amendment will ensure the evaluation of the comparative emissions performance of a project is consistent and accurately portrays the impacts that the transit technology choices have on incremental fleet-wide emissions. TransLink staff have indicated support for this proposed amendment.

### 4. Achieving a Carbon Neutral Region

Current Policy: In July 2019, the Metro Vancouver Board revised its greenhouse gas reduction target to becoming a carbon neutral region by 2050 and established an interim target of 45% reduction by 2030 (compared to 2010 levels), and directed staff to bring forward an amendment to the Regional Growth Strategy, *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future (Metro 2040)* to reflect that direction. A proposed amendment to *Metro 2040* is in progress, which, if adopted will result in a regional target for all signatories, including TransLink and member jurisdictions.

Actual Practice: TransLink's applications reflect the organization's Regional Transportation Strategy, Low Carbon Fleet Strategy as well as the 10 Year Investment Plan.

Proposed Amendment: Metro Vancouver requests that TransLink update its greenhouse gas reduction targets and its Low Carbon Fleet Strategy to reflect these new regional objectives. It is proposed that the Policy and Application Guide require an assessment of the scale of impact the application (and the annual capital plan) will make in terms of progress towards these new regional targets. This flows from the Baseline Transit Vehicle Technology and Emissions Impacts amendment noted above.

In addition, the Application Guide requires an explanation of the decision making process in terms of the application's vehicle and fuel type choices.

Benefits: Transportation is the largest source of regional greenhouse gas emissions and achieving a carbon neutral region requires strong commitment and alignment of policy. Metro Vancouver is currently developing the *Climate 2050 Transportation Roadmap* to support the *Climate 2050 Strategic Framework*, as well as updates to the *Integrated Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan* and the *Regional Growth Strategy*. The roadmap will lay out the 30-year strategy for reducing emissions from the transportation sector. It is imperative that transit infrastructure investments in the region reflect carbon neutral targets.

### **ENSURING CLOSE COORDINATION**

As noted above, the current Policy has fostered close coordination between Metro Vancouver and TransLink staff, and within Metro Vancouver (i.e. between the Regional Planning and Air Quality and Climate Change teams). During the consultation sessions, it was noted that having a single staff point of contact at both agencies has helped with this coordination. Moving forward, Metro Vancouver staff will communicate the schedule for Finance and Intergovernment Committee meetings and report deadlines once known to TransLink staff at the beginning of each calendar year. Metro Vancouver will continue to convene staff-to-staff meetings on an as-needed basis to encourage open communication, to identify and mitigate process challenges, and to continuously promote an efficient and transparent process.

### **SCOPE CHANGES**

With the current Policy, should an approved project undergo changes or modifications at any time, or require additional funds from the GVRF, a new project proposal must be submitted using the same process as was undertaken for the original proposal. The consultation sessions with TransLink and UBCM explored the potential of creating two review streams contingent on whether a scope change is considered 'major' or 'minor'. A major scope change would necessitate the same process culminating in a decision by the MVRD Board, while a minor scope change may be more appropriate for a staff-level decision. In other funding programs managed by the UBCM, scope changes that are not deemed significant are simply approved by program management staff rather than the approving body. The intention in UBCM's process is to create a way to manage a high volume of minor scope change requests efficiently and in a timely manner.

To date, Metro Vancouver has not received many scope change applications. The few that have been submitted by TransLink have been processed promptly for consideration by the MVRD Board. Also, there was no consensus among TransLink, UBCM and Metro Vancouver staff on defining an appropriate threshold to differentiate between major or minor scope changes. As a result, no amendments are being proposed at this time to the Policy with regards to the requirements related to scope changes. Staff will continue to monitor the frequency and level of effort required to administer scope change amendments, and advise the MVRD Board accordingly.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

1. That the MVRD Board approve the revised *Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy* and the associated Application Guide as presented in the report dated December 18, 2019, titled “Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy Amendments”.
2. That the MVRD Board endorse in principle the report dated December 18, 2019, titled “Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy Amendments” and refer it to the Mayors’ Council on Regional Transportation and TransLink Board for comment prior to final consideration by the MVRD Board.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

If the MVRD Board approves alternative one, then the Policy and Application Guide will be revised and applied to future GVRF applications. There are no anticipated financial impacts associated with the proposed amendments to the Policy and Application Guide.

If the MVRD Board approves alternative two, the Metro Vancouver report and recommendations, along with the attachments, will be forwarded to the Mayors’ Council and TransLink Board for comment prior to consideration by the MVRD Board.

## **CONCLUSION**

In 2016, the MVRD Board adopted the *Federal Gas Tax Expenditures Policy*, which sets out the process through which the Board considers and approves expenditures from the Federal Gas Tax Fund (Greater Vancouver Regional Fund) for regional transportation projects proposed by TransLink. At its October 26, 2018 regular meeting, the MVRD Board directed staff to undertake a review of the *Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy*, in consultation with TransLink and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, and to report back to the Finance and Intergovernment Committee with findings and, where appropriate, recommendations.

Based on consultation with TransLink and UBCM staff, a number of amendments are proposed to the Policy and Application Guide. While many of the proposed amendments fall into the category of ‘housekeeping’ amendments, substantive amendments involve: affirming the current practice of TransLink staff referring applications to Metro Vancouver staff to initiate the application review process; the annual reporting out by TransLink on active projects funded through the GVRF; and, the baseline assumptions for transit vehicle technology for purposes of accurately portraying emissions changes. The updated Policy and Application Guide will help improve transparency, consistency, and efficiency of the process and applications. Staff recommend alternative one.

### **Attachments:** (Doc # 32712412)

1. Updated Federal Gas Tax Expenditures Policy
2. Updated Application Guide
3. Inventory of Areas for Potential Improvements to the Metro Vancouver Federal Gas Tax Expenditures Policy and Application Guide

**FEDERAL GAS TAX FUND EXPENDITURES**

Effective Date: May 27, 2016 (revised January xx, 2020)

Approved By: MVRD Board

**Policy No. FN-012**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the *Federal Gas Tax Fund Expenditures Policy* is to identify the process through which the **Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD)** Board considers and approves expenditures from the Federal Gas Tax Fund – Greater Vancouver Regional Fund (GVRF) for regional transportation projects proposed by the South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority (TransLink).

**DEFINITIONS**

“**Eligible Regional Transportation Projects**” means the following eligible project categories described in Schedule B of the Administrative Agreement on the Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia and confirmed by the **MVRD** Board as follows:

- Local roads and bridges, including active transportation
- Public transit.

“**Evaluation Criteria**” means the performance measures that the **MVRD** Board uses to assess the merit of each project submitted by TransLink for GVRF funding, as described in the Federal Gas Tax Fund – Greater Vancouver Regional Fund Application Guide.

“**Federal Gas Tax Fund**” means the predictable, long-term, stable funding provided by the federal government as part of the *New Building Canada Plan* for Canadian municipalities to help them build and revitalize local public infrastructure.

“**Greater Vancouver Regional Fund**” means the 95% of the **Metro** Vancouver Regional District and its member municipalities’ per-capita allocation that is pooled for eligible expenditures of regional transportation projects.

“**Information Requirements**” means the information that must be provided by TransLink in order to allow for efficient and effective review of proposals by the **MVRD** Board, as described in the Federal Gas Tax Fund – Greater Vancouver Regional Fund Application Guide.

**POLICY**

As part of the *New Building Canada Plan*, the Government of Canada transfers funds to Canadian municipalities through the Federal Gas Tax Fund as a source of predictable, long-term funding for building and revitalizing public infrastructure. A renewed ten-year gas tax agreement, the Administrative Agreement on Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia (2014 Agreement), came into effect in April, 2014 and extends the Federal Gas Tax Fund to 2024. It provides the framework for the delivery of federal funding to BC municipalities to help build and revitalize public infrastructure.

## BOARD POLICY

One of the three programs identified in the 2014 Agreement is the Greater Vancouver Regional Fund (GVRF). The GVRF pools 95% of MVRD member jurisdictions' per capita allocation of gas tax funds to support eligible regional transportation projects proposed and delivered by TransLink. The GVRF program aligns with the Metro Vancouver *Board Strategic Plan* by enabling the MVRD Board to play a key role in approving the use of these funds towards the advancement of the Mayors' Council Vision. Under this Policy, evaluation criteria have been established that will allow the Board to consider applications for the use of federal gas tax funds within the context of *Metro 2040: Shaping Our Future*, the *Regional Growth Strategy* to ensure integration between transportation planning and regional land use planning.

The 2014 Agreement identifies how the funds are to be delivered and provides high-level criteria to identify eligible projects and expenditures. Under the 2014 Agreement the MVRD Board must approve all eligible projects proposed by TransLink for funding. UBCM may not transfer monies to TransLink for eligible projects until it has received an approved list from the MVRD Board.

In order to support MVRD Board decisions related to approving expenditures from the GVRF, a process has been defined to clarify the procedural steps through which TransLink is to propose regional transportation projects to the MVRD Board for funding from the GVRF. Information requirements, including evaluation criteria, have also been defined to support the evaluation of regional transportation projects. Proposals from TransLink for funding from the GVRF must follow the format and procedures set out in the Federal Gas Tax Fund – Greater Vancouver Regional Fund Application Guide (the Application Guide).

### Application Process

The GVRF application review process will commence upon receipt of an application from TransLink. TransLink staff will strive to observe Metro Vancouver's committee report deadlines and ensure applications are sent with sufficient lead time for Metro Vancouver staff to review and provide staff-to-staff comments prior to finalizing the staff report to committee and Board.

~~The MVRD Board will issue a call for proposals on an annual basis by a specific date as specified in the Application Guide. TransLink is the sole applicant. The deadline for TransLink to submit initial and revised proposals is also laid out in the Application Guide.~~

The designated standing committee with responsibility for considering applications will review the submitted projects as described using the Application Guide and will make recommendations to the MVRD Board. The standing committee may request TransLink staff to make presentations as appropriate.

The MVRD Board will strive to make determinations in a timely manner. The MVRD Board will notify the Union of British Columbia Municipalities of the projects that it has approved for funding within seven business days of the decision. ~~The MVRD Board will announce its decisions by September 30 of each year.~~



## Information Requirements

In order for TransLink proposals to be considered by the MVRD Board, they must include all of the required information and follow the format as specified in the Application Guide.

Proposals must be accompanied by TransLink's approved Capital Program (~~existing 3-Year Base Plan and the forthcoming 10-Year Investment Plan~~) listing all projects and funding sources, including any projects funded or anticipating funding from the GVRF. Proposals must demonstrate the consistency of projects with the **approved Investment Plan** ~~Mayors' Council Transportation and Transit Plan~~. Proposals must also include a description of each project for which funding is requested as defined within the Project Description section, and must demonstrate compliance with evaluation criteria, both as defined within the Application Guide.

## Evaluation Criteria

The Application Guide includes a set of evaluation criteria to allow for a detailed assessment of projects for which funding is requested. A description of how each proposed project achieves or works toward each criterion must be provided.

Two types of evaluation criteria are identified: Screening Criteria, which represent requirements that are mandatory for any project for which GVRF funding is requested; and Integrated Criteria, which allow for a **quantitative and** qualitative assessments of proposed projects based on high priority objectives that reflect the intent of the Federal Gas Tax Fund, Metro Vancouver goals, and the **Investment Plan**. ~~Mayors' Council Vision~~.

## Review of Federal Gas Tax Fund - Greater Vancouver Regional Fund Application Guide

~~The Application Guide will be reviewed at such time as TransLink's investment planning structure transitions from the current 3-Year Base Plan (with 7-Year outlook), to the forthcoming 10-Year Investment Plan.~~ The Application Guide may also be reviewed and revised as necessary on an ongoing basis **at the discretion of the MVRD Board. Metro Vancouver will consult with UBCM and TransLink.**

## GVRF Funding

TransLink will provide to the MVRD Board ~~semi-~~annual reports on projects that have received funding through the GVRF **as of December 31. Annual reports should be submitted no later than Q2 of the following year.** At a minimum, the reports must include updates about variances in budgeted and actual costs; expenditures to date; project schedule; ~~and~~ risk assessment, **project progress, state of purchased assets, and alignment with the GVRF evaluation criteria.**

TransLink need not request expenditure of all GVRF monies in any given year and may choose to apply the **approved** funding to a project over multiple years.

## BOARD POLICY

Following notification by the **MVRD** Board of projects approved for funding from the GVRF, UBCM will release funding for approved projects in a calendar year in one amount. The amount of funding released will be commensurate with the amount approved by the **MVRD** Board.

All proposals, **MVRD** Board decisions, and TransLink semi-annual reports will be posted on a dedicated page on the Metro Vancouver website on an ongoing basis.

### Ownership of Assets

The 2014 Agreement does not address the question of ownership of regional transportation assets purchased using GVRF funds. Typically, GVRF funds are combined with other sources of funding to offset the cost of a package of improvements. When determining whether asset ownership is advisable, the following factors should be considered:

- Public Sector Accounting Principles do not allow ownership of a tangible capital asset to be divided among different parties. Ownership of the asset must rest with one body.
- Should the **MVRD** decide to become the owner of an asset purchased through GVRF funding, the **MVRD** will also have responsibility for the maintenance, replacement and disposal of those assets.
- Ownership of assets, including those acquired using GVRF funding, enable TransLink to borrow for its infrastructure needs in the open market. TransLink currently uses this borrowing power to access funds to operate and maintain the regional transit system.

At its discretion, the **MVRD** Board shall consider the ownership of a regional transportation asset on a case by case basis with consideration given to the above factors.

### Disposition of Assets

The 2014 Agreement includes a provision that attaches conditions to the use of revenues generated from the sale, lease, encumbrance, or other form of disposal of gas tax-funded projects that are disposed of within five years of their completion. All such revenues must be invested by TransLink into eligible projects that have been approved by the **MVRD** Board.

For any assets purchased by TransLink using funds from the GVRF, TransLink will be required to report back annually on the state of the purchased asset **in the annual report**, including the disposition of any asset and the value of the gas tax funds returned to the GVRF based on the residual value of the disposed asset.

If and when revenues come available from assets that are disposed of by TransLink within five years of a project's completion, the use of such revenues must be approved by the **MVRD** Board using the same process and Application Guide as for new GVRF funds.

### Scope Changes and Unspent Funds

Expenditures from the GVRF for any specific project proposed by TransLink are associated solely with the project as described through the Application Guide, and approved by the MVRD Board. Should at any time, the project undergo changes or modifications, or should a project require greater funds from the GVRF than anticipated, a new project proposal must be submitted by TransLink to the MVRD using the same process as was undertaken for the original proposal.

Should any project approved by Metro Vancouver for expenditure from the GVRF result in unspent funds, these funds must be returned to the GVRF.

# Federal Gas Tax Fund - Greater Vancouver Regional Fund

## APPLICATION GUIDE

### Context

The intent of the Federal Gas Tax Fund is to assist municipalities in efforts to build and revitalize their public infrastructure in a manner that supports national objectives of productivity and economic growth, a clean environment, and strong cities and communities.

The Greater Vancouver Regional Fund (GVRF) pools 95% of the **Metro** Vancouver Regional District (**MVRD**) and its member municipalities' per capita allocation of gas tax funds to support regional transportation projects proposed and delivered by the South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority (TransLink). The GVRF is anticipated to deliver \$652 million over its first five years to eligible projects, and a slightly larger amount over the subsequent five-year period (the fund is indexed at 2% per annum).

TransLink is the sole applicant for funding.

The intent of the GVRF is to support Eligible Projects, as defined in the "Administrative Agreement on the Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia".

The **MVRD** Board is authorized under the "Administrative Agreement on the Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia" to approve or reject proposals from TransLink for funding from the GVRF.

## Proposal Process

1. The GVRF application review process will commence upon receipt of an application from TransLink. TransLink staff will strive to observe Metro Vancouver's committee report deadlines and ensure applications are sent with sufficient lead time for Metro Vancouver staff to review and provide staff-to-staff comments prior to finalizing the staff report to committee and Board.
2. ~~The GVRD Board will issue a call for proposals from TransLink by April 1 of each year; a timeline consistent with TransLink's budgeting process timelines. The deadline for TransLink to submit initial and revised proposals is September 1. The GVRD Board will make its decisions by November 30.~~
3. Proposals must follow the format set out in this Application Guide. The following ~~three~~ **four** requirements must be met before any proposal will be reviewed. Special attention will be paid to the alignment of the proposal with requirements A ~~and B~~, specifically TransLink's 10-Year Investment Plan ~~and the Mayors' Council Transportation and Transit Plan~~. The ~~three~~ **four** requirements are:
  - A. **Demonstrated consistency with TransLink's 10-Year Investment Plan and approved Capital Program (existing 3-Year Base Plan and the forthcoming 10-Year Investment Plan) listing all projects and funding sources, including any projects funded or anticipated to be funded by the Greater Vancouver Regional Fund, must be attached to the proposal. (See Section A that follows).**
  - ~~B. Demonstrated consistency with the Mayors' Council Transportation and Transit Plan.~~
  - C. A description of each project as defined within the Project Description. (See Section C that follows).
  - D. **Demonstrated alignment with the evaluation criteria, including consistency with TransLink's Regional Transportation Strategy and Low Carbon Fleet Strategy as well as with the Regional Growth Strategy. (See Section D that follows).**
4. Metro Vancouver staff will review the proposals for completeness and notify TransLink of any omissions in information requirements within 10 business days of receipt. ~~Any revised proposals must be submitted to Metro Vancouver by September 1.~~ It is recommended that TransLink submits all proposals for the current year in a single application.
5. The Metro Vancouver standing committee with responsibility for reviewing expenditures from the GVRF will review the proposals, and will make recommendations to the **MVRD** Board. The standing committee may request TransLink staff to make presentations as appropriate.
6. The **MVRD** Board will notify the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) of the projects that it has approved for funding within seven business days of the decision.
7. TransLink need not request expenditure of all GVRF monies in any given year, and may choose to apply the **approved** funding to a project over multiple years.
8. TransLink will provide, to the **MVRD** Board, ~~semiannual~~ reports on projects funded through the GVRF **as of December 31. Annual reports should be submitted no later than Q2 of the following year.** At a minimum, the reports must include, ~~as appropriate,~~ for each project: updates to variances in budget

and total cost, expenditures to date, project schedule, and risk assessment, project progress, state of purchased assets, and alignment with the GVRF evaluation criteria.

9. Expenditures from the GVRF for any specific project proposed by TransLink are associated solely with the project as described through this Application Guide, and approved by the MVRD Board. Should at any time the project undergo changes or modifications, or should a project require greater funds from the GVRF than anticipated, a new project proposal must be submitted by TransLink to the MVRD using the same process as was undertaken for the original proposal. Should any project approved by the MVRD Board for expenditure from the GVRF result in unspent funds, these funds must be returned to the GVRF.
10. The 2014 Agreement includes a provision that attaches conditions to the use of revenues generated from the sale, lease, encumbrance, or other form of disposal of gas tax-funded projects that are disposed of within five years of their completion. All such revenues must be invested by TransLink into eligible projects that have been approved by the MVRD Board. If and when revenues come available from assets that are disposed of by TransLink within five years of a project's completion, the use of such revenues must be approved by the MVRD Board using the same process and Application Guide as for new GVRF funds.
11. All proposals, MVRD Board decisions, and TransLink semi-annual reports will be posted on a dedicated page on the Metro Vancouver website.
12. The GVRF Policy and Application Guide will be reviewed periodically at the discretion of the MVRD Board. ~~This Application Guide will be reviewed when TransLink's investment planning structure transitions from the current 3-Year Base Plan and 7-Year Outlook to the 10-Year Investment Plan.~~
13. To encourage open communication, identify and mitigate challenges, and to continuously promote an efficient and effective process, Metro Vancouver will convene staff-to-staff meetings on an as-needed basis.

## A. TRANSLINK CAPITAL PROGRAM AND PROJECTS IDENTIFIED FOR GVRF FUNDING

Please complete the table below to identify projects for GVRF.

<b>Project Titles</b>	<b>Project Budget</b>	<b>Project Expenditures to Date</b>	<b>2016 Project Expenditures</b>	<b>Forecast Project Cost to Complete<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Final Forecasted Cost</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>GVRF Funding Approved, or to be Requested in Future</b>
XYZ							
XYZ							
XYZ							
XYZ							
xyz							

---

<sup>1</sup> Remaining costs to complete the project  
18072245

## **B. 10-Year Investment Plan ~~MAYORS' COUNCIL~~ ~~TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT PLAN~~**

Please describe how the project fits within, and provides support to, **the 10-Year Investment Plan** ~~Mayors' Council Transportation and Transit Plan~~.



## C. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Please complete the following for each project proposed for expenditure from the GVRF.

### 1. Executive Summary

- Project Overview
- Tangible Benefits and Outcomes
- Project Budget, Expenses, and GVRF Funding Request
- Steps taken by TransLink to identify, evaluate, and prioritize the proposed project for inclusion in the Application.

### 2. Project Name

### 3. Project Need and Location

- As appropriate, provide a map depicting the intended in-service location of the proposed project.

### 4. Project Eligibility

- Local Roads and Bridges, including active transportation
- Public Transit

### 5. Project Purpose

- Expansion:** Expands the carrying capacity of people and/or goods movement.
- State of Good Repair:** Replaces or modernizes assets to keep the regional transportation system in a state of good repair.
- Operational Efficiency/Effectiveness:** Improves the efficiency or effectiveness of the regional transportation system.
- Refurbishment:** Extend the useful life of assets to maximize the utility of the regional investment in the transportation system.
- Other (please specify:\_\_\_\_\_)**

### 6. Project Type

- Growth
- Upgrade
- Risk (Resilience)
- Maintenance
- Opportunity

### 7. Project Staging

Year(s) of Acquisition or Start of Construction	Year of Completion of Construction	Year of Service Initialization	Year(s) of Renewal	Year(s) of End of Service

### 8. Has the project previously received funding through the GVRF? Please explain.

9. Was GVRF funding previously declined for the project? Please explain.

10. Is the project anticipated to require additional future GVRF funding? If so, please explain.

**11. Project Cost + Funding**

**11.a Budget & Expenditures**

Budget	Expenditures to Date	Forecast to Complete	Final Forecasted Cost	Variance (budget – final forecasted cost)

**11.b Project Funding**

Prior Approved GVRF Funding	Current Year GVRF Funding Request	Other Funding – Specify source and whether confirmed/pending

**11.c Project Budget Schedule**

	Pre-2016	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<b>GVRF-funded Project Budget</b>										
<b>Total Project Budget</b>										

## 12. Project Budget Rationale

Describe the types of proposed project expenses to be funded by the Greater Vancouver Regional Fund.

- a. Explain how the project reflects the intent of the GVRF.
- b. In the absence of GVRF funding, can the project proceed with other funding sources? What risks do the other funding sources present to the project?
- c. Identify the potential risks – corporate and regional – of this project that could result in this project not being completed or being unsuccessful. Describe possible mitigation strategies to address these risks.
- d. How may the project costs vary as a result of changing external factors, such as interest rates and currency exchange rates?
- e. How may foreseeable changes in investment, regulation, or policies from other orders of government affect the project?
- f. How may foreseeable changes in technology affect the project?
- g. What other corporate or external factors could alter the project need, scope, budget, or timeline for project delivery?
- h. Describe how the project lowers the emissions profile of the transit fleet, for both greenhouse gas and common air contaminant emissions and advances the fleet towards the region's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.

# D. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Please describe how the project achieves or works towards each criterion by identifying and reporting on relevant performance measures. Where appropriate, present quantitative information. Please do not exceed 10 pages per project.

Two types of evaluation criteria are identified: Screening Criteria, which represent requirements that are mandatory for any project for which GVRF funding is requested; and Integrated Criteria, which allow for a qualitative assessment of proposed projects based on high priority objectives that reflect the intent of the Federal Gas Tax Fund, of Metro Vancouver goals, and of the Mayors’ Council Vision.

Criterion	Description	Assessment
<b>SCREENING CRITERIA</b>		
Eligible Project Category	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local roads and bridges, including active transportation</li> <li>Public transit</li> </ul>	Required
Eligible Expenses	As set out in the 2014 Administrative Agreement (Schedule C).	Required
Plan Consistency	Projects <b>must be consistent</b> with TransLink’s <del>existing</del> Capital Plan, <del>future 10-Year Investment Plan, as well as the Mayors’ Council Transportation and Transit Plan, the Regional Growth Strategy Metro 2040: Shaping our Future, and the Regional Transportation Strategy.</del>	Required
Corporate Policies	Projects must be consistent with applicable TransLink policies such as sustainability, environmental responsibility, emissions, and infrastructure.	Required
<b>INTEGRATED CRITERIA</b>		
<b>Regional Growth Strategy</b>		
Supports the Regional Growth Strategy	The degree to which the project assists in achieving the <b>goals in the Regional Growth Strategy and directions set out in the Metro Vancouver Board Strategic Plan</b> <del>five goals in Metro 2040.</del>	Poor/Good/Excellent
Urban Centres and Frequent Transit Development Areas	Where applicable, the project is located in, or demonstrates tangible benefits to, the overall performance of Urban Centres and Frequent Transit Development Areas.	Poor/Good/Excellent
<b>Transportation Performance</b>		
Headline Targets	Demonstrates tangible beneficial effects on vehicle kilometres travelled and/or walk/cycle/transit/ <b>multiple occupancy vehicle</b> mode share.	Poor/Good/Excellent
Other Transportation Outcomes	Demonstrates tangible beneficial effects on vehicle congestion, transit passenger congestion, transit ridership, <del>and/or</del> transportation safety, <b>and/or goods movement</b> for the duration of the project.	Poor/Good/Excellent
Project Type	Demonstrated value of the project type (refer to section 6).	Poor/Good/Excellent
<b>Regional Environmental Objectives</b>		
Supports <b>the Climate 2050 Strategic Framework and Integrated Air Quality</b>	Contributes to the achievement of <b>regional climate action and air quality goals, including directions set out in the Metro Vancouver Board Strategic Plan, the Regional Growth Strategy</b>	Poor/Good/Excellent

Criterion	Description	Assessment
and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan	<del>Climate 2050, and the of one or more goals in the</del> <i>Integrated Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan.</i>	
<del>Quantifiable Emissions Impacts</del> <del>Measurable Beneficial Effects</del>	<p>Achieves quantifiable beneficial impacts on greenhouse gas and common air contaminant emissions relative to baseline transit vehicles, and lowers the emissions profile of the transit fleet.</p> <p>Demonstrates tangible beneficial effects on greenhouse gas and common air contaminant emissions on road transportation sources for the duration of the project.</p> <p>The information requirement for this criterion is fulfilled as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For each transit vehicle project, provide a comparison of the emissions of the project versus the baseline vehicle<sup>2</sup></li> <li>For the application in aggregate, provide the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annualized transit fleet emissions in the current year;</li> <li>Plus, incremental changes in transit fleet emissions with full deployment of any proposed expansion, modernized, or refurbished vehicles.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	Poor/Good/Excellent
<b>Economic Development</b>		
Supports Regional Prosperity	Contributes to a regional transportation system that moves people and goods and aligns with regional prosperity.	Poor/Good/Excellent
<del>Measurable Beneficial Effects</del>	<del>Tangible beneficial effects on the movement of people and/or goods for the duration of the project.</del>	<del>Poor/Good/Excellent</del>

<sup>2</sup> **REQUIREMENTS FOR EMISSIONS ANALYSIS**

Baseline Transit Vehicle Fuel Type

For the purpose of evaluating the comparative emissions performance of the proposed project relative to the baseline in a consistent manner, the following requirements should be followed, unless otherwise stated by TransLink and including the rationale for any variations.

Vehicle Type	Baseline New Vehicle
40-foot bus	Diesel
60-foot bus	Diesel
Shuttle/Van	Gasoline
Other (specify)	Specified by TransLink

Emissions Type

The emissions of interest are CO<sub>2</sub>e, NO<sub>x</sub>, and particulate matter. Please denote the carbon content assumptions for each fuel type.

Emissions Metric

For each emissions type, grams per fully loaded passenger kilometre (seated and standing passengers).

**Inventory of Areas for Potential Improvements to the Metro Vancouver Federal Gas Tax  
Expenditures Policy and Application Guide  
(Based on consultation with TransLink and UBCM staff)**

Areas for Potential Improvement	Proposed Amendments	
	Policy	Application Guide
<b>APPLICATION PROCESS</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A lot of duplicative information is produced for each individual project; sometimes the content is rephrased slightly differently to vary the tone/style, which leads to misunderstanding of substantive intent</li> </ul>	No change	No change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MVRD Board has never issued a notice to TransLink on April 1 to solicit GVRF applications.</li> </ul>	Amendments Proposed	Amendments Proposed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope changes to prior approved GVRF projects require the same level of effort as a 'new' application and approval process.</li> <li>• Desire for a more nimble approach.</li> </ul>	No change	No change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Processing of applications is often undertaken under a compressed timeline; insufficient time for appropriate MV staff resource allocation</li> <li>• More structure needed between staff, including a better understanding of internal timelines</li> </ul>	No change	Amendments Proposed
<b>APPLICATION INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inconsistent 'baseline' for comparing emissions</li> </ul>	No change	Amendments Proposed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Tangible benefits' are difficult to quantify, especially on a project basis</li> <li>• Difficult to quantify the number of cars taken off the road</li> <li>• Uncertain if TransLink is willing to develop new methodologies and performance measures</li> </ul>	No change	Amendments Proposed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of understanding by MV staff and Board on TransLink's capital planning and decision-making process</li> </ul>	No change	Amendments Proposed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the connection of the projects to the Investment Plans and Mayors' Vision, and other policy objectives.</li> </ul>	No change	Amendments Proposed
<b>SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi-annual reporting may be too frequent</li> </ul>	Amendments Proposed	Amendments Proposed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project progress section may or may not be useful</li> </ul>	No change	No change

---

To: Finance and Intergovernment Committee

From: Heather Schoemaker, General Manager, External Relations  
Ann Rowan, Division Manager, Collaboration and Engagement, External Relations

Date: December 13, 2019 Meeting Date: January 15, 2020

Subject: **Metro Vancouver's 2019 Zero Waste Conference**

---

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee receive for information the report dated December 13, 2019 and titled "Metro Vancouver's 2019 Zero Waste Conference."

---

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over 500 people participated in the 2019 Zero Waste Conference, hosted by Metro Vancouver and the National Zero Waste Council, on October 30 and 31. The draw was a compelling program filled with unique perspectives, valuable insights and inspirational messages that attracted a diverse audience of individuals from government, business, academia and NGOs interested in waste prevention and a transition to a circular economy. With these kind of individuals present, the Conference was a unique and rewarding learning and networking environment – one that was enhanced in 2019 by a new conference app and informal opportunities for participants to network during breaks in the program. The conference also provided an opportunity to influence planning for Canada's hosting of the World Circular Economy Forum in 2020, with a closing panel of Canadian leaders in circular economy engaging with each other and the audience on how to mobilize for success in creating a Circular Canada.

### PURPOSE

To provide the Finance and Intergovernment Committee an overview of Metro Vancouver's Ninth Annual Zero Waste Conference: *A Future without Waste: Mobilizing for Success in the Circular Economy* held on Wednesday, October 30 and Thursday, October 31, 2019 at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

### BACKGROUND

Metro Vancouver's annual Zero Waste Conference is designed to inform and inspire regional and national stakeholders engaged in actions that will deliver on the waste reduction goals of the *Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan*. Effective action on waste prevention requires cross-sectoral collaboration at a geographical scale larger than the region; including changes in design and materials used in production, aligning policies across jurisdictions, and fostering innovation. Connections made through the National Zero Waste Council to thought leaders and change agents involved in identifying, promoting and adopting waste prevention measures and opportunities to transition to the circular economy are essential to the development of the Conference program. A strong program attracts participants from all levels of government, the business sector, sustainability practitioners and academia within the region, and increasingly across Canada and globally, to engage. Through knowledge exchange and networking at the Conference,

strong and informed advocates for advancing waste prevention and the transition to a circular economy in Metro Vancouver and across Canada are created.

This report summarizes key aspects of the 2019 Zero Waste Conference.

### **2019 ZERO WASTE CONFERENCE**

In 2020, Canada will host the World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF) marking the first time this global event is held in North America. The Forum will be co-organized by the Government of Canada and the Finnish innovation fund Sitra and held in Toronto, September 29 to October 1. The decision to host a WCEF is an indication of how the Federal government views a transition to a circular economy as a means to address environmental issues (e.g. greenhouse emissions, plastic waste) while creating economic opportunities and supporting innovation. 2020 will also mark the 10th anniversary of the Zero Waste Conference. Both events were considered in the development of the program for the 2019 Zero Waste Conference as it is seen as a pivotal stepping stone to both events on the journey to a Circular Canada.

### **Program Highlights**

Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Conference is renowned for its ability to attract high caliber speakers and panelists, and this year's conference was no exception.

The keynote speakers were inspiring and compelling. Skylar Tibbits, professor at MIT, opened up the Conference challenging participants to think about self-organizing systems found in nature that could be mimicked or replicated in textile manufacturing, architecture and even in mitigating sea level rise. Harald Friedl, CEO of Circle Economy, inserted a sense of urgency into the discussions – the environmental imperatives are clear and there are roadmaps and best practices that can move Canada into its journey to a circular economy. Valerie Craig, from the National Geographic Society, through a very visual presentation brought the plastics pollution problem center stage and set up the discussions to follow on day 2. The next day opened with an energetic and engaging interaction between Arthur Huang, CEO of Miniwiz, and Tom Szaky, CEO of Terra Cycle, who lead financially successful global companies by applying circular approaches to reusing “waste” and innovating business models that will enable a future without waste.

On day 1 panel topics included Business Transformation, Early Findings – Food Waste and Packaging, and Circular Cities – European Stories and the Canadian Journey. Also included in Day 1 was the Canadian Innovation Showcase that marks the second year of collaboration between the National Zero Waste Council and Think Beyond Plastic to highlight Canadian innovators who are implementing circular solutions to ocean plastics, food waste and packaging, and the textiles industry. On day 2 the first panel was “Plastics: A Global Challenge and Opportunity for Circularity at Scale” which began with two short presentations; the first on the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's New Plastics Economy initiative and the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME)'s pan-Canadian approach to plastics waste. These presentations were followed by comments from a diverse, subject matter expert responding panel. The Conference ended with a session on Circular Canada: Setting a Collective Agenda for Action and Collaboration. Kari Helevi, from the Finnish Innovation Fund, Sitra reflected on Finland's journey to a circular economy and the opportunity for learning that comes from the WCEF. And then through a moderated discussion with leaders in business, government and



research organizations active in developing and implementing circular economy solutions in Canada coupled with table discussions and interactions, markers for a collective agenda for action and collaboration for creating a Circular Canada were identified on the Conference floor.

The attachment provides the full program for the 2019 Zero Waste Conference and the biographies of the keynotes, speakers and moderators.

Moderators for the keynote and panel sessions used their own expertise to get speakers to elaborate on their thoughts as well as the questions from the audience. To ensure a thoughtful and interactive engagement on the part of participants, the Conference uses Pigeonhole, a software that allows participants to post their questions using their smart phones and to vote on questions they think important. (Reference 1 provides a link to a short video of the 2019 ZWC highlights.)

### **Audience/Networking**

The total number of participants for the 2019 Zero Waste Conference was 530, which was a 5% increase from 2018. According to the information provided at registration, 35% of the participants were from the private sector (from start-ups to corporate brands), 31% were from government (elected officials and staff), 20% were from the non-profit/NGOs, 4% were from post-secondary institutions, and 9% were students and other interested members of the public.

Registration fees were \$475 - an early bird rate of \$375 was in place until July and a new approach was used this year to offer a specific number of discounted registrations of \$250 to participants for whom the registration fee was not affordable - in all 20 discounted registration fees were facilitated.

A key driver in the increase in registration numbers is the conference programming and the networking opportunities - in particular as the number of participants across Canada and globally continues to increase. This year's networking opportunities were enhanced by the introduction of a conference networking app, Whova, that enabled participants to connect with each other and speakers. The app proved very popular with participants, resulting in 5,000 profile views, 844 messages sent and received, and 161 contact info exchanges. In addition, specific tables were designated as sites where people interested in networking on specific topics (e.g., food waste, circular cities, plastic waste) could meet during breaks in the Conference programming and the reception. This was mentioned by many participants as a positive development.

### **Marketing**

The Zero Waste Conference has a modest marketing budget but with that budget in 2019 we adopted an approach focused reaching a targeted audience while at the same time expanding the geographic scope of our marketing effort. This resulted in a stronger shift to digital and on-line as opposed to a reliance on print media. This more robust use of social media that enabled us to reach audiences most likely to attend the Conference. In addition, e-vites were sent on a regular basis to existing Metro Vancouver, National Zero Waste Council and Conference databases providing updates on the program and speakers. These e-vites are also posted on association notice boards and newsletters such as the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Circular Economy Leadership Coalition.

The Zero Waste Conference blog is used to promote the Conference but also to stimulate thinking and discussions on waste prevention and the circular economy before and after the Conference. Twenty-five blogs were published in 2019 and between June and October the blog resulted in more than 3,800 site visits.

### **Social and Earned Media**

While we continue to use social media as an important outreach and engagement platform for the Conference, conventional media interest and coverage of the Conference continues to grow. In 2019, there were 25 on-line and print earned media stories as well as 26 earned media stories on radio and TV with an estimated ad value of \$235,000. The draw for the media are the keynotes and other speakers. The highlight in 2019 was the front page story on the Vancouver Sun's October 27, 2019 edition on the issues of waste prevention and the circular economy with quotes from Valerie Craig and Tom Szaky as well as information on the Conference. (Reference 2 provides a link to Vancouver Sun story.)

### **Ongoing Knowledge Sharing - Zero Waste Conference Website**

The Zero Waste Conference website is maintained throughout the year and provides participants and other interested individuals access to videos from all the keynotes, panel discussions and question and answer sessions in addition to the blog. Also included are previous year conferences representing a treasure trove of information as well as a marker of how the discussion of waste prevention and the transition to the circular economy is evolving in Canada. (Reference 3 provides a link to these videos.)

### **Sponsorships**

While registration fees are the main source of funds to augment the Zero Waste Conference budget, the opportunity for sponsorships was introduced in 2018 - sponsorships from organizations that are aligned with the importance of waste prevention and a transition to a circular economy. Sponsors for the 2019 conference included The Canadian Stewardship Alliance (Gold level), Save-on Foods (Silver level), and Cascades (Bronze level) for a total of \$17,500.

### **NEXT STEPS**

The 2020 Zero Waste Conference will take place November 12 and 13 and will mark its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Program planning has already begun and will both pick up and advance discussions and priorities for action coming out of the WCEF in September for moving towards a circular economy as well as linking action on circular economy to the pressing issue of effective action on climate change. A recent report by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation establishes the link between deep cuts in greenhouse gas emissions and the transition to a circular economy.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The cost to host the 2019 Zero Waste Conference was \$412,000 and was supported through the 2019 General Government Program of \$212,000 and \$207,985 from a combination of Conference registration fees and sponsorships.

## **CONCLUSION**

Over 500 people participated in the 2019 Zero Waste Conference, hosted by Metro Vancouver and the National Zero Waste Council, on October 30 and 31. The draw was a compelling program filled with unique perspectives, valuable insights and inspirational messages that attracted a diverse audience of individuals from government, business, academia and NGOs interested in waste prevention and a transition to a circular economy. This is an information report - no alternatives are presented.

### **Attachment:** *(Doc # 36243099)*

2019 Zero Waste Conference -- *A Future without Waste: Mobilizing for Success in the Circular Economy* Program and Speaker Bios

### **References:**

1. Highlights of 2019 Zero Waste Video <http://www.metrovancouver.org/media-room/video-gallery/conferences/374998515>
2. <https://vancouver.sun.com/news/local-news/plastic-pollution-a-global-problem-with-local-solutions>
3. Videos of presentations from the 2019 Zero Waste Conference  
<http://www.zwc.ca/program/Pages/default.aspx>

34265243

## 2019 ZERO WASTE CONFERENCE

DAY ONE – WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 30	
8:45 AM	<p><b>WELCOMING/OPENING REMARKS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Sav Dhaliwal</a>, Chair, Metro Vancouver</li> <li>• <a href="#">Malcolm Brodie</a>, Chair, National Zero Waste Council</li> </ul>
9:00 AM	<p><b>OPENING KEYNOTE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Skylar Tibbits</a>, Founder of the Self-Assembly Lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and Associate Professor of Design Research in the Department of Architecture</li> </ul> <p>Humans are endlessly creative, but one of our greatest shortcomings is that we build things that have no ability to adapt to changes in the environment. Skylar Tibbits has a bold vision – a world where buildings, products and machines are capable of self-assembly, repair and replication, without robotic parts. This adaptive quality extends the life of materials and is the ultimate form of recycling. When you consider the reduce, reuse and recycling qualities of programmable materials, the possibilities are endless—reduced fossil fuel usage in material manufacturing, or even buildings that deconstruct to be recycled. Skylar Tibbits’ presentation will provoke us to radically reimagine how we use materials and interact with products in our day to day lives.</p> <p>Moderator: Kathryn Gretsinger, Journalist and Professor</p>
9:45 AM	<p><b>BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION</b></p> <p>Businesses are critical drivers of the circular economy, and companies around the world are stepping up and demonstrating leadership with innovative approaches. Through thought-provoking presentations and discussion, this session will explore business transformation across sectors of the economy that are foundational to Canada. Hear how companies are innovating, and overcoming perceived and real barriers to realize economic opportunities while reducing environmental impacts by going circular.</p> <p>Spark Talk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Brendan Edgerton</a>, Director, Circular Economy, World Business Council for Sustainable Development</li> </ul> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Arran Stephens</a>, Co-Founder and Co-CEO, Nature’s Path Foods Inc.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Robyn Collver</a>, Senior Vice-President, Risk &amp; Regulatory Affairs and Chief Sustainability Officer, Canadian Tire</li> <li>• <a href="#">Denise Coogan</a>, Environmental Partnerships Manager, Subaru</li> <li>• <a href="#">Adam Corneil</a>, Founder and CEO, Unbuilders</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: <a href="#">Mike Gerbis</a>, CEO, GLOBE Series &amp; The Delphi Group</p>
11:15 AM	<b>NETWORKING BREAK</b>
11:45 AM	<b>CANADIAN INNOVATION SHOWCASE</b>

	<p>Jumpstarting innovation is essential to moving to circular models of production, designing out waste and creating regenerative systems. The National Zero Waste Council, working in collaboration with Think Beyond Plastic, are collaborators in the Canadian Innovation Showcase and are looking for Canadian innovations that will contribute to a new plastics economy – one where the amount of new plastics is significantly reduced and the limited amount of plastic used is reusable, recyclable or compostable.</p> <p>The Innovation Challenge is looking for innovations in design with a focus on prevention, innovative business models that reduce waste, and new materials.</p> <p>Announcement of Finalists</p> <p>Hosts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Rebecca Beckham</a>, Innovation Programs Coordinator, Think Beyond Plastic</li> <li>• <a href="#">Malcolm Brodie</a>, Chair, National Zero Waste Council</li> </ul>
<p><b>12:15 PM</b></p>	<p><b>ANNOUNCEMENT: EARLY FINDINGS: FOOD WASTE AND PACKAGING</b></p> <p>As we work to tackle food waste on a national scale, considering how packaging is applied along the entire supply chain will be an important part of the solution. Following on the launch in 2018 of the National Zero Waste Council’s <a href="#">A Food Loss and Waste Strategy for Canada</a>, a new body of research is exploring how food packaging affects the amount of food wasted along the supply chain in Canada. From meat to fresh produce and seafood, this project begins where other projects in the US and Europe have left off, toward a made-in-Canada approach to better prevent food loss and waste while supporting sustainable and environmentally sound decision-making by all in the supply chain.</p> <p>Catch an early snapshot of new findings on the relationship between food loss and waste and packaging offers insights for policy and practice.</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Martin Gooch</a>, CEO, Value Chain Management International</li> <li>• <a href="#">Tom Rosser</a>, Assistant Deputy Minister, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada</li> <li>• <a href="#">Ron Lemaire</a>, President, Canadian Produce Marketing Association</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: <a href="#">James Downham</a>, Vice-Chair, National Zero Waste Council and President &amp; CEO, PAC Packaging Consortium</p>
<p><b>12:45 PM</b></p>	<p><b>NETWORKING LUNCH</b></p>
<p><b>1:45 PM</b></p>	<p><b>KEYNOTE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Harald Friedl</a>, CEO, Circle Economy</li> </ul> <p>Circular economy has recently made international headlines with the <a href="#">2019 Circularity Gap Report</a>, released at the World Economic Forum in Davos. It sounds the alarm that the three most threatening environmental challenges – the climate crisis, biodiversity loss and diminishing resources – are not being addressed fast enough. A more rapid uptake of the circular economy provides a way out of this situation. Harald Friedl will share his insights on how to close the gap and accelerate the global transition to a circular economy.</p> <p>Moderator: <a href="#">Mike Wilson</a>, Executive Director, Smart Prosperity Institute</p>

<p><b>2:30 PM</b></p>	<p><b>CIRCULAR CITIES: INNOVATION FROM THE GROUND UP</b></p> <p>Cities and metropolitan regions are the epicenters of economic growth and innovation. And they are an ideal testing ground for the application of circular economy principles and approaches. Across the globe, the circular economy is being embraced at the city level for its potential to encourage a systems approach to waste prevention and material savings as well as job creation and innovation – catalyzing new business opportunities across a variety of sectors as we rethink how to deliver goods and services in a new way. We will be examining the changing roles of cities as zero waste leaders, as our society and its systems evolve towards the circular economy.</p> <p>European Stories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Anni Sinnemäki</a>, Deputy Mayor, Helsinki</li> <li>• <a href="#">Nolwenn Foray</a>, New Plastics Economy, Ellen MacArthur Foundation</li> <li>• <a href="#">Tamara Streefland</a>, Circular Cities Program Lead, Metabolic</li> </ul> <p>The Canadian Journey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Meaghan Davis</a>, Acting Manager, Circular Economy and Innovation Unit, City of Toronto</li> <li>• <a href="#">Barbara Swartzentruber</a>, Executive Director, Smart Cities, City of Guelph</li> <li>• <a href="#">Meaghan Kahnert</a>, Senior Consultant, Energy &amp; Sustainability, Arup Canada</li> <li>• <a href="#">Christina Seidel</a>, Co-Chair, National Zero Waste Council Circular Economy Working Group, and Executive Director of the Recycling Council of Alberta</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: <a href="#">Brock Carlton</a>, CEO, Federation of Canadian Municipalities</p>
<p><b>4:00 PM</b></p>	<p><b>KEYNOTE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Valerie Craig</a>, Deputy to the Chief Scientist and Vice President of Operating Programs, National Geographic Society</li> </ul> <p>Global awareness is amplifying around the great challenges presented by plastic waste. Across the planet, plastics are posing environmental threats while also serving a myriad of important uses that modern societies have grown to depend on. Through a highly visual presentation, Valerie Craig will take us on a journey to better understand how we’ve arrived at the challenges we are presented with, and remind us that solutions will truly require global thinking. From governments, corporations and civil society, systemic change will require human ingenuity and global thinking.</p> <p>Moderator: <a href="#">Vanessa Timmer</a>, Co-Founder and Executive Director, One Earth and Board Member, National Zero Waste Council</p>
<p><b>4:30 PM</b></p>	<p><b>CLOSING REMARKS</b></p> <p><a href="#">Sav Dhaliwal</a>, Chair, Metro Vancouver</p>
<p><b>4:45 PM</b></p>	<p><b>NETWORKING RECEPTION</b></p>
<p><b>DAY 2 – THURSDAY OCTOBER 31</b></p>	
<p><b>8:30 AM</b></p>	<p><b>WELCOMING/OPENING REMARKS</b></p> <p><a href="#">Jack Froese</a>, Chair, Metro Vancouver’s Zero Waste Committee</p>

<p><b>8:45 AM</b></p>	<p><b>KEYNOTE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Arthur Huang</a>, Founder and CEO, Miniwiz</li> <li>• <a href="#">Tom Szaky</a>, Founder and CEO, TerraCycle</li> </ul> <p>As Founder and CEO of Miniwiz, Arthur is accelerating the shift to a circular economy where everything from consumer goods to architectural structures are made from recycled materials and then continue to be recycled as they reach the end of their lives. Meanwhile, Tom, Founder and CEO of TerraCycle, began with the challenge of recycling the “non-recyclable” but has now moved beyond recycling to a new zero-waste platform involving a coalition of major consumer product companies. This new company, called Loop, is piloting the delivery of a wide range of consumer products in reusable, refillable containers – no more single use items. Be prepared to have your concept of waste wither away!</p> <p>Moderator: Kathryn Gretsinger, Journalist and Professor</p>
<p><b>9:45 AM</b></p>	<p><b>PLASTICS: A GLOBAL CHALLENGE &amp; OPPORTUNITY AT CIRCULARITY AT SCALE</b></p> <p>Only 9% of the plastic waste generated annually in Canada gets recycled. Three million tonnes, representing \$8 billion in economic value, embedded energy, and resources, is thrown out - representing a huge innovation challenge and opportunity. This session will bring together leading voices on plastics to discuss and debate Canada’s path forward, and the changes needed to transform how we make, use, and recycle plastics, to ensure it remains in the economy and out of the environment.</p> <p>Rethinking the Future - A Global Commitment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Nolwenn Foray</a>, New Plastics Economy, Ellen MacArthur Foundation</li> </ul> <p>A Pan-Canadian Approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Michael Goeres</a>, Executive Director, Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment</li> </ul> <p>Responding Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Mitchell Toomey</a>, Director of Sustainability, BASF Corporation</li> <li>• <a href="#">Jeremy Douglas</a>, Vice President, Development, Ocean Wise</li> <li>• <a href="#">Usman Valiante</a>, Senior Policy Analyst, Cardwell Grove Inc.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Maja Vodanovic</a>, Co-Chair, National Zero Waste Council Plastics Advisory Panel and Mayor, City of Lachine</li> <li>• <a href="#">Pierre G. Lafleur</a>, Professor of Chemical Engineering, Polytechnique Montreal</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: <a href="#">Velma McColl</a>, Managing Principal, Earnscliffe</p>
<p><b>11:00 AM</b></p>	<p><b>CIRCULAR CANADA: SETTING A COLLECTIVE AGENDA FOR ACTION AND COLLABORATION</b></p> <p><i>In collaboration with the National Zero Waste Council and the Circular Economy Leadership Coalition</i></p> <p>The circular economy is a bold vision and framework for action that can only be realized if we harness our collective ingenuity, innovation and creativity. In 2020, Canada will</p>

	<p>host the World Circular Economy Forum and the Zero Waste Conference will celebrate its 10th anniversary. This interactive closing session will bring together a diverse range of perspectives, and engage conference participants, to assess the scale and opportunity of the challenge and the leadership needed to accelerate Canada's transition to a circular economy.</p>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	<p><b>CIRCULAR CANADA: A CONVERSATION WITH SITRA</b></p> <p>SITRA is a driving force behind Finland's circular economy leadership at home and abroad - having developed one of the first national circular economy roadmaps, and pioneering the World Circular Economy Forum. Setting the stage for the panel that follows, Kari will reflect on Finland's journey, and the leadership and success factors critical to circular economy transitions.</p> <p><a href="#">Kari Herlevi</a>, Project Director, Circular Economy, The Finnish Innovation Fund, SITRA in conversation with <a href="#">Vanessa Timmer</a>, Board Member, National Zero Waste Council and Co-Founder and Executive Director, One Earth</p>
<b>11:30 AM</b>	<p><b>CIRCULAR CANADA: SETTING A COLLECTIVE, CANADIAN AGENDA FOR ACTION AND COLLABORATION</b></p> <p>Blending insights from Canadian leaders with audience input, we will assess where we have made inroads and what's critical to ensure Canada's transition to a circular economy at scale and speed. What strengths and innovations can we build from, and what leadership and action is needed now to mobilize for success? What success factors will be critical to scaling up Canada's circular economy transition?</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Stephanie Cairns</a>, Director of Cities and Communities &amp; Policy Director of Circular Economy, Smart Prosperity Institute</li> <li>• <a href="#">Robyn Collver</a>, Senior Vice-President, Risk &amp; Regulatory Affairs and Chief Sustainability Officer, Canadian Tire</li> <li>• <a href="#">John Coyne</a>, VP, External Affairs &amp; Sustainability, Unilever Canada &amp; Executive Chair of the Board, Canadian Stewardship Services Alliance</li> <li>• <a href="#">Sophie Langlois-Blouin</a>, Vice-President of Operations, RECYC-QUÉBEC</li> <li>• <a href="#">Mikhael Metauro</a>, National Business Development and Sales Strategist, Cascades Recovery+</li> <li>• <a href="#">Christina Seidel</a>, Co-Chair, National Zero Waste Council Circular Economy Working Group, and Executive Director of the Recycling Council of Alberta</li> <li>• <a href="#">Mike Wilson</a>, Executive Director, Smart Prosperity Institute</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: <a href="#">David Hughes</a>, Co-Chair, Circular Economy Leadership Coalition and President &amp; CEO, The Natural Step Canada</p>
<b>12:55 PM</b>	<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b>
<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>NETWORKING LUNCH</b>



**DAY ONE – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30**

**8: 45AM WELCOMING/OPENING REMARKS**

**Sav Dhaliwal**

Chair, Metro Vancouver Board



Sav Dhaliwal was elected Chair of the Metro Vancouver Board in November 2018, following a decade as a Board Director and 16 years as City of Burnaby Councillor. He has also served as president of both the Union of B.C. Municipalities and Lower Mainland Local Government Association and worked with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities as the Chair of the Standing Committee for Municipal Finance and as well as Infrastructure and Transportation Policy. Prior to local politics, Sav enjoyed a long career in the private sector working in information technology at TELUS. He has also served not-for-profit organizations in Burnaby, including the Burnaby Minor Hockey Association, Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame Committee, New Vista Society and the Burnaby Lions Club. Sav has been recognized by the Government of Canada, the University of British Columbia & the Goel Family Charitable Foundation, the Fiji Association of British Columbia and the Chetna Association of Canada for his outstanding services to the Community. He and his wife, Cheryl, have lived in Burnaby for more than 40 years.

**Malcolm Brodie**

Chair, National Zero Waste Council



volunteer community.

Malcolm Brodie has been a Board Director and Chair of the National Zero Waste Council since its inception in October 2013. He has also been a member of Council for the City of Richmond since 1996, and Mayor since 2001. Malcolm Brodie has been appointed by his Council to the Board of Directors of Metro Vancouver and he currently is the Chair of the Water Committee, Vice-Chair of the Performance and Audit Committee and also serves on the Finance and Intergovernment Committee, the Mayors' Committee, the George Massey Crossing Task Force, and the Industrial Lands Task Force. He represents Metro Vancouver on the Municipal Finance Authority, and in 2015, was elected as Chair. Before election to Council, Mayor Brodie was a practicing lawyer and had a long record of service to Richmond in the

**EMCEE**

**Vanessa Timmer**

Co-Founder & Executive Director, One Earth



Dr. Vanessa Timmer is the Executive Director of One Earth, a Vancouver, Canada-based environmental 'think and do tank' creating and imagining sustainable ways of living in cities and around the world. One Earth collaborates with partners to transform how people live their lives – what they need, what they consume and produce, and what they aspire to – enabling everyone to live good quality of lives within their fair share of our planet's resources. Vanessa is also a Senior Research Fellow at Utrecht University with Pathways to Sustainability, the Urban Futures Studio, and the Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development. She holds a Doctorate and studied at Queen's University, Oxford, UBC and Harvard. Vanessa sits on the Multi-stakeholder Advisory Committee for the United Nations 10YFP Sustainable Lifestyles Programme. In Canada, she is a Board member of the National Zero Waste Council and of the Vancouver Foundation Partnership Committee. In 2018, Vanessa received the 2018 YWCA Women of Distinction Award in Environmental Sustainability.

**9:00 AM    OPENING KEYNOTE**



**Skylar Tibbits**

Founder, Self-Assembly Lab & Associate Professor of Design Research;  
Department of Architecture, MIT

---

Skylar Tibbits is a trained architect, designer, computer scientist, and artist whose research focuses on developing self-assembly technologies for large-scale applications in our physical environment. He is the founder and director of MIT's Self-Assembly Lab, and a faculty member in MIT's Department of Architecture. Previously, he worked at a number of renowned design offices, has designed and built large-scale installations around the world, and has exhibited work at The Guggenheim Museum, NY. Tibbits has been published in The New York Times, Wired, and Fast Company, and has guest lectured at The University of Pennsylvania, Pratt Institute, and Harvard's Graduate School of Design. He was recently named R&D Magazine's 2015 Innovator of the Year and awarded an Architectural League Prize and a TED Senior Fellowship. Skylar is on the cutting edge of 4D printing, where the fourth dimension is time. At his Self-Assembly Lab, Skylar and his team design things which transform over time, adapting to their environment. From 'intelligent' water pipes that contract and expand as needed to robotics without wires or motors, inspired by natural systems like DNA and proteins, Skylar takes a transformative, responsive way of designing that has huge implications for manufacturing, city building, consumer product development and aerospace.

**MODERATOR**



**Kathryn Gretsinger**

Journalist and Professor

---

Kathryn Gretsinger is a Vancouver journalist. She's a regular contributor at CBC and she teaches at UBC's Graduate School of Journalism.

**9:45 AM    BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION**

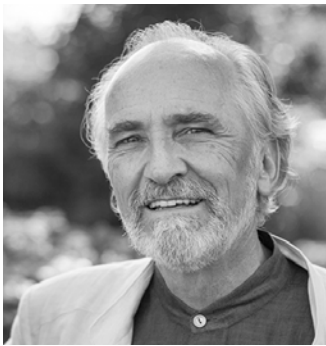


**Brendan Edgerton**

Director, Circular Economy, World Business Council for Sustainable Development

---

Brendan is the Director of Circular Economy at the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, a global, CEO-led organization of over 200 companies working together to accelerate the transition to a sustainable world. Since joining WBCSD in Geneva in 2015, Brendan has contributed to over 10 publications on the circular economy. Brendan most recently co-developed and launched Factor10, WBCSD's circular economy program. Factor10 now has almost 40 members, spanning across 15 industries, 17 countries and responsible for over USD \$2 trillion in annual turnover. Brendan also contributed to the establishment of the Alliance to End Plastic Waste. Brendan has an MBA from the Yale School of Management, a Master of Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and a bachelor's in Ecological Design from the University of California Santa Cruz.



## Arran Stephens

Co-Founder & Co-CEO of Nature's Path Foods Inc.

Arran Stephens has passionately helped pioneer the organic movement for over 50 years before it became a global industry. Born on his family's farm in 1944, he learned an invaluable lesson from his dad: "Always leave the soil better than you found it." Bettering the soil, communities and the world has been his lifelong work. Starting with \$7 and a \$1,500 loan, Arran started a small natural foods restaurant in 1967 that ultimately became America's first certified organic cereal processor in 1985, and within a few years, the world's largest organic cereal brand - Nature's Path. In an age of sell-outs, Nature's Path remains a proudly independent family enterprise, involved in farming, processing and marketing organic products worldwide. All three of their modern factories have earned Zero Waste Certification—the only cereal producer so far to achieve this designation. Nature's Path is a Founding Partner of Loop, joining a coalition of global brands rethinking and reworking its manufacturing and packaging to offer goods in reusable containers. Through a circular, zero-waste model, empty containers are collected from the consumer and refilled by the manufacturer at least 100 times and recycled into something new at the end of the container's life cycle. This continuous cycle of reuse and refill aims to address our waste crisis and overuse of our planet's resources. Arran has received many high-profile awards during his career, including; an Organic Pioneer Award from Rodale Institute (2018) and the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award (2002). Arran has contributed to the success of various organizations, where he has served, or continues to serve, including; Advisory Board of the UBC Land and Food Systems, Rodale Institute and the Canadian Health Food Association.

## Robyn Collver

Senior Vice-President, Risk & Regulatory Affairs and Chief Sustainability Officer,  
Canadian Tire



Robyn Collver is Senior Vice-President, Risk and Regulatory Affairs and Chief Sustainability Officer for Canadian Tire Corporation, Limited. Robyn joined Canadian Tire Corporation in 2002, was appointed General Counsel of Canadian Tire's Financial Services division in 2004 and served as General Counsel of Canadian Tire Corporation, Limited from 2008 to 2015. Her current role includes developing the enterprise risk function, creating the company's positions on regulatory policy, overseeing the regulated aspects of the business, and corporate citizenship, including environmental sustainability. Robyn is currently on the Boards of Directors of Alzheimer Society of Toronto, Stewardship Ontario and Savers, Inc. as well as the Steering Committee of the Circular Economy Leadership Coalition. Robyn holds a

law degree from University of Toronto and an Honours Bachelor of Business Administration from Acadia University.

## Denise Coogan

Environmental Partnership Manager, Subaru



Denise Coogan (MA in Sustainable Development/Policy) is recognized as a leading zero landfill expert. She leads the company's external environmental and sustainability programs, which include Subaru's initiative to bring zero landfill to the national parks. During her tenure at Subaru Indiana Automotive (SIA) as Safety and Environmental Compliance Manager, Denise headed the plant's zero landfill effort, which was achieved with the last waste shipment going to the landfill in May 2004. Because of her efforts, SIA is one of the most environmentally friendly auto manufacturing facilities in the world. Throughout her time at SIA, Denise advised more than 800 corporations on how to

implement zero landfill best practices in their respective facilities. Denise holds professional certifications as a Registered Environmental Manager (REM) and a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM). Her master's thesis laid out the path a company needs to take to achieve zero landfill.



**Adam Corneil**  
Founder & CEO, Unbuilders

---

Adam is a serial entrepreneur with an extensive background in deconstruction, reclaimed woodwork, & Passive House construction. Flipping his first house with his father at the age of 16, he was instantly hooked on crafting old, weathered projects into new, fresh and well-built homes and spaces. After founding and running Naturally Crafted Contracting for 5 years, Adam saw a need for major changes in the demolition industry. In 2018, Adam launched Unbuilders which is Canada's foremost deconstruction company. For every home Unbuilders deconstructs, approximately 50 tonnes of waste are diverted from landfill. Salvaged materials are upcycled through donations to charity, generating tax receipts for building owners and reducing costs below traditional demolition. Unbuilders has seen tremendous growth in demand for its services and is projected to scale up its waste diversion impacts in future years.

## MODERATOR



**Mike Gerbis**  
CEO, GLOBE Series & The Delphi Group

---

Mike oversees two leading Canadian organizations with a combined mission to "identify, connect and support the global community of change makers to accelerate society's transformation to a sustainable, prosperous and socially just future for our children." As CEO of The Delphi Group and GLOBE Series, Mike spends a significant amount of his time developing partnerships and working closely with domestic and international leaders from all levels of government, private sectors across the economy, not-for-profit groups, youth organizations and clean tech solution providers and investors to advance the transition to a sustainable future, while enhancing Canada's prosperity. He also provides strategic insight to Boards of Directors, federal and provincial ministers and senior executives on issues related to climate change risk management, corporate sustainability & clean tech/clean energy innovation, commercialization & deployment. In addition to over 25 years of experience in strategic consultancy and event management, Mike also devotes personal time to advancing sustainability and clean technology. He is past Chair of Clean Air Champions and has co-founded two other not-for-profit organizations – Leading Change Canada and The Climate Reality Project Canada. He also regularly engages and educates youth and business leaders across Canada through initiatives such as SHAD Valley International, TEC Canada and requested presentations and workshops for boards and senior executives on topics such as sustainability, clean tech/clean energy innovation and climate change risk mitigation.

**11:15 AM NETWORKING BREAK**

**11:45 AM CANADIAN INNOVATION SHOWCASE**

## CO-PRESENTERS

Malcolm Brodie and Rebecca Beckham



## Rebecca Beckham

Innovation Programs Coordinator, Think Beyond Plastic

---

Rebecca Beckham, as the Innovation Programs coordinator, is responsible for developing the innovator support tools and programs at Think Beyond Plastic. She is a monitoring and evaluation specialist with expertise in African nation development and security. She has worked in Rwanda with Catholic Relief Services agriculture program that involved monitoring and evaluation, facilitation, and supervising training workshops for agriculture extension agents. Prior to that Rebecca spent two years with the Peace Corps in Cameroon, where she worked on community needs assessment, resource strategies, strengthening various women cooperatives, and designing/implementing a comprehensive food security project.

She is completing two master's degrees from The Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterrey in public administration and international environmental policy.

## FINALISTS

**Marine Plastics Category:** Gil Yaron, Director of Market Development, Ocean Legacy Technologies

**Food Packaging Category:** Vinson Luong, Team Lead, Veritas Blockchain Consulting

**Textiles Category:** Blyth Gill, Co-founder, Tradle

## 12:15 PM ANNOUNCEMENT: Early Findings – Food Waste and Packaging



## Martin Gooch, PhD

Chief Executive Officer, Value Chain Management International (VCMI)

---

Dr. Martin Gooch is co-founder and CEO of VCMI, a global consulting company headquartered in Oakville, Ontario. VCMI assists businesses to enhance their long-term profitability and environmental sustainability by implementing systems for driving continual improvements in performance. Martin has two decades' experience in analyzing businesses and value chains to identify where food and related waste occurs and why, and has authored or co-authored numerous publications on this topic, including the January 2019 report, "[The Avoidable Crisis of Food Waste](#)." Martin holds a PhD and Master's degree in agri-food management, and a Bachelor of International Business. In 2013 Martin received

Bayer Inc.'s "Outstanding Canadian" award for his contribution to "Food Chain Partnerships." In 2017 the Ontario Produce Marketing Association awarded Martin the Cory Clack-Streef "Produce Industry Person of the Year" award for assisting Ontario's produce industry to benefit from reducing food loss and waste.



**Tom Rosser**

Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

---

Tom Rosser joined Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) as the Assistant Deputy Minister of Strategic Policy in January 2017. He is responsible for leading on major policy issues on behalf of the Department including Cabinet and intergovernmental affairs, implementing the Food Policy for Canada, as well as economic analysis. Before joining AAFC, he was the Senior Assistant Deputy Minister of Strategic Policy at Fisheries and Oceans Canada, responsible for policy development, Cabinet and Parliamentary Affairs, communications, economic analysis and trade. Prior to that, he was the Assistant Deputy

Minister, Canadian Forest Service (CFS), Natural Resources Canada (NRCan).



**Ron Lemaire**

President, Canadian Produce Marketing Association

---

Mr. Lemaire brings 26 years of extensive experience from a not-for-profit association perspective, with a focus on vertically integrated supply chains, government relations, advocacy, marketing, public/private partnerships, capacity building and food systems thinking. Working within the fresh produce world for over 17 years, Mr. Lemaire has become acquainted with the challenges and opportunities within the sector. The community throughout our fresh fruit and vegetable food system works to ensure they are stewards of

our land for future generations, while meeting the need to supply safe, quality and affordable produce year-round. With this in scope, Mr. Lemaire works in a world of fast-paced change that manoeuvres through global regulatory swings, variable climate, food safety outbreaks, disruptive technology advancements and ever-changing consumer demands and expectations. In his role as CPMA President, Mr. Lemaire has worked to represent the needs and interests of over 850 Canadian and international member companies who are responsible for over 90% of the fresh fruit and vegetable sales in Canada.

## MODERATOR



**James Downham**

Vice-Chair, National Zero Waste Council and President & CEO, PAC Packaging Consortium

---

James (Jim) Downham is a former package manufacturing CEO. Today he is the CEO of PAC Packaging Consortium and Chair of LeaderLinx, an executive recruiter. Jim is the Vice-Chair of the National Zero Waste Council. He is a passionate sustainability, circular economy, brand design and innovation packaging leader and holds Canadian and US citizenships. In 2014 Jim was inducted into the Packaging Hall of Fame. PAC Packaging Consortium is a non-profit association that serves global client partners across the packaging value chain to achieve their business objectives. Under Jim's leadership PAC has created several programs including PAC NEXT and PAC FOOD Sustainability Programs; the IFS PACsecure global food packaging safety

standard; intelliPACK, A Smart Packaging Innovation Catalyst; the PAC GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS; the PAC TO THE FUTURE Conferences and the PACed Certificate Program.

## 12:45 PM NETWORKING LUNCH

1:45 PM KEYNOTE



**Harald Friedl**

CEO, Circle Economy

In his role as [Circle Economy's](#) CEO, Harald brings extensive international experience running both for-profit and non-profit businesses with a focus on scaling impact. Before joining Circle Economy in 2017, Harald spent 5 years in Myanmar, during which he co-founded Impact Hub Myanmar, headed the market development for the world market leader of electromechanical hydropower projects in the country and co-founded Myanmar's first pre-incubation programme for social enterprises. Prior to moving to Myanmar, he lived in New York where he worked as the Head of Office for the Assistant Secretary-General and acted as the spokesperson for the Deputy Prime Minister of Finance in Austria. He has also spent time as a journalist and TV presenter for economic-focused news. Harald enjoys connecting with people who are striving to make the world a better place for future generations. In his spare time, he loves exploring the great outdoors with his wife and kids.

**MODERATOR**



**Mike Wilson**

Executive Director, Smart Prosperity Institute

Raised in New Brunswick, Mike began his career as a lawyer in Toronto, left to become senior policy adviser to the federal Environment Minister, and then went on to hold a series of increasingly senior roles in the Government of Canada working at the intersection of the environment, economy and innovation. During his career in government, he was responsible for creating the government's clean air agenda, led Environment Canada's environmental assessment program and spearheaded a successful public-private initiative to strengthen the role of sustainability in investment decisions. Now, as Executive Director of the Smart Prosperity Institute - Canada's leading green economy research institute and think tank. Mike leads a dynamic and accomplished team, producing cutting edge research, policy advice and communications strategies for clean economic growth across the Canadian economy. Mike has long held a firm belief that 'green' and 'growth' can go hand in hand and a drive for making that happen. He brings passion and experience to his role at the helm of Smart Prosperity Institute.

2:30 PM **CIRCULAR CITIES: Innovation From The Ground Up**



**Anni Sinnemäki**

Deputy Mayor, City of Helsinki

Anni Sinnemäki has been the Deputy Mayor for the City of Helsinki, responsible for city planning and real estate, since 2015. Since June 2017 she is in charge of Helsinki's Urban Environment Division. She has been a member of the Helsinki City Council since 2005. Sinnemäki was a Member of the Finnish Parliament for 15 years (1999–2015), representing The Green League of Finland. She was Minister of Labour from 2009 to 2011. From 2009 to 2011, Sinnemäki was also Chair of the Green League. Sinnemäki is working enthusiastically as a board member of Helsinki Metropolitan Smart & Clean Foundation to make zero plastic waste reality in the Helsinki capital region. Sinnemäki was born in Helsinki, is married and has two children. She has published two collections of poems and she also wrote lyrics for albums by Ultra Bra group. Sinnemäki holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Helsinki.



## Nolwenn Foray

New Plastics Economy, Ellen MacArthur Foundation

---

Nolwenn is a Consultant for the Ellen MacArthur Foundation's New Plastics Economy initiative, an ambitious initiative to rethink and redesign the plastics system based on circular economy principles. The initiative brings together key businesses from across the plastics value chain, Governments and NGOs to change the way we produce, use and reuse plastics, starting with plastics packaging. In her work, Nolwenn focuses on supporting the Plastics Pact, a network of initiatives that bring together all key stakeholders at the national or regional level to implement solutions towards a circular economy for plastics. Each initiative is led by a local organisation and unites governments, businesses, and citizens behind the common vision of a New Plastics Economy. Previously, Nolwenn worked as a Project Officer

for the French Environmental and Energy Management Agency (ADEME) in France and in New Caledonia, focusing on circular economy and waste management, including in tropical coastal areas. She also worked in an environmental consultancy in Paris, and on biodiversity and water resources in the public sector in Chile. She holds a Masters degree in Environmental Project Management, Public Policy and Economics from the Institute of Political Studies of Grenoble, France, in partnership with the National Polytechnic Institute.



## Tamara Streefland

Circular Cities Program Lead, Metabolic

---

Tamara Streefland leads the Circular Cities Program at Metabolic, a consulting, research, and venture building firm focused on tackling global sustainability challenges and advancing a circular economy. Headquartered in Amsterdam, Metabolic works with cities and regions to drive systemic change, implementing circular approaches across a range of scales, from buildings, neighborhoods, and area development plans, to integrated city-wide strategies. Tamara has worked on a wide range of urban resilience projects, focused on water ecology, the freight sector, waste systems, and renewable energy in cities including Amsterdam and New York City. Her background as an earth scientist, coupled with experience in collaborative

design and systems thinking, has formed the basis for creative and feasible strategies to help cities transition to more sustainable and circular models.



## Meaghan Davis

Acting Manager, Circular Economy and Innovation Unit, City of Toronto

---

Meaghan Davis is the Acting Manager for the City of Toronto's Circular Economy and Innovation unit in the Solid Waste Management Services Division. Meaghan is working to advance Toronto's aspirational goals of zero waste and becoming Ontario's first municipality with a circular economy. Her current focus is on ramping up efforts to incorporate circular principles in City procurements, projects, and communications strategies. Meaghan has also been involved in the development of Toronto's first project to generate renewable natural gas from Green Bin organic waste. The initiative will enable the City of Toronto to create a closed-loop approach where organics collection trucks can be powered by the waste product they collect. Prior to joining the City of

Toronto, Meaghan worked for Urban Strategies, a global planning and urban design firm, and for a range of Toronto-based arts companies, including the international multi-arts festival, Luminato. Meaghan holds a Masters of Urban Planning from Ryerson University and a Bachelor of Arts from McGill University.





## Barbara Swartzentruber

Executive Director, Smart Cities, City of Guelph

---

Barbara Swartzentruber is currently the Executive Director of the Smart Cities Office at the City of Guelph. As winners of the Canada's Smart City Challenge, the City and County of Wellington are collaborating with public and private sector partners to create Canada's first circular food economy. Building on the principles of a circular economy and leveraging the power of data and technology, they are re-imagining a sustainable regional food system that increases access to healthy nutritious food for all, prevents food loss and waste, and creates circular businesses for a green economy. Barbara has more than 30 years of experience in public sector innovation at the local, provincial and national levels in the

areas of smart cities, citizen engagement, digital economy, rural broadband, open government, data and technology. She has taught public policy, community development and advocacy at several Canadian universities.



## Meaghan Kahnert

Senior Consultant, Energy & Sustainability, Arup Canada

---

Meaghan Kahnert is a Senior Consultant with Arup Canada's Energy & Sustainability team. Meaghan is a Licensed Professional Engineer (P.Eng.) and a LEED Accredited Professional with a specialization in Building Design and Construction (LEED AP BD+C). She is also a RESET Accredited Professional (an international tech-driven building standard focused on real-time data for human health and wellbeing). Meaghan brings deep expertise in scalable solutions for cities, urban planning and buildings projects in pursuit of impactful high-performance design, climate action planning, resilience and health and wellness strategies.



## Christina Seidel

Co-Chair, National Zero Waste Council Circular Economy Working Group & Executive Director of the Recycling Council of Alberta

---

Christina holds a PhD in Engineering Management, a Masters degree in Environmental Design, as well as a B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering. She operates sonnevera international corp., a waste reduction consulting firm, and is the current Executive Director of the Recycling Council of Alberta. She is also currently co-chair of the National Zero Waste Council's Circular Economy Working Group, and was also a member of Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada Catherine McKenna's Plastics Advisory Group. Christina loves rural life, choosing to live on a farm near Bluffton, Alberta, where her and her family train Warmblood horses, and enjoy many other outdoor activities.

## MODERATOR



**Brock Carlton**

Chief Executive Officer, Federation of Canadian Municipalities

---

Brock joined FCM more than 25 years ago. Since then, he has established himself as a leading voice on municipal issues, both domestically and internationally. As CEO, Brock leads a strong team of staff and a united membership in advancing municipal interests by influencing both federal government decisions and national debates on issues that are critical to communities. He has built partnerships with private sector interests, professional associations, not-for-profit organizations and the academic community in order to speak as one united voice about the priorities of municipal government. Under Brock's tenure, the municipal sector in Canada has seen dramatic increases in federal investments, as well as recognition for the vital role it plays in our national interest. As a result, FCM is now recognized as one of the most influential organizations in Canada. Brock is a dynamic and passionate speaker on municipal issues and federal-municipal relations. He believes that strong nations engage their municipal governments as true partners in nation building, and that they invest in their cities and communities as a means of solving local and national challenges.

## 4:00 PM KEYNOTE



**Valerie Craig**

Deputy to the Chief Scientist & Vice President of Operating Programs,  
National Geographic Society

---

Valerie Craig is Deputy to the Chief Scientist and Vice President of Operating Programs for National Geographic Society. In this capacity, she has strategic and operational oversight for the series of flagship programs and projects that are helping to push the boundaries of exploration, further understanding of our world, and collaboratively generate solutions for a healthy, more sustainable planet. She previously worked on ocean and freshwater issues for National Geographic's Impact Initiatives and Explorer Programs and oversaw the Lindblad-National Geographic Fund. From 2004 to 2010, with SeaWeb's Seafood Choices Alliance, she worked across the seafood industry and ocean conservation community to find and create opportunities to make the seafood marketplace more sustainable. Valerie

received a Master's of Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and has a Bachelor's in International Relations.

## MODERATOR

**Vanessa Timmer**

Co-Founder & Executive Director, One Earth

## 4:30 PM CLOSING REMARKS

**Sav Dhaliwal**

Chair, Metro Vancouver Board

## 4:45 PM NETWORKING RECEPTION

**DAY TWO – THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31**

**8: 30AM WELCOMING/OPENING REMARKS**



**Jack Froese**

Chair, Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Committee

---

Re-elected to office in 2018, Mayor Jack Froese is currently serving his third term as Township of Langley Mayor. For 40 years, Mayor Jack Froese has lived, worked, and raised a family in Langley and was a successful business owner and farmer. He is also a retired police officer from the Vancouver Police Department. Mayor Froese is the Vice Chair of the TransLink Mayor's Council, Chair of Metro Vancouver Zero Waste Committee, and a Director on the Metro Board.

**8: 45AM KEYNOTE**



**Arthur Huang**

CEO & Founder of Miniwiz

---

Arthur is a structural engineer, architect, and circular economy innovator. He has spent over a decade turning post-consumer waste into innovative products for businesses and consumers through his company, MINIWIZ. As founder and CEO of MINIWIZ, Arthur is focused on accelerating the shift to a closed-loop circular economy where all products are made from recycled materials and eventually, even those products will be recycled. Today, MINIWIZ is a global leader in transforming post-consumer products into retail store interiors, architectural structures, and consumer goods. Under Arthur's leadership, MINIWIZ has received the World Economic Forum's Technology Pioneer Award, The Financial Times' Earth Award, and The Wall Street Journal's Asian Innovation Award. Arthur has been a National Geographic

Explorer since 2016 and the World Economic Forum recognized him as the Runner up for The Circular Leadership Award 2019 Davos. In February 2019, the World Economic Forum named MINIWIZ as one of the top 11 companies leading the way to a circular economy.



**Tom Szaky**

Founder & CEO of TerraCycle

---

Tom Szaky is founder and CEO of TerraCycle, a global leader in the collection and repurposing of complex waste streams. TerraCycle operates in 21 countries, working with some of the world's largest brands, retailers and manufacturers to create national platforms to recycle products and packaging that currently go to landfill or incineration. Through TerraCycle, Tom is creating circular solutions for hundreds of waste streams such as cigarette butts, dirty diapers and used chewing gum that otherwise have no path to be recycled. TerraCycle operates the largest supply chain for ocean plastic in the world, partnering with companies to integrate this material into their packaging. Tom and TerraCycle have received hundreds of social,

environmental and business awards and recognition from a range of organizations including the United Nations, World Economic Forum, Fortune Magazine and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

**MODERATOR**

**Kathryn Gretsinger**  
Journalist and Professor

9: 45AM PLASTICS A GLOBAL CHALLENGE & OPPORTUNITY AT CIRCULARITY AT SCALE

Nolwenn Foray

New Plastics Economy, Ellen MacArthur Foundation



**Michael Goeres**

Executive Director, Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment

As Executive Director of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment since 2010, Michael Goeres is responsible for guiding collaborative intergovernmental work as directed by federal, provincial and territorial ministers of environment. This work addresses some of Canada's most pressing environmental issues including climate change, waste reduction and recovery, and air, soil and water quality. Most recently Michael facilitated the development by governments of the CCME Strategy on Zero Plastic Waste, approved in principle by ministers of environment in November 2018 and the first phase of the Action Plan on Zero Plastic Waste to achieve the Strategy, approved by ministers in June 2019. In 2015 Michael was recognized as one of Canada's Clean 50. Michael joined CCME in 1997 as Director of Corporate Services. Prior to joining CCME, Mr. Goeres was Director of Finance and Administration of the Canada Grains Council Inc., an industry association of the Canadian grain trade. Earlier, Michael served as founding Executive Director of the Manitoba Intercultural Council, a provincial agency created to provide policy advice from ethnocultural communities to the Manitoba government.



**Mitchell Toomey**

Director of Sustainability, BASF Corporation

As Director of Sustainability for BASF Corporation, Mitchell Toomey leads a team working across the organization to bring BASF's corporate purpose "We create chemistry for a sustainable future" to life: by further integrating sustainability in business strategies and collaborating with customers, value chain partners and other external stakeholders. Prior to joining BASF Mitchell served as a sustainability expert at the United Nations. His most recent position at the UN was Director, Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Action Campaign. Mitch previously was UN's Senior Adviser of the Knowledge, Innovation and Capacity Group in the Bureau for Development Policy. He has led groundbreaking work using digital media and technology to engage the public and civil society organizations around the world in collaborative crowdsourcing of development solutions focused on bringing vital services to the poorest and most vulnerable populations.



**Jeremy Douglas**

Vice President, Development, Ocean Wise

Jeremy has focused his career on building strategic, creative and sustainable partnerships that increase the capacity and impact of non-profit organizations worldwide. He is currently Vice President of Development at Ocean Wise, a global conservation NGO and parent organization of the Vancouver Aquarium. He oversees external funding and government relations – working closely with policy-makers, business leaders and major philanthropists. He developed the successful Plastic Wise initiative and has been involved in various plastics roundtables, workshops and speaking engagements. Before joining Ocean Wise, Jeremy held similar roles at the David Suzuki Foundation, BBC Media Action, and Action for Children – and spent a year living on a remote atoll in the Marshall Islands. He is also currently a board director at Vancouver Farmers Markets and Leading Change.



## Usman Valiante

Senior Policy Analyst, Cardwell Grove Inc.

---

Usman is a senior policy analyst and commercial strategist with 27 years of experience in the fields of environmental science and economics, corporate and commercial strategy, public policy development, regulatory and institutional design, advocacy, negotiation, consultation and communications. He has provided public policy advice with specific focus on environmental regulatory design to the federal government, provincial governments, the Canadian Council of Minister of Environment and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Usman also provides commercial strategy and regulatory compliance advice to a number of North America's leading manufacturing, consumer products and environmental services companies. He is currently a Director of the Alberta Beverage Container Management

Board (BCMB), is an advisor to the Circular Economy Leadership Coalition and was a convener of Ontario's Circular Economy Innovation Lab (CEIL).



## Maja Vodanovic

Co-Chair, National Zero Waste Council Plastics Advisory Panel and Mayor, City of Lachine

---

Maja Vodanovic is an executive member of the Montreal Metropolitan Community (CMM) and Lachine Borough Mayor since November 2017. Maja Vodanovic is a member of the CMM's Environment Commission that was mandated to revise Quebec waste management program following the crisis caused by the Chinese national sword policy. As of member of the National Zero Waste Council (NZWC) she Co-Chairs the Plastic Advisory Panel which produced Regulatory Approaches for Priority Plastic Wastes, a document that sets out concrete solutions to suggest specific regulatory measures to prevent, and better manage, those plastic wastes. Passionate about environmental issues, she has been actively involved in cleaning up our waterways and protecting our green spaces. One of Mrs. Vodanovic's greatest challenges as a Mayor, is to make Lachine-

Est—a 60-acre area under redevelopment—a Canada-wide model for a human-scaled ecological and sustainable development.



## Pierre G. Lafleur

Professor of Chemical Engineering, Polytechnique Montreal

---

Dr Lafleur is a professor of Chemical Engineering with 37 years of experience in the field of polymer processing and properties of plastics. He is the author of more than 100 publications on several relevant subjects including recycling of plastics and biopolymers. He is a member of the Research Center for High Performance Polymer and Composite Systems and the Québec Acceleration Lab on Plastics and Circular Economy of the Institute for Environment, sustainable development and circular economy (EDDEC). Prior to his current position at Polytechnique Montreal, Dr Lafleur held the positions of Chair of the Chemical

Engineering department and VP Academic and international. He is a Fellow of Engineer Canada and of the Canadian Academy of Engineering.

## MODERATOR



**Velma McColl**

Managing Principal, Earnscliffe

---

Velma McColl blends her deep understanding of business, government and policy to create opportunities for her clients. As a Managing Principal in Ottawa, Velma works on a range of economic and social issues including M&A, innovation, energy, environment and emerging technologies. She has been a driving force in the growth and diversification of Earnscliffe's business. Prior to joining Earnscliffe in 2004, Velma advised Federal Cabinet Ministers on political strategy, policy and communications. She has also worked provincially in British Columbia and Alberta. She has worked to find creative solutions across federal/provincial/territorial, North American and international boundaries. Her career includes success as an entrepreneur and experience working collaboratively with business, academia, think tanks, not-for-profit organizations and the public sector. A proud

mother and Westerner with twenty years' experience in Ottawa, Velma studied at the University of British Columbia and the Banff School of Management. She is a co-founder of the Canadian Clean Technology Coalition and Women in GR. She has taken leadership roles with several organizations including Smart Prosperity, the Ryan's Well Foundation and Ecotrust Canada.

## 11:00 AM CIRCULAR CANADA: SETTING A COLLECTIVE AGENDA FOR ACTION AND COLLABORATION

## 11:00 AM CIRCULAR CANADA: A CONVERSATION WITH SITRA



**Kari Herlevi**

Project Director, Circular Economy, The Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra

---

Kari Herlevi is a versatile multi-talent in the field of circular economy. He is currently leading the circular economy area at Sitra, the Finnish Innovation Fund. Previously responsible for the Resource efficient economy area in Tekes, the Finnish Funding Agency for Innovation, he managed the Green Growth – Towards a sustainable future - programme, which aimed to identify potential new growth areas for the sustainable economy business. Kari has also worked in the Tekes Silicon Valley office for a few years and his special interests are circular economy, fast growing cleantech firms and developing countries like BRIC.

## MODERATOR

**Vanessa Timmer**

Co-Founder & Executive Director, One Earth

**11:30 AM CIRCULAR CANADA: SETTING A COLLECTIVE, CANADIAN AGENDA FOR ACTION AND COLLABORATION**



**Stephanie Cairns**

Director of Cities and Communities & Policy Director of Circular Economy,  
Smart Prosperity Institute

---

Stephanie Cairns has worked on Canadian environment, economy, and fiscal policy research initiatives for 25 years, helping senior policy makers distill expert advice, synthesize emerging best practices, and plan new initiatives. She has been a consultant or board member with many of Canada's leading environmental think tanks, and a policy advisor in the PMO and to federal and provincial cabinet ministers. Based in Victoria, BC, she currently works with the Smart Prosperity Institute, Canada's leading source of research and policy insights for a stronger, cleaner economy. She is trained in cleaner production from Lund University, Sweden.

**Robyn Collver**

Senior Vice-President, Risk & Regulatory Affairs and Chief Sustainability Officer,  
Canadian Tire



**John D. Coyne**

VP, External Affairs & Sustainability, Unilever Canada & Executive Chair of the Board,  
Canadian Stewardship Services Alliance

---

John is well known for his leadership in corporate sustainability. He is a passionate activator of the Unilever Sustainable Living Plan, Unilever's strategy to grow the business, reduce its environmental footprint and increase its positive contribution to society. John is Executive Chair of the Board of Canadian Stewardship Services Alliance, Inc., a director of Evergreen and Co-Chair of the Partners in Project Green steering committee, a major environmental initiative of the Toronto Region Conservation Authority. John has been recognized for his leadership in corporate sustainability by being named a Clean 50 honouree in 2013 and a Clean 16 honouree in 2018. In 2015, John was appointed as a member of the Ontario Government's Climate Action Group advising the Ontario Minister of the Environment on effective climate change actions. In 2018, John was honoured to receive the Canadian General Counsel Award for Environmental, Social and Governance Leadership. John is Co-Chair of the Circular Economy Leadership Coalition (CELC) that was launched in 2018 designed to accelerate Canada's transition to a circular economy. In addition in 2018, John was appointed to the federal Plastics Advisory group advising Canada's Minister of the Environment and Climate Change on issues relating to plastics and the implementation of the Ocean Plastics Charter.



## Sophie Langlois-Blouin

Vice-President of Operations, RECYC-QUÉBEC

Sophie Langlois-Blouin has worked for the government agency RECYC-QUÉBEC since October 2005 and has been Vice-President of Operations since May 2018. Sophie coordinates all financial assistance programs and is in charge of extended producer responsibility (EPR), current recycling systems (curbside collection; organic matter; construction, renovation, and demolition waste), circular economy and waste reduction. She also oversees teams responsible for supporting municipalities and the industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) sectors.



## Mikhael Metauro

Director – Supply Development, Cascades Recovery+

Mikhael has been a proud member of the Cascades Family for over 15 years. With his undergraduate degree in Strategic Selling & Marketing, Mikhael currently works within the Recovery+ division of Cascades focusing on Business Development and Corporate Strategy. Day in and day out Mikhael has the opportunity to deal with a wide range of customers from different market segments and backgrounds with various types of discarded material recovery needs. "It's amazing to see how more and more organizations are focusing on sustainability and have put the people power in place to start thinking about better ways to recover more and waste less. For me

this is where my focus has been and always will be, working with organizations to help them achieve their sustainability goals through coaching, planning and execution." Mikhael is focused on creating a world where all materials have a positive end of life – a truly Circular Economy.

## Christina Seidel

Co-Chair, National Zero Waste Council Circular Economy Working Group & Executive Director of the Recycling Council of Alberta

## Mike Wilson

Executive Director, Smart Prosperity Institute

## MODERATOR



## David Hughes

Co-Chair, Circular Economy Leadership Coalition and President & CEO, The Natural Step Canada

David Hughes is the President & CEO of The Natural Step Canada and also the Executive Co-Chair of the Circular Economy Leadership Coalition. He is highly regarded as a strategic leader with a strong track record of scaling the impact of some of Canada's leading charities. David served as President & CEO of both Habitat for Humanity Canada and Pathways to Education Canada during periods of unprecedented growth and transformation. Prior to that he spent 10 years working with the international headquarters of the SOS Children's Villages (SOS Kinderdorf International) which included postings to Africa, Asia, Europe the USA and the United Nations. He holds an economics degree from the University of Western Ontario and a



postgraduate degree in social policy and non-profit management from the London School of Economics (LSE). He also serves on the board of directors of The Climate Reality Project Canada.

## 12:55 PM CLOSING REMARKS

**Jack Froese**

Chair, Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Committee

**Sav Dhaliwal**

Chair, Metro Vancouver Board



**Lilah Williamson**

15 year old Climate Activist & Founding member of Sustainabiliteens

## 1:00 PM NETWORKING LUNCH

---

To: Finance and Intergovernment Committee

From: Heather Schoemaker, General Manager, External Relations

Date: January 2, 2020 Meeting Date: January 15, 2020

Subject: **2019 International Events**

---

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee receive for information the report dated January 2, 2020, titled “2019 International Events”.

---

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report brings forward an update on 2019 International Events attended as part of the Leadership and Engagement program. In accordance with the Board adopted *Leadership and Engagement Policy*, Metro Vancouver will participate, at both a national and at an international level, in events that promote Metro Vancouver in a leadership role or that provide opportunity for engagement and continuous improvement in the advancement of organizational goals.

### PURPOSE

To provide the Finance and Intergovernment Committee with an update on 2019 International Events undertaken as part of the Leadership and Engagement program.

### BACKGROUND

At its meeting held January 16, 2019, the Finance and Intergovernment Committee approved attendance at several international events that align with the priorities of the Leadership and Engagement Program. This program enables Metro Vancouver to provide a strong advocacy role on its policy initiatives at both a national and at an international level and also creates opportunities for Metro Vancouver to enhance cultural and economic exchange. The Leadership and Engagement program builds upon the strategic priorities identified in the *Board Strategic Plan* and encompasses all aspects of the organization.

### 2019 World Circular Economy Forum – June 3-5, 2019, Helsinki, Finland

- The World Circular Economy Forum (WCEF) is a global, by-invitation event, led by the Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra, bringing together business leaders, policymakers and experts to learn first-hand about the new developments in circular economy solutions.
- Metro Vancouver and the National Zero Waste Council, represented by Director Brodie, was part of a small delegation of Canadian stakeholders invited to participate in WCEF 2019.
- Conference sessions covered a range of topics relevant to local government planning and operations, like circular economy in construction, circular procurement, circular economy and climate change, and circular economy and water.
- A significant role for the Canadian delegation, under the leadership of the Circular Economy Leadership Coalition, of which Metro Vancouver’s National Zero Waste Council is a founding

member, was preparatory work for WCEF 2020 which will be held in Toronto from September 29 to October 1 – the first time in North America.

- Director Brodie presented on the topic of circular cities at a side event on June 5, entitled *Circular Canada: Exploring the Circular Economy on the Road to WCEF 2020* and participated in a half-day session hosted by the Nordic Council of Ministers for Denmark on ‘Circular Economy in Local Governments’.
- As Chair of the National Zero Waste Council, Director Brodie hosted a meeting with other Council members in attendance, and participated in side meetings that took place with the Government of Canada and Sitra representatives regarding planning for WCEF 2020.
- Metro Vancouver and the National Zero Waste Council will continue to play a key role in the planning for Canada to host WCEF 2020.

### **Asia Pacific Cities Summit and Mayor’s Forum - July 7-10, 2019, Brisbane, Australia**

- The Asia Pacific Cities Summit (APCS) and Mayor’s Forum is the region’s premier Summit that brings together city leaders, key influencers and the industry to build relationships, connect, and exchange knowledge and information on innovative urban solutions to build successful and sustainable cities that contribute to the global economy. Over 135 cities (1,303 delegates and 93 mayors) attended the 2019 event representing a voice for a population of over 134 million people.
- Metro Vancouver’s engagement with the APCS dates back to its participation at the 2017 Summit in Daejeon, Republic of Korea and the establishment of a relationship with one of the key organizing bodies and Australia’s largest regional advocacy organization - the South East Queensland (SEQ) Council of Mayors and a subsequent study tour to Brisbane in 2018. Vice-Chair Buchanan and Director Booth attended the 2019 Summit and participated in a separate program organized by the SEQ Council of Mayors immediately following the APCS Summit focussed on affordable housing, zero waste/circular economy, transit and indigenous relations.
- As part of the “Sustainability of Cities” summit theme on July 9th, Vice-Chair Buchanan participated on a panel – *Sustainable Destinations – Lessons Learned from across the world* and presented Metro Vancouver’s *5 Year Outlook* and the work of the National Zero Waste Council and Metro Vancouver’s education efforts around zero waste and WTE.
- Vice-Chair Buchanan and Director Booth also presented at various meetings and site visits organized by the SEQ Council of Mayors.
- There is strong alignment between the work of Metro Vancouver and the SEQ Council of Mayors and a strong relationship is forming – a delegation from the SEQ Council of Mayors to Metro Vancouver is anticipated in 2020.

### **ICLEI Resilient Cities 2019 - June 26- 28 in Bonn, Germany**

- ICLEI Resilient Cities is the annual global forum on urban resilience, adaptation, and sustainability policies in response to the complex challenges, from rapid urbanization and climate change to ecosystem degradation and inequity.
- The international platform allows for local and regional governments to share knowledge, best practices, challenges, and innovations for creating more resilient cities. It also serves as

---

an annual meeting point to track local progress on the resilience targets of the Sustainable Development Goals to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

- The 2019 conference program centered on urban resilience and climate change adaptation. Directors Froese and McEwen attended the conference providing an opportunity to connect with others facing similar challenges to Metro Vancouver as Metro Vancouver moves forward with its Climate 2050 Strategic Framework and Clean Air Plan in its efforts to reduce carbon emissions as our region becomes more vulnerable to climate impacts.

### **United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) World Congress – World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders - Durban South Africa, November 11-15, 2019**

- An inheritor of the century-old International Municipal Movement, UCLG was created in 2004 when local and regional authorities across the world decided to unite their voices before the international community. It was founded on the principle that cities and local government are closest to the people and best able to react quickly to emerging issues. With the climate crisis and housing crises, the UCLG framework is needed now more than ever.
- The UCLG comprises 250,000 member cities and local governments and represents approximately 70% of the global population.
- The 2019 World Congress was largely an administrative meeting to elect the new president, but also provided updates on global initiatives. For example, the organization has adopted Agenda 2030 and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to guide cities in their work. The SDGs are high level and consistent with the goals driving Metro Vancouver's work. However, there is a large variety of approaches around the globe. For example, the Asia section of UCLG, which represents approximately 55% of the global population, and 65% of the global economic activity, is currently not on track to achieve any of the SDGs.
- Canada's participation in UCLG is guided by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities who acts as the Secretary General for the North American section. Active participants with dedicated memberships include the cities of Montreal, Toronto and Kitchener. Metro Vancouver is a member of the UCLG World Council – one of two UCLG governing bodies and occupied by the Chair of the Metro Vancouver Board.
- Chair Dhaliwal represented Metro Vancouver at the World Congress and presented on two panels *Mayors for the Future – Climate Change and Climate Action – Perspectives from the North American Region*, along with the statutory meetings of the World Council and General Assembly.
- An area for further discussion was a meeting with Metropolis and the City of Montreal. While a member of UCLG, Metropolis is also the leading association that brings together the governments of urban agglomerations worldwide and provides a platform where metropolises address a wide range of local and global issues – issues similar to and in alignment with Metro Vancouver goals and objectives. Metro Vancouver has received an invitation from the Metropolis Secretary General to consider a membership and staff are following up.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress on Climate Change - September 26-28, 2019, Berlin, Germany**

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress on Climate Change was a gathering of approximately 60 climate change researchers and professionals with 33 presentations and 18 scientific posters.
- The focus of the Congress was primarily on the impacts that have been observed and adaptation to cope with the current and projected impacts.
- The climate change impacts included local climate changes, droughts, extreme temperatures and urban heat islands, increasing storm strengths, flooding, sea level rise, degraded air quality, negative public health impacts, loss of biodiversity, and challenges to urban areas.
- The adaptation measures included engineered flood management, changes to agricultural practices, monitoring and warning systems for extreme weather events, using historical knowledge of indigenous peoples, and carbon capture and sequestration technologies. Youth engagement and funding were also important topics.
- Director Carr participated in the World Congress and was a keynote speaker on day two, September 27.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

International events attended in 2019 were undertaken within the approved international event general government operating budget for 2019 totaling \$161,200.

### **CONCLUSION**

This report brings forward an update on 2019 International Events attended as part of the Leadership and Engagement program. The Leadership and Engagement program aims to promote Metro Vancouver in a leadership role and provides opportunity for engagement and continuous improvement in the advancement of organizational goals and priorities.

34357514

---

To: Finance and Intergovernment Committee

From: Dean Rear, Chief Financial Officer/General Manager, Financial Services

Date: December 19, 2019 Meeting Date: January 15, 2020

Subject: **Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program**

---

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the GVS&DD Board direct staff to submit applications for grant funding through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Green Infrastructure: Environmental Quality Sub-Stream for the following projects, as described in the report dated December 19, 2019, titled “Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program”:

- a) North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant Tertiary Upgrade with a total estimated cost of \$30 million – 73.33% from Canada and the Province of British Columbia and a 26.67% GVS&DD funding commitment in the amount of \$8,001,000 toward the project; and
- b) Waste-To-Energy Facility District Energy Program with a total estimated cost of \$30 million – 73.33% from Canada and the Province of British Columbia and a 26.67% GVS&DD funding commitment in the amount of \$8,001,000 toward the project.

---

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The governments of Canada and British Columbia have committed up to \$150 million for the second intake of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - British Columbia - Green Infrastructure - Environmental Quality. Board resolutions are being sought to support applications for two proposed projects from Metro Vancouver, one for tertiary treatment at the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant with an estimated cost of \$30 million, and one for the Waste-To-Energy Facility District Energy Program, also estimated at \$30 million. The program offers up to 73.33% of funding for approved projects, which would leave Metro Vancouver responsible for approximately \$8 million in costs for either project. Staff recommend proceeding with the resolutions for both projects.

### **PURPOSE**

To seek Board resolution in support of applications under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program for two projects, the cost of Tertiary Treatment at the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant, and a joint application with the City of Burnaby on the Waste-to-Energy Facility District Energy Program.

### **BACKGROUND**

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 the governments of Canada and British Columbia committed up to \$150 million for the second intake of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - British Columbia - Green Infrastructure - Environmental Quality. Project eligibility is very well suited to Metro Vancouver as key outcomes must be at least one of the following:

- Increased capacity to treat and/or manage wastewater and/or stormwater
- Increased access to potable water
- Increased capacity to reduce and/or remediate soil and/or air pollutants

Funding is available for up to 73.33% of eligible project costs (40% Government of Canada, 33.33% Province of British Columbia). Regional Districts may submit one application for each community in their area. The deadline to submit is February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and requires a Board resolution supporting the application.

There are two projects proposed for application from Metro Vancouver, one in support of tertiary treatment at the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant, and one for the Waste-To-Energy Facility District Energy Program.

#### **NORTH SHORE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT TERTIARY UPGRADE**

In the interest of better protecting the environment, the Metro Vancouver Board of Directors in 2019 approved an upgrade to full tertiary treatment for the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant (NSWWTP). The decision to move to tertiary is now being incorporated into the engineering design and the benefits include:

- Reducing the release of potentially harmful contaminants into the sensitive marine environment
- Mitigating and future-proofing the plant against regulatory changes in the future
- Reducing future costs, since incorporating tertiary technology now is more affordable than adding at a later date
- Realizing operational cost savings through design changes, making tertiary treatment cost neutral

The estimated additional cost for full-stream tertiary treatment at the NSWWTP is projected at \$30 million and is included in Metro Vancouver's 2020 – 2024 Capital Plan.

Previous funding received from the governments of Canada and British Columbia includes funding of up to \$405 million toward the construction of the NSWWTP and the upgrade to secondary treatment.

#### **WASTE-TO-ENERGY FACILITY DISTRICT ENERGY PROGRAM**

The Metro Vancouver Waste-to-Energy Facility processes municipal solid waste to produce steam, which powers a turbine generator to produce electricity. A district energy system would use a heat exchange system to convert steam to hot water, and then transport the hot water through an underground energy distribution network to users. The energy would be used for domestic heat and hot water along and potentially cooling. The energy could also be used for non-residential uses such as community facilities including swimming pools and ice rinks as well as industrial uses. The district energy system would offset natural gas use reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and is more efficient than generating electricity from the Waste-to-Energy Facility because energy losses associated with converting steam to electricity are avoided with district energy systems.

Metro Vancouver engaged a consultant to conduct a technical, environmental, and economic assessment of a potential district energy project using heat from the Waste-to-Energy Facility. Greenhouse gas emission reductions for a district energy project could be up to 70,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year, depending on the size of the project. The system would include an energy centre located at or near the Waste-to-Energy Facility as well as the heat distribution network delivering hot water to energy users.

The estimated capital cost of the energy centre and the initial portion of the distribution system is \$30 million. The 2020 – 2024 Capital Plan includes \$2.25 million in Metro Vancouver funding for Waste-To-Energy Facility District Heating Opportunities primarily for business casing and technical investigations. If the project proceeds, future capital plans will be adjusted to account for overall project costs.

City of Burnaby staff are reporting to their Council in parallel to Metro Vancouver staff reporting to the Board. If supported by Burnaby Council, the application would be jointly submitted by Metro Vancouver and the City of Burnaby. Metro Vancouver’s contribution to the project would be capital investment to be repaid through heat sales as well as green-house gas offsets. The City of Burnaby’s contribution would be access to City streets for the energy distribution system to serve immediate local developments and businesses as part of its climate change strategy.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

1. That the GVS&DD Board direct staff to submit applications for grant funding through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Green Infrastructure: Environmental Quality Sub-Stream for the following projects, as described in the report dated December 19, 2019, titled “Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program”:
  - a) North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant Tertiary Upgrade with a total estimated cost of \$30 million – 73.33% from Canada and the Province of British Columbia and a 26.67% GVS&DD funding commitment in the amount of \$8,001,000 toward the project; and
  - b) Waste-To-Energy Facility District Energy Program with a total estimated cost of \$30 million – 73.33% from Canada and the Province of British Columbia and a 26.67% GVS&DD funding commitment in the amount of \$8,001,000 toward the project.
2. That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee receive for information the report dated December 19, 2019, titled “Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program”.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Should the Board approve alternative 1, any grant funds received from successful applications will offset Metro Vancouver costs and reduce the direct impact on ratepayers in the region.

### **CONCLUSION**

The governments of Canada and British Columbia have committed up to \$150 million for the second intake of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - British Columbia - Green Infrastructure - Environmental Quality. There are two projects proposed for application from Metro Vancouver under the program, one for tertiary treatment at the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant with an estimated cost of \$30 million, and one for the Waste-To-Energy Facility District Energy Program, also estimated at \$30 million.

The program offers up to 73.33% of funding for approved projects, which would leave Metro Vancouver responsible for approximately \$8 million in costs for either project. Staff recommend proceeding with Alternative 1 in support of resolutions for both projects.

34359748





**BRITISH  
COLUMBIA**

Ref: 146686

November 21, 2019

Sav Dhaliwal, Chair  
Metro Vancouver Board  
Email: [sav.dhaliwal@burnaby.ca](mailto:sav.dhaliwal@burnaby.ca)

Linda Buchanan, Vice-Chair  
Metro Vancouver Board  
Email: [lbuchanan@cnv.org](mailto:lbuchanan@cnv.org)

Dear Sav Dhaliwal and Linda Buchanan:

Thank you for your letter dated August 28, 2019, announcing the establishment of a new Regional Economic Prosperity Service (Service), with a focus on attracting strategic investment to the Lower Mainland.

Our Government is committed to improving the standard of living for British Columbians in all regions of the province, through making life more affordable, delivering the services people count on and building a strong, sustainable economy. By aiming to create high-value jobs, grow tax revenues and diversify the economic base, the Service is aligned with Provincial priorities.

Metro Vancouver's decision to create the Service follows the lead of other Canadian metropolitan areas, which recognized that a unified regional brand and streamlined access to investment facilitation services are required to anchor international companies and capital. It is encouraging to see Metro Vancouver take concrete steps to address these gaps.

On an annual basis, the Province invests significant sums to enable a robust network of trade and investment representatives in strategic markets overseas, and partners with local stakeholders in various ways to improve the competitiveness of key sectors. The Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology comprises teams in Vancouver and Victoria that provide international marketing, market insights, business intelligence, investment attraction and export development services, in close coordination with municipalities and other partners across the province. Sizeable investments are also made by the Province in post-secondary training, for example, which reinforce the attractiveness of British Columbia as an anchor for international companies.

.../2

**Ministry of Jobs, Trade and  
Technology**

Office of the Minister

Mailing Address:  
PO Box 9071 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9E2  
Phone: 250 356-2771  
Fax: 250 356-3000

Location:  
Room 138  
Parliament Buildings  
Victoria BC

[www.gov.bc.ca](http://www.gov.bc.ca)

Ongoing coordination will be required to ensure that efforts of the new Service are complementary with Provincial efforts, along with those of other stakeholders including the Federal Government. To that end, my officials will continue to liaise with your staff and initiate partners to provide support, as appropriate, throughout the implementation phase.

Before closing, we want to congratulate Metro Vancouver and its members for reaching this important milestone. We look forward to continuing to explore ways to partner with Metro Vancouver, local governments and other regional stakeholders to improve the standard of living of British Columbians across the Lower Mainland and beyond.

Sincerely,



Bruce Ralston  
Minister

pc: Honourable Selina Robinson  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Kaye Krishna  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Fazil Mihlar  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology

Tracy Campbell  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology