

Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD)



The MVRD Board is responsible for guiding regional planning, air quality, regional parks, Invest Vancouver, electoral area services, E9-1-1 emergency telephone service, regional emergency management, Regional Employers Services, and regional global positioning system services.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Improvements in efficiency, decision making, oversight, and strategic alignment
- Municipal Representation / Stakeholder Impact
- Size / Scalability / Time and Ease to Implement

	Option	Board Size	Considerations
1.	Status Quo	41	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established accountability and strong jurisdictional representation, but can slow down decision making and make oversight harder as Board size grows • Growing to 49 Directors next year and to 52 in 2031
2.	One Director per Member Jurisdiction	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could support faster decision making and strategic focus, but limit diversity of perspectives • Requires legislative change • Stays at 23 directors with current membership
3.	Cap the number of Directors at 3 per member jurisdiction	34	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could improve decision speed and strategic focus, and support collaborative dialogue • More consistent number of directors for larger municipalities; smaller jurisdictions would not be impacted • Board will grow more slowly • Requires legislative change
4.	Change threshold when each member gets additional votes (ie. every 25,000 residents)	36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One vote at the MVRD Board for every 25,000 residents instead of 20,000 • Changes number of votes for communities close to the threshold / only option that does • Board will grow more slowly • Can be achieved through an Order in Council; no legislative change needed
5.	Each Director represents more residents (ie. 140,000)	34	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One director for every 140,000 residents instead of every 100,000 • Efficiencies in decision making, strategic focus • Impacts communities close to the threshold; no impact on those smaller than 100,000 residents • Board will grow more slowly • Can be achieved through an Order in Council; no legislative change needed

Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation (MVHC)



The MVHC is the second largest non-profit housing operator in British Columbia, providing homes to close to 10,000 people with significant expansion underway to add over 2,000 new and redevelopment units in the next decade.

The organization is one of the top three housing providers in Canada. The MVHC Board provides guidance on operations, policies, budget, finances, and development plans for the organization.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Improvements in efficiency, decision making, oversight, and strategic alignment
- Municipal Representation / Stakeholder Impact
- Size / Scalability / Time and Ease to Implement

	Option	Board Size	Considerations
1.	Status Quo	41	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparent and representative, but growing Board can slow decision making, effectiveness, and oversight • Growing to 49 directors next year and to 52 in 2031
2.	Follow any change made for the MVRD Board	23-36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple to have same model at MVRD but not aligned with governance of most non-profits • Favoured by those who value having all member voices at the table • Same considerations as with MVRD options
3.	Smaller 'Hybrid' Board with blend of elected and external appointed Directors	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adds professional and/or board expertise (housing development, finance, non-profit experience) to support oversight and decision making • Smaller, more nimble board aligns with non-profit housing providers and funding agency processes • Could retain some regional representation • Can be achieved via MVRD Board resolution and filing with BC Registry Services
4.	Fully Appointed Non-Profit Board	7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adds professional and /or board expertise (housing development, finance, non-profit experience) to support oversight and decision making • Smaller, more nimble board aligns with non-profit housing providers and funding agency processes • Board members would be selected by MVRD Board based on expertise • Members may feel disconnected from MVHC and decision making • Can be achieved via MVRD Board resolution and filing with BC Registry Services

Greater Vancouver Water District (GVWD)



Metro Vancouver provides high-quality drinking water to residents and businesses through the member jurisdictions of the GVWD. This includes acquiring and maintaining water supply, as well as treating, testing, and delivering drinking water through a system of water supply areas, dams, treatment facilities, reservoirs, pump stations, and water mains. The region's source water supply is stored in three main reservoirs and three supplemental alpine reservoirs. The water comes from rainfall and snowmelt within: Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam water supply areas. These cover about 60,000 hectares of protected land, which is closed to the public to safeguard the high quality of the source water.

The GVWD is governed by the *Greater Vancouver Water District Act* (established in 1926).

Metro Vancouver is responsible for:

- Managing and protecting the water supply areas
- Storing, treating, and ensuring the quality of drinking water to meet provincial Drinking Water Protection Act and federal Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality requirements
- Transmission of drinking water directly to member jurisdictions
- Upgrading, maintaining, and expanding our system
- Planning for future supply and demand

Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District (GVS&DD)



Metro Vancouver provides reliable, cost-effective wastewater treatment that protects public health and the environment. This includes planning for the long-term resilience and sustainability of regional liquid waste and drainage systems. Metro Vancouver receives wastewater from municipal systems and carries it to one of five wastewater treatment plants, where it is treated and tested before being released into the Fraser River, Burrard Inlet, or Georgia Strait. This combined regional and municipal infrastructure includes over 15,000km of sewers and processes over one billion litres of wastewater every day.

The GVS&DD is governed by the *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Act* (established in 1914 and re-incorporated in 1956).

Metro Vancouver is responsible for:

- Operating a system that collects and treats wastewater
- Testing and environmental monitoring
- Developing and enforcing regulations to protect the wastewater system and the environment
- Issuing permits to industry and collecting fees associated with bylaws
- Recovering resources within the regional wastewater system, including heat, energy, and biosolids
- Planning for the future and building regional infrastructure

Evaluation Criteria:

- Improvements in efficiency, decision making, oversight, and strategic alignment
- Municipal Representation / Stakeholder Impact
- Size / Scalability / Time and Ease to Implement

	Option	Board Size	Considerations
1.	Status Quo	37/38	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparent and representative, but growing Board can slow decision making, effectiveness, and oversight • 85% of Metro Vancouver's budget and five-year financial plan lie within these two highly technical and complex utilities • Potential gaps in expertise, but strong project management tools in place: Stage Gate Process, Cost Estimating Framework, Expert Advisory Panels - to support Board decision making and oversight • Continues to grow with population
2.	Follow any change made for the MVRD Board	23-36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same considerations as with MVRD options • Potential gaps in expertise, but strong project management tools: Stage Gate Process, Cost Estimating Framework, Expert Advisory Panels - to support Board decision making and oversight • Will grow more slowly over time • No legislative change required as GVWD and GVW&DD depend on MVRD governance
3.	'Hybrid' Board with blend of elected and external appointed Directors	9-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adds independent and professional expertise to support oversight, decision making, continuity, and clear regional perspective • Smaller, more nimble Board remains fixed into the future • Not aligned with proportional representation • Requires legislative change to GVWD and GVW&DD Acts; provincial engagement
*	Additional Option for any Board Structure: Add a Major Projects Committee	9-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Practice for large, complex infrastructure projects • Enables technical project delivery skills; continuity in oversight, speeds up decision making, attracts project bidders and facilitates funding • Metro Vancouver retains significant authority • Scalable option: a) Board Chair can strike a Major Projects Standing Committee that <i>reports to</i> GVS&DD and GVWD Boards; b) GVS&DD and GVWD Boards can create a Major Projects Committee with <i>delegated authority</i> via 2/3 vote; c) External appointed Directors can be added to support a) or b) • Implementation through Board decision