

March 5, 2024

Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Parks Committee  
4515 Central Boulevard,  
Burnaby, British Columbia  
[delegations@metrovancover.org](mailto:delegations@metrovancover.org)

**Re:** Pilot Program to Permit Alcohol Consumption in Regional Parks

Dear Regional Parks Committee,

Fraser Health Population and Public Health recognizes the Metro Vancouver Regional District as a key partner in protecting and promoting the public's health across its programs, systems, and services. In the interest of public health and safety, we strongly caution against the Regional Parks Committee approving a pilot program to permit alcohol consumption in the four regional parks proposed within the Fraser Health area: Boundary Bay, Campbell Valley, Derby Reach, and Brunette Fraser Greenway.

Alcohol consumption in B.C. has risen over the past decade. Alcohol causes more health harms than any other substance in B.C., surpassing tobacco and opioids, and is responsible for more hospitalizations, emergency room visits, and paramedic services than any other substance. This trend represents a significant economic burden to governments and society; alcohol related issues cost the B.C. public \$2.8 billion annually.<sup>1</sup> Even moderate amounts of alcohol can have serious health and social consequences including cancers, heart disease, liver disease and violence.<sup>2</sup>

**Permitting alcohol across an increasing number of parks in our region comes with a number of public health considerations and consequences that impact individuals and communities:**

1. Contribution to the over-normalization of alcohol, including among children and youth
  - Promoting alcohol as a habitual part of socialization: Social connection and connection with nature contribute to wellness, however, given the significant health and social harms of alcohol, it should not be positioned as a routine facilitator for such connections. Doing so reduces perception of the real risks and harms of alcohol, and can increase overall consumption.
  - Enabling underage drinking and lending legitimacy to spaces used by young people for drinking.<sup>3</sup>
2. Consequences from intoxication, including injury and death from drownings, violence, and impaired driving
  - Increasing risk for disruptive behaviour, violence, hazardous litter (e.g. broken glass), and vandalized park amenities.<sup>3</sup>
  - Increasing risk for drowning: Between 2012 and 2020, alcohol and/or drugs were found to be a contributing factor in 38% of drowning deaths.<sup>4</sup> **The Fraser River had the most deaths of any river/creek in BC,<sup>4</sup> and is readily accessible by three of the**

**four proposed sites in Fraser. Additionally, Centennial Beach is a popular swimming beach and has no lifeguard present.**

- Increasing risk for impaired driving: **Derby Reach and Campbell Valley Regional Parks are not accessible by public transit and are essentially car-access only.**
3. Equitable access for all community members
- Impacting the ability to enjoy shared public spaces for families and groups who prefer to be in alcohol-free spaces.
  - Impacting individuals with a history of problem drinking or who are in recovery from an alcohol use disorder, who want to avoid triggering environments.

**If the committee decides to proceed with the proposed pilot, we encourage implementation of the following evidence-based guidance and recommendations adapted from the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research (CISUR):<sup>3</sup>**

1. Process:
  - a. Conduct an initial Health Impact Assessment and Health Equity Analysis
  - b. Seek early and ongoing engagement and feedback across diverse subgroups
2. Location:
  - a. Limit the number of proposed sites and set designated areas of consumption
  - b. Avoid establishing designated areas adjacent to bodies of water, child-specific areas (e.g. playgrounds), along hiking trails
  - c. Restrict the days/months/hours of consumption
  - d. Prohibit glass containers
  - e. Post clear, extensive, and accessible signage outlining the boundaries of designated sites, hours of consumption, and health and safety guidance
3. Implementation:
  - a. Pilot and restrict implementation to temporary, time-limited, or seasonal approvals
  - b. Implement ongoing monitoring and evaluation that includes:
    - i. Annual review to ensure due consideration is given before wider implementation
    - ii. Expand inspection and enforcement staffing to monitor underage drinking and public intoxication
    - iii. Comprehensive public reporting of health-related impacts, and community harms and costs

We commend the staff in recommending that pilot areas are at least 20 meters away from playgrounds and not located near schools, and that sale of alcohol would not be permitted. We appreciate such considerations that impact public health and safety, and we further encourage the Committee to consider the above additional impacts of this pilot program. Effective alcohol policy has the potential to reduce health and social harms, and we look forward to partnering with the Metro Vancouver Regional District to support your efforts in providing a regional park system that enables health and other benefits to park visitors in Fraser and across the region.

Sincerely,



**Cheryl Young MD, CCFP, MPH, FRCPC**  
Medical Health Officer – Medical Director  
Wellness Promotion Program  
Fraser Health Authority



**Emily Newhouse, MD, CM, MPH, FRCPC**  
Medical Health Officer – Medical Director  
Delta, Langley, White Rock  
Fraser Health Authority



**Marianne Boisvert Moreau MD, MPH, FRCPC**  
Medical Health Officer – Medical Director  
Burnaby  
Covering for Dr. Lindsay Bowthorpe until April 7th, 2024  
Fraser Health Authority

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<sup>1</sup> Canadian Substance Use Costs and Harms Scientific Working Group. [Canadian substance use costs and harms 2007–2020](#). (Prepared by the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research and the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction.) Ottawa, Ont.: Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction; 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Paradis C, Butt P, Shield K, Poole N, Wells S, Naimi T, Sherk A, the Low-Risk Alcohol Drinking Guidelines Scientific Expert Panels. [Canada's Guidance on Alcohol and Health: Final Report](#). Ottawa, Ont.: Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction; 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Farrell-Low A, Johnston K, Naimi T, Vallance K. [Policy Brief. Not Just a Walk in the Park: Unsupervised Alcohol Consumption on Municipal Properties in BC](#). Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research, University of Victoria, Victoria, Canada; 2021.

<sup>4</sup> [BC Coroners Service. Accidental Drowning Deaths 2012-2022](#). Office of the Chief Coroner, BC Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General; 2023.

**Office of the Medical Health Officer**

#800-601 West Broadway  
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4C2  
604 675 3900

March 4, 2024

Regional Parks Committee  
Metro Vancouver Regional District  
Metrotower III, 4515 Central Boulevard  
Burnaby, BC V5H 0C6

**RE: Pilot Program to Permit Alcohol Consumption in Regional Parks**

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in regard to the upcoming Committee decision on a pilot program to permit alcohol consumption in select Metro Vancouver Regional Parks. There are significant public health concerns related to the expansion of public space for alcohol consumption, including park areas, which are outlined below. I recommend against permitting alcohol consumption in regional parks, and for any potential changes in alcohol policy I suggest close consultation and careful monitoring in cooperation with affected Regional Health Authorities.

We note that the Committee has not consulted or informed health authorities about this impending decision despite the potential for significant health impacts to Metro Vancouver residents.

Alcohol is a leading cause of preventable death

Alcohol is a leading global cause of preventable death, harms, and disability. In BC alone, alcohol consumption contributed to 1,729 deaths in 2019. Evidence shows that consuming alcohol increases the risk of seven types of cancer, cardiovascular disease, as well as liver disease and violence. Alcohol is also associated with social harms, including aggression and interpersonal violence, including sexual violence, and intimate partner violence. Nearly 20% of violent crimes in Canada are associated with alcohol consumption. Impaired driving related to alcohol use also leads to considerable injury and loss of life every year. In the VCH region in 2019, the Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research estimated that there were 288 alcohol-attributable deaths (25 per 100,000 population) that were caused, in part or wholly, by alcohol consumption, and 2920 (245 per 100,000 population) alcohol-related hospitalizations<sup>1</sup>.

Alcohol consumption has been increasing in the Metro Vancouver Region

**It is important to recognize that alcohol use has been on the rise in the Vancouver Coastal Health region since 2019.** Data from the second round of [BC's COVID-19 SPEAK Survey](#) found that 24% of respondents in VCH Region reported drinking more than before the pandemic, compared to 20% who reported drinking less, and 28% reported binge drinking at least once per month in the past year. In the VCH Region, per capital alcohol consumption in 2022 averaged 9.18 standard drinks per week, far in excess of Canada's Guidance on alcohol and health.

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<sup>1</sup> Canadian Institute of Substance Use Research. (2023). *Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Trend Analyzer Tool*.  
Victoria: Canadian Institute of Substance Use Research. <http://aodtool.cfar.uvic.ca/pca/tool.php>

Increasing alcohol consumption carries substantial economic burdens

In British Columbia, the costs related to alcohol use reached \$2.81 billion in 2020<sup>2</sup>, which translates to an average cost of \$546 per person<sup>3</sup>. These costs are considerably higher than those associated with tobacco or opioids. Alcohol is also the leading cause of substance use-related lost productivity in the workforce, and accounts for the greatest costs to the criminal justice system.

Considerations to protect population health & safety against excessive alcohol consumption

If this decision is taken, I recommend that the Committee carefully and continually assess the possible health, equity, and community impacts by rigorously monitoring and evaluating any pilot programs that would encourage public alcohol consumption.

I also urge the Committee:

- To include, as part of its Signage Plan, displaying information from and links to [Canada's Guidance on alcohol and health](#) to inform the public about safe consumption and associated risks (VCH has a sample poster available to the Committee for consideration) and
- To consider other public realm considerations such as the impacts on noise, rubbish, and public perceptions of safety. For example, one New Zealand study on the effects of alcohol in public spaces concluded that the community benefit of public space was reduced by the use of alcohol<sup>4</sup>.

In closing, I strongly urge the Committee against permitting alcohol consumption in regional parks and recommend that the Metro Vancouver Regional District continue its responsible practice of only allowing alcohol consumption in regulated settings.

Thank you for your careful consideration of the health impacts of policies affecting Metro Vancouver Parks, which are resources for community wellbeing. Our program will be pleased to work closely with Metro Vancouver in support of the above recommendations.

Sincerely,



Dr. Michael Schwandt  
Medical Health Officer, Vancouver

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<sup>2</sup> Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction, Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research. (2023). *Canadian Substance Use Costs and Harms 2007-2020*. Ottawa: Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction. <https://csuch.ca/documents/reports/english/Canadian-Substance-Use-Costs-and-Harms-Report-2023-en.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Population estimates based on 2020 Sub-Provincial Population Estimates Report. BC Stats. (2020). *2020 Sub-provincial Population Estimates Highlights*. Victoria: BC Stats. [https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/data/statistics/people-population-community/population/pop\\_sub-provincial\\_population\\_highlights.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/data/statistics/people-population-community/population/pop_sub-provincial_population_highlights.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Randerson, S., Gordon, L., Casswell, S., Lin, J., Borell, B., Rychert, M., & Huckle, T. (2022). *"I feel it's unsafe to walk" Impacts of alcohol supply on public space in eight neighbourhoods and residents' input to alcohol licensing decisions*. Wellington: Te Whatu Ora. <https://resources.alcohol.org.nz/assets/Inclusivity-report/Inclusivity-report.PDF>

To: Regional Planning Committee

From: Carla Stewart, Senior Planner, Regional Planning and Housing Services

Date: February 8, 2024 Meeting Date: March 8, 2024

Subject: **Regional Food System Strategy Update – Scope of Work and Engagement (Phase 2)**

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### RECOMMENDATION

That the Regional Planning Committee receive for information the report dated February 8, 2024, titled “Regional Food System Strategy Update – Scope of Work and Engagement (Phase 2)”.

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since endorsing its first *Regional Food System Strategy* (RFSS) in 2011, Metro Vancouver and its member jurisdictions have collectively worked to support a sustainable, resilient and healthy food system. These efforts focused on continuing to protect agricultural land and food production and increase local food security in the face of advancing climate stability, changing socio-economic circumstances, and regional development pressures. During preparation of the *Climate 2050 Agriculture Roadmap*, endorsed by the MVRD Board in 2023, an update to the *Regional Food System Strategy* was identified in order to address on going policy gaps including:

- impact of global emergencies and on-going climate change;
- high reliance on imported food;
- social equity, reconciliation, high cost of food; and
- wasted food and food circularity.

The update to the RFSS, identified in the *Board Strategic Plan (2022 – 2026)* as a priority action, is intended to connect with all segments and sectors of the region’s food system, understand the issues, challenges and successes each sector has experienced over the past 13 years, develop a shared vision and goals, and establish actions and a strategic direction to move forward.

This report presents the project scope of work including policy context, objectives, and engagement plan and timelines to the Regional Planning Committee for information.

### PURPOSE

To provide the Regional Planning Committee with the scope of work and engagement plan for the update to the *Regional Food System Strategy*.

### BACKGROUND

The update to the *Regional Food System Strategy* (Reference 1) supports the MVRD Board vision of embracing a livable and resilient region by contributing to protecting the environment, building economic prosperity, and taking climate action through collaboration, innovation and providing sustainable regional services. Both the *Board Strategic Plan (2022-2026)* (Reference 2) and *Climate 2050 Agriculture Roadmap* (Reference 3) identify updating the RFSS as a priority action item. To further support this project, a full list of all relevant policies identified in the *Board Strategic Plan*

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(2022 – 2026), the *Climate 2050 Agriculture Roadmap*, and *Metro 2050* (Reference 4) is provided in Attachment 1. The project is also a 2024 Work Plan item for the Regional Planning Committee.

## **REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS – METRO VANCOUVER’S POLICY CONTEXT**

In 2008, the MVRD Board approved the Metro Vancouver Sustainability Framework, which identified preparing a food system strategy as a priority action. Metro Vancouver, with input and direction from the Agricultural Advisory Committee, collaborated with various government agencies, educational institutions, private businesses and community organizations to prepare the first RFSS for the region, which was endorsed by the MVRD Board in 2011. With direct input from member jurisdictions, the MVRD Board also endorsed the *Regional Food System Action Plan* in 2016, intended to act as a reference guide for local government and summarize the collective, regional work still required to support the RFSS vision of a sustainable, resilient and healthy food system (Reference 5).

The RFSS was prepared to help guide Metro Vancouver’s roles and actionable priorities and to support four main desired outcomes, including:

- increase actively farmed land;
- improve regional food security;
- reduce energy use in the food system; and
- promote community and regional economic development.

### **Complete Food System**

The RFSS was also intended to support a long-term and resilient food production and distribution system in the face of peak oil, advancing climate stability, changing socio-economic circumstances and regional development pressures.

A complete food system, as defined in Metro Vancouver’s RFSS and illustrated in Figure 1, encapsulates all the processes involved in keeping humans fed including:

- growing and harvesting food,
- processing, packaging, transporting and distributing food products,
- preparing and marketing food, and, most meaningfully, and
- consuming food.

Food systems also include the management of food and packaging waste, and recovering the nutrients that are discarded when unused food and food scraps are discarded.

### **Other Related Projects**

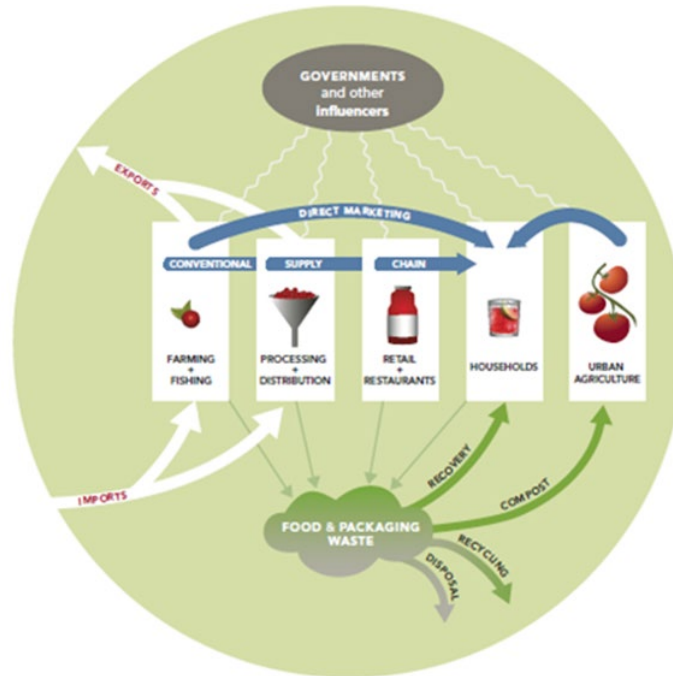
Since 2011, Metro Vancouver has advanced projects that align and support the RFSS (Attachment 2). During the preparation of the *Climate 2050 Agriculture Roadmap*, endorsed by the MVRD Board in 2023, several policy gaps were identified as needing to be addressed that were more appropriate to include in an update to the RFSS including:

- impact of global emergencies;
- high reliance on imported food;
- climate change impacts on agricultural sector;
- social equity and reconciliation;

- food waste and food circularity;
- inflation and high cost of food; and
- overall food system resilience.

These issues, as well as those identified during the proposed engagement process, will help inform the update to the RFSS.

**Figure 1: A Complete Food System**



### REGIONAL POLICY CONTEXT

Metro Vancouver’s policies that support a healthy regional food system are reflected and bolstered by plans, strategies, and projects at the local level (Attachment 3). While member jurisdictions often look to Metro Vancouver to support their local and community-based food system work, many member jurisdictions are also leading the way with their own food system plans, strategies and projects. This work will add important considerations to the update of the RFSS by providing the opportunity for Metro Vancouver to align its policies and programs with some of the innovative work already underway at the local level.

### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Metro Vancouver’s regional food system is a complex, dynamic, multi-jurisdictional, multi-sector economic and societal function that is regularly impacted by local, regional, provincial, national and international regulations, decision making and events. Metro Vancouver plays a pivotal role in supporting the function of this region’s complete food system and its regional-level challenges by providing a forum for collaboration and creating opportunities for dialogue and engagement as a bridge between and across multiple sectors.



Metro Vancouver’s work also helps to increase the capacity of member jurisdictions and creates a venue where the multiple sectors comprising the local food system can convene to discuss complex topics. Metro Vancouver is also a direct supplier of drinking water and manages solid waste, which are two significant components to a functioning and healthy food system. These roles are therefore reflected in the overall objectives of this project.

The update to the RFSS seeks to:

1. Connect with all segments and sectors of the region’s food system, including member jurisdictions, local First Nations, agricultural producers, food processors, academic institutions, health authorities, food industry associations, and social service and faith-based food-focused agencies;
2. Through a variety of mechanisms, understand the issues, challenges and successes each food system sector has experienced since the first RFSS was completed in 2011.
3. Develop a shared vision;
4. Develop shared goals and actions;
5. Obtain public feedback on issues and actions; and
6. Create a strategic direction for moving forward with action implementation.

## **PROPOSED PROCESS AND ENGAGEMENT**

The project has been separated into three phases, each including multiple tasks.

### **Phase 1: Background Preparation** (Completed)

Before an update to the RFSS could be considered, a considerable amount of background and organizational work was needed. This work, detailed in the staff report dated August 15, 2023, titled “Regional Food System Strategy Update – Scope of Work” (Reference 6), included:

1. Developing an understanding of what other jurisdictions have accomplished since the RFSS was first endorsed;
2. Gaining insights into how the regional food system has evolved over the past several years;
3. Auditing the 2011 RFSS to identify relevant issues still needing to be addressed; and
4. Identifying stakeholders and partners that could be invited to engage in the Strategy update.

Upland Agricultural Consulting was retained by Metro Vancouver to undertake this phase of work, which included the following:

#### *Task 1 - Literature Review* (September – October 2023)

- A comprehensive literature review confirmed that food systems operate under a complex and dynamic legislative framework governed by a multitude of policies and regulatory influences that lack cohesion and integration under one governing body;
- Many of the issues identified in the 2011 *Regional Food System Strategy* remain relevant today. Issues needing to be addressed in the update project include: 1) the impact of global emergencies on local food; 2) the increasing social equity barriers to food; 3) food waste and lack of circularity; 4) the impacts of climate change; 5) Indigenous food security; and 6) inflation and the rising costs of food.

*Task 2 - Regional Food System Audit (October 2023)*

- An audit of actions in the 2011 *Regional Food System Strategy* and the *Regional Food System Action Plan* (2016) was completed.
- Urgent gaps that should be addressed in the Strategy update project were identified as: food system resilience, climate change adaptation, food equity and reconciliation, and food waste.

*Task 3 - Engagement Strategy Preparation (November-December 2023)*

- A draft engagement strategy for Phase 2 of the project was prepared. This strategy recommends: establishing a technical advisory committee; undertaking subject matter interviews; hosting workshops and presentations; and providing multiple opportunities for partners and stakeholders to adequately communicate and discuss their respective food system challenges in a joint forum.
- This draft engagement strategy was used to prepare the project engagement plan provided in this report.

*Task 4 - Stakeholder and Partner Identification (December 2023)*

- A list of possible food system stakeholders, representatives and partners that may be interested in participating was prepared.
- An information-sharing and decision-making structure to manage the engagement process was also recommended.

**Phase 2: Engagement** (Current)

The current phase of work to update the RFSS will involve engaging with a variety of key partners and stakeholders, including gathering input from member jurisdictions, First Nations communities, the general public, and key stakeholders representing various sectors of the region's food system. This phase of work is proposed to follow the general structure detailed below:

*Step 1 - Launch Project (February – April 2024)*

- Invite local First Nations to participate in the project, including hosting a learning circle dialogue;
- Retain an engagement consultant;
- Create and convene a Project Advisory Committee;
- Finalize and initiate a communications strategy, launch the project website; and
- Launch project internally and to member jurisdictions via advisory committee presentations.

*Step 2 - 'Confirm and Gather' Engagement (April - July 2024)*

- Launch project to targeted sector groups and the general public
  - > Coordinate with Existing Metro Vancouver Campaigns (e.g., Love Food Hate Waste, Solid Waste Management Plan Update);
- Host in-person and virtual engagement events with the following subject matter experts: agricultural producers; food processors; food waste; urban agriculture; community food security; public health; food distribution; emergency management; transportation and logistics; land use; economic development; local First Nations; and member jurisdiction, Provincial and Federal government staff;
- Member jurisdiction presentations
  - > Local Agricultural Advisory Committees and other identified relevant food system-focused committees

*Step 3 - ‘Brainstorm and Solve’ Engagement (September – December 2024)*

- Organize ‘Confirm and Gather’ engagement results
- Prepare updated vision, goals, actions
- Host ‘All Sector’ food system forum

**Phase 3: Document Preparation** (Next Steps)

The future phase of work will involve compiling all the content gathered during the engagement stage and using it to update the Regional Food System Strategy. This phase of work is proposed to follow the general structure detailed below:

*Step 1 – Prepare Draft (January – March 2025)*

- Organize and evaluate all engagement content
- Update Strategy content
- Prepare updated Draft RFSS
- Run final review and edit phase of Draft RFSS

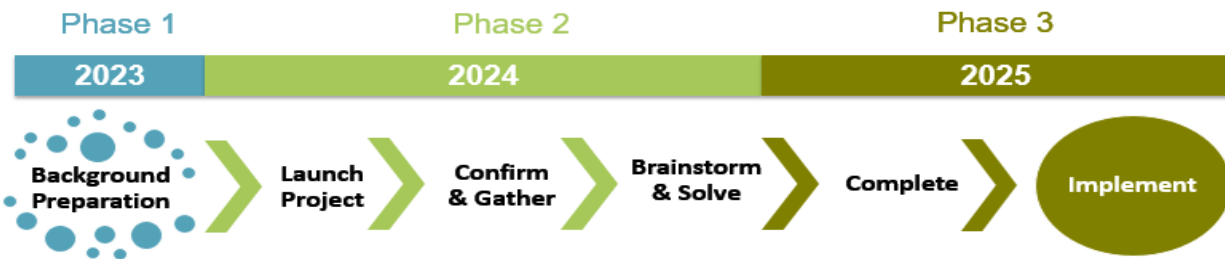
*Step 2 – Complete Project (April – May 2025)*

- Present final draft to Agricultural Advisory Committee, Regional Planning Committee, member jurisdictions and advisory committees

**TIMELINE**

Figure 2 provides an overview of the RFSS update timeline, illustrating the main phases, tasks and expected timelines for the project. Given the complex nature of food systems and the extensive list of partners and stakeholders that may wish to be involved in the project, overall timelines may be adjusted to accommodate engagement, particularly at the request of local First Nations.

**Figure 2 – Project Timeline**



**ALTERNATIVES**

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Board-approved 2024 Regional Planning budget includes \$60,000 for the *Regional Food System Strategy* update project. These funds are intended to support retaining a consultant to manage a majority of the engagement activities in 2024. It is anticipated that additional budget may be required to support First Nations’ participation and complete the project in 2025.

## CONCLUSION

The need to update Metro Vancouver’s *Regional Food System Strategy* has been identified in the *Board Strategic Plan 2022 – 2026* and *Climate 2050 Agriculture Roadmap*. This update will build on the strengths of the existing RFSS completed in 2011, engage with a many partners and stakeholders, including member jurisdictions and local First Nations, and focus on identifying common issues, actions and implementation solutions to continue to support a healthy, sustainable food system. Given the complex nature of food systems, Regional Planning staff will be coordinating and collaborating across all Metro Vancouver departments, including: Indigenous Relations, Solid Waste Services, Invest Vancouver, Water Services, Liquid Waste Services, and Regional Parks and Environment.

## ATTACHMENTS

1. Regional Food Systems – Metro Vancouver’s Policy Context
2. Metro Vancouver Regional Food System Related Projects
3. Regional Food Systems – Local Policy Context

## REFERENCES

1. [Regional Food System Strategy \(2011\)](#)
2. [Metro Vancouver Board Strategic Plan 2022 – 2026](#)
3. [Climate 2050 Agriculture Roadmap](#)
4. [Metro 2050](#)
5. [Regional Food System Action Plan \(2016\)](#)
6. [Regional Planning Committee Report dated August 15, 2023 titled “Regional Food System Strategy Update – Scope of Work”](#)

## **Regional Food Systems - Metro Vancouver's Policy Context**

The following Metro Vancouver policies support the regional food system:

- [Metro Vancouver Board Strategic Plan 2022-2026](#)
  - *Overall Strategic Actions*
    - > Facilitate collaboration with member jurisdictions to create efficiencies and improve alignment between local government policies and actions with those of Metro Vancouver.
    - > Advance initiatives aligned with a transformation to a circular economy.
    - > Prioritize climate action (greenhouse gas reduction and resilience to impacts) in all services, projects, and initiatives.
    - > Enhance understanding of Indigenous knowledge to help inform policies and goals on ecosystem preservation and adaptation measures.
  - *Water Services*
    - > Integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation measures within water utility operations to reduce greenhouse gases and respond to the effects of the changing climate.
    - > Enhance public understanding of the water system and appreciation of drinking water as a precious resource through education, communication, and engagement.
    - > Work collaboratively with members to reduce peak day and annual per-capita water demand.
  - *Liquid Waste Services*
    - > Work with First Nations and senior levels of government on collaborative environmental management initiatives.
    - > Enhance the role of new source controls and incentives to prevent the release of contaminants into the liquid waste system, while collaborating with members, partner organizations, and product producers.
    - > Expand public awareness of the contribution of liquid waste management to human and environmental health.
  - *Solid Waste Services*
    - > Work with members, the provincial government, and the Federal Government on strategies to reduce single-use items and other disposable consumer products.
    - > Continue to develop programs and related communication campaigns that increase diversion rates of materials that can be reused, repurposed, or recycled.
    - > Work with the private sector to innovate in the provision of recycling solutions, including micro-solutions.
    - > Assess Metro Vancouver's role in processing organics and wood.
    - > Identify future disposal alternatives and develop analysis for each, providing life cycle and full cost analysis, including GHG emission estimates.
    - > Leverage the National Zero Waste Council and the Zero Waste Conference to promote the importance of waste prevention and the value of transitioning to a circular economy.

- > Facilitate cross-sector collaboration to design waste out of products and packaging, and to harmonize policies across Canadian jurisdictions that will both reduce waste and create opportunities of scale in remanufacturing opportunities.
- *Regional Parks*
  - > Manage built and natural assets proactively as part of an asset management system to support the provision of safe and well-maintained infrastructure and integrity of ecosystems.
- *Regional Planning*
  - > Work closely with member jurisdictions, TransLink, First Nations, the Province, and other regional agencies and organizations to advance *Metro 2050*’s goals, strategies, and policy actions.
  - > Undertake innovative research that supports the overarching goals in *Metro 2050*, including projects such as: Regional Parking Strategy, Housing and Transportation Cost Burden Study Update, Regional Food System Strategy Update, and Growth Management and Investment Model.
  - > Work with members to protect industrial and employment lands that support economic activities contributing to regional prosperity.
- *Air Quality and Climate Action*
  - > Accelerate emission reductions from all types of vehicles through policies and regulations working in collaboration with regional partners.
  - > Promote transition to clean, renewable energy at the regional and corporate levels in collaboration with energy utilities and other partners.
  - > Continue to develop policies and processes to integrate social equity into all air quality and climate policies.
  - > Continue partnering with and advocating to other governments and agencies to implement initiatives that accelerate GHG emission reductions in priority areas, including: large-scale electrification; regulating health-harming emissions from regionally significant sources; fuel decarbonization in transportation; and incentives and equity-oriented programs to support purchase of low- and zero-carbon technologies by residents and businesses.
- *Metro Vancouver Housing*
  - > Support healthy and engaged communities in Metro Vancouver Housing’s sites.
  - > Enhance tenant programs that build community and foster tenant well-being, with a focus on joy-based healing, investment in social capital, and poverty alleviation.
- *Invest Vancouver*
  - > Provide regional leadership in economic development and investment promotion to enhance regional competitive advantages, complementing and amplifying the local work of member jurisdictions.
  - > Promote strategic investment opportunities in key industries to global investors through presence and profile at events and initiatives within the region and key markets.
  - > Use an evidence-based approach to advocate to decision-makers to increase economic resilience and fortify the regional economy by identifying strengths, addressing barriers, and advancing opportunities.
  - > Engage Indigenous Peoples to advance economic reconciliation and Indigenous prosperity through regional economic development opportunities and partnerships.

- > Continue to identify opportunities and align resource efforts across levels of government to maximize impact for the region.

### Metro 2050

Metro Vancouver will:

- *Policy Action 1.3.3* - Collaborate with health authorities, academic institutions, First Nations, and other researchers to share best practices, research, data, and tools that can advance land use policies to:
  - b) meet community social needs and priorities.
- *Policy Action 1.3.4* – Measure and monitor access to community services and amenities, particularly in Urban Centres and Frequent Transit Development Areas.
- *Policy Action 1.3.5* – Advocate to the Federal Government and the Province to ensure that growing communities are served appropriately and in a timely manner with social amenities, health, schools, and educational opportunities, to avoid inequities in service levels between communities in the region.
- *Policy Action 1.4.2* – Accept RCS’s that protect lands with a Rural regional land use designation from urban development and that meet or work towards Action 1.4.3.
- *Policy Action 2.1.1* – Provide regional utility infrastructure to support the region’s economic functions and to support efficient employment and settlement patterns.
- *Policy Action 2.1.2* – Work with the Federal Government, the Province, member jurisdictions, First Nations, and the private sector to advance shared economic prosperity and resilience through Invest Vancouver to attract strategic investment to the region.
- *Policy Action 2.1.4* – Collaborate with the Fraser Valley and Squamish-Lillooet Regional Districts on shared initiatives related to economy, transportation, and other related matters.
- *Policy Action 2.1.7* – Advocate that airport authorities:
  - b) expedite the transition to energy efficient, low, and zero emission modes for goods movement.
- *Policy Action 2.1.8* – Advocate that the Port of Vancouver:
  - b) expedite the transition to energy efficient, low, and zero emission modes for goods movement.
- *Policy Action 2.1.9* – Advocate that the Federal Government and the Province support existing and new industries in the region through such means as investment, procurement strategies, tax incentives, skill development, and small business loan programs.
- *Policy Action 2.2.6* – Advocate to the Federal Government and the Province to coordinate transportation infrastructure and service investments that support efficient movement of goods and people for industrial and employment operations, and considers the Regional Goods Movement Strategy and the Regional Truck Route Network.
- *Policy Action 2.2.7* – Advocate to the Federal Government and the Province to support initiatives and infrastructure investments that:
  - a) introduce more energy efficient, low carbon and zero emissions equipment operations and vehicles.

- c) expedite the transition to energy efficient, low and zero emission mode for goods movement.
- *Policy Action 2.3.5* – Undertake agriculture awareness activities that promote the importance of the agricultural industry, the protection of agricultural land, and the value of local agricultural products and experiences, in partnership with other agencies and organizations.
- *Policy Action 2.3.9* – Advocate to the Province to increase agricultural producers’ knowledge and adoption of innovative practices for advancing agriculture economic development, and resilience to climate change and natural hazard impacts, such as those identified in the regional growth strategy (Table 5).
- *Policy Action 2.3.10* – Advocate to the Province to provide incentives to encourage land management practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve soil health, protect natural assets, and maintain ecosystem services from agricultural land.
- *Policy Action 2.2.11* – Advocate to the Province for changes to the *Local Government Act* to require that Official Community Plans prioritize the need for agricultural land, similar to how long-term needs are considered for residential, commercial and industrial lands.
- *Policy Action 3.2.2* – Implement the Metro Vancouver Ecological Health Framework, including relevant actions to:
  - b) incorporate natural assets and ecosystem services into Metro Vancouver’s corporate planning, asset management systems and investments, and provide regionally appropriate guidance on methodologies, tools, and decision-making frameworks.
- *Policy Action 3.2.3* – Manage Metro Vancouver assets and collaborate with member jurisdictions, First Nations, and other agencies to:
  - c) identify a regional green infrastructure network that connects ecosystems and builds on existing local networks, while maximizing resilience, biodiversity, and human health benefits.
  - d) prepare Implementation Guidelines to support a regional green infrastructure network to assist with the protection, enhancement, and restoration of ecosystems.
- *Policy Action 3.2.4* – Work with local First Nations to:
  - c) seek other Indigenous stewardship, research, and co-management opportunities.
- *Policy Action 3.2.6* – Advocate to the Federal Government and the Province to:
  - c) update and consolidate provincial invasive species legislation to better support the management of high-risk invasive species.
- *Policy Action 3.3.2* – Work with the Federal Government, the Province, TransLink, member jurisdictions, energy utilities, the private sector, and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to:
  - a) monitor energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, and air quality related to land use, buildings, agriculture, waste, transportation, and other emission sources, and consider lifecycle energy and emissions.
- *Policy Action 3.4.2* – Work with the Integrated Partnership for Regional Emergency Management, the Federal Government, the Province, First Nations, TransLink, member jurisdictions, adjacent regional districts, and other stakeholders, as appropriate to:
  - e) support regional flood management approaches, such as the implementation of the Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy.



- *Policy Action 5.1.8* – Advocate to the Federal Government and the Province, in collaboration with TransLink and member jurisdictions, to evaluate and develop measures to mitigate the potential negative impacts on the region’s Industrial, Agricultural, and Conservation Recreation lands when planning transportation infrastructure, including roadways, railways, and rapid transit systems.
- *Policy Action 5.2.1* – Support implementation of the Regional Goods Movement Strategy and continue to participate in the Greater Vancouver Urban Freight Council.
- *Policy Action 5.2.5* – Advocate to the Federal Government and the Province to support the safe, reliable, and efficient movement of vehicles for passengers, goods, and services through:
  - d) local government funding programs for survey instruments to obtain timely and comprehensive data on the travel patterns of residents, workers, and goods and service vehicles travelling inter- and intra-regionally.

Member jurisdictions will:

- *Policy Action 1.3.7* Adopt Regional Context Statements that:
  - e) support the inclusion of community gardens (at-grade, rooftop, or on balconies), grocery stores and farmer’s markets to support food security, and local production, distribution and consumption of healthy food, in particular where they are easily accessible to housing and transit services
  - h) consider where appropriate, opportunities to incorporate recognition of Indigenous and other cultures into the planning of Urban Centres, FTDA’s, and other local centres.
- *Policy Action 1.4.3* Adopt Regional Context Statements that:
  - b) limit development to a scale, form and density consistent with the intent for Rural land use designation, and that is compatible with on-site sewer servicing.
  - d) prioritize and support agricultural uses within the ALR, and where appropriate, support agricultural uses outside of the ALR.
- *Policy Action 2.3.12* – Adopt Regional Context Statements that:
  - b) consider policies and programs that increase markets and the distribution of local food in urban areas to strengthen the viability of agriculture and increase availability of local food for all residents;
  - c) include policies that protect the supply of agricultural land and strengthen agriculture viability including those that:
    - i) assign appropriate land use designations to protect agricultural land for future generations and discourage land uses on Agricultural lands that do not directly support and strengthen agricultural viability.
    - iii) support climate change adaptation.
    - v) demonstrate support for economic development opportunities for agricultural operations that are farm related uses, benefit from close proximity to farms, enhance primary agricultural production as defined by the Agricultural Land Commission in partnership with other agencies and organizations.
- *Policy Action 2.3.13* In partnership with other agencies and organizations, support agricultural awareness and promote the importance of the agricultural industry, the

importance of protecting agricultural land, and the value of local agricultural products and experiences.

- *Policy Action 3.2.7* – Adopt Regional Context Statements that:
    - b) iv) indicate how the interface between ecosystems and other land uses will be managed to maintain ecological integrity using edge planning, and measures such as physical buffers, or development permit requirements.
  - *Policy Action 3.4.6* – Incorporate climate change and natural hazard risk assessments into planning and location decisions for new municipal utilities, assets, operations, and community services.
  - *Policy Action 3.4.7* – Integrate emergency management, utility planning, and climate change adaptation principles when preparing land use plans, transportation plans, and growth management plans.
  - *Policy Action 4.1.8* – Adopt Regional Context Statements that:
    - c) identify policies and actions that contribute to the following outcomes:
      - vi) increased social connectedness in multi-unit housing.
  - *Policy Action 5.2.6* – Adopt Regional Context Statements that:
    - a) identify routes on a map for the safe and efficient movement of goods and service vehicles to, from and within Urban Centres; Frequent Transit Development Areas; Major Transit Growth Corridors; Industrial; Employment; and Agricultural lands; ports, airports; and international border crossings.
    - b) identify land use and related policies and actions that support the optimization and safety of goods movement via roads, highways, railways, aviation, short sea shipping, and active transportation.
    - d) identify policies and actions that support the protection of rail rights-of-way, truck routes, and access points to navigable waterways in order to preserve the potential for goods movement.
- [Climate 2050 Agriculture Roadmap](#)
- *Regional Food System Strategy Breakout Box:*  
 Since [the preparation of the first Regional Food System Strategy] the Metro Vancouver region has experienced a significant amount of change including:
    - > A considerable increase in region-wide urban growth placing unprecedented pressure on agricultural lands to accommodate non-farm uses, urban transportation overflow, and space for recreational uses;
    - > An increase in food insecurity among vulnerable populations as well as new demographic sectors as a result of a global pandemic, military conflicts, and inflation;
    - > A change to local weather patterns such as heat domes and extended droughts resulting in crop damage and food unavailability. These changes place substantial pressures on the regional food system increasing food insecurity for all residents.
    - > These issues, as well as a gap in the acknowledgement and strengthening of Indigenous food sovereignty, will need to be examined within the broader framework and context of the complete regional food system. To accomplish that effectively, the Regional Food System Strategy will require an audit to determine if its policies are still relevant and are broad enough to address the identified gaps. Of

particular note, the following items should also be explored from a food system point of view:

- Examine the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact to determine what regional monitoring frameworks can be implemented to evaluate gaps in policy and resource mobilization and reveal overall food system improvements;
  - Examine the entire food system chain from a regional level to determine where emissions can be reduced and what efficiencies can be achieved;
  - Examine the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN to determine what sustainability indicators can be applied regionally to Metro Vancouver;
  - Work with First Nations, the BC Government and the Indigenous Advisory Council on Agriculture and Food, to identify opportunities to strengthen Indigenous food systems and increase Indigenous participation in the agriculture and food sectors;
  - Examine how the local agriculture community can diversify, including: new, more resilient crop species; appropriate locations for crops based on soil type and hazard vulnerabilities (e.g., coastal flooding); and new adaptive agricultural management and production models;
  - Establish inter-municipal learning opportunities for staff, administration and council to learn from each other, and understand how municipal interests and activities intersect with food systems planning and decision-making;
  - Determine the content for a step-by-step instructional toolkit to be used by new or young farmers interested in starting a farm operation within Metro Vancouver; and
  - Address the tension that exists between food safety (e.g., health protection that places restrictions on food processing) and food security (e.g., health promotion that can be disconnected from food safety requirements) activities.
- *Strategy 1: Protect Agricultural Land*
    - > *Action 1.1:* Prepare an Agricultural Land Protection and Viability Strategy to identify how to protect and increase the active production of agricultural land within the region including:
      - Identifying the most feasible and beneficial opportunities for regional, inter-governmental and industry collaboration;
      - Supporting and expanding land matching initiatives; and
      - Increasing long term access to farmland for young and new farmers
    - > *Action 1.5:* Work with member jurisdictions, the BC Government, and industry to incentivize, increase the viability of, and prioritize the use of soil-based agriculture in the region
    - > *Action 1.12:* Work with First Nations, the BC Government, member jurisdictions and the agricultural sector to review how regional policy can recognize and support Indigenous food sovereignty throughout the region.
  - *Strategy 2: Support Farmers as Climate Action Leaders*
    - > *Action 2.4:* Update the regional emissions inventory with greenhouse-specific data.
    - > *Action 2.16:* Work with the BC Government, industry, and the agriculture community to develop a pilot study to test the feasibility and logistical requirements for the wide-spread use of zero emission agriculture equipment (e.g., electric tractors).

- > *Action 2.20:* Support and streamline the operation of anaerobic digestion facilities in the region by developing an emission regulation for anaerobic digestion of agricultural and commercial food waste that is simple and maintains existing permitting processes while also ensuring equivalent protections for regional air quality and human health.
- > *Action 2.21:* Support and streamline the operation of anaerobic digestion facilities in the region by developing a multi-stakeholder centralized agricultural waste collection facility in the Metro Vancouver region to support meeting the Provincial Agricultural Environment Management Code of Practice and improve the cost-benefit return on running anaerobic digestors for agricultural producers.
- > *Action 2.24:* Advocate to member jurisdictions and other regional partners to address regional food security, encourage more local food production, and prioritize agricultural practices that reduce emissions or help maintain or sequester carbon.
- *Strategy 3: Support Long-Term Farm Health and Resilience*
  - > *Action 3.3:* Prepare a comprehensive regional high resolution map of ecosystem services locations on agricultural land identifying the highest opportunities for focused stewardship efforts to support the long-term resilience of the agricultural sector. (See also Strategy 3.7)
  - > *Action 3.5:* Estimate the financial value of ecosystem services on agricultural land in the Metro Vancouver region and determine how farmers and land owners can be compensated for setting aside natural areas for the benefit of ecosystem services.
  - > *Action 3.7:* Review and assess options to align with the ongoing work to establish a Regional Green Infrastructure Network to support ecosystem services on agricultural land.
  - > *Action 3.13:* Work with the BC Government, water districts and member jurisdictions to develop a comprehensive analysis of the sub-regional sources of water used by the agricultural sector in Metro Vancouver and the ongoing challenges with accessing that water for agricultural purposes.
  - > *Action 3.14:* Work with the BC Government, water districts and member jurisdictions to provide viable and tangible solutions to ensuring water resources needed by the farming community are provided in a sustainable, consistent, and reliable manner.
  - > *Action 3.15:* Explore innovative sources and new technologies for water reuse (e.g., municipal waste water, agricultural drainage water) and water conservation (e.g., applying mulches to field crops).
  - > *Action 3.17:* Update the agricultural water demand model to incorporate current climate conditions, crop irrigation systems and soil information data to contribute to the discussion of water availability for the agricultural community.
  - > *Action 3.18:* Develop a toolkit on how a circular water economy can be supported within the Metro Vancouver farming community, including new technologies and techniques for water reuse.
  - > *Action 3.20:* Work with member jurisdictions to examine the feasibility and benefits of committing to established reporting frameworks that use measurable targets to determine the effectiveness of adaptation policy for agricultural operations, for example, the:
    - Previous Mexico City Pact; and
    - Milan Urban Food Policy Pact.

- *Strategy 4: Support a Viable, Profitable and Stable Agricultural Sector*
  - > *Action 4.5:* Work with the BC Government, member jurisdictions, industry, First Nations and other regional partners to undertake a review of the Regional Food System Strategy to address:
    - Climate-related food-specific challenges, gaps and opportunities;
    - Local food production vulnerability and longevity within the region;
    - Role of urban agricultural in regional food security;
    - Lack of succession planning and labour shortage and living wage challenges;
    - Indigenous food sovereignty;
    - Impacts of the global COVID-19 pandemic; and
    - Impacts of international conflicts on local agriculture production capacity
  - > *Action 4.6:* Work with the BC government, member jurisdictions, and agricultural producers to support pilot projects that focus on diversifying food production in the region to reduce the reliance on food imports (e.g., local citrus fruit production).
  - > *Action 4.7:* Work with the BC Government and member jurisdictions to develop engaging and approachable educational campaigns aimed on connecting consumers more closely with the realities and challenges of producing food in the Metro Vancouver region, including:
    - How agriculture is affected by climate change;
    - What costs and processes go into producing food (e.g., the farm-to-food cost spectrum);
    - What actions farmers are taking to adapt to significant regional climate issues; and
    - How consumers can be a positive contributor to agricultural resilience through their actions and decision making.
  - > *Action 4.8:* Work with member jurisdictions to develop a coordinated regional signage campaign to raise awareness and showcase the location and benefits of locally-grown crops.
  - > *Action 4.12:* Collaborate with agricultural-focused research and innovation entities (e.g., Agri-Food Innovation Council, Agritech BC, Canadian Food Innovation Network) to advance the use of technological innovations into local agricultural production.

## Metro Vancouver Regional Food System Related Projects

The following Metro Vancouver projects, programs, strategies and plans align with the *Regional Food System Strategy*:

- [National Zero Waste Council 2022 – 2025 Strategic Plan](#)
- [Zero Waste Conference](#)
- [Climate 2050 Energy Roadmap](#)
- [Climate 2050 Nature and Ecosystems Roadmap](#)
- [Climate 2050 Human Health and Well-being Roadmap](#) (underway)
- [Climate 2050 Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Roadmap](#) (underway)
- [Clean Air Plan](#)
- [Metro Vancouver Food Recovery Network](#)
- [Good Gardens, Good Communities – Community Gardening Handbook](#)
- [Metro Vancouver Housing 10-Year Plan](#)
- [Regional Parks Plan](#)
- [Food Flows in Metro Vancouver](#) (2019)
- [Regional Parks Natural Resource Management Framework](#) (2020)
- [Regional Parks Land Acquisition 2050 Strategy](#)
- [Liquid Waste Management Plan Update](#) (underway)
- [Solid Waste Management Plan Update](#) (underway)
- [Drinking Water Management Plan Update](#) (underway)
- Evaluation of Current and Projected Agricultural Water Demand within Metro Vancouver Region (underway)
- Agricultural Land Use Inventory (2016, 2022) (underway)
- [Alternative Waste Management Practice for Agricultural Vegetative Debris](#) (2021)
- [10-Year Salmon Enhancement Action Plan](#) (underway)
- Regional Green Infrastructure Network (underway)
- [Agricultural and Industrial Lands Survey](#) (2017)
- [Agricultural Land Soil Investigation](#)
- [Agritech Today, Building for Tomorrow: Findings and Actions to Strengthen the Sector in Metro Vancouver Region](#) (2022)
- Agricultural Emissions Estimator Tool (underway)
- Regional Multi-Hazard Mapping (underway)
- [Climate 2050 Land Use and Urban Form Roadmap](#) (underway)
- [Agricultural Awareness Grants](#) (2008 – 2024)
- [Scoping Ecosystem Services on Agricultural Land in Metro Vancouver](#) (2023)
- [Metro 2050 Climate Policy Enhancements Project](#) (underway)
- Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Blueprint (underway)
- Industrial Lands Labour Force Survey (underway)
- Industrial Land Economic Impact/Value Study – Update (underway)
- [2020 Regional Industrial Lands Inventory: Technical Report](#) (2021)
- [Regional Industrial Land Strategy](#) (2020)
- [Social Equity & Regional Growth Study](#) (2021)
- ALR Landowner Survey (2013)
- [Farm Tax Class Income Threshold Investigation](#) (2015)
- [Love Food Hate Waste Campaign](#)

- [Agriculture Water Demand Model](#) (2013)
- [Property Tax Scenario Analysis For Agricultural and Industrial Lands in the Metro Vancouver Region](#) (2014)
- [Sector Profile: Agritech in Metro Vancouver](#) (2022)

### **Regional Food Systems – Local Policy Context**

The following Metro Vancouver member jurisdiction policies, plans, strategies and projects support the regional food system:

- [Richmond Circular City Strategy](#) (2023)
- [Grown in Pitt Meadows: Agricultural Viability Strategy](#) (2023)
- [Burnaby Food System Strategy](#) (2022)
- [Delta Agriculture Plan](#) (2023)
- [MADE in Delta 2022-2027 Social Action Plan](#) (2021)
- [Tsawwassen First Nation Farm School](#)
- [Parkland in Surrey's ALR: A Comprehensive Plan for Agriculture](#) (2022)
- [Aldergrove Food System Plan](#) (2023)
- Port Coquitlam; City of Coquitlam; City of Port Moody; Village of Belcarra; Village of Anmore - [Tri-Cities Food Security Action Plan](#) (2021)
- [City of Vancouver Local Systems Food Action Plan](#) (2021)
- District of North Vancouver; City of North Vancouver; District of West Vancouver - [North Shore Community Food Charter](#) (2013)
- [Township of Langley Social Sustainability Strategy](#) (2021-2030)
- [Maple Ridge Food Hub Implementation Plan](#) (2018)
- [Surrey Agriculture Protection and Enhancement Strategy](#) (2013)
- [Vancouver Zero Waste 2040 Strategic Plan/Circular Food Innovation Lab](#) (2022-23)
- [Maple Ridge Agriculture Plan](#) (2009)
- [Township of Langley Food System Study](#) (2018)
- District of North Vancouver [Edible Garden Project](#)
- [Barnston Island Agricultural Viability Study](#) (2019)
- [What Feeds Us: Vancouver Food Strategy](#) (2013)
- [Toward a Resilient Food System for Bowen Island – Agrarian Analysis](#) (2019)
- [Richmond Farming First Strategy](#) (2021)
- Langley Township [Agricultural Viability Strategy](#) (2013)



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To: Mayors Committee

From: Jacquie Griffiths, President, Invest Vancouver  
Sue Mah, Vice President of Collaboration, Invest Vancouver

Date: February 22, 2024 Meeting Date: March 14, 2024

Subject: **Report on 2024 Invest Vancouver Management Board Meeting Schedule, Work Plan, and the Invest Vancouver 2024 Annual Plan**

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**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Mayors Committee receive for information the report dated, February 22, 2024, titled “Report on 2024 Invest Vancouver Management Board Meeting Schedule, Work Plan, and the Invest Vancouver 2024 Annual Plan”.

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The attached report titled 2024 Invest Vancouver Management Board Meeting Schedule, Work Plan, and the Invest Vancouver 2024 Annual Plan was considered by the Invest Vancouver Management Board at its meeting of February 2, 2024 and by the MVRD Board at its meeting of February 23, 2024, and is presented here to the Mayors Committee for its information.

Invest Vancouver works closely with member jurisdictions to support local economic development plans. For example, since the MVRD Board’s adoption of the Invest Vancouver 2024 Annual Plan, the City of Surrey, at its January 29, 2024 council meeting, approved the Invest Surrey’s 2024 Economic Strategy. The *Investing in Our Future: A Roadmap to Realizing the Opportunities of Tomorrow*. This economic strategy focuses on the City of Surrey a modern, highly-livable, world-class city while also positioning it as a recognized investment destination and innovation centre in the region.

Economic development plans support collaboration and coordinated efforts between industries, community partners and stakeholders, and Invest Vancouver works collaboratively with member jurisdictions to attract foreign direct investments in order to facilitate the creation of high-value jobs to advance broadly shared prosperity for all residents of the Metro Vancouver region. Local economic strategies and Invest Vancouver’s 2024 Annual Plan are intended to complement each other, and both will help build a future-focused economy for the region that can compete globally and increase resiliency to endure shocks resulting from times of uncertainty.

**Attachments:**

1. Presentation
2. Report titled “2024 Invest Vancouver Management Board Meeting Schedule, Work Plan, and the Invest Vancouver 2024 Annual Plan” dated January 9, 2024

**Reference:**

1. [City of Surrey Economic Strategy 2024](#)



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**Invest Vancouver 2024 Annual Plan**

Presented to: Mayors Committee  
Presented by: Jacquie Griffiths, President, Invest Vancouver  
March 14, 2024

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**Who We Are**

Invest Vancouver is Metro Vancouver’s regional economic development service, working to secure strategic investment for the Metro Vancouver region.

**What We Do**

By working to secure strategic investment, promote the region to a global audience, and advise decision-makers through forward-thinking economic research and policy analysis, Invest Vancouver is amplifying opportunity and advancing shared prosperity.

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2

**METRO VANCOUVER'S REGIONAL ECONOMY**

**\$160 billion**  
GDP (2020)

**2.8 million**  
Population

**1.5 million**  
Workers



Map labels: LIONS BAY, ELECTORAL AREA A, NORTH VANCOUVER DISTRICT, ANMORE, BELCARRA, COQUITLAM, PORT MOODY, VANCOUVER, BURNABY, PORT COQUITLAM, PITT MEADOWS, MAPLE RIDGE, NEW WESTMINSTER, RICHMOND, DELTA, SURREY, LANGLEY CITY, LANGLEY TOWNSHIP, TSAWASSEN FIRST NATION, WHITE ROCK, BOWEN ISLAND, WEST VANCOUVER, NORTH VANCOUVER CITY.

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3

**METRO VANCOUVER'S REGIONAL ECONOMY**

**\$160 billion**  
GDP (2020)

**2.8 million**  
Population

**1.5 million**  
Workers

**We are one region, one workforce, one economy.**

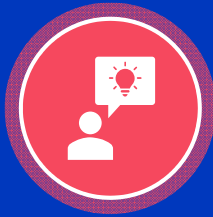


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4

# The Power of a Regional Service

Thought leadership



Regional convener

One voice on regional strategic priorities



A global front door

# Invest Vancouver 2024 Annual Plan



## Objectives of the plan:

Guide Invest Vancouver to deliver on its mandate

Steers work and activities in order to attract foreign direct investments into the region

## Alignment with Metro Vancouver corporate planning

Board-approved 2024 budget

Board Strategic Plan

Complements other Metro Vancouver plans (Metro 2050)

## 2024 Priorities

- 1 Attract world-class companies to the Metro Vancouver region
- 2 Strengthen our key strategic industries
- 3 Address regional issues to increase resilience for the regional economy
- 4 Provide a focused, sustainable regional service



## 2023 Highlights By the Numbers

**7** investments landed, worth more than \$1.23 bn in FDI and more than 750 jobs

**120** new investment leads handled

**15** events promoting business development and investment attended outside of BC

**2** in-depth studies on regional economy and targeted sectors

**4** sector-specific investor value proposition documents

**14** international delegations hosted

**100%** increase in followers on LinkedIn, achieving 2,000+ followers

**2** new promotional videos

# 2023 Highlights

<b>Investment Attraction</b>	International delegations	CRM Platform	Networking receptions	Request for Information Process
<b>Global Promotion &amp; Regional Visibility</b>	Dynamic Map	Partnered Events	Clean Transportation Month	Tech Talent Guide Data Dashboard
<b>Actionable Intelligence</b>	Innovation Ecosystem Profile	Strategic Industries Analytics Project	REDS Project Plan	Life Sciences Report
<b>Regional Resilience</b>	Workforce Development	Indigenous Opportunities Forum	Transformational Economic Development	

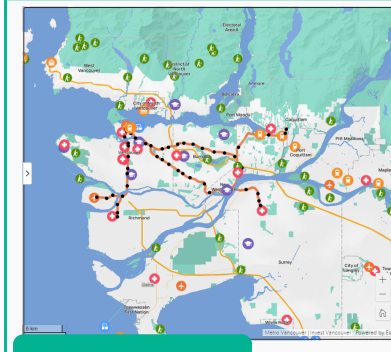
# 2023 Key Performance Indicators



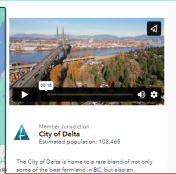
Indicator	2022	2023	2024 Target
No. of leads generated/received (including expansion)	70	<b>120+</b>	200
Value of new investment facilitated and retained in the region (approx. \$)	\$16m	<b>\$1.23b</b>	\$1b
Percentage of leads identified within Invest Vancouver's seven priority industry clusters	90%	<b>89%</b>	90%
No. of jobs associated with investment facilitated and/or retained (approximate)	55+	<b>750</b>	2,000
No. of website visits	15,867	<b>22,800</b>	23,000
No. of LinkedIn Followers	979	<b>2,113</b>	2,400



# 2023 Project Highlights



Dynamic Map



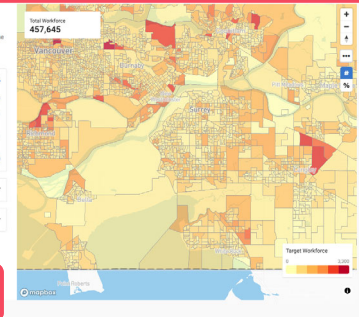
**Workforce**  
Assess your target workforce with the criteria below:

- Education type: All | None
- High School diploma or equivalent
- Apprenticeship, trades, certificate or diploma
- Bachelor's degree

Occupation type

Industry type

Data Dashboards

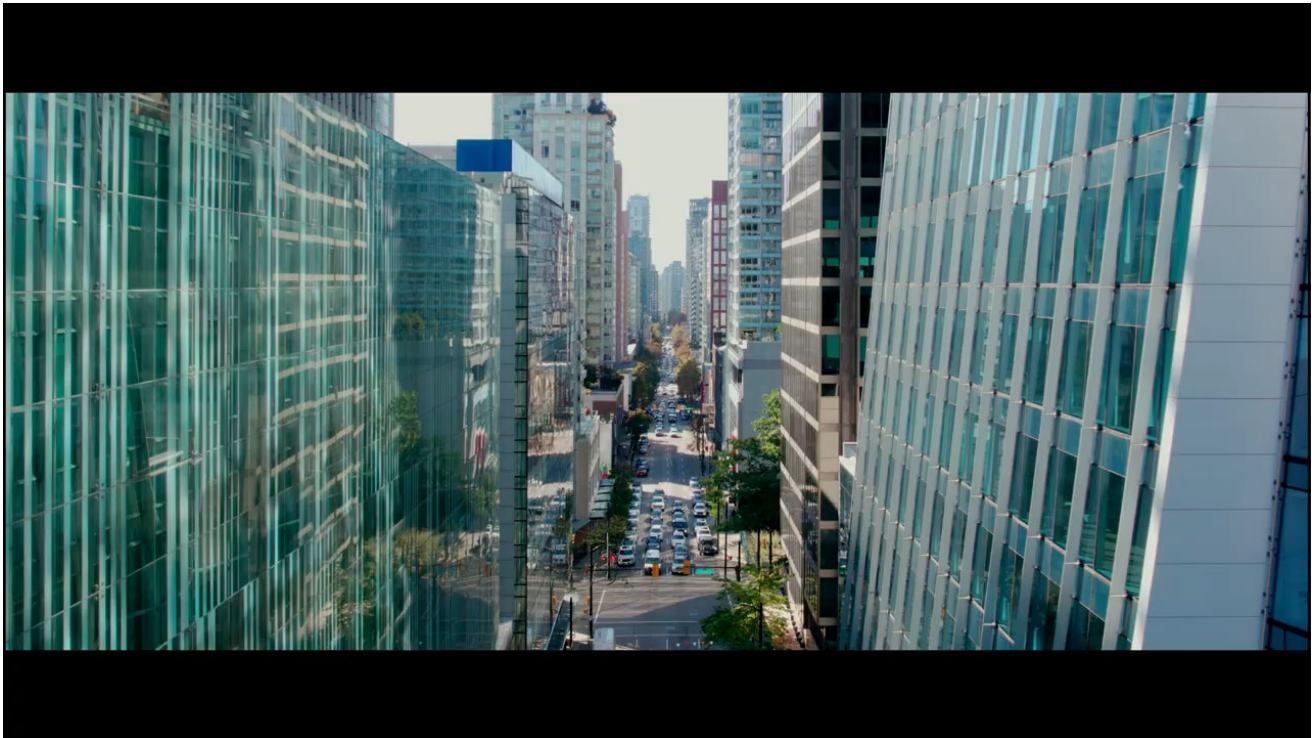


Strategic Industries Analytics Project

**Strategic Industries Analytics Project**  
Discovering Opportunities in the Metro Vancouver Region's Export Industries  
November 2023

INVEST VANCOUVER

Next slide: Promotional video





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To: Mayors Committee

From: Heather McNell, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Policy and Planning, and Jonathan Coté, Deputy General Manager, Regional Planning and Housing Development, Regional Planning and Housing Services

Date: February 23, 2024 Meeting Date: March 14, 2024

Subject: **Provincial Housing Legislation: Provincial Advocacy and Supportive Roles**

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### RECOMMENDATION

That the MVRD Board:

- a) Direct staff to provide an 'opt in' opportunity for member jurisdictions for Metro Vancouver to undertake the Housing Needs Reports as per the provincial methodology and requirements;
  - b) Direct staff to advance and coordinate 'opt in' opportunities for co-operative procurement of consultants for member jurisdictions necessary for implementing the new provincial housing legislation; and
  - c) Advance advocacy actions to the Province directed towards: infrastructure programs and funding to ensure that sufficient infrastructure is in place to accommodate the increases in population and housing projected; better alignment with Metro 2050; and stronger support for non-market and affordable housing.
- 

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In early November 2023, the Province of BC introduced legislation intended to stimulate the infill and intensification of housing in single-detached neighbourhoods and transit-oriented areas. Since the release of the new housing legislation, Metro Vancouver has been working with member jurisdictions and the Province at multiple levels to engage, support and receive feedback regarding the potential impacts of the legislation and regulations, as well as considering potential roles for Metro Vancouver in supporting the implementation in the region.

Engagement with, and continued advocacy to, the Province will be critical to mitigate the shared concerns that are being raised by local governments. While Metro Vancouver has an important role to play in helping to coordinate a regional response to the legislation, advocacy efforts will be multi-faceted, and will involve separate efforts from individual local governments and the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM). Feedback from across the region has highlighted three advocacy areas that would be relevant and appropriate for Metro Vancouver to advance to the Province: infrastructure investments; improved alignment with *Metro 2050*, the regional growth strategy; and greater support for non-market/affordable housing.

To support member jurisdictions in implementing the legislation and to make best use of resources, feedback was also sought on areas where Metro Vancouver is able to support its members. Considering that member jurisdictions are sensitive to infringement on local jurisdiction, staff have identified three balanced roles where Metro Vancouver could assist: Housings Needs Reports; co-operative procurement for consulting support; and regional modelling/mapping.

## **PURPOSE**

To provide the Mayors Committee and MVRD Board with an update on: a) the new provincial housing legislation, b) the feedback that Metro Vancouver has received through engagement with member jurisdictions, and c) recommendations for Metro Vancouver supportive actions including advocacy to the Province.

## **BACKGROUND**

At the Mayors Committee meeting on December 15, 2023, the Committee requested that Metro Vancouver host a special Council of Councils meeting focused on the provincial housing legislation. Further direction was provided to report back to the Committee and Board in early 2024 with options regarding: a coordinated regional response to the legislation changes; strategies to pursue regional advocacy; and the identification of supportive roles that Metro Vancouver can play to support member jurisdictions.

## **ENGAGEMENT/FEEDBACK**

Since the release of the provincial housing legislation in November 2023, Metro Vancouver has been working with member jurisdictions and the Province at multiple levels to share information, understand the implications, identify common themes and questions, and assist in coordinating a regional response. Given the strong interest from member jurisdictions, this issue has been the focus of discussions at meetings for the Regional Administrators Advisory Committee (RAAC), Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC), Regional Engineers Advisory Committee (REAC), Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (RTAC), and the Regional Finance Advisory Committee (RFAC).

Through this engagement, Metro Vancouver received a significant amount of feedback from member jurisdictions. The feedback has been mixed, but a number of common themes and issues have emerged from the engagement including concerns that:

- the timelines associated with the legislative changes are challenging, and will stretch the capacity of municipalities and the consulting sector in the region;
- the legislation will exasperate pre-existing deficiencies in provincial investments for new schools, health care and emergency services, utilities and public transit;
- the new development financing framework will not provide local governments with the adequate tools needed to fund community amenities;
- the legislation will have very different and potentially negative impacts on the delivery of housing for areas with substantial greenfield development areas; and
- local governments will not have the support to address the localized impacts on utilities and infrastructure that result.

This feedback provides guidance as to the roles Metro Vancouver could take in supporting member jurisdictions' implementation of the legislation.

**Council of Councils Meeting**

On February 3, 2024 Metro Vancouver hosted a Council of Councils meeting focused specifically on the new provincial housing legislation. The meeting was well attended with 118 elected officials from member jurisdictions participating in the session. The Minister of Housing, the Honourable Ravi Kahlon, also attended the meeting, which provided members an opportunity to directly engage with the Minister. A wide range of questions were raised but concerns regarding the impacts that increased growth pressures would have on infrastructure (utilities, transit, education, and health) was a central focus of many of the questions directed towards the Minister.

The meeting also provided an opportunity to gauge the general outlook elected officials in the region have regarding the new housing legislation. An online survey tool was used during the meeting to help capture the sentiments of the elected officials who attended the meeting. Below are the highlights of the results from the online survey:

Question #1: Which of the following statements best describe your view of the Provincial legislative changes? The Provincial legislative changes are:

(Participants were able to select more than one answer)

Rushed with many unresolved questions.	57%
A good starting point with more work needed.	47%
Unnecessarily infringing on the jurisdiction of local governments.	37%
Needed to meet historic housing demand.	33%
Positive change that will better link transportation and land use planning.	30%

Question #2: What are the most significant challenges for the region introduced by the new legislation?

(Participants ranked each option on a scale of 1-5, results show % of participants that ranked each option as either a 4 or a 5)

Funding and delivering public services (including health, education and public transportation) in tandem with development.	94%
Infrastructure planning and increased or unknown additional infrastructure costs.	86%
Reduced ability to leverage community amenities (including delivering non market housing) through development approval process.	80%
Lack of staffing capacity to achieve timelines mandated by provincial legislation.	75%
Unintended consequences from potential changes in the location and pattern of development.	58%
Potential misalignment with Regional Growth Strategy environmental targets including tree canopy cover.	45%
Potential for increased pace of growth beyond projections.	45%

Question #3: To support members in implementing the legislation and to make best use of resources Metro Vancouver should explore:

(Participants ranked each option on a scale of 1-5, results show % of participants that ranked each option as either a 4 or a 5)

Support joint procurement tools to reduce duplication of consulting services.	72%
Developing model bylaws, templates, and model guidelines which could be used or adopted by members to assist in implementation.	59%
Producing Housing Needs Reports regionally on behalf of all members.	51%
Creating and maintaining a shared regional model of OCP capacity and zoned capacity.	47%

**METRO 2050 ALIGNMENT**

Since the release of the legislation, Metro Vancouver staff have been working to analyze the impacts on *Metro 2050*, the regional growth strategy. Building a diverse and affordable housing stock is a key *Metro 2050* objective. There is general alignment between the intent of the legislation and the housing goals and shared regional vision outlined in *Metro 2050*. However, staff’s review and analysis has identified a number of concerns and gaps that have the potential to lead to misalignment between provincial policy and land use planning at the regional level. Below is a short summary of the most significant areas of concern that have been identified:

- Putting growth in the right places is a core guiding principle in *Metro 2050*. Spreading development more broadly by upzoning single-detached neighbourhoods (greenfield and infill) may make it more challenging for local governments to meet the shared regional transit-oriented intensification policies and Urban Centre/FTDA targets. Although the legislation requires that this development occur within the Urban Containment Boundary, many of the impacted single-detached neighbourhoods are located in greenfield locations and/or in outlying parts of the region, away from the major transit network. The blanket approach to increasing housing density in these locations could make these neighbourhoods more car dependent and increase congestion, and make it more difficult to meet the region’s greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. In these locations, the new legislation may also make it more difficult and costly to support the efficient provision of infrastructure. Spreading growth to outlying single-detached neighbourhoods in the region cannot be considered strategic infill.
- Significant regional coordination and consensus over the past four years has underpinned the development of the housing and transit-oriented development policies of *Metro 2050*. The new legislation has created Transit Oriented Areas (TOAs) which have not utilized or referenced the established regional spatial geography (e.g., Urban Centres, Frequent Transit Development Areas (FTDA), and Major Transit Growth Corridors). This new geography, based on 200, 400 and 800m concentric rings around rapid transit stations, will likely create unnecessary confusion in implementation and could potentially lead to a misalignment between provincial policy requirements and regional planning goals and targets. In many areas the growth concentration locations identified in *Metro 2050* are larger in area compared to TOAs, and better aligning these typologies could have resulted in more intensification of housing in transit-oriented locations in which regional consensus already exists. The failure to align the typologies of *Metro 2050* and the provincial legislation is a missed opportunity and may not contribute to focusing growth in all of the transit-oriented locations identified in *Metro 2050*.
- *Metro 2050* includes a regional target that at least 15 percent of new housing units be affordable rental within all Urban Centres and FTDA’s. Leveraging the development of affordable

housing units through new development with policies such as negotiated inclusionary zoning and density bonusing is one of the strongest tools local governments have to help achieve this regional target. The new development financing framework introduced by the province will reduce the ability of municipalities to leverage non-market/affordable housing units through new development. The new framework may also limit local government's ability to leverage stronger tenant relocation policies for those impacted by redevelopment, which is another important strategy included in *Metro 2050*. The Ministry of Housing has acknowledged this concern and have indicated that they would be bringing forward subsequent legislation in early 2024 to help address these issues.

- *Metro 2050* includes a new target to increase the regional tree canopy cover within the Urban Containment Boundary to 40 percent by the year 2050. Enhancing the urban tree canopy improves community resilience by intercepting rainwater, moderating the urban heat island effect, and improving health outcomes. As the region densifies it will become more challenging to not only expand the tree canopy cover but to retain the canopy that exists as well. The spreading out of ground-oriented growth through the intensification of single-detached neighbourhoods as allowed by the new legislation will likely make it more difficult to achieve the region's tree canopy policy direction and target.

## PROVINCIAL ADVOCACY

Engagement with member jurisdictions and elected officials since the introduction of the new legislation has led to a number of common concerns and regionally significant issues being identified. Although it is not anticipated that the provincial government will make any significant moves to step back from the new legislation, continued engagement and advocacy with the Province will be critical to mitigate the shared concerns and issues that are being raised by local governments in the region. While Metro Vancouver has an important role to play to help coordinate a regional response, advocacy efforts will be multi-faceted and will involve separate efforts from individual local governments and UBCM. Capturing concerns from local governments across the province, UBCM plans to advocate to the province on behalf of its members, guided by the feedback collected at the February 2024 Housing Summit held in Vancouver, and by the results of the delegate survey (Reference 1). Based on discussions and feedback from member jurisdictions, three advocacy areas have been identified that would be relevant and appropriate for Metro Vancouver to advance to the Province:

### 1) Infrastructure Investment

Local governments have long advocated for adequate, predictable long-term funding from the provincial and federal governments for critical infrastructure. Now, there are concerns that the new provincial legislation will exasperate the infrastructure challenges in the region.

It will be imperative that senior levels of government address how housing-enabling infrastructure will be funded to support current growth trends and targets. Metro Vancouver, in its capacity as a federation, can advocate for the provincial and federal governments to increase funding supports for local governments to address this growing demand on infrastructure. This would complement Metro Vancouver's Intergovernmental Relations Strategy, which seeks increased funding in support of Metro Vancouver's critical infrastructure projects.

## 2) Improved Alignment with Metro 2050

There are a number of concerns and noted gaps that have the potential to lead to misalignment between provincial policy and *Metro 2050*. Some of the regional targets set in *Metro 2050* may become more difficult to achieve following the implementation of the new provincial housing legislation. To address these issues, the following strategies and actions are proposed:

- At a staff level, continue to work with and engage provincial staff to work towards improved alignment over time between *Metro 2050* and provincial legislation.
- Make adjustments to Regional Planning projects (e.g., Urban Centres and FTDA Target Update, Parking Strategy, Regional Affordable Housing Strategy) to consider and mitigate impacts stemming from the legislation.
- If necessary, engage with the Board to develop additional strategies for political engagement.

## 3) Support for Non Market & Affordable Housing

The new provincial housing legislation is focused primarily on increasing the market supply of housing in the province. Increasing housing supply and building a diverse housing stock is important to help address the region's housing challenges. However, the legislation does not address the high need and lack of supply of non-market affordable, particularly rental housing in Metro Vancouver. Further provincial advocacy will be required to push for increased provincial investment in non-market housing and to ensure that local governments have the tools available to support the development of affordable housing in their communities. Metro Vancouver staff propose focusing these advocacy efforts in the following areas:

- **Enabling Inclusionary Zoning:** The new legislation reduces the tools available to municipalities to address critical community needs for affordable housing with the changes to development financing tools. The Province has indicated that it is exploring introducing new "inclusionary zoning" legislation. Metro Vancouver is currently preparing a model regional inclusionary zoning framework. The Province should be encouraged to proceed with enacting new legislation that enables inclusionary zoning and to work closely with the region to ensure that the legislation is well aligned with that framework.
- **Stronger Tenant Protections:** Increased development activity will result in an increase in existing tenants in older buildings being displaced as a result of redevelopment. Many municipalities have introduced policies to ensure tenants are provided with assistance in these circumstances. Pre-zoning, however, would remove the ability of local governments to require developers to provide tenant assistance beyond what is required under the *Residential Tenancy Act* (i.e., four month's notice and one month's rent). The *Residential Tenancy Act* should be reviewed to ensure appropriate compensation is provided to tenants who are displaced due to redevelopment.
- **Increased funding for Non-Market Affordable Housing:** The legislative changes may result in additional housing supply, but will not result in creating much needed affordable housing units. The Province should work closely with Metro Vancouver's member jurisdictions to ensure that collaborative strategies, and commensurate funding, are provided to meet the number of non-market units suggested under the Provincial Housing Target Orders.

## **SUPPORTIVE ROLES FOR METRO VANCOUVER**

To support member jurisdictions in implementing the legislation and to make best use of resources, Metro Vancouver has suggested some supportive roles the regional district could take on to support its members. These options have been discussed at both the staff and political levels. Feedback on these supportive roles has been mixed. While there is a general recognition that the legislation will stretch the capacity of local governments and support from Metro Vancouver would be welcomed, some member jurisdictions have expressed concern over an infringement on local jurisdiction. Considering this feedback, Metro Vancouver staff have identified three balanced roles where Metro Vancouver could assist member jurisdictions with implementing the new legislation:

### **1) Housing Needs Reports**

In April 2019, legislation took effect requiring that all local governments in BC prepare Housing Needs Reports (HNRs) describing their current and anticipated housing needs. The first report deadline was in April 2022. For the first round of provincially-required HNRs, Metro Vancouver provided assistance to member jurisdictions by collecting and issuing close to 50 distinct types of data required by the Province, and providing the information in a report format. This data report was used by member jurisdictions to inform the analysis of local housing needs in their communities. However, the significant variation in the methods used to estimate total housing need led to HNRs across the region not being consistent, or comparable regionally or provincially. As a result, and as part of the recently announced suite of legislative changes, the Province has indicated that local governments will be required to use a standardized methodology when completing HNRs going forward. The new methodology and instructions for HNRs is not yet available, however, based on the information released by the Province to date, it is expected that the interim HNRs that are required to be complete by January 1, 2025 will be a relatively straightforward data-driven exercise. Once the instructions are available, and should the update be framed as an objective and data-driven exercise, Metro Vancouver is well-positioned to support member jurisdictions by generating the reports on their behalf, similar to the supportive role that has been provided in the past.

### **2) Co-operative Procurement of Consultants**

To reduce the duplication and cost of consulting services associated with implementing the province's new requirements by individual local governments, Metro Vancouver can play a coordinating role in procurement for its member jurisdictions. In the past Metro Vancouver has similarly managed procurement that involves several member jurisdictions for some of its transportation corridor studies that cross jurisdiction boundaries. A similar approach could be applied in this case.

Any co-operative procurement would be voluntary only, and could be initiated by member jurisdiction Planning staff identifying for Metro Vancouver staff what implementation work they would be interested in partnering on with Metro Vancouver in terms of shared procurement. Co-operative procurement participation could range from a minimum of two interested member jurisdictions, to region-wide studies that involve all member jurisdictions. Each member jurisdiction would be expected to fund a respective portion of the total amount for each study based on scale and scope of the work; it is not intended that Metro Vancouver would contribute financially.

Local governments can use the recent grant they received from the Province's Local Government Housing Initiatives funding program towards such consulting services. The associated grant program scope and guidelines state: "Funding can be used for regional projects that cover two or more planning areas (i.e., municipalities, electoral areas, local trust areas). A municipality may contribute from its funding to a regional project if that municipality is a participant and the funding is dedicated for planning purposes".

### **3) Regional Modelling / Mapping**

The development of a new regional growth scenario to reflect the new housing legislation will be critical to better understanding the impacts that the new legislation will have on Metro Vancouver and its member jurisdictions. The Planning Analytics team at Metro Vancouver will be doing this work in support of regional utility and transit planning, but this data will likely be useful to member jurisdictions as well. Using the existing digital model, Metro Vancouver will be undertaking the following:

- Simulating the most plausible land use conversions between 2024 and 2050 as influenced by new provincial legislation;
- Estimating the number of newly generated units by type;
- Estimating the number of hectares that will be intensified by land use class;
- Comparing growth scenarios pre and post legislative changes in terms of the impacts on urban expansion, density, dwelling type diversification, etc.; and
- Building regional and municipal parcel-based maps based on multiple criteria, to determine the probability of intensification.

The results from these activities will be critical to supporting regional utility and transit planning, and will be shared with member jurisdictions for their further analysis and local infrastructure planning efforts once complete.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

1. That the MVRD Board:

- a) Direct staff to provide an 'opt in' opportunity for member jurisdictions for Metro Vancouver to undertake the Housing Needs Reports as per the provincial methodology and requirements;
- b) Direct staff to advance and coordinate 'opt in' opportunities for co-operative procurement of consultants for member jurisdictions in implementing the new provincial housing legislation; and
- c) Advocate to the Province for: infrastructure programs and funding to ensure that sufficient infrastructure is in place to accommodate the increases in population and housing projected; better alignment with Metro 2050; and stronger support for non-market and affordable housing.

2. That the Mayors Committee receive for information the report dated February 23, 2024 titled "Provincial Housing Legislation: Provincial Advocacy and Supportive Roles" and provide alternate direction to staff.



## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed actions and next steps listed in this report can be accommodated within the existing work plan and Board-approved budget for the Regional Planning and Housing Services and External Relations departments. If further advocacy actions or supportive roles are identified, Metro Vancouver staff would report back to the MVRD Board with any updated financial implications.

## **CONCLUSION**

Recently passed provincial housing legislation will result in significant and historic changes to the planning framework for British Columbia. Since the release of the new legislation, Metro Vancouver staff have been working with member jurisdictions at multiple levels to engage, support and receive feedback regarding the potential impacts. The impacts will be wide ranging and affect planning work at both the local and regional levels. Metro Vancouver is well positioned to help the federation develop a coordinated regional response and can play an important role to help support member jurisdictions with the changing planning landscape and new provincial requirements.

## **REFERENCES**

1. [Local Government Delegate Survey Results - 2024 UBCM Housing Summit \(ubcm.ca\)](https://ubcm.ca)