

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
INDIGENOUS RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

MEETING

Friday, October 11, 2024

9:00 am

28th Floor Committee room, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia

Webstream available at <https://www.metrovancover.org>

A G E N D A¹

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. October 11, 2024 Meeting Agenda

That the Indigenous Relations Committee adopt the agenda for its meeting scheduled for October 11, 2024 as circulated.

B. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

1. June 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes

That the Indigenous Relations Committee adopt the minutes of its meeting held June 5, 2024 as circulated.

C. DELEGATIONS

D. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

1. Kory Wilson, Executive Director Indigenous Initiatives, BCIT

Subject: The Indian Act: Various Perspectives and the Enduring Factors Behind Its Persistence

2. Jodie Foster, Regional District of Central Okanagan, and Lisa Pastro, Westbank First Nation

Subject: Inclusive Regional Governance at the Regional District of Central Okanagan

¹ Note: Recommendation is shown under each item, where applicable.

E. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

- 1. 2025 – 2029 Financial Overview** *pg. 7*
Verbal Update
Designated Speakers: Jerry W. Dobrovolny, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer and Harji Varn, Chief Finance Officer/General Manager, Financial Services
- 2. 2025 – 2029 Financial Plan – Indigenous Relations** *pg. 21*
That the Indigenous Relations Committee endorse the 2025 – 2029 Financial Plan for Indigenous Relations as presented in the report dated September 27, 2024, titled “2025 – 2029 Financial Plan – Indigenous Relations”, and forward it to the Metro Vancouver Board Budget Workshop on October 16, 2024 for consideration.
- 3. Solid Waste Management Plan Update Vision and Guiding Principles** *pg. 37*
That the Indigenous Relations Committee receive for information the report dated September 16, 2024 titled “Solid Waste Management Plan Update Vision and Guiding Principles.”
- 4. Quarterly Update Report on Reconciliation Activities** *pg. 66*
That the Indigenous Relations Committee receive for information the report dated October 1, 2024 titled “Quarterly Update Report on Reconciliation Activities.”
- 5. Manager’s Report** *pg. 70*
That the Indigenous Relations Committee receive for information the report dated October 1, 2024, titled “Manager’s Report.”

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 1. Invest Vancouver Economic Reconciliation Report - Forwarded to IRL Committee** *pg. 75*

G. OTHER BUSINESS

H. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

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

That the Indigenous Relations Committee close its meeting scheduled for October 11, 2024 pursuant to section 226 (1) (m) of the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* provisions as follows:

- 90 (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:
- (m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting.

I. ADJOURNMENT

That the Indigenous Relations Committee adjourn its meeting of October 11, 2024.

Membership:

Dhaliwal, Sav (C) – Burnaby

Ferguson, Steve (VC) – Langley Township

Albrecht, Paul – Langley City

Boyle, Christine – Vancouver

Cassidy, Laura – scə́wáθən məsteyəx^w
(Tsawwassen First Nation)

Dilworth, Diana – Port Moody

Elke, Tracy – Pitt Meadows

Hanson, Jim – North Vancouver District

Johnstone, Patrick – New Westminster

Loo, Alexa – Richmond

Mandewo, Trish – Coquitlam

Muri, Lisa – North Vancouver District

Ruimy, Dan – Maple Ridge

Non-Voting Members:

Lum, Jason – Observer

McMahon, Donna – Observer

Rainbow, Tony – Observer

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
INDIGENOUS RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) Indigenous Relations Committee held at 9:00 am on Wednesday, June 5, 2024 in the 28th Floor Committee Room, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair, Director Sav Dhaliwal, Burnaby
Vice Chair, Director Steve Ferguson, Langley Township*
Director Paul Albrecht, Langley City
Councillor Christine Boyle, Vancouver (arrived at 9:08 am)
Councillor Tracy Elke, Pitt Meadows
Councillor Jim Hanson, North Vancouver District
Director Patrick Johnstone, New Westminster
Councillor Alexa Loo, Richmond*
Councillor Trish Mandewo, Coquitlam (arrived at 9:05 am)
Director Lisa Muri, North Vancouver District
Director Dan Ruimy, Maple Ridge*

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Director Laura Cassidy, scəwáθən məsteyəx^w (Tsawwassen First Nation)
Councillor Diana Dilworth, Port Moody

*denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by the *Procedure Bylaw*

STAFF PRESENT:

Jessica Beverley, Corporate Solicitor/General Manager, Legal Services and Indigenous Relations
Rapinder Khaira, Legislative Services Coordinator, Board and Information Services
Lauren Farmer, Acting Program Manager, Indigenous Relations, Legal Services and Indigenous Relations

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. June 5, 2024 Meeting Agenda

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Indigenous Relations Committee adopt the agenda for its meeting scheduled for June 5, 2024 as circulated.

CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

1. April 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Indigenous Relations Committee adopt the minutes of its meeting held April 12, 2024 as circulated.

CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS

No items presented.

D. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

No items presented.

E. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Quarterly Update Report on Reconciliation Activities

Report dated May 25, 2024, from Lauren Farmer, Acting Program Manager, Indigenous Relations, Legal Services and Indigenous Relations, providing the Indigenous Relations Committee with a quarterly update on reconciliation activities.

9:05 am Councillor Mandewo arrived at the meeting.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Indigenous Relations Committee receive for information the report dated May 25, 2024 titled "Quarterly Update Report on Reconciliation Activities."

CARRIED

2. Manager's Report

Report dated May 25, 2024, from Jessica Beverley, Corporate Solicitor/General Manager, Legal Services and Indigenous Relations, providing the Indigenous Relations Committee with a summary of relevant provincial and national events and activities relating to First Nations.

9:08 am Councillor Boyle arrived at the meeting.

The committee expressed interest in hearing more details about the historic Haida Aboriginal title legislation that received royal assent in May 2024.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Indigenous Relations Committee receive for information the report dated May 25, 2024, titled "Manager's Report."

CARRIED

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

No items presented.

G. OTHER BUSINESS

No items presented.

H. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Indigenous Relations Committee close its meeting scheduled for June 5, 2024 pursuant to sections 226 (1)(g), (1)(i), (1)(m), and (2)(a) of the *Local Government Act* and section the *Community Charter* provisions as follows:

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

- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality;
- (i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- (m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting; and

90 (2) A part of a council meeting must be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to one or more of the following:

- (a) a request under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, if the council is designated as head of the local public body for the purposes of that Act in relation to the matter.

CARRIED

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Indigenous Relations Committee adjourn its meeting of June 5, 2024.

CARRIED

(Time: 9:14 am)

Rapinder Khaira,
Legislative Services Coordinator

Sav Dhaliwal,
Chair

68453114

To: Indigenous Relations Committee

From: Jerry Dobrovolny, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer
Harji Varn, General Manager, Financial Services/Chief Financial Officer

Date: October 4, 2024 Meeting Date: October 11, 2024

Subject: **2025 - 2029 Financial Plan Overview**

This presentation introduces a high-level overview of the Metro Vancouver 2025-2029 budget.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan Overview Presentation

70914711



Metro Vancouver Region

2025 – 2029 Financial Plan Overview

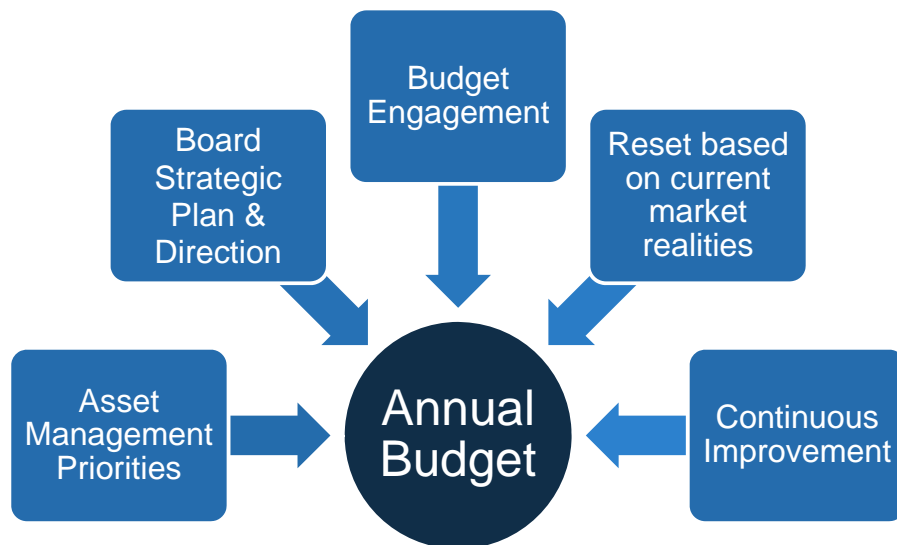
Jerry W. Dobrovolny, P. Eng, MBA
Commissioner / Chief Administrative Officer

Harji Varn
GM Financial Services / Chief Finance Officer

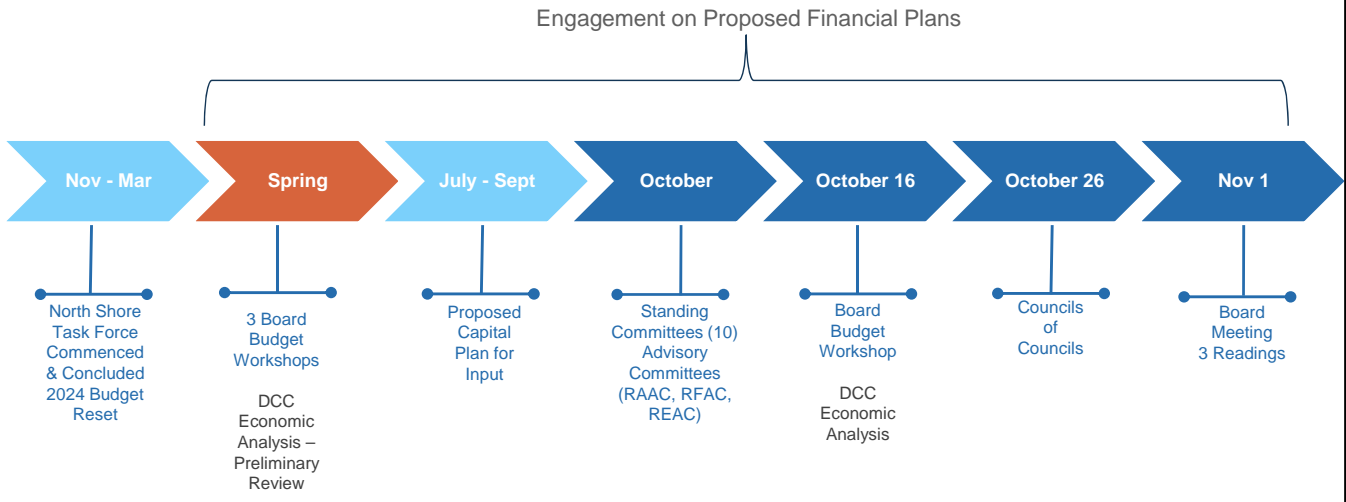


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METRO VANCOUVER BUDGET APPROACH



2025 BUDGET CYCLE TIMELINE



COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Public Engagement Period, July 31 – September 16

- 291,956+ budget video views
- 14 days at PNE (90,000 showcase visitors)
- 8,483 PNE budget game players
- 1,453 budget webpage visits
- 422 online survey responses
- 79 paper survey responses
- 36 promotional and educational posts on social



COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Overall Communications / Member Engagement

- Budget webpage with video
- Budget Overview one pager
- MetroUpdate newsletter article
- Live stream Committee and Board meetings
- Regional Advisory Committees
- Council of Council meetings
- Budget communications throughout the year

The screenshot displays the Metro Vancouver Budget 2024 Overview webpage. The page includes a 'Financial Plan Overview' section with text about Metro Vancouver's services and a '2024 Budget at a Glance' section with bullet points. A table titled 'Approximate average cost per household*' is also visible, showing costs for various services. Below the webpage, a video player is shown with the title 'About the budgeting process' and 'PUBLIC WORKSHOP'.

Service	Per Year	Per Month
Regional Planning	\$4	\$0.33
Air Quality Management	\$7	\$0.58
Regional Parks	\$60	\$5
Solid Waste Services	\$48	\$3.88
Liquid Waste Services	\$387	\$32.08

COMMITMENT TO CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

- Continue culture of continuous improvement
- Continue to Monitor financial performance
- Continue to utilize data to drive decision making
- Continue to seek alternative funding strategies/sources
- Continue with long range planning and procurement strategies for multi-year programs and project delivery



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT – 2024 COMPLETED OR ONGOING

Initiative	Outcomes
Cyber Resilience (CS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve cyber security and resilience to proactively mitigate the risks posed by evolving cyber security threats
Weigh Scale Software Upgrade Implementation (SWS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Range of new features: license plate readers, emailing bills, real-time customer feedback; system resilience.
Refined Environmental Management System (WS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised the review and approval process for regulatory reporting, which is freeing up time for our frontline, engineering, and legal teams

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT – 2025 NEW

Initiative	Outcomes
Waste-to Energy District Energy (SWS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 70,000 tonnes GHG per year emissions reduction.
Biosolids Hauling de-carbonization (LWS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trials of low-carbon hauling vehicles (battery electric vehicles and hydrogen electric vehicles) for short to medium haul routes.
Project Quality Management (PD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistent implementation of Project Quality Management and reduction of quality related risks. Efficiencies due to risk avoidance and streamlined processes.

MAJOR DRIVERS – CAPITAL PROGRAM

WHAT WE ARE DOING

- Long-term financial planning
- Cost estimating framework
- Reviewing scope and timing of over 300 projects
- Partnership funding

The image shows two overlapping spreadsheets. The top one is titled 'GREATER VANCOUVER WATER DISTRICT CAPITAL BUDGET AND 2024-2026 CAPITAL PLAN' and the bottom one is 'GREATER VANCOUVER SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE DISTRICT CAPITAL BUDGET AND 2024-2026 CAPITAL PLAN'. Both tables list various projects with columns for project name, location, start year, end year, and budget amounts.



Fleetwood Reservoir Roof slab



Annacis WWTP Digesters



Widgeon Marsh Development

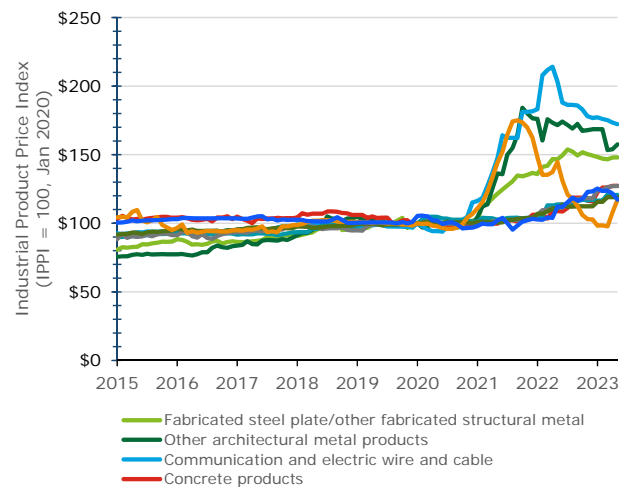


Central Surrey Recycling and Waste

MAJOR DRIVERS – INFLATION AND COST ESCALATION

WHAT WE ARE DOING

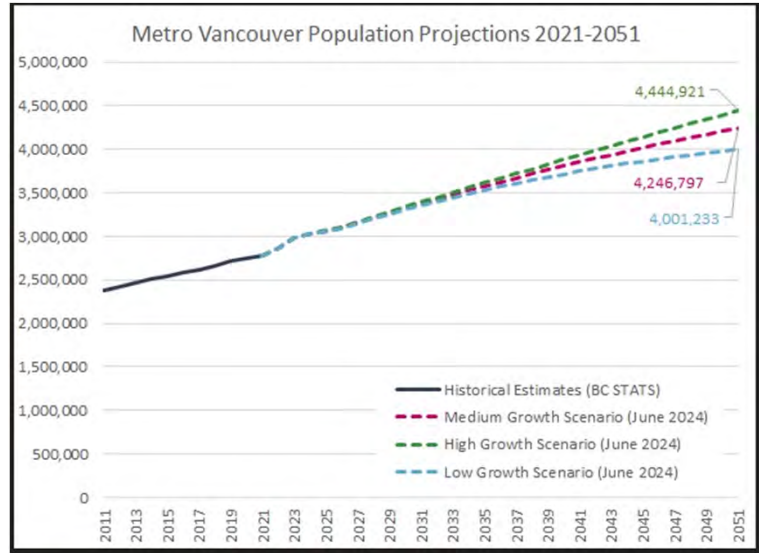
- Strengthening procurement strategies
- Examining revenue sources and partnerships
- Timing and scope of projects and programs



MAJOR DRIVERS - POPULATION GROWTH

WHAT WE ARE DOING

- Examining impacts to infrastructure
- Regular updates and review of DCCs
- Alignment with Province and member jurisdictions



MAJOR DRIVERS - CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESILIENCE

WHAT WE ARE DOING

- Infrastructure resilience
- Metro 2050 Policy
- Climate action strategies and programs



King tide in West Vancouver



Minnehada fire



Climate Literacy Program

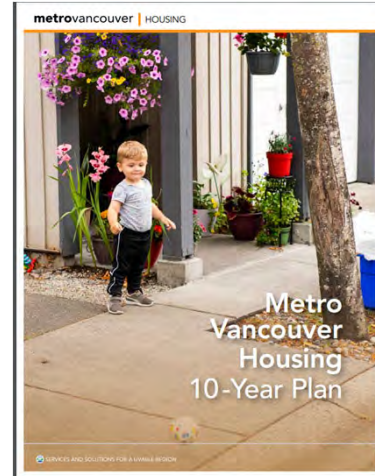


Smoky conditions in Metro Vancouver

MAJOR DRIVERS – BELOW MARKET RENTAL HOUSING

WHAT WE ARE DOING

- Metro Vancouver Housing development and renewal projects (2,100+ units underway)
- Partnerships with member jurisdictions, development community and others
- Historic funding agreement with Province; new federal program



APRIL 2023 BOARD BUDGET WORKSHOP DIRECTION

That the MVRD/MVHC/GVS&DD/GVWD Board at the April 19, 2023 Board Budget Workshop:

- a) *direct staff to proceed through the 2024 budget cycle with household impact targets as follows*
 - i. 2024 – 12%
 - ii. 2025 – 11%
 - iii. 2026 – 5%
 - iv. 2027 – 5%
- b) *direct staff to prepare the 2024–2028 Financial Plan with the following development cost charge (DCC) rate assumptions:*
 - i. *Liquid Waste Development Cost Charges moving to a 1% assist factor with interest as part of the 2024–2028 Financial Plan*
 - ii. *Water Development Cost Charges moving to a 1% assist factor with interest as part of the 2024–2028 Financial Plan; and*
 - iii. *Implementation of a Development Cost Charge for Regional Parks and move to a 1% assist factor within the 2024–2028 Financial Plan*

MARCH 2024 BOARD MEETING

- The DCC Bylaws received Provincial Inspector Approval in February 2024
- On March 22, 2024, the MVRD/ GVS&DD/ GVWD Board had 4th reading and final adoption of the 3 DCC Bylaws
- The DCC Bylaws have a 3-year phase-in January 1, 2025; January 1, 2026; and January 1, 2027

SPRING 2024 BOARD BUDGET WORKSHOPS DIRECTION

April 17 and May 17, 2024 Board Budget Workshops direction to staff was to continue with the direction from April 2023 which were to:

- Maintain the following HHI targets:
 - 2025 – 11%
 - 2026 – 5%
 - 2027 – 5%
 - 2028 – 5%
- Continue with Liquid Waste DCCs, Water DCCs, and Regional Parks DCCs to a 1% assist factor with interest as part of the financial plan

BOARD BUDGET WORKSHOP DIRECTION

May 2024 Board Budget Workshop Resolution

That the GVS&DD Board direct staff to prepare the 2025 Budget and 2025–2029 Financial Plan by allocating the \$2.8B required to complete the NSWWTP Program according to Option 3 from Table 6 in the report dated May 10, 2024, titled “2025 Budget and 5-Year Financial Plan Scenarios for Consideration.”

That the GVS&DD Board direct staff to prepare the 2025 Budget and 2025–2029 Financial Plan by allocating the \$2.8B required to complete the NSWWTP Program according to Option 4 from Table 7 in the report dated May 10, 2024, titled “2025 Budget and 5-Year Financial Plan Scenarios for Consideration.”

	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
VSA	+\$150	-	-	-	-
NSSA	+\$118	+\$118	+\$118	+\$118	+\$118
LIWSA	+\$80	-	-	-	-
FSA	+\$90	-	-	-	-

2025–2029 FINANCIAL PLAN OVERVIEW

2025 Budget – Bottom Line

11.0%	Prior Projection for 2025
\$88	Increase for the average household in 2025 (Water: \$14, Liquid Waste: \$69, Solid Waste: \$3, MVRD: \$2)
\$884	Average annual cost for all Metro Vancouver services
9.9%	Proposed 2025 Budget
\$79	Increase for the average household in 2025 (Water: \$11, Liquid Waste: \$63, Solid Waste: \$3, MVRD: \$2)
\$875	Average annual cost for all Metro Vancouver services

OVERALL AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD IMPACT 2025–2029

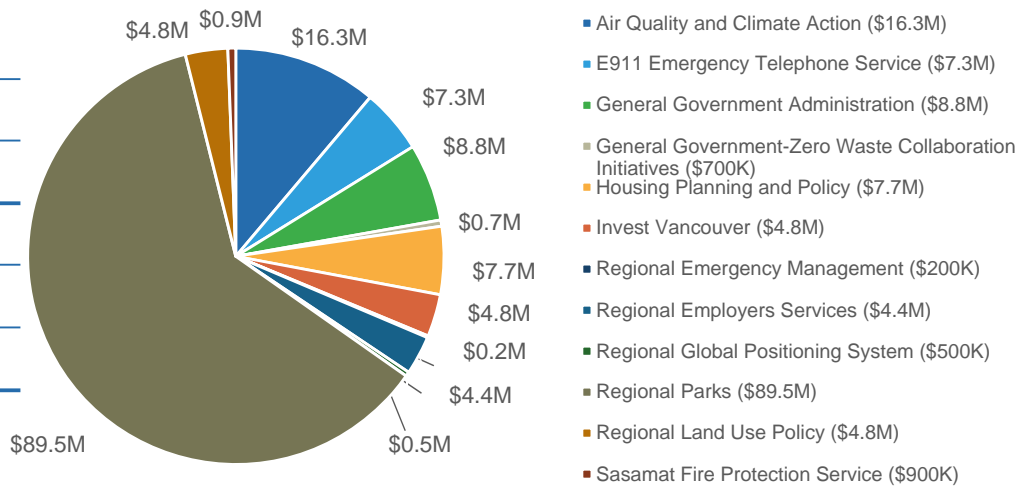
	2024	NSWWTP Amended	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Water Services	\$189	\$189	\$200	\$211	\$215	\$218	\$218
Liquid Waste Services	\$349	\$447	\$510	\$549	\$587	\$627	\$672
Solid Waste Services	\$68	\$68	\$71	\$74	\$78	\$82	\$86
Regional District Services	\$92	\$92	\$94	\$84	\$85	\$86	\$87
Total Household Impact	\$698	\$796	\$875	\$918	\$965	\$1,013	\$1,063
Prior Year Forecast - amended			\$884	\$933	\$981	\$1,033	

BUDGET OVERVIEW

2025 MVRD Budget

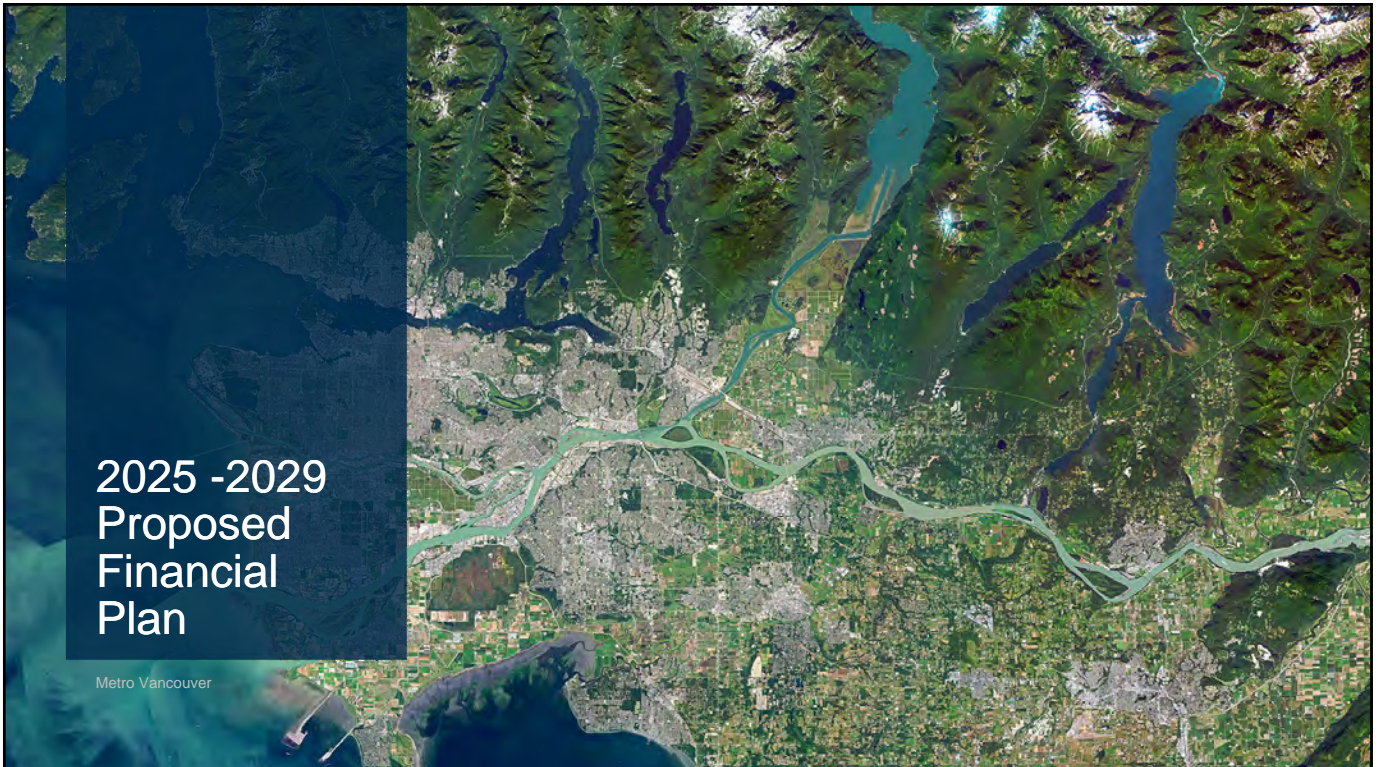
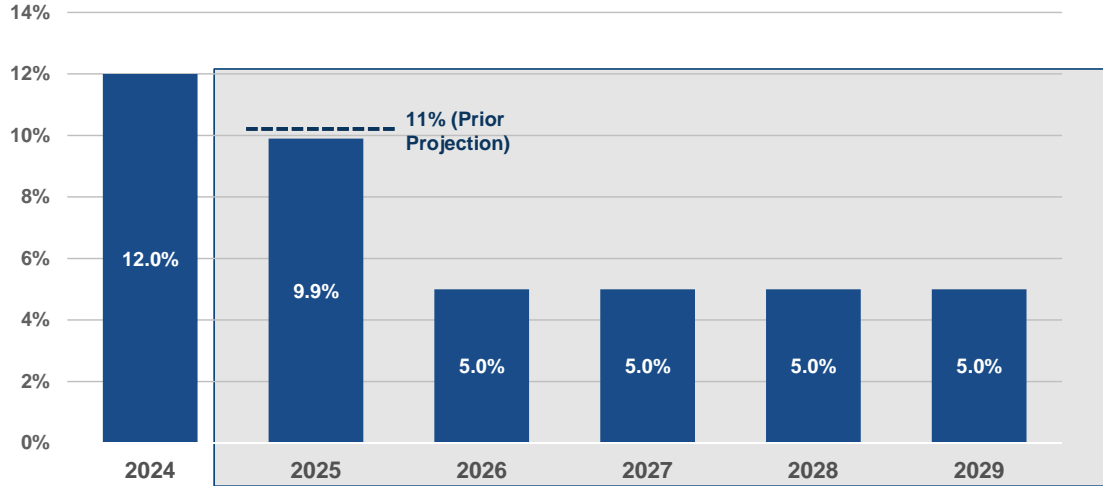
Revenues (millions)	
MVRD Requisition	\$117M
Transfer from Reserves	\$16M
Other Revenues	\$13M
Total	\$146M

Expenditure by Department



METRO VANCOUVER HOUSEHOLD IMPACT % CHANGE

Proposed 2025–2029 Financial Plan



METRO VANCOUVER OPERATING BUDGET

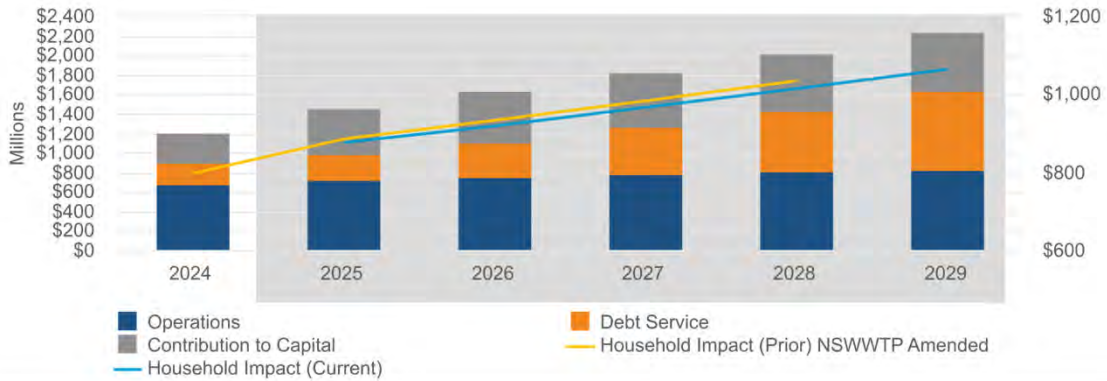
Expenditures

Overview:

- 2024 Operating Budget: \$1,216.0M
- 2025 Operating Budget: \$1,463.7M

Drivers:

- Operating Program is inflationary over the 5 years
- Funding capital program through debt service and contribution to capital in accordance with Board policy



METRO VANCOUVER OPERATING BUDGET

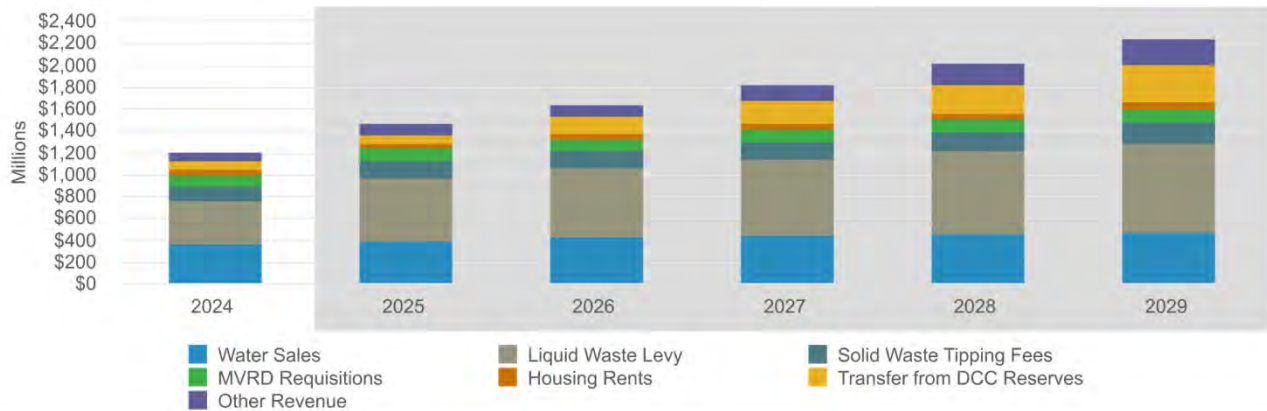
Revenues

Overview:

- Primary funding sources: water sales, sewer levy, tipping fees, rents, MVRD requisition
- Relative stability for primary sources

Drivers:

- Anticipated DCC revenues received and applied having downward pressure on HHI
- Continuously seeking partner funding for support



METRO VANCOUVER CAPITAL PLAN

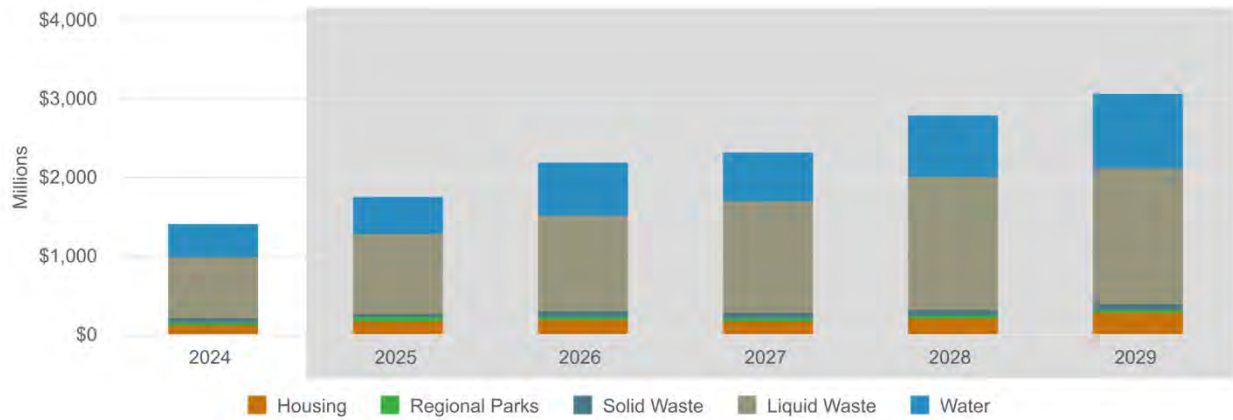
Expenditures

Overview:

- 2024 capital cash flow \$1.42B
- 2025 capital cash flow \$1.77B

Drivers:

- Continued activity on previously approved projects
- Regulatory upgrades and growth projects



Pacific Spirit Regional Park



Questions?

To: Indigenous Relations Committee

From: Jessica Beverley, General Manager, Legal Services and Indigenous Relations

Date: September 27, 2024 Meeting Date: October 11, 2024

Subject: **2025 – 2029 Financial Plan – Indigenous Relations**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Indigenous Relations Committee endorse the 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan for Indigenous Relations as presented in the report dated September 27, 2024, titled “2025 - 2029 Financial Plan – Indigenous Relations”, and forward it to the Metro Vancouver Board Budget Workshop on October 16, 2024 for consideration.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2025 - 2029 Metro Vancouver Financial Plan has been prepared following direction from the Financial Plan Task Force and from the Board at the Board Budget Workshops. The 2025 Budget has come under the household impact targets that were recommended by the Financial Plan Task Force and endorsed by the Board, which has resulted in an overall consolidated household impact for 2025 of 9.9%, down from the 11.0% projected for 2025 in the prior financial planning cycle.

In 2025, the operating budget for Indigenous Relations is proposed to increase by \$0.2 million for a total of \$2.1 million. The allocation to functional departments is also proposed to increase \$0.2 million for a total of \$1.6 million.

Indigenous Relations staff support Metro Vancouver’s continuing efforts to strengthen relationships with local First Nations, provide advice and support to project teams on First Nations engagement and issues, respond to pan-municipal First Nation issues, represent regional and local government interests at active treaty tables, lead or support government-to-government negotiations, and contribute valuable work towards reconciliation. There are significantly increased expectations (from the federal and provincial governments, from First Nations, and from the broader public) that Metro Vancouver is continuously taking concrete actions towards reconciliation with First Nations. This translates to increased workload within the program, as is demonstrated by the Indigenous Relations performance indicators.

PURPOSE

To present the 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan for Indigenous Relations for consideration by the Committee.

BACKGROUND

Metro Vancouver’s annual budget process includes the development of detailed annual budgets and the updating of five-year financial plans for each of the four Metro Vancouver legal entities (Metro Vancouver Regional District, Metro Vancouver Housing Corporation, Greater Vancouver Water District and Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District).

Three Board Budget Workshops were held in the spring with the objective to seek direction for the preparation of the 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan. This has resulted in a plan that maintains the goals and objectives of Metro Vancouver while minimizing the impact on ratepayers through evaluation and optimizing the capital and operating programs.

This report focuses on Metro Vancouver's Indigenous Relations program and presents the 2025 provisional annual budget and the updated five-year plan for the years 2025 to 2029 for Committee consideration.

INDIGENOUS RELATIONS PROGRAM

The Indigenous Relations program provides information, advice, and support to Metro Vancouver entities on First Nations' interests and issues, and analyzes how such First Nations' interests and issues may affect Metro Vancouver's programs, processes and projects. In 2024, Indigenous Relations staff responded to over 10,500 requests; the current trend for 2025 is 11,000 requests.

Indigenous Relations supports two committees: the Indigenous Relations Committee and a municipal staff advisory committee, the Municipal Technical Advisory Committee on Indigenous Relations (MTAC). The Indigenous Relations program also responds to pan-municipal First Nation issues and represents and supports Metro Vancouver local government interests at one active treaty negotiation table in the region as well as on provincial and federal issues.

Indigenous Relations supports the Board Strategic Plan as it relates to the strategic priority of Engagement, and the strategic direction of Fostering Collaboration and Engagement. Specifically, Indigenous Relations focuses on enhancing relationships between Metro Vancouver and other orders of government, First Nations, adjacent regional districts, and key stakeholders.

- Priority Action: Strengthen government-to-government relationships with First Nations by building trust through genuine collaboration, creating a mutually respectful space for meaningful dialogue and outcomes, and creating opportunities for Board-to-Nation relationships to thrive.

WORK PLAN PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

High level performance indicators have been developed across the organization to evaluate trends, determine key actions for the coming year, and to assist in long-term planning. The 2025 Work Plan for Indigenous Relations is presented in this report. Within the Indigenous Relations Work Plan, four performance indicators have been developed and are being tracked. These include:

- Number of bilateral meetings between Metro Vancouver and the area First Nations
- Total number of requests for information or advice related to First Nations and/or Indigenous Relations
- Number of sessions and attendees at Indigenous Relations training sessions
- Special Indigenous Relations events hosted by Metro Vancouver (e.g. Community to Community Forums, workshops, lunch and learns): Number of events and number of attendees

The upward trend in these performance measures (see Attachment 2) reflects the increased expectation that Metro Vancouver is taking concrete actions towards Reconciliation with First Nations.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENTS

Continuous improvements for 2024 have included:

- Creation of web-based and video-based modules for on-demand staff training purposes: Indigenous Relations staff is working with the External Relations Department to create video-based training modules for project managers, work crews and contractors.
- Continued identification and implementation of software to improve the productivity of the Indigenous Relations team, with the aim of managing workflows and workload more efficiently. Indigenous Relations staff is continuing to test various possible software in order to assist with the assigning and tracking of requests and performance indicators.
- Pursuing additional or different externally-facilitated course topics for Metro Vancouver staff training. Metro Vancouver has kept the course topics consistent over the past 5 years. With new and increased expectations on Metro Vancouver, it will be important to build on those earlier topics to continually enhance staff education and training.
- Reviewing Metro Vancouver’s existing policies, processes, and practices for identifying additional and better opportunities for engagement with First Nations in light of the Board’s commitment to reconciliation as well as First Nations’ expectations with respect to the provincial and federal Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Acts.

Continuous improvement initiatives for 2025 include:

- Updated First Nations Engagement Guidelines to guide staff to improve efficiencies, including a decision tree catered for each department’s use.
- Continuing to respond to the TRC Call to Action #57 on training for civil servants: better measuring the impact of training and making related improvements.
- Development of a Cultural Sensitivity training video, with Indigenous content providers. The video will be mandatory viewing/training for project managers, contractors and crews on Metro Vancouver project construction sites.

Key work for 2025 includes:

- Continuing to engage local First Nations on Relationship and Protocol Agreements.
- Co-creating an event with an area First Nation and the Board of Directors and the Indigenous Relations Committee that promotes mutual understanding and relationship-building.
- Operationalizing the Cultural Sensitivity training for crews and contractors working on Metro Vancouver projects.
- Completing a phase of the work on a web-based portal on the provision of electronic information on local First Nations, and continue to work on other phases, including processing project referrals and streamlining the First Nations engagement process.

2025 BUDGET AND 2025 - 2029 FINANCIAL PLAN

The five-year financial plans for this cycle have been updated to address five central priorities identified by the Metro Vancouver Board in its Strategic Plan to guide the development of plans and budgets. The five priorities are:

- Financial Sustainability and Regional Affordability
- Climate Action
- Resilient Services and Infrastructure
- Reconciliation
- Housing

Each Metro Vancouver function has an Annual Work Plan that includes strategic directions, performance indicators and key actions to guide the work for the coming year. Each function also has a “What’s Happening” summary that presents program highlights for the next five years.

The 2025 - 2029 Indigenous Relations Financial Plan is included as Attachment 1. The 2025 Annual Work Plan for Indigenous Relations presented in this report is included in Attachment 2 and the “What’s Happening” highlights for the years 2025 - 2029 are included in Attachment 3.

Operating Budget Highlights

The Indigenous Relations operating budget is proposed to increase by \$244,239 for a total budget of \$2,130,146 in 2025 (Attachment 1). This increase is a direct result of: a constantly changing and evolving Indigenous Relations landscape; increasing demands and expectations placed upon Metro Vancouver, including a recognized need to involve First Nations in the regional district’s plans, projects and initiatives; and increasing labour costs.

The 2025 operating budget includes the following key actions:

- Continue to support ongoing First Nation engagement efforts (including agreements) on major Metro Vancouver capital and construction projects such as North West Langley Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade, Iona Island Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade, Coquitlam Lake Water Supply Project, Coquitlam Main Water Project, and Widgeon Marsh Regional Park development.
- Respond to the increasing number of internal requests from Metro Vancouver staff including: the provision of advice on information sharing and engagement with First Nations; the identification of First Nation economic and procurement opportunities; archaeology; as well as the coordination of, and participation in, meetings with First Nations involving staff from across the Metro Vancouver organization.
- Continue to provide ongoing training sessions for Metro Vancouver staff on various Indigenous Relations issues, including corporate policy related to information sharing and engagement with First Nations, the Board’s procurement policy that includes economic opportunities and increased use of First Nations’ services (e.g. archaeological) on Metro Vancouver projects; chance find protocols and archaeology.
- Continue to work with the Human Resources Department to identify and contract external facilitators to provide Indigenous awareness training sessions on evolving topics in the field such as Cultural Safety and Humility, and Decolonization.

- Continue to organize Lunch and Learn sessions and other opportunities for Metro Vancouver staff, including Intranet articles, to learn more about local First Nations as well as issues related to Indigenous Peoples.
- Complete a phase of the work on a web-based portal on the provision of electronic information on local First Nations, and continue to work on other phases, including processing project referrals and streamlining the First Nations engagement process.

Over the five years, the operating program is increasing by a total of \$514,935, which represents an annual average of \$102,987 or 5.0% per year.

APPROVAL PROCESS

The proposed 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan and Annual Work Plan is presented for consideration and endorsement before being forwarded to the Board for consideration.

The next steps of the process are:

- The 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan and Annual Work Plan will be presented at the Metro Vancouver Board Budget Workshop on October 16, 2024.
- The Board will consider adoption of the 2025 Budget and endorsement of the 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan on November 1, 2024.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the Indigenous Relations Committee endorse the 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan for Indigenous Relations as presented in the report dated September 27, 2024, titled "2025 - 2029 Financial Plan – Indigenous Relations", and forward it to the Metro Vancouver Board Budget Workshop on October 16, 2024 for consideration.
2. That the Indigenous Relations Committee amend the 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan for Indigenous Relations as follows: _____; and forward the amended Financial Plan to the Metro Vancouver Board Budget Workshop on October 16, 2024 for consideration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

If the MVRD Board endorses the 2025 Budget and Five-year Financial Plan for Indigenous Relations, as presented under Alternative 1, the Program will be funded through the allocation of centralized support services. The 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan, if endorsed, will increase by \$514,935, or an average of \$102,987 (5.0%) per year. Indigenous Relations supports all Metro Vancouver entities and functions and its costs are allocated to those entities and functions through the centralized support allocation in accordance with the *Corporate Allocation Policy*.

Under Alternative 2, the Committee may wish to consider recommending amendments to the five-year financial plan for consideration at the Metro Vancouver Board Budget Workshop. Any changes to the plan may have an impact on the MVRD Financial Plan.

CONCLUSION

The 2025 Budget and Five-year Financial Plan for Indigenous Relations has been prepared following direction received at the May 31, 2024 Metro Vancouver Board Budget Workshop and to respond to direction provided in the *Board Strategic Plan* and supports the goals of Metro Vancouver's four

legal entities. It is presented to Committee and Board members to provide overview information on activities and financial impacts for the years 2025 to 2029 for Indigenous Relations.

The presentation of this year’s Five-Year Financial Plan for Indigenous Relations provides the opportunity for Metro Vancouver to share with its member jurisdictions the proposed program initiatives and the financial impact of these projects, over the next five years. The Financial Plan illustrates how Metro Vancouver proposes to pay for the Indigenous Relations program while addressing an increasing workload. Metro Vancouver’s Financial Plan is intended to be used as a guiding document for member jurisdictions in the development of their five-year financial plans and includes projections on household impact to demonstrate how the plan will remain affordable for Metro Vancouver residents while keeping pace with our critical requirements.

Indigenous Relations supports all Metro Vancouver entities and functions and the associated costs are allocated to those entities and functions as part of Centralized Support Services allocation in accordance with the *Corporate Allocation Policy*.

Staff recommend endorsing the 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan for Indigenous Relations as presented under alternative one.

Attachments:

1. 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan
2. 2025 Work Plan
3. 2025 - 2029 “What’s Happening”
4. Presentation re: 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan - Indigenous Relations

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**METRO VANCOUVER DISTRICTS
INDIGENOUS RELATIONS
2025 BUDGET REVIEW
2025 - 2029 FINANCIAL PLAN**

	2024 BUDGET	2025 BUDGET	% CHANGE	2026 FORECAST	% CHANGE	2027 FORECAST	% CHANGE	2028 FORECAST	% CHANGE	2029 FORECAST	% CHANGE
REVENUES											
Allocated to Functional Departments	\$ 1,379,080	\$ 1,605,033	16.4%	\$ 1,657,509	3.3%	\$ 1,705,453	2.9%	\$ 1,754,756	2.9%	\$ 1,805,601	2.9%
Transfer from Capital	506,827	525,113		541,851		559,104		576,873		595,241	
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>\$ 1,885,907</u>	<u>\$ 2,130,146</u>	13.0%	<u>\$ 2,199,360</u>	3.2%	<u>\$ 2,264,557</u>	3.0%	<u>\$ 2,331,629</u>	3.0%	<u>\$ 2,400,842</u>	3.0%
EXPENDITURES											
Operating Programs:											
Indigenous Relations	\$ 1,885,907	\$ 2,130,146		\$ 2,199,360		\$ 2,264,557		\$ 2,331,629		\$ 2,400,842	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 1,885,907</u>	<u>\$ 2,130,146</u>	13.0%	<u>\$ 2,199,360</u>	3.2%	<u>\$ 2,264,557</u>	3.0%	<u>\$ 2,331,629</u>	3.0%	<u>\$ 2,400,842</u>	3.0%

LEGAL SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS RELATIONS

Indigenous Relations

Description of Services

Indigenous Relations provides information, advice and support to Metro Vancouver on First Nations' interests and issues, and analyzes how such First Nations' interests and issues may affect corporate programs, processes and projects. Indigenous Relations also focuses on building relationships with First Nations. In addition, Indigenous Relations responds to pan-municipal First Nation issues and represents and supports Metro Vancouver local government interests at treaty negotiation tables as well as at provincial and federal venues.

Strategic Directions and High-Level Goals Supported

Board Strategic Plan, 2022-2026:

Reconciliation:

- Metro Vancouver will continue building and strengthening respectful and reciprocal relationships with local First Nations. Metro Vancouver will also continue to engage meaningfully with First Nations on plans, programs, and projects.

Priority Actions:

- Strengthen government-to-government relationships with First Nations by building trust through genuine collaboration, creating a mutually respectful space for meaningful dialogue and outcomes, and creating opportunities for Board-to-Nation relationships to thrive.

Performance Indicators

Indicator	Historical and/or Industry Benchmark	Current Performance	2025 Performance Objective
Number of meetings with First Nations	MV 3-year average (2021-2023) 102	Projected 2024: 166	180
Total requests for information, assistance, advice or guidance	MV 3-year average (2021-2023) 9,900	Projected 2024: 10,500	11,000
Number of Indigenous Relations training sessions / participants	MV 3-year average (2021-2023) 13 / 410	Projected 2024: 18 / 270	20 / 350
Number of special Indigenous Relations events/participants	MV 3-year average (2021-2023) 4 / 725	Projected 2024: 8 / 350	10 / 500

2025 Key Actions

- Continue to support ongoing First Nation engagement efforts (including agreements) on major Metro Vancouver capital and construction projects such as North West Langley Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade, Iona Island Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade, Coquitlam Lake Water Supply project, Coquitlam Main Water project, and Widgeon Marsh Regional Park development.
- Continue to respond to the increasing number of internal requests from Metro Vancouver staff including: the provision of advice on information sharing and engagement with First Nations; the identification of First Nation economic and procurement opportunities; archaeology; as well as the coordination of, and participation in, meetings with First Nations involving staff from across the Metro Vancouver organization.
- Complete second phase of the work on a web-based portal on the provision of electronic information on local First Nations, and continue to work on other phases, including processing project referrals and streamlining the First Nations engagement process.
- Co-host a Community to Community Forum with an area First Nation and the Board of Directors and the Indigenous Relations Committee that promotes mutual understanding and relationship-building.
- Operationalize Cultural Safety training via video for crews and contractors working on Metro Vancouver projects.
- Improve training sessions for Metro Vancouver staff on various Indigenous Relations issues, including developing guidelines related to information sharing and engagement with First Nations, the Board's procurement policy that includes economic opportunities and increased use of First Nations' services (e.g. archaeological) on Metro Vancouver projects; chance find protocols and archaeology; appropriate culture and protocol for First Nations meetings; and cultural safety.
- Work with Procurement and First Nations to develop a revised First Nations procurement policy.
- Continue to organize Lunch and Learn sessions and other opportunities for Metro Vancouver staff and elected officials to learn more about issues related to Indigenous Peoples.

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Indigenous Relations

2025 to 2029 – WHAT’S HAPPENING

Below is a summary of some of the significant initiatives to be undertaken by Indigenous Relations over the next 5 years.

Initiative	Description	Theme
2025 - 2029		
INDIGENOUS RELATIONS		
Regional Gatherings, Community to Community Forums, and/ or other Special Events	Events to be co-hosted by Metro Vancouver Indigenous Relations Committee and Metro Vancouver Board with local area First Nations.	Reconciliation
First Nations Engagement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete and implement an updated First Nations engagement approach; and 2. Track, analyze and make recommendations regarding Metro Vancouver’s evolving obligations as implementation of the provincial Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan progresses. Issues will include, but are not limited to, “advancing First Nations’ participation in regional district boards” and working on “initiatives to advance collaborative stewardship of the environment, land and resources.” 	Reconciliation
Policy Review and Development	Review of existing policies, processes and practices for improving opportunities for engagement with First Nations based on the Board’s commitment to Reconciliation and First Nations’ expectations.	Reconciliation
Project Data Portal	Completion of various phases of a web-based platform for sharing project information and engaging with First Nations.	Reconciliation
Archaeological Management	Collaborate with First Nations on a renewed Metro Vancouver approach and policy on archaeological management.	Reconciliation
Capital and Construction Projects	Support ongoing First Nation engagement efforts on Metro Vancouver capital and construction projects.	Reconciliation
Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory	Support First Nation engagement in the 5-year update of the sensitive ecosystem inventory for the region.	Reconciliation
Climate 2050	Support First Nation engagement and participation in the implementation of the Climate 2050 issue area roadmaps.	Reconciliation

Attachment 3

Liquid Waste Management Plan	Support First Nation engagement and participation in the plan update.	Reconciliation
Drinking Water Management Plan	Support First Nations engagement and participation in the plan update.	Reconciliation
Solid Waste Management Plan	Support First Nation engagement and participation in the plan update.	Reconciliation

Attachment 4




Artwork by ǵǵǵǵ (Katzie First Nation) artist Rain Pierre on the Golden Ears Pump Station, July 2023

2025 – 2029 FINANCIAL PLAN

INDIGENOUS RELATIONS

Jessica Beverley
General Manager, Legal Services & Indigenous Relations

Indigenous Relations Committee – October 11, 2024
68636942

Regional Gathering, 2023

INDIGENOUS RELATIONS OVERVIEW

Indigenous Relations over the next five years

- A time of rapid change and transition in British Columbia
- Expectations are growing fast; effects on the regulatory atmosphere
- The legal environment is in flux and unpredictable; building relationships is key

2

BOARD STRATEGIC PLAN

Indigenous Relations Priorities: Underlying the entire organization's work

Reconciliation:

“Continuing to build and strengthen respectful and reciprocal relationships with local First Nations....

Continue to engage meaningfully with First Nations on plans, programs, and projects”

Strategic Plan objectives include working with First Nations to:

- develop collaborative environmental and parks management initiatives; name/rename regional parks
- incorporate Indigenous knowledge into policies on ecosystem preservation, restoration and adaptation measures
- support the restoration of fish populations in water supply areas
- advance economic reconciliation and Indigenous prosperity

3

ACHIEVEMENTS

Highlights in FY 2024

- Co-hosted a Community to Community Forum with səilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation), on their traditional territory of Indian Arm
- Facilitated a cultural learning event in the ǰicəy First Nation longhouse for key Committees
- Produced a Cultural Safety training video with Indigenous trainers for MV contractors and staff
- Responded to ~10,000 queries from staff and First Nations
- Improving staff understanding of Indigenous issues to help them in their work
 - Revamped and expanded staff trainings
 - Provided new opportunities for staff to learn and understand Indigenous culture and protocol



temtəmix*ten/Belcarra Regional Park

4

PERFORMANCE METRICS

Indigenous Relations

Key Performance Indicator	2022	2023	2024 (Expected)	2025 (Expected)
Total Requests for Information and Advice Received	8000	9000	10,500	11,000
Indigenous Relations Training Sessions: Number and Participants	6 / 200	26 / 830	18 / 270	30 / 600
Special Indigenous Relations Events: Number and Participants	4 / 770	6 / 494	8 / 350	6 / 400

5

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT — ONGOING AND NEW

Allocated Programs – Indigenous Relations

Initiative	Outcomes
Updating Metro Vancouver's First Nations Engagement Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An updated First Nations Engagement Guidelines to guide staff will improve efficiencies, including a decision tree catered for each department's use
Developing a Referrals Portal for Metro Vancouver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved efficiency in sending and tracking referrals to First Nations
Rolling out an Indigenous Cultural Sensitivity Training Video for MV crews and contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create a more inclusive and respectful environment when working with Indigenous monitors/technicians on construction sites

6

OPERATING EXPENDITURES

Indigenous Relations Financial Plan

Overview:

2024 Operating Budget: **\$1.9M**

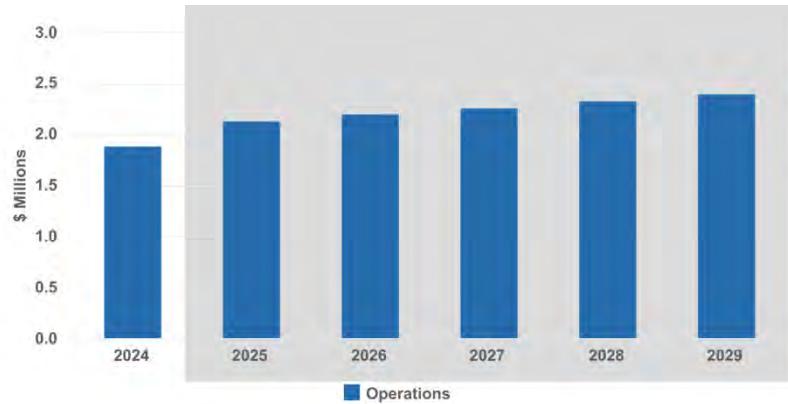
2025 Operating Budget: **\$2.1M**

13.0% increase

Drivers for Change:

- Increasing regulatory expectations for deep engagement with First Nations before issuing permits/approvals
- Increasing number and complexity of staff and First Nations queries

2025 – 2029 Indigenous Relations Program Financial Plan



OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS

Allocated Programs 2025 – 2029: Indigenous Relations

Budget Year	Initiative	Description
2025	Training Modules	Develop video modules for training Metro Vancouver staff on archaeological and chance find protocols.
2025 - 2029	Regional Gatherings and Community to Community Forums	Co-host annual forums with First Nation(s) for members of the Board and Indigenous Relations Committee with leaders of area First Nations.
2025 - 2029	Increased Engagement with First Nations	Continued discussions with local First Nations on meaningful engagement regarding capital and infrastructure projects, management plans and road maps.
2025- 2029	First Nations and Regional Governance	Liaise with provincial and federal governments, on DRIPA and UNDA respectively, about increasing Indigenous involvement in regional governance and decision-making opportunities.

INDIGENOUS RELATIONS FINANCIAL PLAN SUMMARY

Indigenous Relations 2025 - 2029

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Total Expenditures (\$ Millions)	\$1.9	\$2.1	\$2.2	\$2.3	\$2.3	\$2.4
% Change		13.0%	3.2%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Allocated to Functional Departments (\$ Millions)	\$1.4	\$1.6	\$1.7	\$1.7	\$1.8	\$1.8
Transfer from Capital (\$ Millions)	\$0.5	\$0.5	\$0.5	\$0.6	\$0.6	\$0.6
% Change		3.6%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%

TOGETHER
WE MAKE OUR REGION
STRONG

Questions?

metrovancover

10

To: Indigenous Relations Committee

From: Stephanie Liu, Program Manager, Community Engagement, Solid Waste Services

Date: September 16, 2024 Meeting Date: October 11, 2024

Subject: **Solid Waste Management Plan Update Vision and Guiding Principles**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Indigenous Relations Committee receive for information the report dated September 16, 2024, titled “Solid Waste Management Plan Update Vision and Guiding Principles”.

At its June 28, 2024 meeting, the GVS&DD Board approved the recommendation in the attached Zero Waste Committee report dated June 6, 2024, titled “Solid Waste Management Plan Vision and Guiding Principles”.

The report is now being provided to the Indigenous Relations Committee at its October 11, 2024 meeting, to highlight First Nations engagement on the solid waste management plan update across multiple phases. This work is still ongoing and Metro Vancouver is committed to providing opportunities for meaningful engagement during all project phases. Metro Vancouver recognizes that the solid waste management plan update presents an opportunity to advance collaboration and reconciliation, as well as strengthen relationships with First Nations.

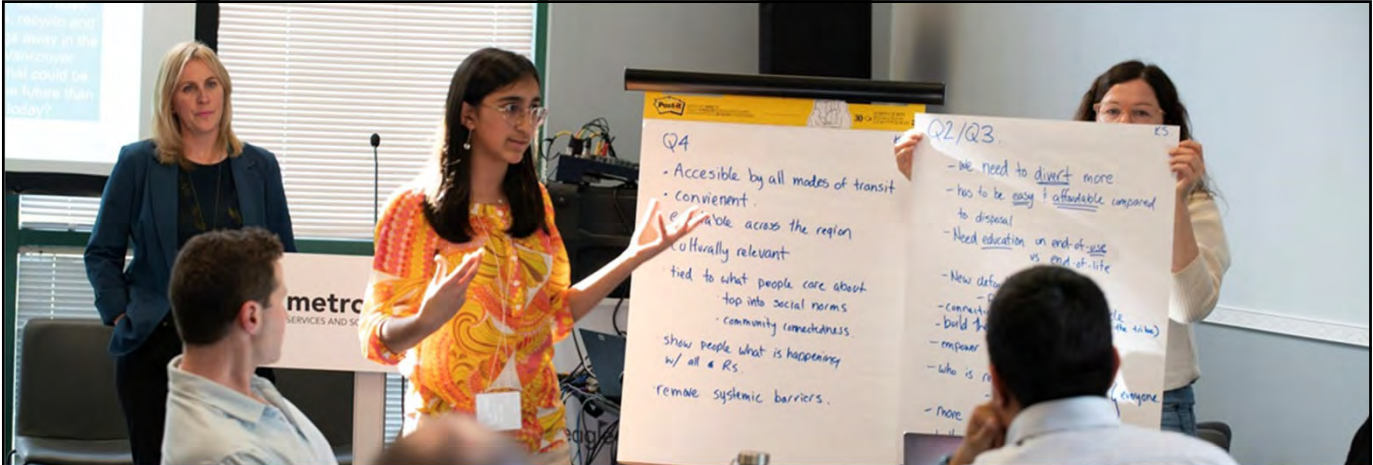
In 2023, Metro Vancouver sent letters to local First Nations and First Nations located outside Metro Vancouver with interests in the region, as well as the Métis Nation of BC, describing engagement opportunities during the vision and guiding principles phase of engagement. Subsequently, Metro Vancouver met with representatives from seven local First Nations, and received feedback to help identify and understand their priorities related to waste management in their communities, and to explore opportunities to work together to advance waste reduction.

Metro Vancouver is currently engaging with First Nations on idea generation for the solid waste management plan update, and will continue to engage during subsequent phases.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Presentation re: Solid Waste Management Plan Update Vision and Guiding Principles
2. “Solid Waste Management Plan Update Vision and Guiding Principles”, dated June 6, 2024.

70672627



Vision and Guiding Principles Workshop

Solid Waste Management Plan Update

VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES REPORT BACK

Stephanie Liu

Program Manager, Solid Waste Community Engagement

Indigenous Relations Committee, October 11, 2024

metrovancouver

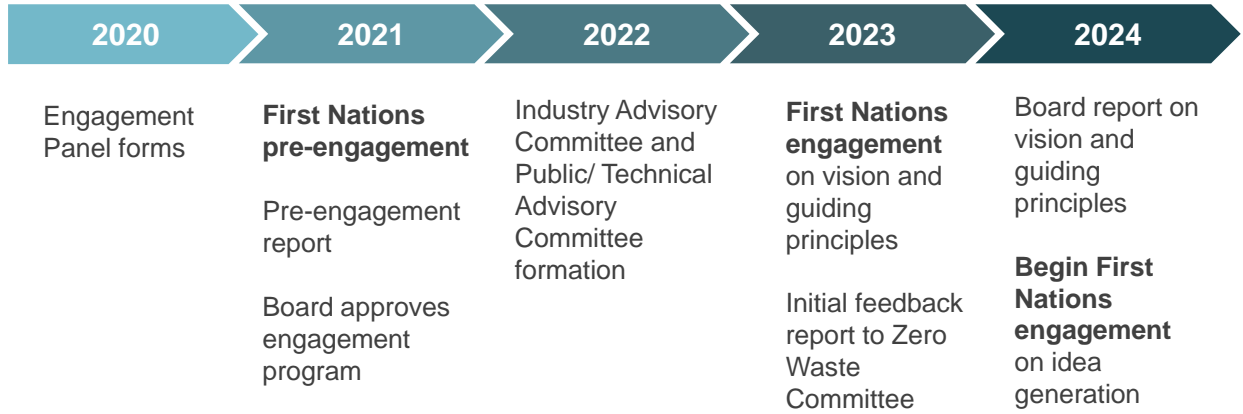
PLAN TIMELINE



we are here

metrovancouver

DETAILED TIMELINE



VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES ENGAGEMENT

Timeline



FIRST NATIONS OUTREACH ON VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

February 2023



Letters describing project and offering engagement opportunities



Local First Nations and First Nations Located Outside of Region



March – May 2023



Held information sessions for feedback



7 Local First Nations participating



VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

“A thriving region where nothing is wasted and resources are valued.”



Accountability from residents, businesses, and governments to prevent waste.



A solid waste system that is resilient to climate change and future challenges.



A solid waste and recycling system that is affordable, convenient, and consistent across the region.



Environmental stewardship and climate action.



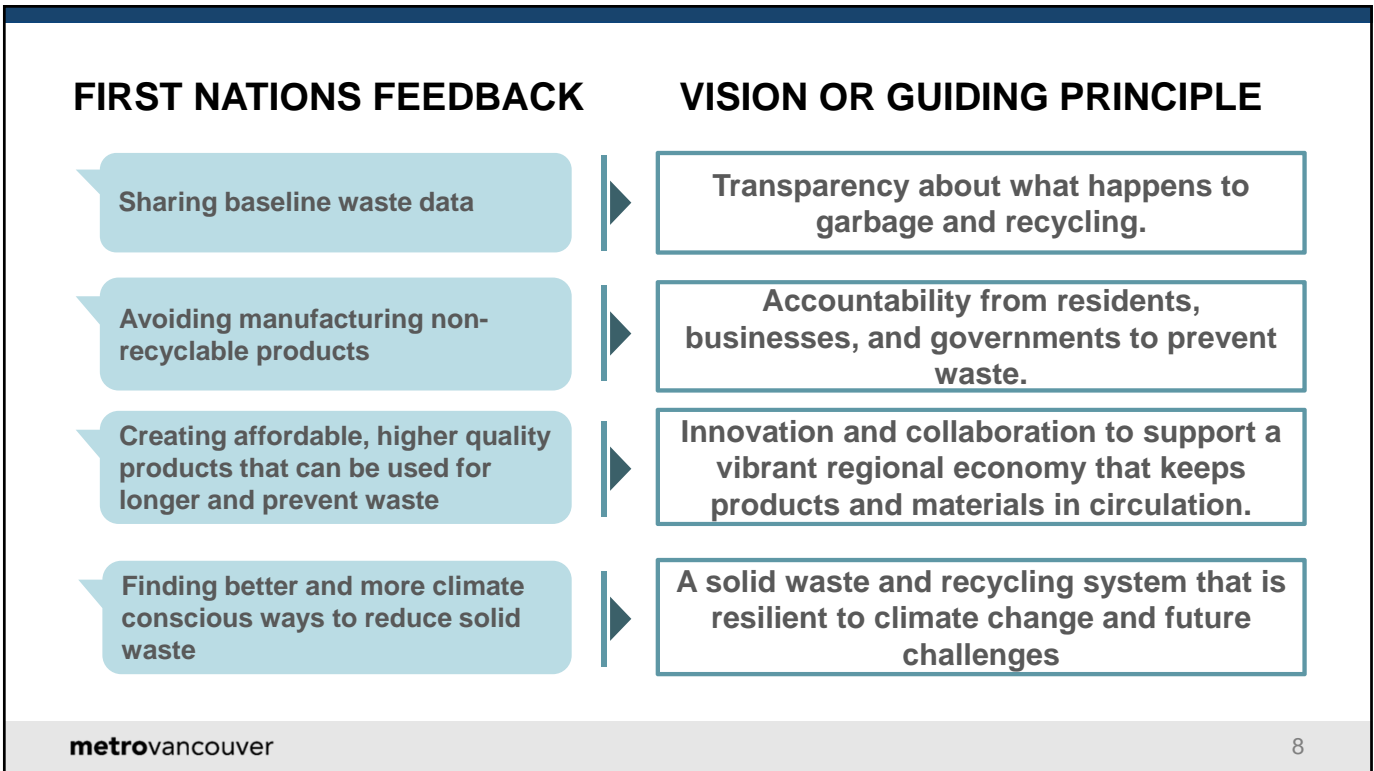
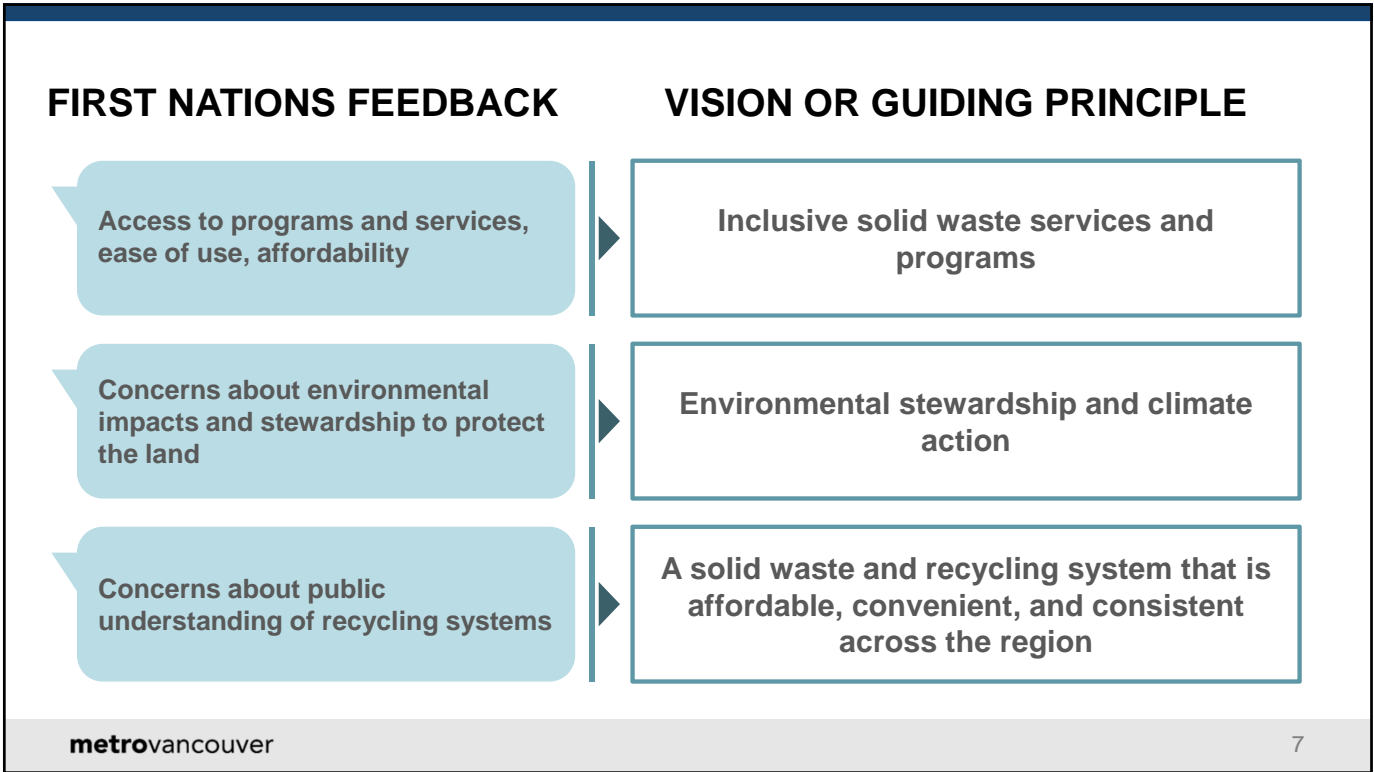
Inclusive solid waste services and programs.



Innovation and collaboration to support a vibrant regional economy that keeps products and materials in circulation.



Transparency about what happens to waste and recycling.



IDEA GENERATION

- Develop a set of potential actions and strategies to include in an updated plan
- Updated goals
- Next phase: options analysis

IDEA GENERATION ENGAGEMENT

Timeline



APPROACH FOR IDEA GENERATION

Focus areas	Provide a framework for prompting discussions on idea generation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus area questions based on themes heard in previous phase
First Nations	Provide feedback on chosen focus area(s) for discussion
Key solid waste advisory committees	Work through chosen focus area(s) for discussion
Public engagement and collaborative engagement organizations	Online questionnaire and work through chosen focus area(s) for discussion



Vancouver Skyline

Questions?

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12

To: Zero Waste Committee

From: Stephanie Liu, Program Manager, Solid Waste Services

Date: June 6, 2024 Meeting Date: June 13, 2024

Subject: **Solid Waste Management Plan Vision and Guiding Principles**

RECOMMENDATION

That the GVS&DD Board approve the vision and guiding principles for an updated regional solid waste management plan as presented in the report dated June 6, 2024, titled “Solid Waste Management Plan Vision and Guiding Principles”.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Metro Vancouver is developing an updated solid waste management plan, building on the strengths of the current plan, and identifying opportunities for accelerating waste reduction and recycling, reducing greenhouse gas emission, and promoting a circular economy. In 2023, Metro Vancouver conducted engagement on key values and priorities to include in the draft vision and guiding principles for an updated solid waste management plan. Engagement was implemented with advice from a panel of engagement experts to support Metro Vancouver’s commitment to robust and inclusive engagement processes. The vision and guiding principles, included as attachment 1, will inform criteria used to evaluate potential strategies and actions in subsequent phases of the plan update process, and encompass key themes such as collaboration, accountability, transparency, accessibility, innovation, affordability, waste prevention, and climate action.

Building on the feedback received during the vision and guiding principles phase, staff also developed key discussion questions to explore in the next phase of engagement: idea generation.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the GVS&DD Board on the draft vision and guiding principles for an updated solid waste management plan, to provide an overview of engagement feedback received during the vision and guiding principles phase, and to provide information on planning that is underway for the next phase of engagement: idea generation.

BACKGROUND

In November of 2019 the GVS&DD Board (Board) authorized initiating an update of the regional solid waste management plan. Subsequently, a Solid Waste Management Plan Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel (Engagement Panel) was formed to provide third-party expert advice on the development of a comprehensive and inclusive engagement process. Pre-engagement was completed in 2021 to receive feedback on how audiences wanted to be involved moving forward, and the Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee and Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee were formed in 2022.

Engagement on vision and guiding principles began in early 2023, and on July 13, 2023 the Zero Waste Committee received for information a report outlining initial feedback from First Nations, member jurisdictions, adjacent regional district staff, and advisory committees. The themes emerging from that early engagement became a basis for public engagement in fall 2023.

The following timeline shows the overall engagement phases of the solid waste management plan update:



A detailed timeline showing the solid waste management plan update process and reporting to date is included as attachment 2.

VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The vision and guiding principles set the plan foundation and direction, and reflect fundamental values to guide plan development and implementation. The vision and guiding principles will form a key component of an updated solid waste management plan, and will inform criteria used to evaluate potential actions and strategies for the plan.

During this phase of engagement, the vision was defined as a statement to describe the desired future state, and the guiding principles were described as values to guide decision-making. Staff sought feedback on what is important to audiences in terms of design, purchase, use, reuse, repurpose, recycle, and disposal in Metro Vancouver, and what could be better in the future. Audiences provided input on their values, interests, and priorities as they relate to solid waste, and identified priority waste reduction, recycling, and garbage disposal topics to be considered. This feedback contributed to the development of the vision and guiding principles presented below, and will help inform subsequent phases of engagement including idea generation and options analysis.

Vision: A thriving region where nothing is wasted and resources are valued.

Guiding Principles:

- 1. Accountability from residents, businesses and governments to prevent waste.*
- 2. Transparency about what happens to garbage and recycling.*
- 3. A solid waste system that is resilient to climate change and future challenges.*
- 4. Inclusive solid waste services and programs.*
- 5. Innovation and collaboration to support a vibrant regional economy that keeps products and materials in circulation.*
- 6. Environmental stewardship and climate action.*
- 7. A solid waste and recycling system that is affordable, convenient, and consistent across the region.*

Engagement Process

First Nations, Regional Districts, and Member Jurisdictions

Metro Vancouver began engagement on the vision and guiding principles by sending letters to First Nations, member jurisdiction mayors and councils, and adjacent regional district boards (Fraser Valley Regional District, Sunshine Coast Regional District, and Squamish-Lillooet Regional District) to describe this phase and invite participation.

In spring 2023, Metro Vancouver engaged First Nations, member jurisdictions, adjacent regional district staff, the Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee, and the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee to seek feedback on the vision and guiding principles. Member jurisdiction staff from the Regional Engineers Advisory Committee Solid Waste Sub-Committee and the Municipal Waste Reduction Coordinators' Committee participated in a workshop, and the Regional Engineers Advisory Committee was also invited. Adjacent regional district staff from the Fraser Valley Regional District, Sunshine Coast Regional District, Squamish-Lillooet Regional District, and Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen participated in a joint meeting to discuss solid waste values and priorities.

Metro Vancouver also received feedback from Zero Waste Committee and Climate Action Committee members during this early engagement period. Feedback from a series of meetings and workshops was presented to the Zero Waste Committee in July 2023, and the key themes from this early engagement with committees helped to inform the approach for subsequent engagement with the public in the fall.

Public

In fall 2023, staff engaged the public through various channels including an online questionnaire, workshops, and community events. Engagement was promoted through an e-blast, newspaper advertisements, postcards distributed at regional solid waste facilities, and social media posts. Metro Vancouver received 484 responses to the online questionnaire and engaged 831 residents at community events.

Collaborative Engagement

During the vision and guiding principles phase of engagement, Metro Vancouver introduced the Collaborative Engagement initiative, offering funding and support to not-for-profit organizations to conduct engagement with their members or networks. The goal of this initiative was to hear from audiences and organizations who otherwise may not be aware of or have access to opportunities to provide input to Metro Vancouver. This includes organizations that represent underrepresented or equity-denied communities, youth, seniors, urban Indigenous people, and environmental groups.

Metro Vancouver worked with 14 not-for-profit organizations to deliver engagement activities including workshops (virtual and in-person), in-person and online surveys, focus groups, interviews, email newsletters, pop-up public booths, lunch and learns, and social media promotion. Through collaborative engagement, 869 residents were engaged, including 736 through survey responses and 133 through other engagement activities. Metro Vancouver plans to build on the success of the collaborative engagement program in subsequent phases of the solid waste management plan update.

First Nations Engagement

The solid waste management plan update presents an opportunity for Metro Vancouver to advance collaboration and reconciliation, as well as strengthen relationships with First Nations. Metro Vancouver recognizes that creating a solid waste management plan that reflects Indigenous knowledge, interests, values, and priorities will make a stronger plan for everyone.

Metro Vancouver sent letters to local First Nations and First Nations located outside Metro Vancouver with interests in the region and Métis Nation of BC. From March to May 2023 Metro Vancouver met with representatives from seven local First Nations and received feedback to help identify and understand their priorities related to waste management in their communities, and to explore opportunities to work together to advance waste reduction.

Local First Nations were provided a draft of the vision and guiding principles in spring 2024, with an invitation to comment prior to the draft being provided to the Zero Waste Committee and Board for consideration. The feedback deadline was May 6, 2024 and no additional feedback was provided.

Engagement Feedback

Feedback shared during the vision and guiding principles phase of engagement across all methods and audiences was recorded, analyzed, and summarized. Several priorities emerged through the analysis, including:

- Climate considerations and environmental stewardship
- Community engagement
- Convenience, consistency, and accessibility
- Economic considerations
- Empowerment, education, and awareness
- Individual, corporate, and government accountability
- Innovation, technology, and infrastructure
- Transparency and collaboration
- Waste reduction and prevention

More details on the nature of feedback provided under the categories above are presented in the engagement summary report (Reference 1). In addition, a comprehensive feedback log is included as reference 2.

Development of Draft Vision and Guiding Principles and Additional Feedback

Engagement feedback in 2023 helped inform an initial draft of the vision statement and guiding principles. This draft was circulated for review to local First Nations, member jurisdiction staff (via the Regional Engineers Advisory Committee Solid Waste Sub-Committee and the Regional Waste Reduction Coordinators' Committee), the Solid Waste Management Plan Public/Technical Advisory Committee, and the Solid Waste and Recycling Industry Advisory Committee. This additional feedback informed revisions to the draft vision and guiding principles:

- No additional feedback was provided by First Nations. One First Nation indicated they had reviewed the draft but had no comments at this time.
- Additional feedback from the Public/Technical Advisory Committee and Industry Advisory Committee informed adjustments to the draft vision and guiding principles.

- Member jurisdiction staff provided positive feedback on the draft vision and guiding principles, while emphasizing collaboration as a key means to move towards regional consistency in the delivery of solid waste programs and services.

Attachment 3 demonstrates how engagement feedback in 2023 directly shaped the initial draft vision and guiding principles, and how the draft was revised following additional feedback from advisory committees. In addition to revisions addressing specific feedback, the draft guiding principles were revised to simplify the language and ensure the principles describe values rather than actions.

Additional Inputs

In addition to engagement feedback, Metro Vancouver reviewed themes from the Board Strategic Plan, the principles within other Metro Vancouver long-range regional management plans, and principles outlined in the provincial *A Guide to Solid Waste Management Planning*. The priorities in the Board Strategic Plan guide all work within the Solid Waste Services department and other Metro Vancouver departments. The provincial *Guide to Solid Waste Management Planning* contains eight guiding principles to inform the development of regional solid waste management plans. Locally developed principles should be consistent with the provincial principles.

Solid Waste Management Plan Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel

Metro Vancouver receives guidance on the development and implementation of the solid waste management plan update engagement program from the Solid Waste Management Plan Independent Consultation and Engagement Panel (Engagement Panel) – an independent, third-party panel including: Andrea Reimer (Chair), Cheryl Brooks, Peter Fassbender, and Veronika Bylicki. Sarah Kirby-Yung, Metro Vancouver Board Director and Chair of the Zero Waste Committee, serves as the Zero Waste Committee liaison on the Engagement Panel. In addition to providing advice and guidance throughout the engagement planning and implementation processes, the public was invited to meet with and provide presentations to the Engagement Panel in December 2023, offering an opportunity to provide feedback on the engagement process itself. Seven individuals presented to the Engagement Panel. Presentation topics included:

- Diverting construction and development waste at the source, including house moving as an alternative to demolition
- Food waste reduction opportunities and associated greenhouse gas emission reduction
- Improving accessibility of engagement opportunities and materials, and promoting collaboration and opportunities for smaller organizations to be involved
- The importance of consistent definitions, including zero waste and the waste hierarchy
- Prioritizing waste prevention over waste-to-energy
- Importance of meaningful engagement that has real impact

Below is a message provided directly by the Engagement Panel:

The Panel appreciates the opportunity to provide our reflections and observations on the most recent phase of work completed by staff on the solid waste management plan. In our opinion, the Vision and Guiding Principles that are being proposed are the result of effective and robust engagement that meets key tests established in the pre-engagement. These include:

- *transparency of both the process and the information that staff are using to inform the process,*
- *provision of multiple engagement avenues to allow participants to "right-size" their participation, and*
- *persistent innovation in reaching those that have not traditionally had effective pathways for participation, including First Nations and equity-denied groups.*

On the last point, there were some great successes this round including significantly increased engagement with local First Nations, the Collaborative Engagement work, and the supports to equity-deserving groups which resulted in greater diversity on the Public/Technical Advisory Committee.

Overall, the Panel feels that the focus in the areas outlined in the bullet points has created a Vision and Guiding Principles that meet a greater range of needs and interests and that will have positive impacts in the solid waste management plan.

However, there continue to be challenges. Building relationships with local First Nations and Indigenous-serving organizations to create the conditions for meaningful engagement takes time and we would encourage staff to continue their work in this area. We would also note that several major waste generating sectors (i.e. tourism, hospitality) are still not engaged at the level that will be needed for members of these sectors to see their experiences and needs reflected in the final solid waste management plan. Continued efforts to find ways to engage them will be needed.

Idea Generation Engagement

The idea generation phase of the solid waste management plan update will focus on hearing from interested parties about potential actions that can be included in the plan. This process will be guided by issue/opportunity discussion questions. Seven discussion questions have been developed based on a review of the existing solid waste management plan, engagement feedback from the vision and guiding principles phase, and current solid waste management statistics. These questions will be discussed in the upcoming phase of engagement, resulting in a set of potential actions to be evaluated in the following phase: options analysis. The discussion questions, incorporating revisions based on advisory committee feedback, are included as attachment 4.

The idea generation engagement plan has been developed with an emphasis on lessons learned from the previous phase, such as meeting people where they are and leveraging existing group and committee meetings. A main focus will be connecting with underrepresented audiences and sectors.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the GVS&DD Board approve the vision and guiding principles for the updated regional solid waste management plan as presented in the report dated June 6, 2024, titled “Solid Waste Management Plan Vision and Guiding Principles”.
2. That the GVS&DD Board receive for information the report dated June 6, 2024, titled “Solid Waste Management Plan Vision and Guiding Principles” and provide alternate direction to staff.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Activities related to planning and implementing engagement on the solid waste management plan update are covered under the approved Solid Waste Services budget.

CONCLUSION

The draft vision and guiding principles for an updated solid waste management plan are before the GVS&DD Board for consideration. The draft was developed in consideration of engagement feedback received in 2023, as well as additional feedback on an initial draft from advisory committees in early 2024. The vision and guiding principles will inform criteria used to evaluate potential strategies and actions in subsequent phases of the plan update process.

Staff recommend alternative 1: that the GVS&DD Board approve the vision and guiding principles for an updated solid waste management plan.

Staff have started to plan for the next phase of engagement: idea generation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Vision Statement and Guiding Principles
2. Detailed Timeline – Solid Waste Management Plan Update Process and Reporting to Date
3. Development and Revision of Draft Vision and Guiding Principles As a Result of Feedback
4. Idea Generation: Issue/Opportunity Discussion Questions
5. Presentation re: Solid Waste Management Plan Vision and Guiding Principles

REFERENCES

1. [Engagement Summary Report – Solid Waste Management Plan Update Vision and Guiding Principles Phase](#)
2. [Vision and Guiding Principles Feedback Log](#)
3. [Solid Waste Management Plan Update Web Page](#)

Draft Vision and Guiding Principles

Vision:

A thriving region where nothing is wasted and resources are valued.

Guiding Principles:

1. Accountability from residents, businesses, and governments to prevent waste.
2. Transparency about what happens to garbage and recycling.
3. A solid waste system that is resilient to climate change and future challenges.
4. Inclusive solid waste services and programs.
5. Innovation and collaboration to support a vibrant regional economy that keeps products and materials in circulation.
6. Environmental stewardship and climate action.
7. A solid waste and recycling system that is affordable, convenient, and consistent across the region.



Detailed Timeline: Solid Waste Management Plan Update Process and Reporting to Date

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Engagement Panel formation	Pre-engagement; engagement program development	Advisory committee formation	Vision and guiding principles engagement	Vision and guiding principles wrap-up and idea generation engagement
<i>Third-party expert advice on engagement; works with staff and reports to Board</i>	<i>Invite feedback on how audiences want to be engaged.</i>	<i>Public/Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) and Industry Advisory Committee (IAC)</i>	<i>Invite feedback on values and priorities.</i>	<i>Report on vision and guiding principles and plan for idea generation.</i>
June	July	January	February	January
Board received Engagement Panel terms of reference	Board received pre-engagement report and draft IAC terms of reference	Zero Waste Committee received updates on IAC application process	Zero Waste Committee received information on planned engagement	Zero Waste Committee received update on next steps for reviewing draft vision and guiding principles with First Nations, member jurisdiction staff, and advisory committees
November	November	February	April	
Board received information on Engagement Panel membership	Board approved engagement program.	Zero Waste Committee received update on IAC and PTAC development	Zero Waste Committee provided input on vision and guiding principles	
		April	May	June
		Board approved PTAC membership	Board received report on initial feedback.	Draft vision and guiding principles to Zero Waste Committee and Board
		May	October	
		Zero Waste Committee received information on first IAC meeting and proposed updates to terms of reference	Zero Waste Committee received update on public engagement on vision and guiding principles	

**Solid Waste Management Plan Update
Development and Revision of Draft Vision and Guiding Principles As a Result of Feedback**

Vision Statement	Examples of Feedback Considered
<p>Initial Draft: Together we build a thriving, sustainable region where nothing is wasted.</p>	<p>2023 Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration and coordination between different sectors to improve waste management practices • Technological innovation, sustainable design for longevity, ease of repair, and closed loop circular systems • Global leadership • Growth of circular economy, jobs, economic resiliency • Livability and prosperity (Board Strategic Plan) • Ecosystem protection; protection of biodiversity; sustainable use of natural resources; environmental stewardship • Prevent excessive waste such as over-packaging • Cultural shift to reduce consumption; increase reuse; reduce single-use items
<p>Revised Draft: A thriving region where nothing is wasted and resources are valued.</p>	<p>Feedback from advisory committees on initial draft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment to revise the vision to be more positive; for example, focus on valuing and conserving resources • Frame the vision as a description of the future state rather than using a verb ('build') • Be aspirational • Avoid the term 'sustainable' as it is an overused term, and not specific
Draft Guiding Principles	Feedback considered
<p>1.</p> <p>Initial Draft: Advocate for increased accountability from residents, businesses and governments to reduce waste.</p> <p>Revised Draft: Accountability from residents, businesses and governments to prevent waste.</p>	<p>2023 Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate accountability and responsibility for waste generation, recycling products • Individual accountability for properly recycling or disposing of waste; consumer behavior change to reduce buying and promote a waste-free lifestyle <p>Feedback from advisory committees on initial draft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasize waste 'prevention'
<p>2.</p> <p>Initial Draft: Build confidence about what happens to our waste and recycling, and how we measure waste reduction and recycling.</p> <p>Revised Draft: Transparency about what happens to garbage and recycling.</p>	<p>2023 Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparency in describing what happens to waste and recycling • Ensure public is well-informed about efficacy of recycling efforts, including reliable data <p>Feedback from advisory committees on initial draft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparency should be emphasized more clearly in this principle

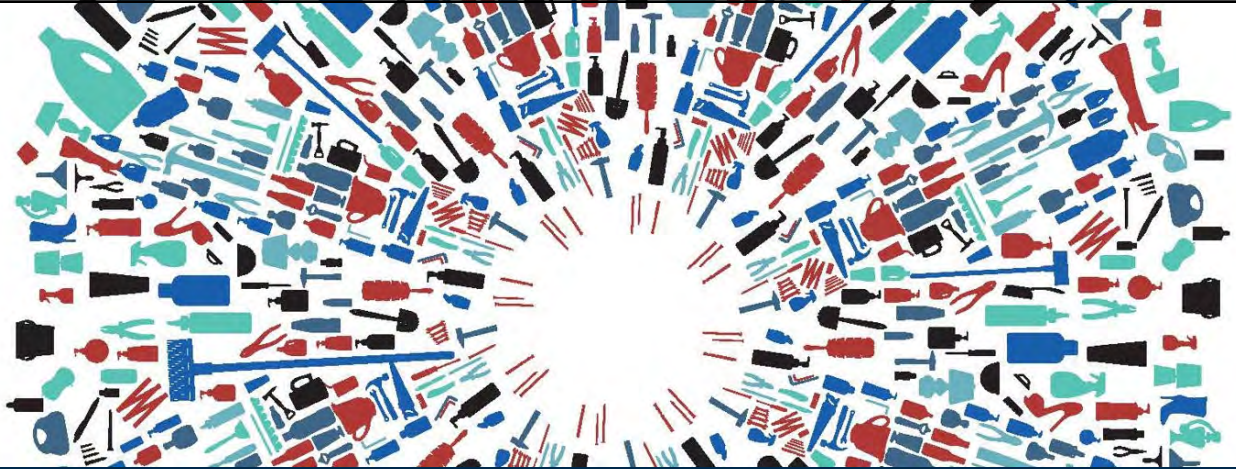
<p>3.</p> <p>Initial Draft: A solid waste system that is resilient to climate change and future challenges.</p> <p><i>No revisions.</i></p>	<p>2023 Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for long-term sustainability and adapt to changing climate and societal needs • Adapt to evolving conditions
<p>4.</p> <p>Initial Draft: Enable all users, regardless of their income, education, or life experience to participate fully.</p> <p>Revised Draft: Inclusive solid waste services and programs.</p>	<p>2023 Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all groups have access to waste management services and information, address economic and social barriers • Consider affordability and accessibility <p>Feedback from advisory committees on initial draft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify what is meant by 'participate fully'
<p>5.</p> <p>Initial Draft: Innovation and collaborative solutions to support a vibrant regional economy.</p> <p>Revised Draft: Innovation and collaboration to support a vibrant regional economy that keeps products and materials in circulation.</p>	<p>2023 Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embrace technology for waste management and a circular economy • Product innovation for longevity, ease of repair • Cooperation between groups to improve waste management practices • Promote a circular economy <p>Feedback from advisory committees on initial draft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate more circular economy principles
<p>6.</p> <p>Initial Draft: Prioritize environmental stewardship by valuing and conserving materials and products.</p> <p>Revised Draft: Environmental stewardship and climate action.</p>	<p>2023 Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote material reuse, minimize waste generation • Align waste management with broader goals of protecting biodiversity and ecosystems • Sustainable resource use <p><i>Revision was made to bring the concept of conserving materials and products through a circular economy, into Principle #5. Greenhouse gas reduction was added, as it was originally included in Principle #8 (now removed).</i></p>
<p>7.</p> <p>Initial Draft: Promote a solid waste and recycling system that is easy to use, convenient to access, and consistent across the region.</p> <p>Revised Draft: A solid waste and recycling system that is affordable, convenient, and consistent across the region.</p>	<p>2023 Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make recycling and disposal more accessible and convenient for residents • Consistent rules and services across the region • Ensure all groups have access to services and information <p>Feedback from advisory committees on initial draft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure affordability is highlighted

<p>8.</p> <p>Initial Draft: Take action to reduce the carbon footprint of materials used in our region.</p> <p>Revision: <i>This guiding principle was <u>removed</u>. Climate action was added to Principle #6. The concepts of stewardship and keeping materials in circulation are included in Principle #6 and the revised draft vision statement.</i></p>	<p>2023 Feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable resource use • Promote material reuse and minimize waste generation • Acknowledge the climate crisis and focus on systems with low climate impact • Consider the entire life cycle of waste <p>Feedback from advisory committees on initial draft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The initial draft may be outside of the scope of the solid waste management plan, which includes management of solid waste and recyclable materials; waste reduction and associated greenhouse gas emission reduction
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Idea Generation: Issue/Opportunity Discussion Questions

Since the Integrated Solid Waste and Resource Management Plan was approved in 2011, Metro Vancouver's waste generation rate has decreased 11%, while our recycling rate has increased from 57 to 65% – nearly twice the Canadian average recycling rate. As we update the plan, **what actions can build on our success to:**

1. Rethink and prevent waste in the first place?
2. Enhance accountability for eliminating waste?
3. Leverage knowledge and expertise through collaboration?
4. Increase participation and reduce contamination in organics and recycling programs?
5. Build confidence in recycling systems?
6. Develop more inclusive programs and services?
7. Improve infrastructure and systems for waste management across the region?



Vision and Guiding Principles Workshop

Solid Waste Management Plan Update

VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES REPORT BACK

Stephanie Liu

Program Manager, Solid Waste Community Engagement

Zero Waste Committee, June 13, 2024

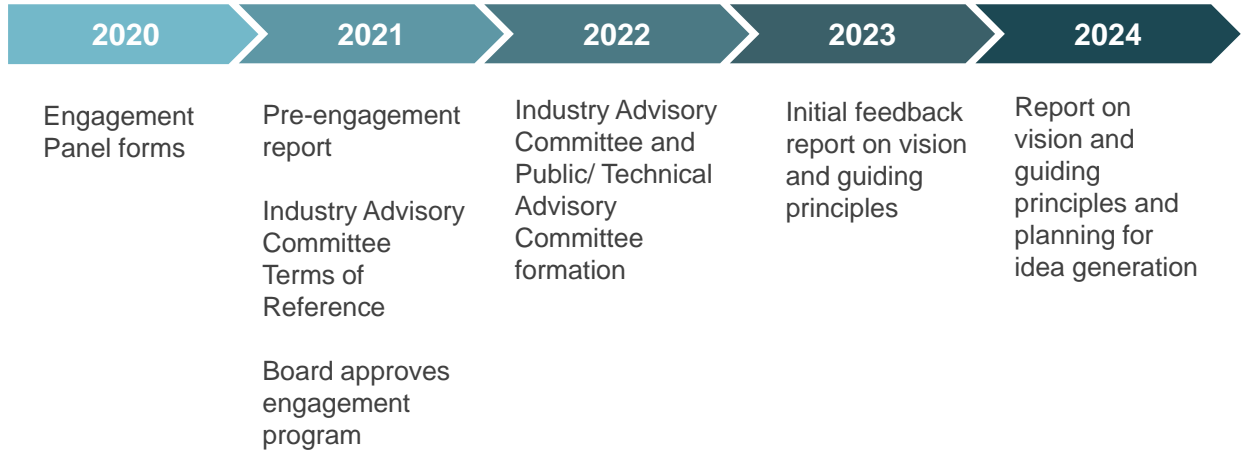


UPDATE



we are here

REPORTING TIMELINE



CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT PANEL

- Third-party expert advice on the development of a comprehensive and inclusive engagement process
- Works with staff during all phases of engagement and provides reflections on the process
- Opportunities to speak with the Engagement Panel

Panel Members:

Andrea Reimer (Chair), Tawâw Strategies

Cheryl Brooks, Indigenuity Consulting

Peter Fassbender, Fassbender Consulting Inc., former MLA and Mayor

Veronika Bylicki, CityHive Co-founder

Sarah Kirby-Yung (Zero Waste Committee Liaison), Zero Waste Committee Chair

VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Definitions

Vision: Destination

Important waste reduction, recycling, and garbage disposal topics, now and into the future

What could be better in the future

Guiding Principles: Values

Consider values of everyone in the region

Values, interests, and priorities related to the handling of products, packaging, and materials that are no longer needed

VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES ENGAGEMENT

Timeline

March to June 2023

- First Nations
- Member staff
- Zero Waste Committee / Climate Action Committee
- WMABC
- Advisory Committees

July 13 2023

Initial Feedback Report to Zero Waste Committee

Sept 18 to Nov 10 2023

Public Engagement

ENGAGEMENT OUTREACH



ENGAGEMENT PARTICIPATION



KEY FEEDBACK

Climate considerations and environmental stewardship	Community engagement	Convenience, consistency, and accessibility
Economic considerations	Empowerment, education, and awareness	Individual, corporate, and government accountability
Innovation, technology, and infrastructure	Transparency and collaboration	Waste reduction and prevention

OVERARCHING PRIORITIES



- Social equity and human health
- Collaboration and strong partnerships
- Environmental health
- Financial sustainability and regional affordability
- Climate action
- Resilient services and infrastructure
- Reconciliation

DRAFT VISION STATEMENT

Vision

“A thriving region where nothing is wasted and resources are valued.”

VISION STATEMENT DEVELOPMENT

Engagement Feedback

- Collaboration/coordination between sectors
- Technological innovation, sustainable design, circular economy, economic resiliency
- Prevent waste and reduce consumption
- Use positive statement, and focus on valuing and conserving resources

Draft Vision

A thriving region where nothing is wasted and resources are valued.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Accountability from residents, businesses, and governments to prevent waste.
- Transparency about what happens to garbage and recycling.
- A solid waste system that is resilient to climate change and future challenges.
- Inclusive solid waste services and programs.
- Innovation and collaboration to support a vibrant regional economy that keeps products and materials in circulation.
- Environmental stewardship and climate action.
- A solid waste and recycling system that is affordable, convenient, and consistent across the region.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES DEVELOPMENT

Example

Engagement Feedback

- Make recycling and waste disposal more accessible and convenient for residents
- Consistent rules and services across the region
- Ensure all groups have access to waste management services and information
- Ensure affordability is highlighted clearly

Draft guiding principle

A solid waste and recycling system that is affordable, convenient, and consistent across the region.

IDEA GENERATION OBJECTIVES



Generate ideas and potential solutions to issue/opportunity discussion questions



Updated goals will emerge from feedback during idea generation and from other research

- Goals can also inform criteria to for options analysis phase



Opportunity to demonstrate results of engagement from vision and guiding principles phase to the public

APPROACH

Issue/opportunity discussion questions

Provide a framework for prompting discussions on idea generation

- Advisory committees provided input on draft questions

Key solid waste advisory committees

Work through each of the discussion questions

First Nations, collaborative engagement organizations, and public

May focus on one or more questions that are most relevant to them



Vancouver Skyline

Questions?

metrovancouver

To: Indigenous Relations Committee

From: Lauren Farmer, Acting Program Manager, Indigenous Relations

Date: October 1, 2024 Meeting Date: October 11, 2024

Subject: **Quarterly Update Report on Reconciliation Activities**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Indigenous Relations Committee receive for information the report dated October 1, 2024 titled "Quarterly Update Report on Reconciliation Activities."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This update report provides a summary of reconciliation events and activities undertaken or planned by the Metro Vancouver Indigenous Relations Department for the third and fourth quarters up to the end of September 2024.

PURPOSE

To provide the Committee with a quarterly update report on reconciliation activities.

BACKGROUND

This quarterly update report on regional and local reconciliation activities and opportunities is part of the Indigenous Relations Committee's annual work plan. This information report is intended to identify opportunities for Committee members to learn about, and engage in, reconciliation activities in the region, and includes:

- Reconciliation events and activities that have been undertaken since the most recent Committee meeting on June 5, 2024 to date;
- Upcoming opportunities in the fourth quarter of 2024 for engaging in such activities.

SUMMARY OF RECONCILIATION-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Activities listed in this report are based on the four objectives established by the Metro Vancouver Board in October 2015 in its review of the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) 94 Calls to Action*. The four objectives are to:

1. Liaise with the TRC;
2. Raise Awareness about Indian Residential Schools;
3. Provide Cultural Competency Training; and,
4. Strengthen Relationships with First Nations.

Objectives 2 and 3 speak directly to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action #57:

"We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of

residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.”

Examples of the different types of activities, either undertaken or identified for the third quarterly period of 2024 and the following quarterly period of 2024, are summarized below.

Third Quarter of 2024

From July to September 2024, Metro Vancouver Indigenous Relations staff have and will continue to engage in a number of reconciliation-related activities, including the following listed in chronological order:

- Represent local government at the ḡíćáý (Katzie First Nation) Treaty Working Group (July 16) (Objective 4)
- Represent local government at the ḡíćáý Treaty Main Table Negotiations (July 17) (Objective 4)
- Host First Nations Monthly Working Group meetings for Metro Vancouver staff to discuss successes and challenges while working with First Nations (July 18, August 16, September 19) (Objective 4)
- Co-host a Community to Community Forum with səilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation) (July 24) (Objective 3 and 4)
- Host two Orange Shirt natural tie-dye workshops in honour of Orange Shirt Day (September 17 and 25) (Objective 2)
- Run a Technical Working Group with səilwətał to discuss our intergovernmental relationship and Metro Vancouver’s engagement process (September 19) (Objective 4)
- Run the quarterly Municipal Technical Advisory Committee meeting (September 20) (Objective 3 and 4)
- Run quarterly Municipal Technical Advisory Sub-committee meeting on treaty table updates (September 23) (Objective 3 and 4)
- Launch an updated in-house training from Metro Vancouver Indigenous Relations on Indigenous Reconciliation (September 24) (Objective 3)
- Run a Technical Working Group with scəwəθən məsteyəx^w (Tsawwassen First Nation) to discuss our intergovernmental relationship and Metro Vancouver’s engagement process (September 27) (Objective 4)
- Discuss reconciliation with k^wik^wəłəm (Kwkwetlem First Nation) and other governments and interested parties (regular ongoing meetings) (Objective 4)
- Complete the “Indigenous Cultural Safety Training Video for Construction Crews” with external consultants (Objective 3)
- Conduct research on new Provincial and Legislative changes regarding First Nations matters (ongoing)
- Develop of a Metro Vancouver Portal for more efficient communication with First Nations on project referrals (Objective 4)
- Develop of a Metro Vancouver Elders Program (ongoing) (Objective 3 and 4)

- Discuss on areas of mutual interest with x^wməθk^wəyərḿ (Musqueam Indian Band) regarding various projects (regular ongoing meetings) (Objective 4)
- Conduct in-house training from Metro Vancouver Indigenous Relations on Best Practices for Engagement on Major Projects (September 17) (Objective 3)
- Create educational materials such as posters and intranet articles raising awareness of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Objective 3)
- Continue supporting the development of a Cultural Awareness Training video to be viewed by all staff and contractors working on the Stanley Park Water Supply Project (regular ongoing meetings) (Objective 3)
- Respond to --- email requests from Metro Vancouver teams and external parties in an effort to meaningfully engage with First Nations (July – 1,061, August – 1,005, September - 638) (Objective 4)

Fourth Quarter of 2024:

From October to December 2024, Metro Vancouver Indigenous Relations staff have and will continue to engage in a number of reconciliation-related activities, including the following listed in chronological order:

- Run a Technical Working Group with k^wik^wəłəm to discuss our intergovernmental relationship and Metro Vancouver’s engagement process (October 3) (Objective 4)
- Host a Lunch and Learn in honour of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (October 3) (Objective 2 and 3)
- Attend an Indigenous Relations Community of Practice for municipalities across Canada (October 8) (Objective 4)
- Represent local government at the ḡicəy Treaty Working Group (October 9, November 19, December 11) (Objective 4)
- Represent local government at the ḡicəy Treaty Main Table Negotiations (October 9, November 20, December 11) (Objective 4)
- Host First Nations Monthly Working Group meetings for Metro Vancouver staff to discuss successes and challenges while working with First Nations (October 18, November 21, December 20) (Objective 4)
- Run a Technical Working Group with ḡ^wa:ḡłəḡ (Kwantlen First Nation) to discuss our intergovernmental relationship and Metro Vancouver’s engagement process (October 28) (Objective 4)
- Run a training for Metro Vancouver staff on creating meaningful verbal territorial acknowledgements (October 31) (Objective 3)
- Run a Technical Working Group with k^wik^wəłəm to discuss our intergovernmental relationship and Metro Vancouver’s engagement process (November 13) (Objective 4)
- Host a Quarterly Municipal Technical Advisory Committee meeting (November 28) (Objective 3 and 4)
- Host a Quarterly Municipal Technical Advisory Sub-committee meeting on treaty table updates (December 3) (Objective 3 and 4)

- Conduct training for Metro Vancouver staff on cultural heritage protection and conservation, including Chance Find Procedure, Artifact Identification, Metro Vancouver's Approach to Archaeology (December 5, other dates TBD) (Objective 3)
- Coordinate and host a Regional Indigenous Relations Community of Practice (date TBD) (Objective 3)
- Run a Technical Working Group with scəwáθən məsteyəxʷ to discuss our intergovernmental relationship and Metro Vancouver's engagement process (December 13) (Objective 4)
- Run a Technical Working Group with səliłwətał to discuss our intergovernmental relationship and Metro Vancouver's engagement process (December 19) (Objective 4)
- Conduct in-house training from Metro Vancouver Indigenous Relations on First Nations Engagement (November 2) (Objective 3)
- Conduct in-house training from Metro Vancouver Indigenous Relations on Best Practices for Engagement on Major Projects (October 1, November 14) (Objective 3)
- Discuss areas of mutual interest with xʷməθkʷəyəm regarding various projects (regular ongoing meetings) (Objective 4)
- Discuss reconciliation with kʷikʷəłəm and other governments and interested parties (regular ongoing meetings) (Objective 4)
- Conduct research on new Provincial and Legislative changes regarding First Nations matters (ongoing)
- Complete a Metro Vancouver Portal for more efficient communication with First Nations on project referrals (Objective 4)
- Respond to email requests from Metro Vancouver teams and external parties an effort to meaningfully engage with First Nations (ongoing) (Objective 4)

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The various Metro Vancouver activities identified in this report have been included in the Indigenous Relations program budget. There are no additional financial implications with respect to the items identified in this information report.

CONCLUSION

This report provides a quarterly update on reconciliation activities involving Metro Vancouver and local governments as per the Committee's recommendations and for members' information.

65723202

To: Indigenous Relations Committee

From: Jessica Beverley, Corporate Solicitor/General Manager, Legal Services and Indigenous Relations

Date: October 1, 2024 Meeting Date: October 11, 2024

Subject: **Manager's Report**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Indigenous Relations Committee receive for information the report dated October 1, 2024, titled "Manager's Report."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report includes a summary of events and activities of interest to the Indigenous Relations Committee since the date of the previous Committee meeting on June 5, 2024.

Metro Vancouver Cultural Awareness Training Video

Metro Vancouver project teams frequently engage First Nations staff to fulfill monitoring roles on construction projects. Through their knowledge, stewardship practices, and history of the lands and waters, First Nations monitors surveil our projects to guide our work in a culturally appropriate manner that aligns with their community's values and interests. Indigenous People are also present at construction sites when they are part of project teams and construction crews.

To help create an inclusive, respectful, and welcoming work environment on Metro Vancouver construction sites, the Indigenous Relations team developed an Indigenous cultural awareness training video for Metro Vancouver staff, contractors and sub-contractors to begin developing a better understanding and awareness of Indigenous history, culture, and values. We will develop an implementation plan to ensure that viewing of the video will be mandatory prior to working on Metro Vancouver infrastructure projects. To view the video, please see reference 1.

Community to Community Forum with səilwətał

Metro Vancouver recently revitalized its Community to Community initiatives, paused since the pandemic, by co-hosting a Community to Community Forum with səilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation) on July 24, 2024. The event invitees were the Metro Vancouver Board, Indigenous Relations Committee, səilwətał Chief and Council, and senior staff. The event was intended to allow formal and informal interactions to build relationships, celebrate collaboration, and better understand the perspectives of political leaders and senior management of Metro Vancouver and səilwətał respectively.

The Community to Community Forum was intended to satisfy one of the key actions identified within the 2024-2028 Financial Plan for Indigenous Relations namely, to co-create an event with an area First Nation and the Board of Directors and the Indigenous Relations Committee that promotes mutual understanding and relationship-building.

Collaboration with səlilwətał at təmtəx̣ʷtən/Belcarra Regional Park*Cultural Planning and Co-operation Agreement*

The relationship between səlilwətał and Metro Vancouver Regional Parks continues to be strengthened through the implementation of the Cultural Planning and Co-operation Agreement at təmtəx̣ʷtən/Belcarra Regional Park, which recognizes səlilwətał ancestral ties to the land and the present use by its members. Both parties have worked together to implement several priority projects during the current term, which ends in February 2025, and renewal discussions are underway.

In fall 2023, two community engagement events brought səlilwətał members together to discuss how their cultural values, teachings, and perspectives can help inform park planning and management. The knowledge and feedback shared during the engagement process resulted in emerging priorities related to cultural visibility, stewardship of the land, and access to the park.

The installation of səlilwətał's Welcome Pole was one such priority project that stands as a tangible symbol of the shared commitment to cultural preservation and celebration. The Welcome Pole, carved by səlilwətał artist Jonas Jones, stands in the park's ocean-front picnic area and was honoured in a cedar-brushing ceremony in May 2024. Due to the challenges of travelling to the park by car, another community priority is having better access by boat. In response to this, Metro Vancouver piloted a regular water taxi service in the spring and summer of 2024. On select dates, the water taxi provided round-trip service between Whey-ah-wichen (Cates Park) and təmtəx̣ʷtən/Belcarra Regional Park for students at the səlilwətał school, elders, and families in the səlilwətał community.

Amended təmtəx̣ʷtən/Belcarra South Design Concept

An amended təmtəx̣ʷtən/Belcarra South Design Concept was developed and approved by Metro Vancouver's Board which reflects the repeal of Port Moody's heritage designation bylaw on six cabins, and ongoing collaboration with səlilwətał. Metro Vancouver and səlilwətał are working closely on the planning and design of the təmtəx̣ʷtən/Belcarra South area with key areas of collaboration being ecosystem restoration and cultural revitalization.

Orange Shirt Day/National Day for Truth and Reconciliation at Metro Vancouver

To commemorate Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Metro Vancouver initiated several programs aimed at raising awareness about the day and the history of residential schools. On September 17 and 25, Metro Vancouver staff were invited to spend their lunch time engaging in a reflective activity, dyeing white shirts orange using natural dyes. This activity was designed to foster a deeper understanding of the cultural use of Indigenous plants.

On October 2, Metro Vancouver hosted a Lunch and Learn for staff with Michelle Good, an author whose works explore both historical and contemporary Indigenous experiences in Canada. Michelle discussed her latest book, *Truth Telling*, which delves into a broad spectrum of Indigenous issues, including broken treaties, cultural pillaging, the value of Indigenous lives, and the significance of Indigenous literature. These events were organized to honor the residential school experience and to bear witness to and support the healing journey of survivors and their families.

Metro Vancouver also raised a National Center for Truth and Reconciliation Survivor's Flag in the Metro Vancouver lobby in honour of this day. The Survivors' Flag is an expression of remembrance, meant to honour residential school Survivors and all the lives and communities impacted by the residential school system in Canada.

Federal Commissioner to provide oversight on modern treaties

The federal government is establishing a new independent oversight body to oversee modern treaty obligations. The body will be headed by a Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation and will independently review the federal government's actions and hold it accountable for its modern treaty obligations. Since 1975, Canada has signed 26 modern treaties, which recognize Indigenous rights to land, culture, resource management, and several other guarantees.

The Crown-Indigenous Relations Minister said the Commissioner will operate in a manner similar to the auditor general and will report directly to Parliament. The government has allocated \$10.6 million over four years to support the work of the Commissioner. When consultation with Indigenous Treaty Partners is complete, a legislative proposal to formalize the role will be introduced in Parliament. The establishment of this oversight body contributes to the federal implementation of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*. For more information, please see reference 2.

First Nations take federal government and companies to court over BC fish farms

Two First Nations in British Columbia, the 'Namgis and the Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis, are suing the federal government and fish farm companies to challenge a decision extending fish farm operations off the B.C. coast for another five years. The First Nations argue that this decision violates their Aboriginal rights and threatens wild salmon stocks, which are crucial to their traditional fishing practices. The 'Namgis say that the fish farms are situated in key migratory routes for salmon, that wild salmon stocks are severely depleted, and that the government has mishandled fishery management. The Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis contend that the government did not consult them properly or meaningfully about the license extensions. To learn more about these lawsuits, see reference 3.

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications involved.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Indigenous Relations Committee 2024 Work Plan

REFERENCES

1. [Walking Together - Indigenous Cultural Awareness on Metro Vancouver Projects on Vimeo](#)
2. [Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation](#)
3. [First Nations sue over fish farms](#)

Indigenous Relations Committee 2024 Work Plan

Meeting Date: October 11, 2024

Priorities

1 st Quarter	Status
Indigenous Relations Committee Priorities and 2024 Work Plan	Completed
Manager's Report	Completed
Invited staff presentation on a Metro Vancouver project involving Indigenous engagement	Completed
Receive updates from Committee appointees to external committees/treaty tables	Completed
Receive updates on Metro Vancouver quarterly reconciliation activities	Completed
Receive information on the new Metro Vancouver Cultural Awareness Training video	Completed
Receive the 2024 edition of the <i>First Nations in the Metro Vancouver Region: Facts and Stats</i>	Completed
2 nd Quarter	
Manager's Report	Completed
Invited staff presentation on a Metro Vancouver project involving Indigenous engagement	Completed
New approaches to Metro Vancouver's First Nations heritage protection and conservation efforts	Completed
Receive updates on Metro Vancouver quarterly reconciliation activities	Completed
Receive updates from Committee appointees to external committees/treaty tables	Completed
Review federal and provincial legislative initiatives of significance to local governments (as needed)	Completed
3 rd Quarter	
Manager's Report	Completed
Review Metro Vancouver's events and workshops in honour of National Indigenous Peoples Day	Completed
Attend Indigenous Cultural Protocol and Awareness Training, prior to an in-person Community to Community Forum	Completed
Participate in a Metro Vancouver and First Nation co-hosted Community to Community Forum	Completed
Invited staff presentation on a Metro Vancouver project involving Indigenous engagement	Completed
Receive updates from Committee appointees to external committees/treaty tables	Completed
Receive updates on Metro Vancouver quarterly reconciliation activities	Completed
Review federal and provincial legislative initiatives of significance to local governments (as needed)	Completed
Demonstration of newly developed Phase 1 of the Metro Vancouver Portal, an online system streamlining First Nations engagement	Delayed until 2025

4th Quarter	
Manager's Report	In progress
Review the 2024 Indigenous Relations budget and five-year financial plan	In progress
Receive updates on newly created Technical Working Groups with First Nations	In progress
Invited staff presentation on a Metro Vancouver project involving Indigenous engagement	In progress
Receive updates from Committee appointees to external committees/treaty tables	In progress
Receive updates on Metro Vancouver quarterly reconciliation activities	In progress
Review federal and provincial legislative initiatives of significance to local governments (as needed)	In progress
Metro Vancouver's events and workshops in honour of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	In progress

To: Indigenous Relations Committee

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

Date: September 7, 2024 Meeting Date: October 11, 2024

Subject: **Invest Vancouver Economic Reconciliation Update**

The attached report titled “Economic Reconciliation Update” was considered by the Invest Vancouver Management Board at its meeting of September 13, 2024, and by the MVRD Board at its meeting of September 27, 2024 and is presented to the Indigenous Relations committee for its information.

ATTACHMENT

1. *Economic Reconciliation Update* report dated August 14, 2024 (*orbit doc# 63985570*)

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To: Invest Vancouver Management Board

From: Sue Mah, Vice President, Collaboration, Invest Vancouver
Rosemary Preckel, Project Coordinator, Invest Vancouver

Date: August 14, 2024 Meeting Date: September 13, 2024

Subject: **Economic Reconciliation Update**

RECOMMENDATION

That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated August 14, 2024, titled “Economic Reconciliation Update.”

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of economic reconciliation, Metro Vancouver, through Invest Vancouver, has engaged in a number of collaborative activities and initiatives intended to support economic equity, prosperity, and well-being for Indigenous communities. Activities and initiatives include co-hosting the *Taking Steps in BC* event, participating on an advisory committee for the First Nations Technology Council to provide advice for advancing digital skills training and career development services for future Indigenous leaders in technology, and sponsoring a number of initiatives and events that highlight Indigenous business success stories and partnership opportunities to advance Indigenous-led prosperity and inclusive growth in the region.

PURPOSE

To provide the Invest Vancouver Management Board and MVRD Board an update on activities and initiatives to foster strategic partnerships and collaborations to support Indigenous economic reconciliation.

BACKGROUND

Economic reconciliation is a key initiative identified in the Invest Vancouver *2024 Annual Plan* and the *2022 – 2026 Board Strategic Plan*. At its July 2023 meeting, the Invest Vancouver Management Board and MVRD Board approved the following working definition of “economic reconciliation”:

Economic reconciliation is a path to redress Canada’s economic marginalization of Indigenous Peoples by pursuing economic partnerships and opportunities based on shared values. The process aims to contribute to the economic equity, prosperity, and well-being of Indigenous communities.

Invest Vancouver’s goal is to support First Nations in developing economic systems and realizing economic benefits for their communities. Staff developed an engagement approach based on building relationships and advancing partnership opportunities for Indigenous prosperity. The approach is complemented by Invest Vancouver’s partnership and sponsorship program to advance economic reconciliation efforts. This report outlines the initiatives Invest Vancouver has undertaken in 2024 to advance economic reconciliation.

TAKING STEPS IN BC EVENT

On March 21, 2024, Invest Vancouver co-hosted the *Taking Steps in BC* event in partnership with Impact United, Real Estate Foundation of BC, Innovate BC, and InBC Investment Corp (InBC). The event provided a day of learning, sharing, and relationship building with Indigenous entrepreneurs, business owners, intermediaries, financial advisors, fund managers, and others. The objectives of the event were to educate investors and investees on values held by Indigenous entrepreneurs, and to build relationships between capital providers and seekers. Bringing forth the call to action from Impact United's report titled "Taking Steps in BC: Addressing Capital Needs for Indigenous-led Enterprises", the premise of the event was to build relationships and to connect those interested in working together to help Indigenous-led enterprises attract more investment capital (Reference 1).

The event was held at Metro Vancouver's offices, attracted 56 attendees and showcased a program that included a panel discussion that shared perspectives on the Taking Steps report, storytelling that profiled Indigenous enterprises, networking opportunities, and break-out sessions on the Indigenous impact of investing as well as the perspectives on economic sustainability (Reference 2). The event was well received and generated the following testimonials on social media and comments received from a circulated post-event survey:

"Hearing from Indigenous entrepreneurs and founders was inspirational and having [the] opportunity to connect with others in the Indigenous investment space was very beneficial."

"[I] have already connected with people [I] met at the event to explore investment opportunities that can benefit Indigenous communities."

"It all starts somewhere. We have to be the change we want to see in the world. Thank you for taking these steps. Through good faith, let us continue this process and increase Indigenous representation and success in the Canadian and global economy."

A number of respondents also indicated that they saw value in the continuation of dialogue to learn the successes from Indigenous entrepreneurs and to explore new approaches and initiatives that would help unlock more capital for Indigenous-led enterprises. Due to this demand, InBC supports an online LinkedIn group that provides an active space to foster relationships between Indigenous entrepreneurs, investors, and advocates. The goals for the *Taking Steps in BC* initiative included:

- Moving the conversation into action and maintaining its priority;
- Building relationships to increase understanding, shift perspectives, and inspire new tools and resources to advance access to private equity for Indigenous entrepreneurs;
- Sharing specific examples and case studies of support for Indigenous-led enterprises; and
- Co-developing tangible steps forward for 2025 that are inclusive aim to support Indigenous entrepreneurs.

FIRST NATIONS TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

The First Nations Technology Council is an Indigenous-led non-profit mandated by First Nations leadership in British Columbia. First Nations Technology Council requested Invest Vancouver's

support for the Digital Skills Bursary Fund and for the Indigenous Innovator blog series. The partnership provides an opportunity for Invest Vancouver to advance economic reconciliation in the region and engage with key leaders, both emerging and established, in First Nations' communities.

The Digital Skills Bursary Fund increases access to tech and career-ready courses at First Nations Technology Council in order to provide Indigenous Peoples greater access to skill development opportunities in key areas of workforce development to build a strong and more resilient economy in the region. First Nations Technology Council delivers online and in-person courses for Indigenous Peoples ages 18+ living in BC. The funds contributed by Invest Vancouver are being used to advance wrap-around supports related to participation in First Nations Technology Council programming and to reduce costs enabling greater participation in First Nations Technology Council programming.

The Indigenous Innovator spotlights are a new online blog series where First Nations Technology Council alumni tell their stories on how digital skills have made a positive impact in their lives and communities. These stories help to publicize the opportunities available to Indigenous innovators through the services provided by First Nations Technology Council, with the goal of ultimately increasing program enrollment. The funds contributed by Invest Vancouver support the advancement of a minimum of 10 success stories, two of which have been published to date (Reference 4).

In addition, Invest Vancouver participates in First Nations Technology Council's advisory committee to provide strategic direction and oversight for the development of an implementation strategy for advancing digital skills training and career development services for future Indigenous leaders in technology. The advisory committee meets four times between June 2024 to December 2025. The meetings aim to refine a strategy that addresses priority issues in digital skills and career pathway development, systemic inequalities, and barriers to access for Indigenous representation in BC's technology sector, and advances sustainable participation in the province's digital economy.

OTHER COLLABORTIVE INITIATIVES

Invest Vancouver continues to highlight Indigenous business success stories to support economic reconciliation through its sponsorship and partnership program. Invest Vancouver sponsored the Indigenous Partnerships Success Showcase and the Indigenous Opportunities Forum.

2024 Indigenous Partnerships Success Showcase Event

The Indigenous Partnerships Success Showcase event commenced on June 5-6, 2024 and is dedicated to amplifying Indigenous voices and fostering collaborative partnerships between Indigenous communities and diverse industry sectors. The event aimed to break-down silos and engage a wide audience, from business leaders to government officials in the journey towards economic reconciliation. Through a robust agenda of panel discussions, keynotes, and cultural presentations, IPSS showcased successful models of Indigenous partnerships and inspired actionable strategies for equitable economic development. Invest Vancouver's sponsorship was used to support the facilitation of key Indigenous leaders and speakers, and subsidize attendance for Indigenous entrepreneurs and students to reinforce commitment to inclusive participation and capacity building within the Indigenous economic community.

Indigenous Opportunities Forum

The Greater Vancouver Board of Trade's Indigenous Opportunities Forum is scheduled for September 26, 2024 and will bring together local First Nations and the region's business and economic development leaders to connect, discuss, and learn about projects, partnerships, and opportunities for shared growth in the region. Invest Vancouver's contributions will be used for program development and site logistics.

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All activities associated with economic reconciliation have been expended through Invest Vancouver's Board approved 2024 budget.

CONCLUSION

Invest Vancouver strives to promote economic reconciliation through partnership building with the intention of identifying shared vision and values to pursue economic opportunities for Indigenous prosperity. With strategic partnerships and collaborations, Invest Vancouver has hosted the successful *Taking Steps in BC* event, participated in the First Nations Technology Council's strategic planning to develop an implementation strategy for advancing digital skills training and career development services for future Indigenous leaders in technology, and sponsored events that highlight Indigenous business success stories to generate economic equity, prosperity, and well-being of Indigenous communities.

REFERENCES:

1. [Taking Steps: Addressing Capital Needs for Indigenous-led Enterprises](#)
2. [Taking Steps in BC Event website](#)
3. [First Nations Technology Council's website](#)
4. [Indigenous Innovator Series](#)
5. [Indigenous Partnerships Success Showcase 2024 Conference Agenda](#)
6. [Indigenous Opportunities Forum 2024](#)

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