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SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
WATER COMMITTEE

MEETING

Wednesday, March 11, 2026
1:00 pm
28th Floor Committee Room, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia

AGENDA

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. March 11, 2026 Meeting Agenda
THAT the Water Committee adopt the agenda for its meeting scheduled for March 11, 2026 as circulated.

B. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

1. February 11, 2026 Meeting Minutes *pg. 5*
THAT the Water Committee adopt the minutes of its meeting held February 11, 2026 as circulated.

C. DELEGATIONS

D. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

E. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Fleetwood Reservoir – Project Completion *pg. 8*
Report dated February 23, 2026 from Matthew Dybwad, Lead Senior Engineer, Engineering, Design & Construction, Water Services.

Metro Vancouver is pleased to report on the successful completion of the Fleetwood Reservoir construction project that supports the growth of the City of Surrey (Surrey). The newly constructed Fleetwood Reservoir and the associated Fleetwood Water Main entered service at the end of 2025 and are key components of the GVWD's transmission system delivering drinking water to communities south of the Fraser River.

The reservoir consists of two underground concrete cells that have a combined water storage capacity of 11.6 million liters, an above ground maintenance building, and a 1.5 kilometer water main connecting the reservoir to the GVWD water transmission system. The Fleetwood Reservoir is located within Surrey's Meagan Anne MacDougall Park directly adjacent to Surrey's Fleetwood Pump Station (Attachment 1). The project is an example of how collaboration with our member jurisdictions, community partners, and local First Nations – combined with careful planning and thoughtful design – can successfully deliver major infrastructure in public spaces on schedule and within budget.

Recommendation
THAT the Water Committee receive for information the report dated February 23, 2026, titled "Fleetwood Reservoir – Project Completion".

2. Water Supply Area Fisheries Initiatives Annual Update *pg. 14*
Report dated February 20, 2026 from Jesse Montgomery, Division Manager, Watersheds and Environment, Water Services.

Executive Summary
Metro Vancouver Water Services, Liquid Waste Services, and Regional Parks collectively contribute to Pacific Salmon conservation and restoration in the region. Water Services manages and participates in fisheries management and restoration initiatives both upstream and downstream of the primary water supply dams in each of the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam River Watersheds. In 2025, adult Salmon returns were successful in all three watersheds with adequate late summer – fall river flows that supported migration. Metro Vancouver strives to continually improve fisheries protection and enhancement initiatives for the recovery of Pacific Salmon populations, while collaborating with stewardship groups, First Nations, and provincial and federal fisheries management agencies.

Recommendation
THAT the Water Committee receive for information the report dated February 20, 2026, titled "Water Supply Area Fisheries Initiatives Annual Update".

3. Award of ITT 25-002 for Construction of Annacis Water Main North – New Westminster Section (Annacis Main No. 5 – North) *pg. 82*
Report dated February 18, 2026 from Ross Richardsen, Lead Senior Engineer, Engineering and Construction, and George Kavouras, Director, Procurement, Procurement and Real Estate Services.

Executive Summary
Hall Constructor's (Hall) tender was identified as the lowest cost compliant bid, and on that basis it is recommended that the GVWD Board award ITT 25-002 to Hall. Hall has a successful track record of working with GVWD on similar projects.

The Annacis Water Main North combined with the Annacis Water Supply Tunnel, and Annacis Water Main South will significantly increase water supply capacity south of the Fraser River to the Kennedy Reservoir.

ITT 25-002 was issued on December 2, 2025, to seven pre-qualified tenderers and the procurement was executed in accordance with the terms and conditions of Metro Vancouver's Procurement Policy. The ITT 25-002 evaluation team have considered the tenders received, and on that basis recommend that the GVWD Board award ITT 25-002 to Hall.

Recommendation

THAT the GVWD Board:

a) approve the award of ITT 25-002 for Construction of Annacis Water Main North – New Westminster Section (Annacis Main No. 5 – North), in the amount of up to $35,323,018.07 (exclusive of taxes) to Hall Constructors, subject to final review by the Commissioner; and

b) authorize the General Manager, Procurement and Real Estate to execute the required documentation once the General Manager, Procurement and Real Estate is satisfied that the award should proceed.

4. Drinking Water Management Plan – Final Draft *pg. 86*

Report dated February 27, 2026 from Linda Parkinson, Director, Policy, Planning and Analysis, Water Services, and Vanessa Anthony, Water Community Engagement Manager, External Relations.

Executive Summary

Metro Vancouver has been working with member jurisdictions, First Nations, and interest holders over the past three years to update its *Drinking Water Management Plan* ("the plan") which sets the strategic direction for the region's drinking water system over the next decade. The plan provides the framework for a regional approach to planning, acting, and adapting together as conditions change to ensure the continued delivery of high-quality drinking water to the region.

Member jurisdictions have been engaged through staff advisory committees in co-developing the updated strategies and actions for the plan, and the Water Committee provided feedback at a special meeting on November 26, 2025. Feedback has been considered and incorporated into the plan. Public feedback has also been considered and incorporated into the plan.

Recommendation

THAT the GVWD Board:

a) approve the updated *Drinking Water Management Plan* as outlined in the report dated February 27, 2026, titled "Drinking Water Management Plan – Final Draft"; and

b) forward the approved *Drinking Water Management Plan* to member jurisdictions requesting endorsement and implementation of the actions attributed to them.

5. Manager's Report *pg. 166*

Report dated February 23, 2026 from Marilyn Towill, General Manager, Water Services.

Recommendation

THAT the Water Committee receive for information the report dated February 23, 2026, titled "Manager's Report".

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

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 Water Committee close its meeting scheduled for March 11, 2026 pursuant to section 226 (1) (a) 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:

(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.

I. ADJOURNMENT

THAT the Water Committee adjourn its meeting of March 11, 2026.

Membership:

Chair, Brad West, Port Coquitlam
Vice Chair, Mark Sager, West Vancouver
Burnaby, Joe Keithley
Coquitlam, Craig Hodge
Delta, Alicia Guichon
Langley City, Paul Albrecht
Langley Township, Tim Baillie
North Vancouver City, Don Bell
North Vancouver District, Mike Little
Pitt Meadows, Nicole MacDonald
Surrey, Rob Stutt
scəẇaθən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen First Nation), Laura Cassidy
Vancouver, Peter Meiszner

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SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
WATER COMMITTEE

MEETING

Wednesday, February 11, 2026
1:00 pm
28th Floor Committee Room, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Vice Chair, Mark Sager, West Vancouver
Burnaby, Joe Keithley
Coquitlam, Craig Hodge* (arrived at 1:01 pm)
Delta, Alicia Guichon
Langley City, Paul Albrecht
Langley Township, Tim Baillie
North Vancouver City, Don Bell
North Vancouver District, Mike Little*
Pitt Meadows, Nicole MacDonald*
scəwaθən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen First Nation), Laura Cassidy*
Surrey, Rob Stutt
Vancouver, Peter Meiszner

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Chair, Brad West, Port Coquitlam

STAFF PRESENT:
Jerry W. Dobrovolny, Chief Administrative Officer/Commissioner
Marilyn Towill, General Manager, Water Services
Nikki Tilley, Supervisor, Legislative Services, Board and Information Services
Bob Cheng, Director, Project Delivery
Murray Gant, Director, Project Delivery
Joel Melanson, Director, Water Services Engineering, Design and Construction
Heather McNell, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Policy and Planning

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. February 11, 2026 Meeting Agenda

It was MOVED and SECONDED
THAT the Water Committee adopt the agenda for its meeting scheduled for February 11, 2026 as circulated.

CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

1. January 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes

It was MOVED and SECONDED
THAT the Water Committee adopt the minutes of its meeting held January 21, 2026 as circulated.

CARRIED

1:01 Director Hodge joined the meeting

C. DELEGATIONS

No items presented.

D. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

No items presented.

E. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. 2026 GVWD Capital Program Update No. 1

Report dated February 2, 2026 from Joel Melanson, Director, Water Services Engineering, Design and Construction, and Jennifer Crosby, Director, Project Delivery, Project Management Office, providing the Water Committee and GVWD Board with the first of three annual updates on the GVWD Capital Program.

Joel Melanson, Director, Water Services Engineering, Design and Construction, Murray Gant, Director, Project Delivery, and Bob Cheng, Director, Project Delivery, gave a presentation titled "2026 GVWD Capital Program Update No. 1", providing a summary of larger projects valued over $100m, highlighting progress, budget, and upcoming milestones, as well as an overall summary of remaining projects.

It was MOVED and SECONDED
THAT the GVWD Board receive for information the report dated February 2, 2026, titled "2026 GVWD Capital Program Update No. 1."

CARRIED

2. Manager's Report

Report dated February 4, 2026 from Marilyn Towill, General Manager, Water Services informing the Committee of a recent AWWA Opflow magazine article titled "Dispelling Bottled Water Myths" and provided information on bottled water compared to tap water; as well as an update on the snowpack conditions as of February 1, 2026.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Water Committee receive for information the report dated February 4, 2026, titled "Manager's Report."

CARRIED

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Metro Vancouver Development Cost Charges Update Progress and Next Steps

G. OTHER BUSINESS

No items presented.

H. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Water Committee close its meeting scheduled for February 11, 2026 pursuant to section 226 (1) (a) 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:

(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.

CARRIED

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Water Committee adjourn its meeting of February 11, 2026.

CARRIED

(Time: 1:34 pm)

_____ _____

Nikki Tilley,
Acting Deputy Corporate Officer

Brad West,
Chair

82790391

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SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

To: Water Committee

From: Matthew Dybwad, Lead Senior Engineer, Engineering, Design & Construction, Water Services

Date: February 23, 2026 Meeting Date: March 11, 2026

Subject: **Fleetwood Reservoir – Project Completion**

RECOMMENDATION
THAT the Water Committee receive for information the report dated February 23, 2026, titled "Fleetwood Reservoir – Project Completion".

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Metro Vancouver is pleased to report on the successful completion of the Fleetwood Reservoir construction project that supports the growth of the City of Surrey (Surrey). The newly constructed Fleetwood Reservoir and the associated Fleetwood Water Main entered service at the end of 2025 and are key components of the GVWD's transmission system delivering drinking water to communities south of the Fraser River.

The reservoir consists of two underground concrete cells that have a combined water storage capacity of 11.6 million liters, an above ground maintenance building, and a 1.5 kilometer water main connecting the reservoir to the GVWD water transmission system. The Fleetwood Reservoir is located within Surrey's Meagan Anne MacDougall Park directly adjacent to Surrey's Fleetwood Pump Station (**Attachment 1**). The project is an example of how collaboration with our member jurisdictions, community partners, and local First Nations – combined with careful planning and thoughtful design – can successfully deliver major infrastructure in public spaces on schedule and within budget.

PURPOSE
To inform the Water Committee of the collaborative process and successful completion of the Fleetwood Reservoir project.

BACKGROUND
Pursuant to the Board's authorization to award the construction of Fleetwood Reservoir, this report is to update the Water Committee of the project's successful completion.

PROJECT HISTORY / CONTEXT
The scope of the Fleetwood Reservoir project was to design, construct, and commission a new in-system water reservoir to supply Surrey's Fleetwood Pump Station and to supply Surrey's Anniedale-Tynehead area in the future. Planning for the reservoir began in 2006 with Meagan Anne MacDougall Park identified as the reservoir location to best meet Surrey's forecasted water demands. Early in the design it was recognized that a key outcome for success of the project would be to integrate the reservoir within the park and to collaborate with Surrey staff to determine operational requirements of the new reservoir to work seamlessly with the municipal pump station. Additionally, Metro Vancouver installed Surrey's municipal Fleetwood Water Main through a coordinated works agreement. The project was completed on schedule and within budget (**Attachment 2**).

Park Integration
The reservoir cells have a footprint of approximately 45 m x 85 m and have been constructed completely below ground, mitigating their impact on the park's recreational opportunities. The reservoir was constructed deep enough to add grass above, returning the park to its original condition. The maintenance building has been constructed immediately adjacent to Surrey's pump station limiting the above ground space required by the facility. Design and construction were carefully completed to ensure there was no impact to Surrey's pump station resulting from the deep adjacent excavation, and to ensure the underground reservoir cells remain fully sealed to prevent any future groundwater intrusion into the reservoir during operation.

Collaboration with Surrey
Throughout design, construction, and commissioning, Metro Vancouver and Surrey staff worked together closely to ensure the facility would meet the immediate and long-term drinking water needs of Surrey residents. During the final phases of commissioning, frequent coordination helped support final testing of the reservoir and ensured the city's Fleetwood Pump Station was ready for operation.

Metro Vancouver undertook installation of a short section of Surrey's municipal water main that connects to the reservoir, which will eventually service the Anniedale-Tynehead area. As the most efficient and cost-effective approach, Metro Vancouver included this section of Surrey's water main with the reservoir construction contract through a shared works agreement with Surrey.

As part of Metro Vancouver's commitment to minimize project impacts when possible, the project team worked with park users and nearby residents to identify potential construction related impacts. Some concerns raised through these engagement activities included potential construction noises, access through the park during construction and construction schedule. Prior to issuing the construction contract, the project team pre-qualified a shortlist of experienced and competent local contractors and included specific construction impact mitigation measures within the contract that helped prevent or reduce impacts throughout construction. These measures included erection of a sound barrier around the site, installation of temporary pathways to allow residents to detour across the park, and regular community updates to inform the residents of project progress. Furthermore, successful mitigation measures will be applied to future projects where possible.

ALTERNATIVES
This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
The project was completed within the approved capital budget of $61.15M.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The 2022 – 2026 Board Strategic Plan "*commits to building and strengthening respectful and reciprocal relationships with First Nations".* Part of this commitment is realized through indigenous cultural recognition. To achieve this objective, Metro Vancouver worked with Surrey to commission indigenous art for the façade of the Fleetwood Reservoir. Elinor Atkins, a q̓ʷɑ:n̓ƛ̓ən̓ (Kwantlen First Nation) [1] artist, designed a glass mural on the maintenance building, centered on the theme of water conservation, and celebrating the sustainable paths being created for future generations. The cultural recognition sign reflects Ms. Atkins' art, biography, and the land where the reservoir is located, while the interpretive elements sign highlights Metro Vancouver's drinking water system and the importance of water conservation.

CONCLUSION

Metro Vancouver has successfully delivered the Fleetwood Reservoir, and it was brought into service at the end of 2025. This project was completed on time and on budget, while mitigating construction impacts on the community. The project was completed in close collaboration with the City of Surrey, and the successful completion demonstrates the importance of project planning, early stakeholder and community engagement, and the value of well-qualified local contractors to implement these significant water infrastructure projects.

ATTACHMENTS

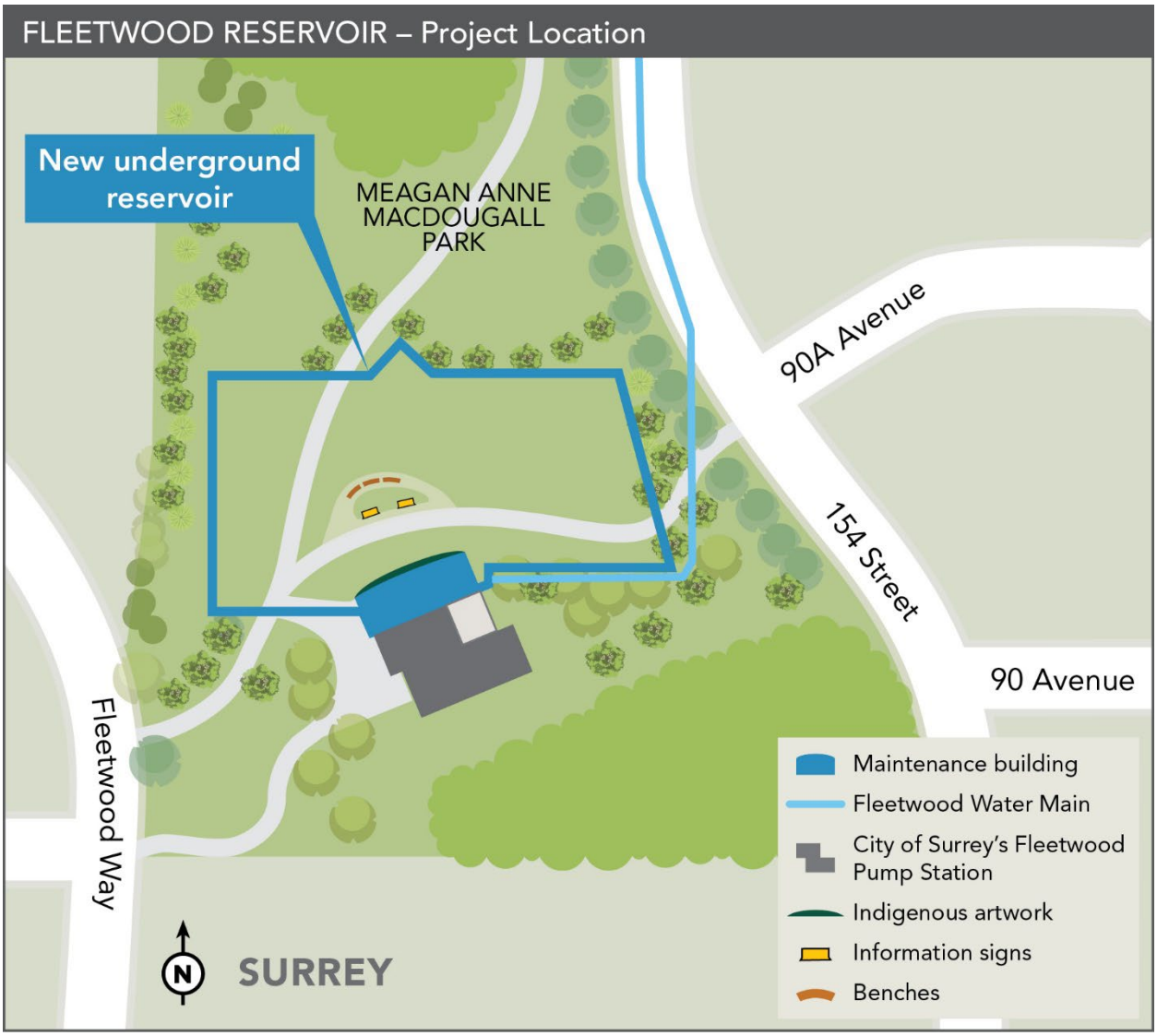
1. Fleetwood Reservoir - Project Location.
2. Construction Photos.

REFERENCES

1. Kwantlen First Nation. https://www.kwantlenfn.ca/

80464815

Fleetwood Reservoir - Project Location



Construction Photos

Photo 1 – Construction of Reservoir Cells Adjacent to Surrey Pump Station

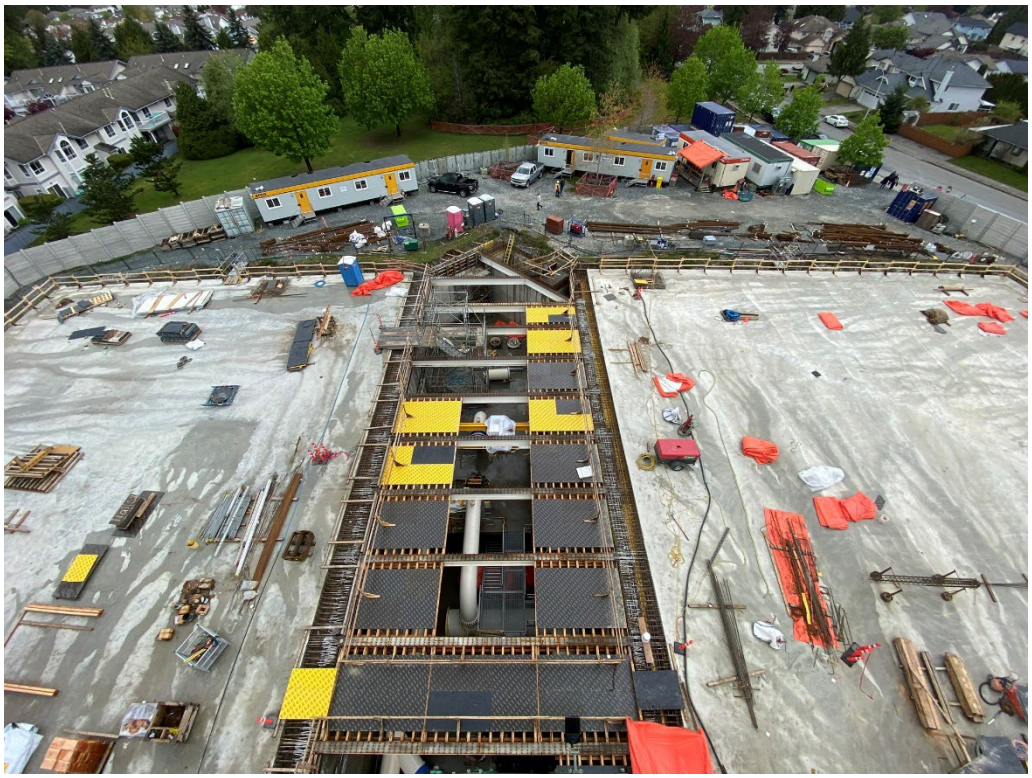


Photo 2 – Overhead View of Reservoir Cell Construction within the Park

Photo 3 – Piping and Valves within the Maintenance Building

Photo 4 – Maintenance Building with Mural and Egress Structure

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SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

To: Water Committee

From: Jesse Montgomery, Division Manager, Watersheds and Environment, Water Services

Date: February 20, 2026 Meeting Date: March 11, 2026

Subject: **Water Supply Area Fisheries Initiatives Annual Update**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Water Committee receive for information the report dated February 20, 2026, titled "Water Supply Area Fisheries Initiatives Annual Update".

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Metro Vancouver Water Services, Liquid Waste Services, and Regional Parks collectively contribute to Pacific Salmon conservation and restoration in the region. Water Services manages and participates in fisheries management and restoration initiatives both upstream and downstream of the primary water supply dams in each of the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam River Watersheds. In 2025, adult Salmon returns were successful in all three watersheds with adequate late summer – fall river flows that supported migration. Metro Vancouver strives to continually improve fisheries protection and enhancement initiatives for the recovery of Pacific Salmon populations, while collaborating with stewardship groups, First Nations, and provincial and federal fisheries management agencies.

PURPOSE

To provide the Committee with an annual update on fisheries initiatives and activities associated with the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam River Watersheds.

BACKGROUND

The Board, through its 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan, is committed to "Work with First Nations and fisheries agencies to support the restoration of fish populations in the water supply areas while maintaining the delivery of high-quality water". The GVWD collaborates with First Nations, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, BC Hydro, and stewardship groups on various fisheries restoration and conservation initiatives. The initiatives described in this report are typically based on interagency collaboration and scientific assessment aimed at restoring or enhancing many of the Pacific Salmon species that occur in the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam River Watersheds, namely Coho Salmon, Pink Salmon, Chum Salmon, and Sockeye Salmon, as well as Steelhead and Cutthroat Trout. Project updates are now available for fisheries management initiatives undertaken in 2025; this report provides the Committee with an update on activities as identified in the Committee's 2026 Work Plan.

WATERSHED FISHERIES INITIATIVES

Capilano Watershed

DFO's Capilano River Hatchery is located immediately downstream of Cleveland Dam to supplement First Nations sustenance, commercial and recreational fisheries and contribute to federal Pacific Salmon restoration objectives. The GVWD has a long-standing collaborative agreement to support water supply and operational aspects of the hatchery. The hatchery is currently in the early construction phase of a comprehensive redevelopment of the 50-year-old facility. Staff are working with DFO to support this project, primarily in improvements of existing and new water supply configurations associated with the GVWD infrastructure and public interpretative material.

The Capilano River Hatchery annually transports up to 7,500 adult Coho Salmon plus surplus Steelhead Trout upstream of the Capilano Reservoir for spawning. On an annual basis, Metro Vancouver staff capture out-migrating juvenile Coho Salmon and Steelhead Trout smolts for release downstream of Cleveland Dam in an effort to improve fish survival rates. Staff successfully captured and transported 43,327 Coho Salmon and 654 Steelhead Trout smolts from upstream of the dam to the Capilano River downstream of the dam in 2025. Smolt capture numbers in 2025 were well above average, with inter-annual variability typically attributed to environmental factors. Staff worked collaboratively with DFO and Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) to monitor river flow conditions through the summer and fall although no strategic dam releases were required this year as the fall rains returned in September. Adult fish returns to the hatchery were, again, above average through the spawning season.

Seymour Watershed

The Seymour River Hatchery, located immediately downstream of Seymour Falls Dam since its inception in the 1970's, is operated by the Seymour Salmonid Society (SSS). The hatchery occupies a one-hectare parcel of land under a licence agreement with the GVWD. Adult Coho Salmon and Steelhead Trout returning to the Seymour River will naturally spawn in the river downstream of the dam, be captured and transported to the hatchery for processing, or moved to the Seymour River upstream of the dam for natural spawning. In 2025, 400 adult Coho Salmon were released in the Seymour River upstream of Seymour Falls Dam. In addition, 32,000 Coho Salmon fry (juveniles) raised at the hatchery were transported upstream of Seymour Falls Dam to rear in wild habitat and out-migrate to the ocean as one- or two-year-olds.

Seymour River Hatchery operations are funded by GVWD, DFO, community grants, and private donors. In November 2023, the GVWD Board approved renewal of the long-standing Contribution Agreement with the SSS for 2025 – 2026. Annual funding provided by Metro Vancouver forms the primary contribution for core hatchery operations with a provision of $156,500 in 2025 and $160,000 in 2026. The SSS successfully fulfilled their obligations of the contribution agreement in 2025. A requirement of the agreement is for the SSS to provide an annual report summarizing the year's activities to the GVWD Board. The 2025 Seymour Salmonid Society Annual Report is provided as **Attachment 1** to this report. Metro Vancouver and the Society intend to renew the Contribution Agreement, under similar terms, for a further 5-year period (2027 – 2031).

Water Services staff assist DFO in maintaining the five off-channel fisheries habitat projects along the Seymour River in the LSCR. Following annual seasonal monitoring of the sites, staff report any issues to DFO who develop remediation plans as needed. Over the last several years staff have provided significant collaboration and in-kind support toward restoration of the Junior Creek Pond Complex, one of the larger off channel habitat sites. These cooperative efforts ensure the projects remain functional, resilient, and capable of sustaining key fish habitat in the area.

Coquitlam Watershed

Staff continue to participate in the Kwikwetlem Sockeye Restoration Program (KSRP), in collaboration with BC Hydro, kʷikʷəƛ̓əm (Kwikwetlem First Nation), stewardship groups and provincial and federal fisheries representatives. Unfortunately, despite stronger returns in 2024, a low number of adult Sockeye returned to the base of the Coquitlam Dam in 2025.

The kʷikʷəƛ̓əm t̓áḵʷ (Sockeye Return Home) Hatchery, commissioned in late 2024, housed its first Sockeye Salmon broodstock in the fall of 2025. Staff worked with kʷikʷəƛ̓əm and BC Hydro consultants to capture the required Kokanee Salmon (the freshwater variant of Sockeye Salmon) broodstock in Coquitlam Lake throughout August and September. These adults, along with the few adult Sockeye captured in the river fish trap, were artificially spawned and the resulting eggs and fry are currently being reared in the hatchery prior to planned release to the Coquitlam River in the spring.

The Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable (CRWR) was formed in 2011 with roots back to a Coquitlam River Watershed Strategy (2007) developed by local stakeholders and area interest groups. The CRWR registered as the Coquitlam River Watershed Society under the *Societies Act* in 2020. Priorities of the CRWR pertain to advocacy and actions contributing to improvements in development practices, anti-littering and dumping, storm water management, and invasive species management. The GVWD has financially contributed through a Contribution Agreement to the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable since 2015 and staff continue to participate in the organization's activities. Annual funding provided by GVWD in 2026 will be $37,150. Other financial contributors to CRWR include kʷikʷəƛ̓əm First Nation as well as the cities of Port Coquitlam and Coquitlam. The CRWR successfully fulfilled their obligations of the contribution agreement in 2025. A requirement of the agreement is for the CRWR to provide an annual report summarizing the year's activities to the GVWD Board. The 2025 Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable Annual Report is provided as **Attachment 2** to this report. Metro Vancouver and the CRWR intend to renew the Contribution Agreement, under similar terms, for a further 5-year period (2027 – 2031).

ALTERNATIVES
This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
The initiatives described in this report have been funded from the Watersheds and Environment Program budget as well as through partnerships with other organizations.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS
GVWD's ongoing collaboration with the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam (2) Hatcheries, as well as the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable, continues to be supported by member jurisdictions and First Nations. Across these initiatives, Metro Vancouver frequently collaborates as a partner with other levels of government, First Nations, and non-governmental organizations.

CONCLUSION
GVWD continues to proactively participate in Pacific Salmon restoration initiatives both upstream and downstream of the dams in the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam River Watersheds. Staff continue to collaborate with provincial and federal fisheries managers, First Nations, and stewardship groups to troubleshoot and solve complex fisheries restoration matters. Metro Vancouver is committed to consistently meet or exceed regulatory requirements in the protection and restoration of fish populations, while continuing to provide high-quality drinking water for the region.

ATTACHMENTS
1. 2025 Seymour Salmonid Society Annual Report for Greater Vancouver Water District.
2. Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable 2025 Annual Report.

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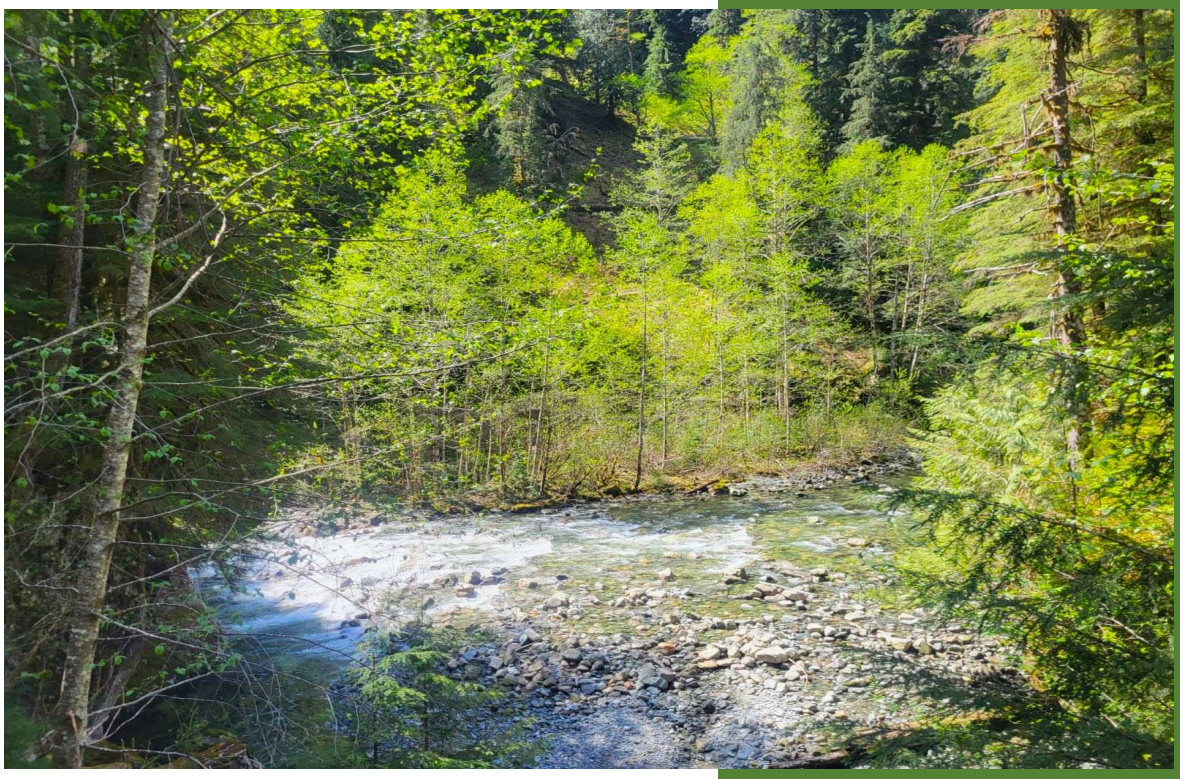
2025

Seymour Salmonid Society's Annual Report For Greater Vancouver Water District



Seymour Salmonid Society

PO Box 30085, North Vancouver, V7H 2Y8

December 2025

SEYMOUR
SALMONID
SOCIETY

Mission Statement

To enhance Seymour River salmon and educate the public about the importance of the river as a resource for drinking water, wildlife and the forest.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

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SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

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SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Executive Summary

Acknowledgements

The Seymour Salmonid Society (SSS) would like to recognise the significant annual contribution of $156,500 by Greater Vancouver Water District (GVWD) to support enhancement and education efforts at the Seymour Hatchery. The annual GVWD contribution allows the SSS to leverage additional funds totalling approximately $255,000 from other sources, including Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), commercial organisations, community donations and grant applications. Together, the GVWD funds and the additional leveraged funds contribute towards our annual operating budget.

We would also like to thank significant financial contributions from the District of North Vancouver Firefighters Charity (DNV Firefighters), the Pacific Salmon Foundation (PSF), the North Shore Community Foundation and Bass Pro in 2025. These funds were generously provided for habitat enhancement and monitoring, education, hatchery operations and infrastructure improvements. We are also extremely grateful for the ongoing support by the District of North Vancouver (DNV), the RBC Foundation and for the many community donations provided by local individuals and stakeholders and organisations such as the RBC Foundation.

We'd like to give a huge thank you to GVWD for all their ongoing support – from in-kind staff help to material contributions that keep our hatchery running and restoration work moving forward in the watershed. A big shout-out as well to DFO's Community Advisor and Habitat and Restoration teams for their guidance and expertise, we couldn't do it without you. And finally, we're grateful to the Ministry of Land, Water, and Resource Stewardship (LTSA) for continuing to back our steelhead programme.

We are most grateful for the contribution by our over 750 registered volunteers, who are an integral part of our operations. Without the significant community involvement, our staff would be unable to accomplish a fraction of what is completed in the watershed.

Habitat Conservation and Enhancement

The SSS team and our partners have been working hard to reduce the impact of the rockslide and move towards a long-term restoration plan. We're thrilled to confirm that adult coho, chinook salmon, and steelhead are making it through the canyon to spawn upstream – though this does depend on certain flow conditions. We also confirmed the presence of some pink salmon above the rockslide this year.

GVWD has gone above and beyond, providing materials and machinery operator time for restoration projects in 2025 and previous years. Without this incredible in-kind support, keeping the restoration sites and supporting our ongoing facility capital maintenance program, our 2025 projects simply wouldn't have been possible.

Broodstock Collection and Production

We released the following into the watershed as part of our enhancement program:

- 260,000 chum fry (104,000 of which were Seymour River origin) in the lower river
- 42,000 coho smolts released from the hatchery into Hurry Creek
- 19,000 fed fry above Seymour falls Dam
- 20,000 fed fry below the day at Coho Creek
- 21,000 summer and winter-run steelhead smolts ocean released in West Vancouver
- 7,000 coho smolts released to DFO seapens in Port Moody

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

This year saw our broodstock anglers out regularly during the summer and fall periods for steelhead and chum salmon. This was in addition to the hatchery pool seines to collect adult coho and steelhead broodstock. We spawned 100 pairs of pink salmon by the end of September, 21 pairs of Seymour chum by the end of November and anticipate spawning up to 45 pairs of coho by the end of December. In addition, we spawned 26 pairs of Alouette chum. We are continuing our or summer run steelhead adult collection and will begin winter run collection early next year in preparation for spring 2026 spawning. We are also continuing the egg incubation activities to ensure sufficient fry and smolt production for the coming year ahead.

Environmental Monitoring

Hatchery staff undertook mark and recapture activity during broodstock collection between August and December, along with carcass recovery surveys between October and December. A total of 446 coho captured during hatchery pool seines had their left operculum punched before being released back to the river. This mark and recapture process is then used during carcass recovery activity to estimate the total number of adult coho returning to the river in 2025. To date we have identified 400 coho carcasses during surveys, of which 12 had the LOP, with an estimate coho adults returning likely to be greater than 2024 (i.e., 6,000).

Community Outreach and Education

We successfully operated the chum fry release at Heritage Park, our Open House at the Seymour hatchery, the Family Fishing Day at Rice Lake, and our World River Day event at the Seymour Estuary. The SSS also attended community events organised by others including the annual fishing derby, DNV Firefighters Fishing Derby and the Blueridge Community event.

Our chum release at Heritage Park was undertaken in April with the support of DNV Firefighters. Hatchery staff and volunteers helped to fill each bucket with chum salmon fry for the kids to release an estimated 20,000 chum fry on the day. We hosted our annual Open House in September to allow the public to visit the hatchery and learn about the work we do and learn more about the Society's enhancement, education, and restoration activities. GVWD also attended and provided information about the watershed, our drinking water, and the dam. For World Rivers Day we organised an estuary clean-up and replanting at the river mouth in the fall, with help from GVWD staff and SSS volunteers.

The District of North Vancouver Firefighters, a major financial supporter of our education program, also held their annual Fishing Derby in September. The derby was a great success and resulted in a significant donation from the Firefighters of $55,000 towards our education program in 2026. With the ongoing generous support from the DNV Firefighters we could operate GDS program during spring and fall this year, with a total of 1,558 students and 476 parents and teachers across 71 full-day classes enjoying the program.

Hatchery Infrastructure Upgrades and Maintenance

We continued our ongoing facility infrastructure and maintenance upgrades, including kitchen and bathroom upgrades to renovate 25-year old facilities, and to provide full disabled access for visitors at the facility. We installed electric opening doors at the foyer entrance, along with change-over of all doors to use handles rather than knobs for disabled access. We also designed and installed our new closed system egg fungal treatment system in our incubation room. We are also in the final stages of our two adult storage tank install at the facility, which will provide additional storage flexibility when we have multiple species on-site at a given time.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Human Resources

The following provides an overview of the hatchery facility staffing and governance for the Seymour Salmonid Society.

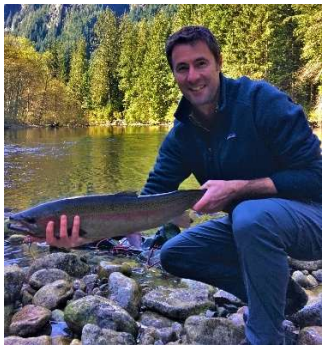
Board of Directors

President	Shaun Hollingsworth
Treasurer	Darren Radons
Secretary	Graeme Budge
Directors	Nick Martinovic
	Naomi Yamamoto
	Mark Whorrall
	Kate Keogh
	Glen Parker
	Sean Ramsden
	Justin Henry
	Daryl Brown

Hatchery Staff

Marc Guimond: Executive Director & Hatchery Manager

Marc grew up in Toronto and attended the University of Guelph, earning a degree in Biological Sciences in 1995. In 1997 he moved to Vancouver and volunteered at the Vancouver Aquarium teaching students about marine invertebrates. The following year, Marc joined the SSS and has been overseeing all aspects of salmonid production and monitoring for over 26 years.



Reece Fowler: Environmental Manager

Reece was born and raised on the banks of the Whanganui River in New Zealand. He attended Massey University in Palmerston North (NZ), gaining a Bachelor of Science (BSc) in 1995, before completing a Doctorate in Freshwater Ecology in 2000. After university, Reece went on to work in the environmental consultancy sector for over 16 years, before volunteering at the hatchery in 2017 and joining the SSS in May 2018.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Megan Samson: Program Coordinator & Fisheries Technician

Megan was born in Vancouver and raised in White Rock before pursuing her interest in science at BCIT. She completed her diploma in Fish, Wildlife and Recreational Management in 2021 and worked for Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC at the Nechako White Sturgeon Conservation Centre in Vanderhoof (BC) following her diploma, before joining the SSS in August to assist with hatchery operations and radio telemetry monitoring education and volunteer coordination.

Sean Nightingale: Seasonal Fisheries & Monitoring Technician

Sean was born and raised in Deep Cove, BC. He completed the Fish and Wildlife and Recreation Diploma program at BCIT in 2019, followed by undergraduate degree (BSc) in Ecological Restoration in 2023 also at BCIT. Sean returned to the SSS in May for a second year to support hatchery operations, salmonid production, and environmental monitoring.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Habitat Conservation and Enhancement

Hatchery staff supported by GVWD, DFO along with our engineers Northwest hydraulics (NHC) and Global Rope Access (GRA) undertook a series of habitat activities within the watershed during 2025. The following provides an overview of activities undertaken based on habitat area.

Seymour Rockslide Remediation Project

The objective of the 2025 work was to continue monitoring the rockslide area to confirm ongoing fish passage through the Seymour Canyon. Subsequent monitoring of adult capture during hatchery pool seines and as part of carcass recovery monitoring, along with observations along the river corridor for presence of adult species was also undertaken. Although we are yet to confirm the actual number of fish that moved through the canyon in 2025 (i.e., as carcass recovery counts continue into January 2026), we successfully seine netted or broodstock fished 1,170 coho, 45 chinook and 27 steelhead (6 winters and 21 summers) above the rockslide this year. Our coho carcass recovery monitoring is ongoing, and our estimate thus far suggests this year could be the best returns since the rockslide in 2014.

Fish Above Seymour falls Dam Project

The agreement with GVWD and DFO allows the release of up to 400 adults above the dam each year (i.e., 200 pairs). This figure is based on the Bradford's bio-standard of 85 smolts/female and a target of producing 17,000 wild smolts from natural habitat above dam each year. Annual wild spawned fry releases will be augmented by up to 40,000 hatchery fed fry above the dam. This will continue until it is possible to release more than 200 adults (i.e., 100 pairs) above the dam each year. After which the plan would be to reduce hatchery fed fry releases accordingly.

Between July and November with the assistance of GVWD staff, the SSS transported a total of 400 adult coho salmon (i.e., 200 pairs) and released these into the Seymour River above the dam. These fish were captured during river seines at the hatchery pool, along with net capture within our disused steelhead pond #7 that we fitted with a one-way funnel to improve retention and capture of hatchery adults for transport purposes. All adult coho were released at the 21km mark in the upper watershed at a location known locally as Rustad Branch (Figure 1).

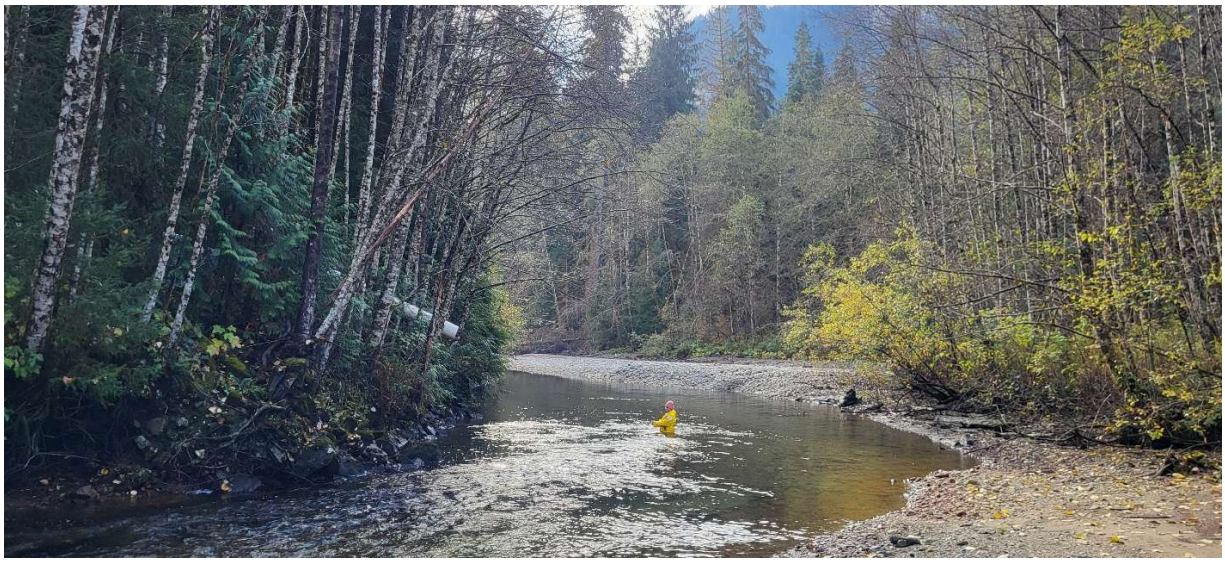


FIGURE 1 ADULT COHO SALMON RELEASE LOCATION AT RUSTAD BRANCH

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Transporting adult coho above the dam partially mitigates the historic impact of dam construction and re-establish wild salmonid stocks in a pristine area that is more resilient to future stressors such as climate change given the lower water temperatures in the upper watershed. The number of adult coho transported above the dam annually is determined by the number of adult fish we can collect as part of our broodstock program, and the number of transportation trips we can undertake.

Junior Creek Enhancement Area

The Junior Creek enhancement area comprises a man-made channel that flows between Paton Creek downstream via an inlet channel to the juvenile rearing ponds of the enhancement area. Water flows downstream of the rearing ponds via an approximately 150m long outlet channel. Both the inlet and outlet channels provide spawning habitat for coho, especially the outlet channel.

SSS Staff undertook regular visual inspections of the Junior Creek system during the spring, summer and fall as part of ongoing restoration monitoring or population monitoring operations. The results of visual surveys confirm that the habitat ponds are receiving sufficient water flows to continue spawning and rearing habitat for returning salmonids. The outlet channel bank remains intact, and the channel is being used by good numbers of spawning coho (Figure 2). We will continue to monitor the outlet channel during winter and spring 2026 to ensure the bank repairs remain intact.

FIGURE 2 JUNIOR CREEK OUTLET CHANNEL AT SITE OF REPAIR WORKS

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Mid-Valley Enhancement Area

The Mid-Valley enhancement area is man-made and was established over 20 years ago to provide significant salmonid juvenile rearing and adult spawning habitat. This enhancement area supplements for aquatic habitat lost in the upper watershed via historical human activities. The area also benefits the watershed by providing valuable habitat for other aquatic species such as amphibians, birds, insects and invertebrates.

Ongoing visual monitoring of the enhancement area was undertaken during spring, summer and fall to confirm the habitat area is being utilised by both juvenile salmonids and returning adult spawners. The inlet channel remains clear of fine sediment and the flows have exposed more spawning gravels in the channel. Nonetheless, we believe the introduction of additional spawning gravel during summer low flows could benefit to area available for spawning. Carcass recovery surveys during fall 2025 confirmed that good numbers of coho were spawning in the inlet and outlet channels.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Broodstock Collection and Production

The following provides an overview of the broodstock collection and production activities undertaken in the Seymour watershed during 2025. Please note that the summer run steelhead spawned in 2025 were collected during late 2024 and held onsite over winter. In addition, summer run steelhead captured during November and December 2025 will remain onsite for spawning in spring 2026. Table 1 provides a summary of the fish collected from broodstock activities for the enhancement program.

TABLE 1 BROODSTOCK COLLECTION FOR THE SEYMOUR RIVER HATCHERY IN 2025

Species	Pairs Spawned	Eggs Collected
Coho salmon (early and late run) 2025	45	104,000
Steelhead (2025 summer run brood year)*	9	32,500
Steelhead (2025 winter run brood year)**	3	10,000
Chum salmon (Seymour River) 2025	21	45,000
Chum salmon (Alouette River) 2025	26	53,000

***Note**: * - summer runs spawned in May 2025 were collected between October – December 2024 and held onsite over the winter. ** - winter runs spawned in May 2025 were collected between January – May 2025.*

Hatchery Pool Seines

During the summer period early coho salmon began congregating in the Hatchery pool. We undertook four seine events between July and November, capturing 1,170 adult coho, with 446 of these captured fish having their left operculum punched (LOP) and released back to the river for the carcass recovery program (i.e., to provide an estimate of the total coho return for 2025). A total of 139 captured adults were transported to the hatchery for our broodstock program, while 400 adults were released above Seymour Falls dam (Figure 3, Figure 4, Figure 5) A total of 10 summer run steelhead and 45 chinook were also captured during the hatchery pool seines. The summer run steelhead and chinook were released with a LOP mark back to the river. Greater numbers of adult chinook were also observed in Hurry Creek and the nearby Bear Island habitat area, along with >100 (estimated) adults actively spawning at Spur 7.

FIGURE 3 HATCHERY POOL SEINE EVENT DURING JULY 2025

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

FIGURE 4 ADULT SUMMER RUN STEELHEAD DURING HATCHERY POOL SEINE IN JULY 2025

FIGURE 5 ADULT CHINOOK SALMON DURING HATCHERY POOL SEINE IN OCTOBER 2025

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Lower River Seines

We performed one seine event in the lower river adjacent to Maplewood Farm to collect returning chum salmon, with the assistance of local community volunteers (Figure 6). A total of 21 pairs adult chum were captured and transport to the hatchery for broodstock purposes.

FIGURE 6 LOWER RIVER SEINE ADJACENT TO MAPLEWOOD IN NOVEMBER 2025

Broodstock Angling

Our broodstock anglers were out regularly during January to May 2025 period for winter run steelhead, along with the August to December period for pink and chum salmon, and summer run steelhead. The aim of the broodstock program was to capture 100 pairs of pink salmon and as many returning adult chum salmon from the lower river for spawning at the hatchery in summer/fall 2025. The November and December period also comprised capturing the summer run steelhead in preparation for spawning in spring 2026 (Table 1). The winter run steelhead captured in January to May were spawned in May 2025 and we will begin angling in January to May 2026 for next years winter run broodstock.

Egg Transplants

Further to our ongoing broodstock collection within the Seymour River, each fall hatchery staff visit the Alouette River with DFO to collect additional eggs to continue rebuilding the chum salmon population in the Seymour River. During fall we collected an additional 26 pairs of chum on one collection occasion on the Alouette River (Table 1). As part of GDS we also support DFO's Salmon in the Classroom program. Approximately 2,100 fertilised coho salmon eggs were transported from the Seymour hatchery and delivered to schools in Vancouver. Each school receives approximately 100 eggs that are then housed in an aquarium in the classroom, so that students can see the eggs hatch in spring, before the children release them to a local creek. We also provided 29,000 chum fry for release into Mosquito Creek as part of DFO's contract to release fed fry into Mosquito Creek.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Hatchery Broodstock Production

The SSS enhances three salmonid species: coho and chum annually, and pink salmon every odd numbered year. The SSS also has an agreement with the LTSA to produce summer and winter run steelhead smolts. Our goal is to enhance and maintain salmonid populations within the Seymour River to historical levels. The 2024 brood were incubated at the hatchery over winter 2024/25, with coho fry released above the Seymour Reservoir and chum released near heritage park in the lower river in spring 2025.

The current 2025 coho, pink and chum brood year eggs will be incubated at the hatchery over winter 2025/26, with the pink and chum released as fry in the same locations in 2026. Whereas, given that we released 400 adult coho salmon above the dam to spawn on their own in 2025, we do not anticipate the release of coho fry above the dam in 2026. All fry releases augment the numbers of adult salmonids that spawn in the watershed during each fall to maintain fry numbers to historical wild production levels. Table 2 illustrates the fry and smolts released in 2025.

TABLE 2 SMOLT AND FRY RELEASES FROM THE SEYMOUR HATCHERY IN 2025

Species	Brood year	Number
Coho salmon fry (above dam)	2024	19,000
Coho salmon fry (below dam, Coho Creek)	2024	20,000
Coho salmon smolts	2023	49,000
Summer Steelhead smolts	2024	13,300
Winter Steelhead smolts	2024	7,500
Chum Salmon fry (Seymour River)	2024	104,000
Chum Salmon fry (Alouette River)	2024	156,000
Pink Salmon fry (Seymour River)	N/A	-

Environmental Monitoring

Coho Escapement, Mark and Recapture

Carcass recovery monitoring began in October 2025 and will continue through until January 2026. During seines at the Hatchery pool, adult coho were given a visualised mark (i.e., a left operculum hole punch (LOP)) and released to remix with the population. Once adults begin to spawn in the tributaries and enhancement sites, staff and volunteers regularly walk these waterways to find carcasses to examine whether they are marked or not. Data such as date, location, sex, origin (W or H), LOP observed or not, the percent spawn of females are recorded, and the carcass is cut in half to avoid recounting. The data from marking and carcass recovery are used to formulate an adult return population estimate.

Carcass recovery monitoring was ongoing at least three times per week to maximise the number of fish identified, which will be used to formulate an estimate of coho numbers that migrated through the watershed during fall 2025. A total of 446 coho were LOP marked and released during our hatchery pool seine events. To date we have identified 400 coho carcasses during surveys, of which 12 had the LOP. Our current estimate for the number of adult coho that returned this year is likely greater than the return in 2024 (i.e., 6,000).

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Community Education Programs

Gently Down the Seymour (GDS)

The GDS program has a lasting impact on participants as shown by the considerable volume of thank you letters received from the students, along with teachers regularly commenting on how students recall details and experiences from the field trip many years later. The BC Wildlife Federation (BCWF) was contracted again to provide the educators to undertake GDS for both spring and fall 2025 (Figure 7).

A field trip to the Seymour Hatchery expands student learning of the salmon life cycle to include experience and observation of salmon habitat and the surrounding watershed ecosystem. Students, teachers and parents have an opportunity to connect with their local ecosystem and gain a greater understanding of how urban development impacts natural resources. We hope visitors become greater stewards for salmon, ensuring there will be salmon in our region for generations to come. The following sections provide a summary of the 2025 program.

FIGURE 7 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AT HURRY CREEK DURING GDS SPRING 2025

Spring 2025

A total of 55 classes were booked and delivered for spring GDS program, with bookings for the spring program filling up in less than one week. The classes hosted at the hatchery came from 41 schools within seven school districts (i.e., West Vancouver, North Vancouver, Vancouver, Burnaby, and Independent). A total of 1,193 visiting students were accompanied by 348 teachers and parents between March and June (Figure 7, Figure 8)

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Teachers were emailed a link to a feedback form at the conclusion of their field trip. Feedback was submitted by 27% of teachers (48% decrease from spring 2024) and showcased strong support for Gently Down the Seymour. The teacher feedback confirms the following:

- ***Overall*** – all responding teachers strongly agree that the GDS met expectations. All participating teachers strongly agree that this program supports their Salmonids in the Classroom experience
- ***Program Design*** - all responding teachers strongly agree that the GDS program has grade-appropriate content and activities and supports the current school curriculum
- ***Field Trip Delivery*** - teachers recorded that the students were engaged and learning at field trip stations, with 15/15 agreeing that the Educators were informative and worked well with students
- ***Supporting Materials*** - 9/15 teachers used the teacher resource provided by the GDS program before their field trip

FIGURE 8 STEELHEAD SPAWNING DEMONSTRATION DURING THE GDS DAY

Fall 2025

A total of 16 classes were booked and delivered for the fall GDS program. One class cancelled at the last minute, but we were able to offer the empty day to a nearby school who took up the offer. Bookings for the fall program filled up in less than five days. The 16 classes hosted at the hatchery came from 13 schools within seven districts (i.e., North Vancouver, Vancouver, Burnaby, First Nations and Independent). A total of 365 visiting students were accompanied by 128 teachers and parents during the fall (Figure 9). We were unable to provide the usual 20 fall classes this year due to insufficient funds.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Teachers were emailed a link to a feedback form at the conclusion of their field trip. Feedback was submitted by 19% of teachers (20% decrease from fall 2024) and showcased strong support for Gently Down the Seymour. The teacher feedback during the fall program confirms the following:

- ***Overall*** - all responding teachers strongly agree that the GDS program met expectations. All participating teachers strongly agree that this program supports their Salmonids in the Classroom experience
- ***Program Design*** - all responding teachers strongly agree that the GDS program has grade-appropriate content and activities and supports the current school curriculum
- ***Field Trip Delivery*** - teachers recorded that the students were engaged and learning at field trip stations, with 3/3 agreeing that the educators were informative and worked well with students
- ***Supporting Materials*** - all teachers used the teacher resource provided by the GDS program before their field trip

FIGURE 9 KIDS GETTING INTO HURRY CREEK DURING GDS

Salmonids in the Classroom

As part of the GDS program we also support DFO's Salmon in the Classroom program. In 2025 produced and provided over 4,000 fertilised chum salmon eggs for delivery to schools in Vancouver. Each school receives approximately 100 eggs that are then housed in an aquarium in the classroom, so that students can see the eggs hatch in spring. The hatched fry and then transported to a local creek and the children release these as part of their learning program.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Community Outreach

Visitors

The hatchery was open for access to the public and volunteers throughout 2025 and we had significant volunteer support from the community, high school students and the board of directors (Figure 10). In addition, over 2,105 people were estimated to have visited the hatchery facility during the year via the hiking and cycle trails of the LSCR. The community outreach visitor figures do not include the 2,034 students, teachers and parent attendees for our GDS education program, or those community volunteers that assisted in our daily activities. Thus, over 4,100 people visited the hatchery and education centre in 2025.

Volunteers

Volunteers are an integral aspect of the operation of the hatchery and SSS. Without the high level of public involvement, the staff would not be able to accomplish a fraction of what is completed at the Hatchery or SSS events. The SSS currently has over 750 volunteers registered to assist with the ongoing activities at the hatchery or within the watershed. Our hatchery and conservation activities were supported by over 1,000 volunteer working hours during 2025 (Figure 10). Student participation also improved as we were able to provide volunteer opportunities for high school students during the summer and fall periods. We are most grateful for the volunteer assistance we receive each year and would not be able to undertake all the work we do in the watershed without their help. The following provides a summary of the types of activities that volunteers and students assisted during 2025:

- Community event table participation
- Community event set-up/breakdown and general support
- Fin clipping our coho and steelhead fry
- River seine events for adult salmon and steelhead capture
- Broodstock angling for adult broodstock, specifically pink and chum salmon, along with summer and winter run steelhead
- Hatchery grounds maintenance and cleaning activities, including wood chopping, painting, general maintenance and repairs
- Assistance with fry releases in the upper watershed, along with smolt and fry releases into the lower watershed, or at West Vancouver laboratories
- Assistance with maintenance activities at the habitat enhancement areas throughout the watershed

Community Events

We successfully operated the chum fry release at Heritage Park, the Family Fishing Day at Rice Lake, our Open House at the Seymour Hatchery, and our World River Day event at the Seymour Estuary. The SSS also attended community events organised by others including the Blueridge Days Community Event, the annual Firefighters Fishing derby, along with the Ocean Film Festival at Centennial Theatre, and the Our Earth Film Festival at Capilano University. In addition, hatchery staff and Board of Directors attended numerous community events in relation to North Shore Tourism Association, North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, among others as follows.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

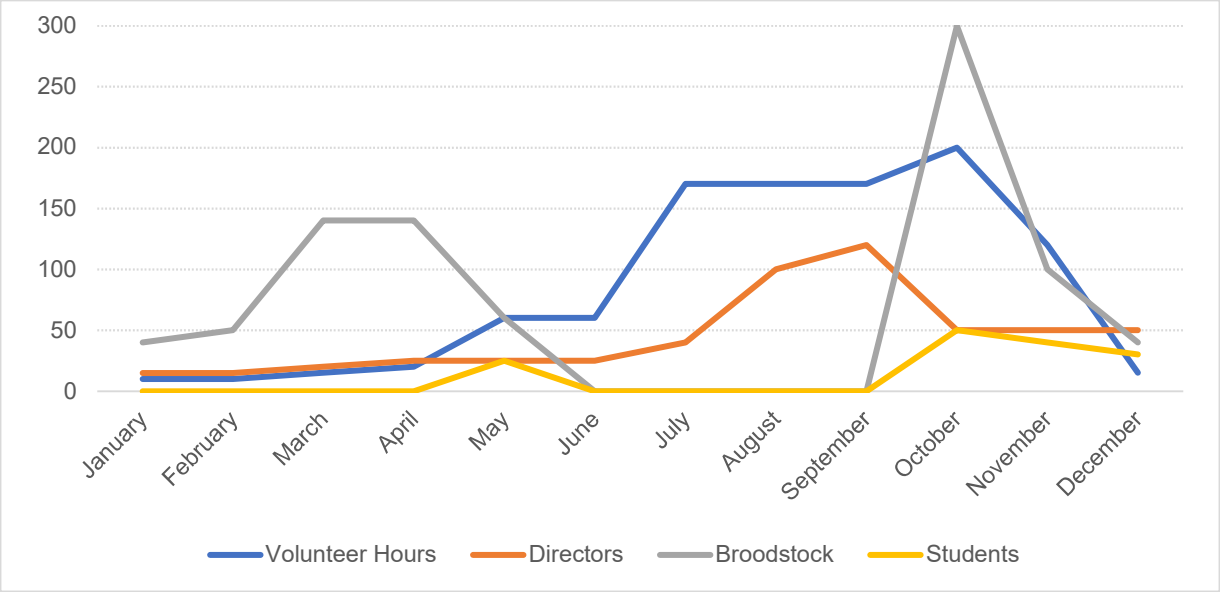


FIGURE 10 ESTIMATED VISITORS TO THE SEYMOUR RIVER FISH HATCHERY IN 2025

Heritage Park Chum Fry Release

Our annual chum release at Heritage Park was undertaken on 12 April with the support of the District of North Vancouver Firefighters Charitable Society. Heritage Park is <1km upstream from the Seymour Estuary (Figure 11). People of all ages were welcome to come and help release chum salmon into the nearby Maplewood Creek. Hatchery staff, the DNV Firefighters and volunteers helped to fill each bucket with chum salmon fry for the kids to then release and watch them swim downstream as they start their journey to the sea. We estimated that approximately 20,000 chum fry were released on the day.

FIGURE 11 MAPLEWOOD FARM CHUM RELEASE IN SPRING 2025

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Blueridge Days Festival

Blueridge Good neighbour Days community event happened in the first half of June and have been ongoing since 1998. The event is open to the public and is a great place to catch up with friends and neighbours. We enjoyed hosting our community event table and interacting with the local community on all thing's salmon and our wild places. Our event table was hosted by the Society's Board of Directors, along with hatchery staff on the day.

Family Fishing Day

Our annual family fishing day event was operated again at Rice Lake, with the support of Metro-Vancouver at Rice Lake on Saturday June 14. The weather on the day was mild and dry, which resulted in good attendance by the local community. We introduced hundreds of kids to fish at Rice Lake (Figure 12). We also operated our community events tent and GDS education tent for visitors, along with other community organisations such as Go Fish BC, the British Columbia Wildlife Federation (BCWF), local MLA's such as Susie Chant, the Black Bear Society among other attendees. A great day at Rice Lake was had by all attendees.

FIGURE 12 FAMILY FISHING DAY JUNE 14 AT RICE LAKE, NORTH VANCOUVER

Seymour Hatchery Open House

We hosted our annual Open House on September 14 to allow the public to visit the hatchery and learn about the work being undertaken at the hatchery (Figure 13). Hatchery tours operated throughout the day and enabled guests to learn more about the Society's enhancement, education, and habitat restoration program. GVWD's education team also attended and provided information about the watershed, our drinking water, and the dam.

Shuttle buses started running from 10am from Rice Lake gatehouse and left every half hour until 3pm. For those looking to learn more about the dam, there will be a bus stop prior to coming to the hatchery. Some of the festivities include a concession, live music, a fin clipping demonstration, among other community outreach tables such as GVWD, the Cheakamus Centre, North Shore Black Bear Society, among others. We were also lucky to have Backspin Bluegrass band for entertainment again.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

FIGURE 13 SEYMOUR HATCHERY OPEN HOUSE SEPTEMBER 14TH

Firefighters Fishing Derby

The District of North Vancouver Firefighters are a major financial supporter of our education program and were able to hold their annual Fishing Derby on September 19, and we were able to set-up our community events table for the day at the Lions Gate Marina and attend the weigh in event at the end of the day. The fishing derby was a great success, attended by over 200 boat fishing entries, the significant support and prize donations from local businesses, along with the organisational support from Highwater Tackle. The largest salmon caught on the day was approximately 15kg (34lb). The fishing derby resulted in a significant donation from the District of North Vancouver Firefighters of $55,000 towards our education program for 2026 (Figure 14).

FIGURE 14 FISHING DERBY WEIGH IN AT LIONS GATE MARINA

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Coho Festival

We attended the Coho Society's annual Coho festival at Ambleside Park on September 7 to support the celebration of nature's annual miracle of salmon returning to North Shore Rivers and Streams (Figure 15). The festival features food vendors, the coho garden, stewardship zone, kids park, music stage and the Squamish Nation Village. The ongoing focus of the festival is the education on the protection of fish and their environment, which is a great fit for the SSS.

FIGURE 15 BUSY DAY AT THE COHO FESTIVAL IN AMBLESIDE PARK

World Rivers Day

For World Rivers Day we organised an estuary clean-up and replanting at the river mouth on September 28, with the helps from GVWD staff and volunteers from the SSS. We were able to undertake considerable trash cleanup activities and native replanting at the estuary (Figure 16). A significant amount of invasive plant species was removed and replaced with native shrubs and tree species, while many bags of trash were also removed from the site. We would also like to thank the District of North Vancouver for collecting and disposing the invasive plants and trash collected.

Ocean Film Festival

The Society was a recipient of the inaugural Ocean Film Festival event held at the Centennial Theatre in North Vancouver on November 6. The festival explores and enjoys our oceans, promotes ocean conservation, and unite people to celebrate its wonders. In the past decade, the film festival worldwide has hosted nearly 1,100 screenings, with over 350,000 audience members. The event was sold out again in 2025, with 600 people attending and enjoying an evening of ocean related films, including a short film produced by the SSS that showcased one of our river seine events.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

FIGURE 16 WORLD RIVERS DAY AT SEYMOUR ESTUARY SEPTEMBER 28

Social Media

The SSS continues to operate our website (www.seymoursalmon.com), and we continue to communicate though social media via our Instagram and Facebook. Our Instagram site has increased from 256 followers in 2018 to 1,397 followers in 2025, while our Facebook support continues to exceed 1,000 followers. These social media platforms are two effective ways for members of the community to see what we are doing on a weekly basis.

Marketing and Fundraising

We continue our marketing and fundraising campaigns in the community with the aim of increasing our brand exposure. We are continuing our ***Legacy Giving*** approach through Willpower (https://www.willpower.ca), which is a public awareness campaign inspiring Canadians to think differently about the way they donate to charity and use wills to make a powerful contribution. We have continued our ***Social Media*** presence including further sharing our 'What We Do in the Watershed' videos through Youtube (https://www.youtube.com/@SalmonSeymour). We also continue to be involved in the ***Ocean Film Festival***, which has enabled us to increase our exposure to the community. We hope to continue this exposure at the 2026 event. We have also continued our presence at ***Community Events*** and outreach.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Hatchery Infrastructure Upgrades and Maintenance

Bathroom Upgrade

The original bathroom was over 25 years old and had a raised floor from the main foyer, which prevents access for disabled visitors. The upgrades sought to make the bathroom floor level with the building foyer, along with layout changes and toilet/sink replacements for disabled use. The new bathroom was completed in March 2025 and provides disabled access facilities (Figure 17).

FIGURE 17 COMPLETED DISABLED ACCESS HATCHEYR BATHROOM

Kitchen Upgrade

The original kitchen was over 25 years old, was no longer fit-for purpose and did not provide disabled visitor use of the amenities. The upgrades sought to enable disabled access to the sink, lower cupboards and upgrade the door handles. The new kitchen installation was completed in February 2025 and provides full disabled access facilities for our visitors (Figure 18).

FIGURE 18 COMPLETED DISABLED ACCESS HATCHERY KITCHEN FOR STAFF

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Foyer Entrance Disabled Access

The new door latches are level style and provide easy access for disabled persons through the internal doors within the facility main building. In addition, the new automatic electric opening door fitted to the existing foyer entrance was also installed to provide hands free access to the building (Figure 19).

FIGURE 19 COMPLETED FOYER ENTRANCE WITH AUTOMATIC OPENING DOORS

Egg Fungal Treatment System

A mobile formalin treatment system was designed for use in the egg incubation room, to replace the existing individual IV bag drip system at the facility. The system comprises a mobile cart housing a MFLX78018-20 multichannel pump for accurate low-flow delivery. The flow range for this pump is 0.003 – 68 mL/min and is within the 10 – 20mL/min range required at the hatchery. Delivery of the formalin solution to each incubation stack is via MFLX95603-44 tubing with 2.29mm internal diameter connected to the pump. Ball valves are connected to the delivery end of each tube to ensure flow management and flow cut-off when required between treatments. The formalin reservoir is housed on the shelf under the pump within a standard petrol storage can.

This egg fungal treatment system has four channels to allow delivery of formalin to four separate incubation stacks during each treatment cycle and minimises exposure of the user to formalin and it's fumes during treatments (Figure 20).

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

FIGURE 20 PARASITE-S TREATMENT CART AND PUMP IN USE

Adult Storage Tank Installation

To improve our ability to store a range of salmonid species for enhancement or transport and release purposes, we have purchased and ordered two 3 metre (10ft) diameter circ tank lids and associated plumbing for the facility. The two circ tub tanks are onsite and the foundation works and associated underground plumbing has been completed. We are awaiting fair weather conditions to move the two circulation tubs into place and complete the plumbing into the site. Final installation and operation is expected by spring 2026.

The circ tanks are being installed in the former adult steelhead holding ponds, which have not been in use for approximately 10 years. The old steelhead holding ponds are not fit-for-purpose as they have insufficient water supply/flows to them and the outlet pipes are too small to ensure appropriate water volume through the ponds. In addition, the ponds have insufficient overhead shading for adult storage, and the existing predator netting had degraded to the point that it had to be removed in 2022 (Figure 21). The new storage tanks are to provide additional storage flexibility when we have multiple species on-site at a given time.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

FIGURE 21 GROUND WORKS AND PLUMBING INSTALLATION AT THE HATCHERY

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Financials

The following sections provide an overview of the funding proposals, revenue and expenditure for the SSS during 2025. Please note that the SSS's fiscal year runs between April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 whereas our Annual Reporting runs from January to December 2025.

The significant annual contribution of $156,500 by GVWD enabled the SSS to leverage additional funds totalling approximately $255,000 from other sources such as DFO, commercial organisations, community donations and grant applications.

Significant 2025 Funding Approvals

Multiple funding proposals were prepared and submitted for consideration of funding for the hatchery and education centre, along with our conservation activities within the watershed. Successful funding agreements outside of our annual contribution agreements from DFO and GVWD are summarised in the following sections.

DNV Fire Fighters Charitable Society

The DNV Firefighters Charitable Society again continue to generously contribute towards our education program, as part of their annual Firefighters Fishing Derby, which was held in September 2024. Funding from the firefighters has been an annual funding contribution and this year the contribution was $55,000. The SSS have allocated these funds to help operate the GDS education program and we are most appreciative for this funding support, without which the GDS education program would not be possible.

Pacific Salmon Foundation

We were successful in receiving $31,600 within the spring 2025 funding round from the Pacific Salmon Foundation, for the installation of two new adult storage tanks on-site. The two circ tub tanks are onsite and the foundation works and associated underground plumbing has been completed. We are awaiting fair weather conditions to move the two circulation tubs into place and complete the plumbing into the site. Final installation and operation is expected by spring 2026.

We decided to not submit a fall 2025 funding application to the PSF since we had already been generously funded during the spring round of applications. We are most grateful to the Pacific Salmon Foundation for the significant funding to support our ongoing capital maintenance program at the Seymour River Hatchery and Education Centre, without which our ongoing operations would not have been possible.

Canada Summer Jobs Fund

We were very grateful to receive funding support from Canada Summer Jobs fund to support employment of our seasonal fisheries technician. The $11,370 contributed towards wages for our seasonal staff and employment would not have been possible without this support.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Bass Pro Helping Neighbours, Honoring Heroes

We were very grateful to receive $10,000 from Bass Pro through their helping neighbours, helping heroes community donation fund. The funding will contribute towards ensuring our facility remains open and operational to visitors, along with ensuring our ongoing restoration, enhancement and education programs can continue.

North Shore Community Foundation

We were very grateful to receive $9,014 from the North Shore Community Foundation through their Community Prosperity Fund, which was used to provide funds towards our gently Down the Seymour education program, along with ongoing operations at our facility (i.e., insurances, heating, etc.). We are most grateful for the generous support provided by the North Shore Community Foundation.

Nature Canada Work-to-Grow Program

We were very grateful to receive funding support from Nature Canada's Work-to-grow program to support employment of our seasonal fisheries technician. The $4,685 contributed towards wages for our seasonal staff and employment would not have been possible without this support.

District of North Vancouver Sustainability Grant

We were very grateful to receive $4,635 from the District of North Vancouver through their sustainability grant program, which will be used to provide personal protection equipment for hatchery staff during 2026. Our facility staff are most grateful for equipment such as rain gear, warm socks, base layers, weatherproof trousers, and waders as part of this grant program.

North Shore Lions Club

We are most grateful to the North Shore Lions Club for the generous $2,000 donation to hatchery operations as part of their ongoing community involvement and support. The funding will contribute towards ensuring our facility remains open and operational to visitors, along with ensuring our ongoing restoration,

RBC Foundation

We are most grateful to the RBC Foundation for the generous $1,500 donation to hatchery operations as part of the Ocean Film Festival. The funding will contribute towards ensuring our facility remains open and operational to visitors, along with ensuring our ongoing restoration, enhancement and education programs can continue.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

Seymour Salmonid Society 2025 Revenue

Table 3 provides a summary of the SSS revenue for 2025.

TABLE 3 SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY OPERATIONS REVENUE 2025

Funding Partner	Allocations	Funding Amount
GVWD	Hatchery Operations	$156,500
Fisheries & Oceans Canada	Hatchery Operations	$112,000
Additional Revenue (from Table 4)	Hatchery Operations / Projects / Education	$145,725
	Total Revenue	**$414,225**

Additional 2025 Revenue Summary* (from 'Additional Revenue' in Table 3)

The funds provided by GVWD enabled SSS staff to accrue supplementary monies for specific projects and programs. Table 4 provides a summary of these amounts and allocations.

TABLE 4 SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY ADDITIONAL REVENUE 2025

Source	Project	Amount
DNV Fire Fighters Charitable Society	Education Programs	$55,000
Pacific Salmon Foundation (PSF)	Capital Operations - Renovations	$31,600
GDS Registrations	Education Programs	$11,573
Canada Summer Jobs Fund	Seasonal Staff Wage Contribution	$11,308
Donations, Memberships,	General Society Business	$7,410
North Shore Community Foundation	General Society Business	$9,014
Nicola Wealth Foundation (Trust Donations)	General Society Business	$7,000
Nature Canada Work-to-Grow Program	Seasonal Staff Wage Contribution	$4,685
District of North Vancouver	Sustainability Grant	$4,635
North Shore Lions Club	General Society Business	$2,000
RBC Foundation	General Society Business	$1,500
	Total Revenue	**$145,725**

***Note**: Funds are not a detailed reflection of our Financial Statement of accounts. Some received are allocated within different tax year dates (i.e., January – December, or April – March).*

Seymour Salmonid Society 2025 Expenditures

Table 5 provides a summary of the SSS expenditure for 2025.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

TABLE 5 SEYMOUR RIVER HATCHERY OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE 2025

Expenditure Type	Expenditure
Wages (including monitoring technician wages)	$225,500
Hatchery Operations / Maintenance	$25,900
Overhead (includes WCB, health benefits)	$16,400
Insurances (commercial, volunteer)	$11,000
Vehicle Maintenance / Fuel / Mileage / ICBC	$10,600
Fish Food	$9,100
Safety and Training	$500
Additional 2024 Expenditure (from Table 6)	$251,866
Total Expenditure	**$550,866**

Additional 2025 Expenditure Summary (from 'Additional Expenditure' in Table 5)

Table 6 provides a summary of the additional expenditure incurred by the SSS that is secured via external funding applications.

TABLE 6 SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE 2025

Expenditure Type	Expenditure
Operational Infrastructure (drainage, pond weirs, flow data logger/alarm, drain #2 platform, parasite-S pump, predator netting, circular tank parts, plumbing, accessibility project (bathroom, kitchen, automatic door opener)	$115,000
Habitat Restoration (rockslide, estuary masterplan)	$30,756
Environmental Education (GDS)	$88,500
Website and IT	$4,610
Signage Structural Repairs	$10,000
Fundraising Costs	$3,000
Total Additional Expenditure	**$251,866**

The following funds were approved and received during 2024, but some of those funds were spent in 2025. The funds received in 2024 were reported on in our 2024 Annual Report; however, given the different fiscal years between our fiscal year (i.e., April 1 to March 31 there is an overlap between our annual report (i.e., January to December) and our fiscal year cycles:

Estuary Masterplan - Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF) provided their final payment of $9,000 following completion of the Estuary Masterplan in August 2025.

Capital Operations and Renovations – the Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative (PSSI) approved and provided $70,000 during 2024 towards ongoing maintenance and site upgrades. Some of these upgrades were completed in 2025.

SEYMOUR SALMONID SOCIETY

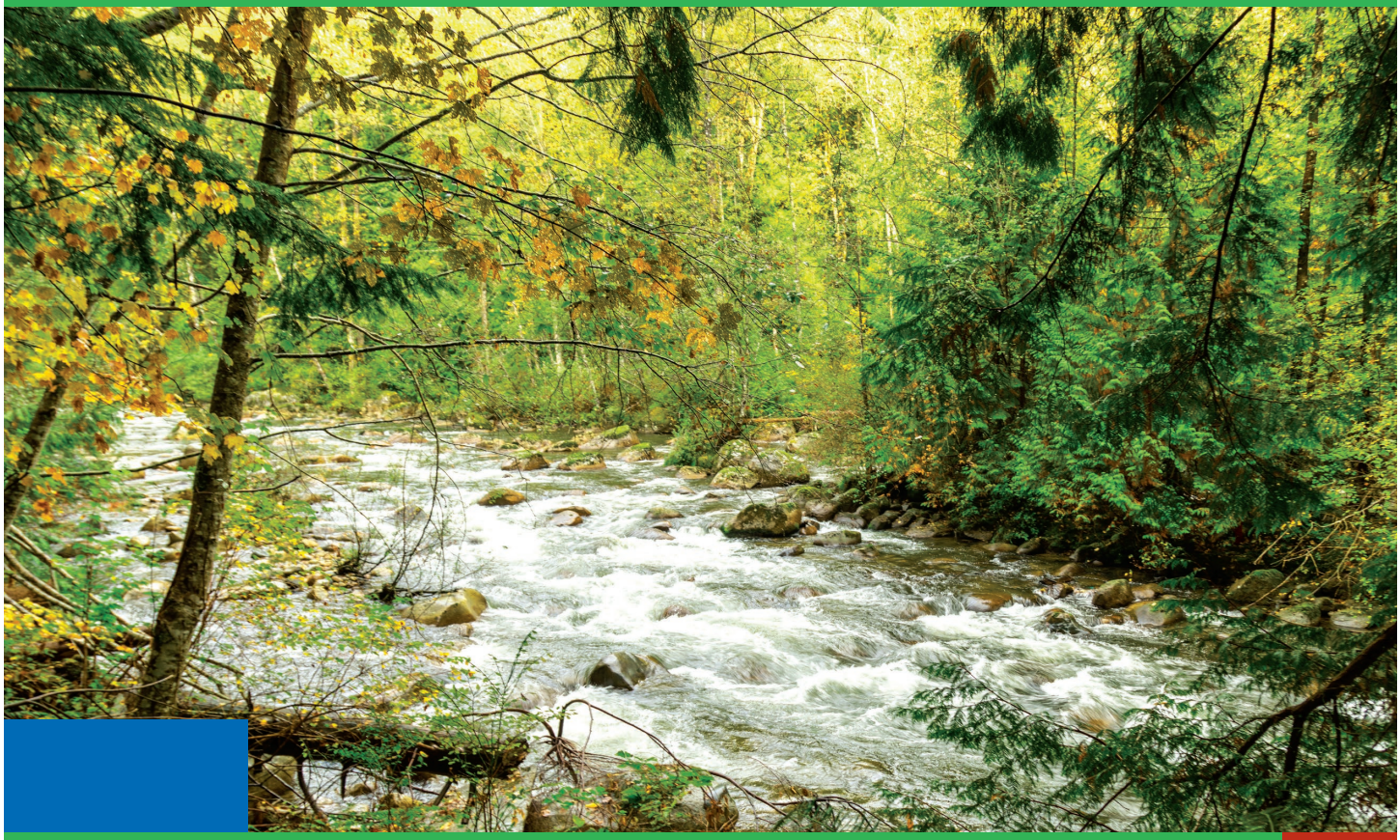
Looking Forward

The year ahead is expected to be as busy as the last, with the most significant major projects we will be focusing on are as follows:

- **Seymour River Canyon (Rockslide) Monitoring** – above-water review in spring 2026 following freshet will be undertaken to identify fish passage constraints during all flow conditions
- **Juvenile Coho Salmon and Steelhead Smolt Releases** - juvenile steelhead and coho will continue rearing in the ponds over the winter, with the coho smolts released directly to Hurry Creek and the steelhead smolts released at West Vancouver labs during spring 2026
- **Juvenile Coho Salmon Fry Releases** – release of coho fry upstream of the dam during spring 2026. However, given the 200 pairs of coho adult released above the dam this season, we anticipate we will not be required to release fry above the dam in 2026
- **Juvenile Chum and Pink Salmon fry Releases** - The chum and pink salmon fry will be released to the lower river during spring 2026
- **Adult Carcass Recovery Monitoring** - within the river and tributaries to better understand the number of coho migrating through the rockslide to spawn naturally. We have been undertaken carcass recovery monitoring since October 2025 and aim to complete this work during January 2026. The 2026 monitoring will begin again during October 2026
- **Habitat Restoration Activities** – for existing and new aquatic habitat for both juvenile rearing and adult spawning activities, along with restoration proposals in the lower river and estuary. We will continue to monitor our existing habitat restoration sites to ensure they continue to operate as designed
- **GDS Education Program** – we have secured sufficient funding to operate a spring GDS program in 2026 and are continuing our efforts to enable funding for Fall 2026. This will include on-site education days and has been contracted to BCWF to undertake the education program
- **Community Events and Enhancement Program** – we would welcome the ability to host and/or attend community events in 2026 and will continue at least with involvement at the following events: Heritage Park chum release, Blueridge Days Festival, Family Fishing Day, Hatchery Open House, the Coho Festival, World Rivers Day Estuary Cleanup, Firefighters Fishing Derby and the Ocean Film Festival
- **Hatchery Pick-up Truck** – to renew our ageing vehicle to ensure use during restoration, enhancement, education and other activities in the watershed for another 10 years
- **Ongoing Hatchery Infrastructure Renewal** – to secure the hatchery and education facility for the next generation of community volunteers, elementary school children and fisheries

2025 Annual Report

Celebrating 15 Years of Collaborative Watershed Engagement (2011 – 2026)



Prepared by the Executive Director with the support of the Coquitlam River Watershed Society Board

February 14, 2026

Coquitlam River Watershed Society

Mission

Our Mission is to preserve and enhance the health of the Coquitlam River Watershed through collaboration, education and advisory action.

The Coquitlam River Watershed Society is honoured to operate on the traditional and ancestral lands of the kʷikʷəƛ̓əm (Kwikwetlem First Nation). We thank the kʷikʷəƛ̓əm who continue to live on these lands and care for them, along with the waters and all that is above and below.

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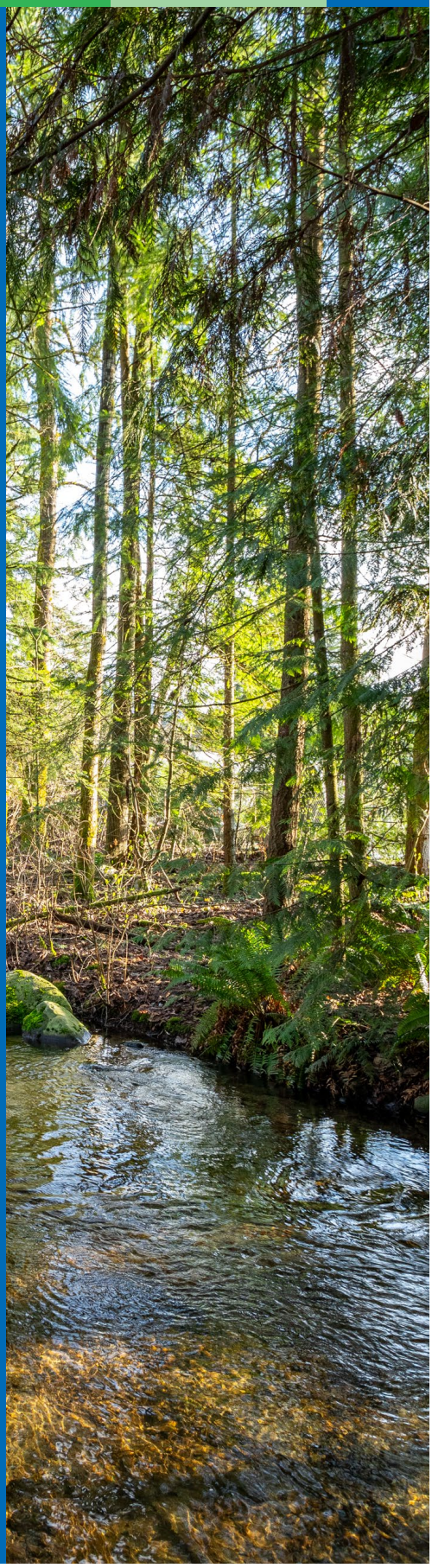


Introduction

Message from

Margaret A. Birch, R.P.Bio. (retired)

Board Vice-Chair,
Coquitlam River Watershed Society.

As Board Vice-Chair, I am honoured to share this message for the Society's 2025 Annual Report and to express sincere gratitude to the many partners, funders, and volunteers who support the Coquitlam River Watershed Society. With your continued collaboration, we have made meaningful and lasting improvements to the health of the Coquitlam River watershed—for both people and fish.

Our journey began in February 2011 with the formation of the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable. After four years of multi-sector collaboration, the Roundtable developed the Lower Coquitlam River Watershed Plan, overcoming years of division among watershed stakeholders. That work emerged from a period of crisis, when the Coquitlam River had been listed by the BC Outdoor Recreation Council as one of the province's most endangered rivers. Through collective action focused on improving water quality and salmon habitat, the river was removed from that list in 2013.

In 2026, we will mark 15 years of sustained, community-based watershed collaboration. This milestone reflects the dedication, expertise, and resilience of the individuals and organizations that continue to guide this work. The Lower Coquitlam River Watershed Plan—developed between 2013 and 2015 through broad consultation—remains our guiding framework. When the Roundtable transitioned into a Society in 2024, its collaborative structure was preserved, ensuring continuity in both governance and vision.

This Annual Report highlights another strong year of stewardship, education, and advisory action. The legacy Demonstration Rain Garden at Lions Park in Port Coquitlam continues to thrive through volunteer care. Updated educational displays, outreach campaigns promoting respect for wildlife, and community-based clean-ups and invasive species removal all contributed to healthier riparian and aquatic habitats. Through sustained public engagement, we are seeing the benefits of long-term municipal, regional, and community efforts to improve water quality and support salmon health.

Reflections captured more than a decade ago from Core Committee members speak to the enduring strength of this collaborative approach:

- *"…the greatest strength of this [organization] is the ability for people to foster relationships with different sectors that they may not normally rub elbows with and to understand where each individual is coming from…"*
- *"…there is quite a bit of talent in the room with respect to knowledge about various aspects of the watershed through the representatives that participate…"*
- *"…we are all concerned about the same thing. There is just the commonality of the river. While the reasons for why we are at the table could differ, the commonality of the river brings us together."*

Excerpts from Fielding, G.B., 2016. Evaluating the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable

As we look ahead, we remain committed to our Mission: to preserve and enhance the health of the Coquitlam River watershed through collaboration, education and advisory action. With on-going support and participation of our partners, this work continues to adapt to an evolving landscape of climate change and development.

To another great year!

Acknowledgments

Throughout 2025, the Coquitlam River Watershed Society (CRWS) (the "Society") was grateful for the continued financial support of key partners whose commitment makes our work possible.

We sincerely thank the City of Coquitlam, Metro Vancouver (Greater Vancouver Water District), kʷikʷəƛəm First Nation, the Government of Canada, Jack Cewe Construction Ltd., Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Pacific Salmon Foundation, and the Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program for their ongoing investment in watershed stewardship.

The Society is especially appreciative of the opportunity throughout 2025 to strengthen its relationship with kʷikʷəƛəm First Nation through communication and collaboration on shared goals.

The Society's activities are further supported by significant in-kind contributions of time expertise, and resources from partners and community supporters.

We gratefully acknowledge support from the City of Coquitlam; City of Port Coquitlam; kʷikʷəƛəm First Nation; Tri-Cities Off-Road Cycling Association; Burke Mountain Naturalists; Tri-Cities Bear Aware; Wondrous Tree Fellowship; Watershed Watch Salmon Society; Jack Cewe Construction Ltd.; Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Arts Connect; Allard Airlines; Heidelberg Materials; Vancity Savings; BC Hydro; Kwantlen Polytechnic University; Coquitlam Public Library; Originelle Designs Photography; and in-kind support.

Finally, the Society extends its sincere thanks to the many volunteers, stewards, community organizations, and businesses who contributed their time and energy throughout the year. Their dedication remains essential to advancing collaborative watershed stewardship.

Coquitlam

metrovancouver
SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

kʷikʷəƛəm
Kwikwetlem First Nation

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada
Canada

CEWE
SINCE 1953

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

PACIFIC SALMON FOUNDATION

FWCP
Fish & Wildlife
COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Executive Summary

In 2025, the Society established a sound foundation as a newly incorporated Society, while building on its legacy of 15 years of collaboration in support of the health of the Coquitlam River Watershed. What began in 2011 as a multi-sector roundtable responding to a river in crisis has evolved into a formally incorporated Society grounded in collaboration, shared knowledge, and collective stewardship.

The Lower Coquitlam River Watershed Plan remains the foundation of the Society's work. In 2025, the Society continued to implement the Plan through practical stewardship, education, and advisory initiatives that support water quality, salmon habitat, and responsible use of the watershed. Volunteer care of the Lions Park Demonstration Rain Garden, riverside clean-ups, and invasive species removal contributed directly to on-the-ground outcomes while fostering public stewardship and awareness.

Education and outreach were central to the Society's impact in 2025. The launch of the Respectful Recreation campaign responded to growing community concern about recreational impacts on sensitive river habitats. Developed collaboratively with municipal, provincial, federal, and community partners, the campaign delivered consistent, accessible guidance through printed materials and in-person outreach. The Society also strengthened its salmon education capacity through a new outreach display supported by the Pacific Salmon Foundation, enhancing the Society's presence at community events.

The Society's collaborative governance model continued to be a defining strength. The Core Committee brought together representatives from governments, including First Nations, stewardship organizations, industry, education, recreation to guide work planning, share knowledge, and support coordinated action.

Ongoing participation from kʷikʷəƛ̓əm First Nation Council reflected a strengthening relationship grounded in respect, reconciliation, and shared stewardship of the watershed.

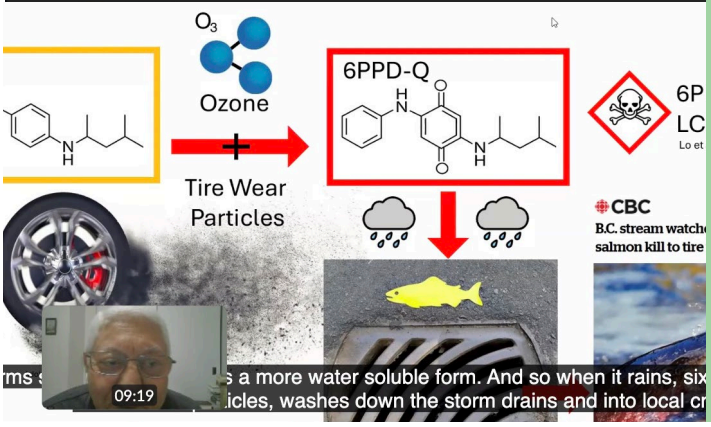
Operationally, 2025 marked an important year of consolidation. The long-standing contract coordinator role was transitioned to a permanent Executive Director position, aligning with best practices for organizational stability and accountability. Financial management responsibilities were fully transitioned to the Society following incorporation in 2024, strengthening governance alignment and fiduciary oversight. Despite modestly reduced revenues, careful financial management, strong in-kind support, and volunteer contributions enabled the Society to deliver its programs and conclude the year within budget.

Digital engagement continued to grow, with record website traffic and document downloads following the launch of the Resource Catalogue, reinforcing the Society's role as a trusted source of watershed information.

Looking ahead to 2026, the Society remains focused on advancing the Watershed Plan through stewardship, outreach, reconciliation, and partnerships. Prioritizing the renewal of sustainable funding agreements will be a necessary step in establishing the long-term financial sustainability of our organization. With a strong collaborative foundation and committed partners, the Society is well positioned to continue protecting the Coquitlam River watershed for people, salmon, and future generations.

Sector Representatives + Community Partners

The Coquitlam River Watershed Society is grounded in a collaborative, sector-based model that brings together governments, including First Nations, stewardship and community organizations, businesses and industry, who have a shared interest in the health of the watershed. This structure ensures that diverse perspectives contribute to shared knowledge, while supporting coordinated practical action.



Core Committee

The Core Committee is composed of sector representatives who generously contribute their time and expertise in kind to support the work of the Society. Members participate in Core Committee and Community meetings, serve on standing and project-based committees, and contribute to outreach and stewardship activities. These sector representatives elect Board directors, contribute to work-planning and provide expertise and guidance from their sector. Through this leadership, the Core Committee helps shape the direction and priorities of the Society.

A defining feature of the Core Committee is the participation of kʷikʷəƛ̓əm First Nation, represented by both Council and staff. This ongoing involvement reflects a strengthening relationship grounded in respect, collaboration, and shared stewardship of the Coquitlam River watershed.

In early 2025, several new stewardship partners joined the Core Committee, including Tri-Cities Bear Aware, Wondrous Tree Fellowship, and Burke Mountain Naturalists. This year also saw new representation from the Tri-Cities Off-Road Cycling Association and Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

Core Committee Presentations and Knowledge Sharing

Core Committee meetings serve as an important forum for learning and information exchange.

In 2025, presentations included:

- ***January 15:*** *Community-led Resilience for a Healthy Watershed – Margaret Birch*
- ***March 19:*** *Impacts of the Tire-Rubber Chemical 6PPD-quinone on Aquatic Organisms – Grayson Barke, Simon Fraser University*
- ***March 19:*** *BC Hydro Water Use Plan Updates – Katy Jay, BC Hydro*
- ***May 14:*** *Preliminary Results from the Water Quality and Bacterial Salmon Pathogens Pilot Project – Layne Myhre, Kwantlen Polytechnic University*
- ***September 17:*** *Salmon Returns, Campaigns, and Policy Updates – Meghan Rooney, Watershed Watch Salmon Society*
- ***November 19:*** *Historic and Ongoing Ties of kʷikʷəƛ̓əm First Nation to the Coquitlam River Watershed – Nancy Joe, Cultural Coordinator, kʷikʷəƛ̓əm First Nation*

Sector Representatives

Local Government

City of Coquitlam
Caresse Selk

City of Port Coquitlam
Scott Walmsley

First Nation

kʷikʷəƛəm First Nation (Council)
Councillor George Chaffee

kʷikʷəƛəm First Nation (Staff)
Lance Myers

Regional Government

Metro Vancouver, Water Services
Jesse Montgomery

Utilities

BC Hydro
Katy Jay

Federal Government

Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Elan Park

Industry

Heidelberg Materials
Sophie Mullen

Allard Airlines
Jim Allard

Stewardship

Tri-Cities Bear Aware
Carla Parr-Pearson

Burke Mountain Naturalists
Helen Howes

Wondrous Tree Fellowship
Nancy Furness

Education

Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Layne Myhre

Arts and Culture

Arts Connect
Sherry Carroll

Recreation

Tri-Cities Off-Road Cycling Association
Chris Cook

Community Supporters

Participants in 2025

16 voting members
8 Board Directors
74 Community supporters and volunteers

Many community members support the Society in an informal capacity as community supporters. These individuals contribute volunteer labour to stewardship projects and share knowledge and expertise through participation in community meetings and task groups. Together, these contributions play an important role in advancing collaborative watershed stewardship.

Staff and Support

The Society has always operated as a lean organization, maximizing impact through a small team. As the only permanent staff, the Executive Director, Georgia Ohm, is supported by part-time contractors as needed.

In 2025, this team included

Executive Director
Georgia Ohm

Digital Communications
Jacqueline Chan

Outreach Coordinator
Melissa Plisic

Graphic Designer
Eila Miller

Board of Directors

In 2025, the Society continued to strengthen its governance framework following the transition in 2024 to a standing board of directors (the "Board").

This transition marked a significant milestone in the Society's evolution from a long-standing collaborative roundtable to a formally incorporated non-profit organization with clear fiduciary and governance responsibilities, governed by the Societies Act of British Columbia.

The Board provides oversight and management of the Society's affairs in accordance with the Society's bylaws, the Societies Act, and leading nonprofit governance practices. Board responsibilities include strategic direction, financial oversight, supervision of the Executive Director, risk management, and ensuring that the Society advances its mission to preserve and enhance the health of the Coquitlam River watershed.

In keeping with the Society's collaborative roots, the Cities of Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam, as well as kʷikʷəƛ̓əm First Nation, may appoint Directors to the Board. This structure helps ensure that First Nation, municipal, and regional perspectives continue to inform decision-making at the governance level.

The Board meets five times per year and reviews financial statements on a quarterly basis. The Board also support the Society through participation in committees, work planning sessions, and key events. Formal orientation and onboarding are provided to new directors, including access to governance documents, pairing with experienced board members, and ongoing support to ensure clarity of roles and responsibilities.

Through the establishment of a standing Board and continued refinement of governance practices, the Society is well positioned to provide accountable leadership, support staff and partners, and guide collaborative watershed stewardship into the future.

At the Society's Annual General Meeting, held on June 11, 2025, the full slate of Board Directors was approved by the Society Members to continue in their roles.

Current Board of Directors

Bonnie Razzaghi
Environmental engineer and longtime CRWS volunteer whose experience in conservation, science communication, and project management strengthens strategic oversight and stewardship initiatives. Bonnie contributes to the oversight of Funding opportunities and applications.

Glynis Karpinsky
Glynis brings expertise in volunteer coordination, human resources, and community based leadership to Board governance..

Kirsten Wilson
Kirsten brings her executive experience to her role as Board Chair, contributing to Board deliberations, governance oversight and supervision of the Executive Director.

Margaret Birch
Margaret is a foundational leader in watershed stewardship since 2007, providing extensive experience in environmental services coordination, grant writing, budgeting, and policy development.

Marion Lochhead
Finance and property tax law professional who strengthens the Board's financial oversight, risk management, and fiduciary responsibilities.

Councillor Matt Djonlic
Municipal councillor and longtime TriCities resident offering civic leadership experience and insight from provincial and local government service.

Councillor Nancy McCurrach
Municipal councillor contributing local government perspective and a strong commitment to collaborative, community based watershed stewardship.

Sonya Knechtel
Corporate paralegal with expertise in the BC Societies Act, governance compliance, and records management, supporting strong organizational accountability.

Operations

The operations of the Coquitlam River Watershed Society (CRWS) are designed to support effective governance, sound financial management, and efficient delivery of programs while maintaining a lean organizational structure.

Organizational Systems and Resources
In 2025, the Society transitioned the long-standing contract Coordinator role to a permanent staff position, that of Executive Director, aligning with British Columbia labour standards and recognized best practices for roles that are ongoing, full-time, and central to organizational operations. This change supports transparency, stability, and the long-term health of the organization. The responsibilities of the Executive Director build on those of the former Coordinator role, with expanded accountability for organizational administration, financial oversight, and liaison with the Board, in keeping with the requirements of an incorporated Society.

During 2025, the Executive Director was supported by Melissa Plisic, who worked on contract as an Outreach Coordinator during Spring 2025. Through funding from the Canada Summer Jobs program, Eila Miller supported the Society as a Graphic Designer throughout the summer. In addition, Jacqueline Chan continued to provide invaluable technical support on an ongoing, part-time contract basis.

Together, this small and flexible team enabled the Society to advance its programs, outreach, and governance responsibilities efficiently while maintaining a strong focus on collaboration and stewardship.

Financial Management
Sound financial stewardship remains a core operational priority for the Society. In 2025, the Society continued to strengthen its financial management practices, including budgeting, financial tracking, and regular reporting to the Board.

A significant operational milestone in 2025 was the transition of financial management responsibilities from Watershed Watch Salmon Society to CRWS. For over 10 years, Watershed Watch Salmon Society has provided invaluable support as the Society's financial trustee. Aligning financial operations with governance accountability reflects the Society's growing administrative capacity and organizational maturity. Payroll, accounting, and tax filing responsibilities are now managed directly by the Society, with contract services provided by CNC Accounting.

Work planning
The Society facilitated two work planning sessions in 2025 with members, board directors, and community supporters. In previous years, work planning sessions have typically been held in the early spring. This year, in order to plan in advance of grant applications for projects, the Society also held a work planning session in the Fall. Going forward, work planning will be held in the fall of the year.

At both Work Planning events in 2025, the Society was grateful to receive strong guidance from the Kwikwetlem First Nation. During the Spring workshop, The Society heard the following themes from members:

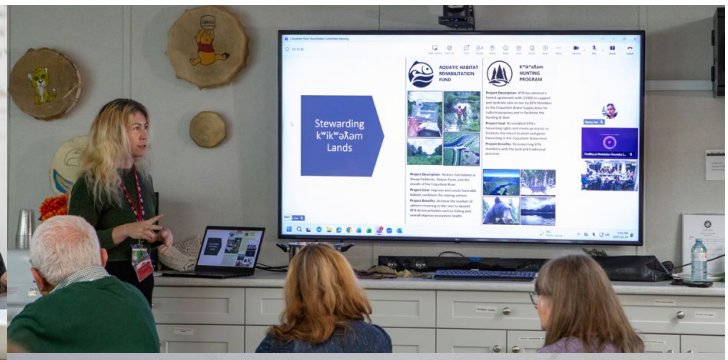
- *A strong concern for habitat and species protection, especially in areas where public use and recreation puts pressure on ecosystems.*
- *An identified need for a searchable Resource Catalogue to make watershed information more accessible to the Society members, partners and the community.*

These themes were also emphasized at the Fall work planning session, alongside suggestions to seek out more partnerships with post-secondary students and researchers, develop programs and opportunities that benefit Kwikwetlem First Nation youth and elders. A call to contribute to BC Hydro's Order Review Advisory Committee was also proposed.

Society recognition and outreach material
With funding from the Canada Summer Jobs program, an initiative to support young Canadian professionals, the Society was able to hire a young graphic designer to renew the Society's logo, reflecting the change of name from Roundtable to Society. This work resulted in renewed branded materials including new posters and leaflets, bookmarks, letterhead, and a work plan template, as well as campaign materials for our Rain Garden watering program and Respectful Recreation campaign.

Work planning sessions in 2025 with members, board directors, and community supporters facilitated strategic planning and cross-sector collaboration.










Outreach Events

Community events continue to be an important way for the Society to connect with residents, share information, and encourage stewardship of the Coquitlam River watershed.

Through these events, the Society's staff, Board members, and volunteers engaged community members in conversations about watershed health, stewardship actions, and the role of collaboration in protecting the river system. Community events provided accessible entry points for learning, relationship-building, and raising awareness of ongoing watershed initiatives.

List of Community Events attended

Organizer	Event	Date
Port Coquitlam Community Foundation	**Port Coquitlam Community Foundation Grant Recipient Recognition Event**	Wednesday, March 5, 2025
City of Port Coquitlam	**Port Coquitlam Earth Day Celebration**	Saturday, April 27, 2025
Tri-Cities Offroad Cycling Association	**Outdoor Recreation Festival Trails Day**	Saturday, June 7, 2025
City of Coquitlam	**Coquitlam Environmental Volunteer Celebration**	Saturday, June 7, 2025
City of Coquitlam	**Park Day**	Wednesday, July 23, 2025
Kwikwetlem First Nation, Resilient Waters, Watershed Watch Salmon Society, and UBC's Pacific Salmon Ecology & Conservation Lab	**Salmon Day at Colony Farm**	Saturday, October 4, 2025
City of Coquitlam and Hoy-Scott Watershed Society	**Salmon Come Home**	Sunday, October 26, 2025

By maintaining a targeted presence at community events, the Society continued to strengthen public awareness and support for collaborative watershed stewardship while operating within the capacity of a lean organization.

Watershed Plan Implementation

The work of the Society is guided by the Lower Coquitlam River Watershed Plan, which provides a shared framework for understanding watershed conditions, identifying pressures, and advancing coordinated action. The Plan emphasizes collaboration across jurisdictions and sectors, recognizing that protecting and restoring watershed health requires collective effort and long-term commitment.

In 2025, the Society continued to advance implementation of the Watershed Plan by focusing on practical, community-based projects that support water quality, habitat protection, and responsible use of the watershed.

Through partnerships, stewardship initiatives, and targeted projects, the Society translated planning priorities into on-the-ground outcomes while building capacity for future implementation.

Stormwater Management
Stormwater management remains a priority focus for implementation of the Watershed Plan, building on significant progress achieved in 2024 through planning, partnerships, and on-the-ground improvements. In 2025, stewardship efforts continued at the Rain Garden, where volunteers provided ongoing watering, maintenance and care throughout the summer months. This work was supported by strong community participation, amounting to over 40 volunteer hours supporting the long-term function of this important stormwater feature.

Anti-littering and Dumping
Addressing littering and illegal dumping remains an important component of watershed stewardship, with direct benefits for water quality, habitat health, and community use of river-adjacent spaces. In 2025, the Society advanced this work through targeted clean-up events, strengthened stewardship capacity, and continued collaboration with community, municipal, and corporate partners.

With support from the Pacific Salmon Foundation Community Salmon Program, the Society enhanced its ability to undertake safe and effective clean-up activities through the purchase of essential equipment, including garbage tongs, buckets, storage bins, and a folding wagon. This equipment improved on-site efficiency, supported volunteer safety, and enabled the Society to organize and deliver repeated clean-up events at priority locations while maintaining a well-organized storage locker for outreach and stewardship supplies.

The Society also participated in BC Rivers Day with a community clean-up at Ozada Park, Coquitlam, engaging Society members, community volunteers with support from City of Coquitlam staff.

> ***"Grateful to the River** and its thriving ecosystem, the accessibility to immerse oneself in nature and for all that provides. Thanks to the CRWS and the City of Coquitlam for organizing and supporting the clean up day - it was massively rewarding and hope the spirit of stewardship efforts continues to grow throughout our community to protect this very special river."*

Comment on the CRWS' Facebook page regarding the Rivers Day Clean-up at Ozada Park post, September 26, 2025.

Salmon Habitat + Conservation

Respectful Recreation

In 2023 and 2024, the Society received a growing number of public inquiries about recreational activities affecting fish and wildlife habitat along the Coquitlam River. Causes of concern included dogs in waterways during spawning season, rock sculptures and dams, and litter. Through conversations with community members, partners, and media, it became clear that accessible, authoritative guidance on respectful recreation—particularly recreation with pets—was limited, and that people were often hesitant to address harmful behaviours directly. The Society identified public education as a constructive first step.

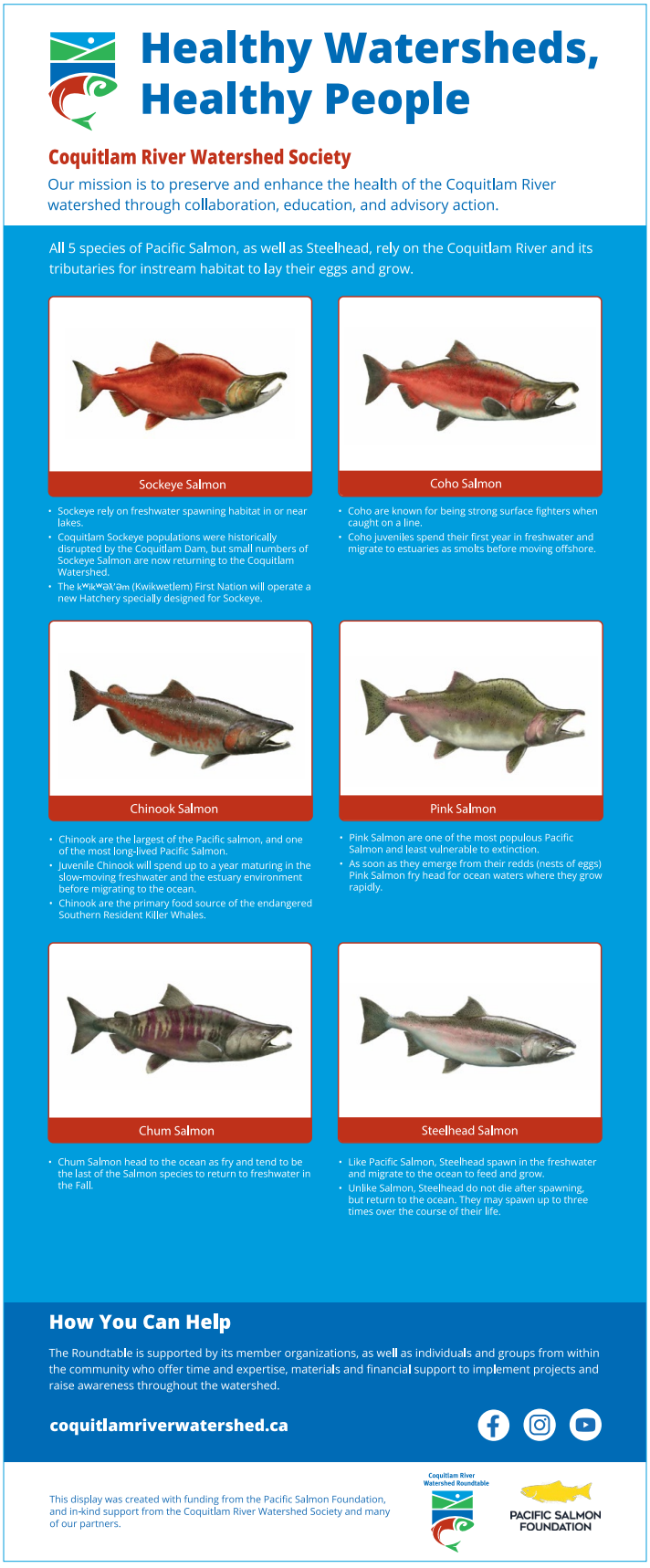
In summer 2025, we convened an advisory panel that included representatives from Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Metro Vancouver, the Cities of Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam, the BC SPCA, Tri-Cities Bear Aware, Burke Mountain Naturalists, Wonderous Tree Fellowship, and the Tri-Cities Off-Road Cycling Association. Through work with these partners, we ensured that educational messages in support of low-impact recreation were aligned with those of our partners and communicated with consistency. With the advice compiled, the Society produced two pamphlets—one for a general audience and one focused on dog owners. Design support was provided by Canada Summer Jobs–funded graphic designer.

250 Respectful recreation pamphlets distributed.

Further funding from the Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP), supported the printing, and delivery of Respectful Recreation pamphlets, and associated outreach at community events. Between September and December 2025, the campaign reached community members through stewardship events and public outreach, including clean-ups at Ozada Park and Gates Park, as well as major watershed events such as Salmon Day at ƛéxətəm Regional Park and Salmon Come Home Day at the Hoy Scott Hatchery. Pamphlets were also distributed through municipal offices, animal shelters, and pet-related businesses, extending the reach of Respectful Recreation messaging across the watershed. The campaign was well received by community members and partners, and laid the groundwork for continued engagement in 2026, including further presentations and outreach.

> ***"This is great,** both pamphlets are very relevant."*

Michaela, staff at Coquitlam Animal Shelter



New Salmon Display

With a grant from the Pacific Salmon Foundation Community Salmon Program the Society enhanced its salmon education capacity with a new salmon outreach display. The new display features two pull-up display banners, new interpretive panels, and salmon egg-to-fry display units designed for use at community events and stewardship activities.

Developed with input from Core Committee members, Fisheries and Oceans Canada staff, and municipal partners, the display provides clear, engaging information on Pacific salmon species, sites of importance within the Coquitlam River watershed, and actions the public can take to support thriving populations of salmon and steelhead in the watershed. The new display strengthens the Society's ability to deliver consistent, high-quality salmon education at events such as Canada Day, BC Rivers Day, Salmon Come Home, and Salmon Day, and will continue to support public awareness and stewardship into future years.

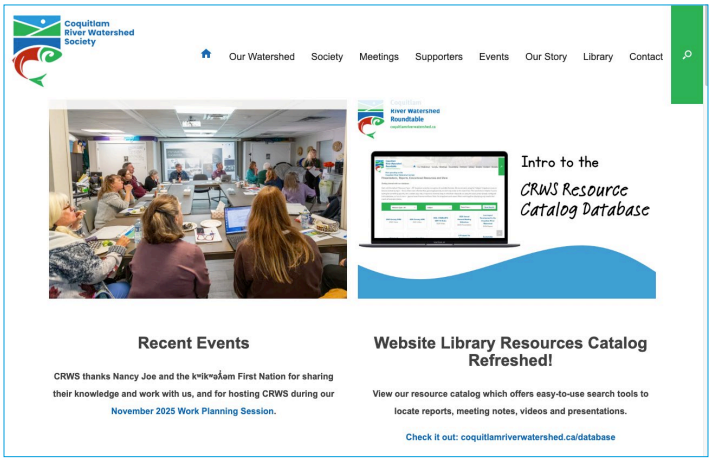
Website + Social Media

The Society's digital platforms continued to play a central role in outreach, engagement, and information sharing in 2025, with significant growth across key performance indicators. **In 2025 Total website views rose to 26,916, more than quadrupling 2023 levels.**

A major contributor to this growth was the launch of the Resource Catalog in August 2025, which quickly became the most visited section of the website after the homepage. This centralized hub improved public access to over 380 reports, plans, and reference materials, reinforcing the website's role as a trusted source of watershed information. Website stability and navigation were also improved in mid-to-late 2025, reducing downtime and enhancing accessibility and user experience.

Website and social media traffic peaked between September and November, aligning with increased stewardship events and community activities. Content related to fall clean-ups and salmon engagement initiatives generated the highest social media interaction. Facebook remained the Society's most effective social platform, with a 21.6% increase in content interactions compared to the previous year, supporting continued community connection and event promotion.

Overall, investments in website functionality, content organization, and timely event-based communications resulted in stronger digital engagement and improved access to the Society's resources in 2025.



Website	2023	2024	2025
Total Views	6,556	16,786	**26,916**
Total Users	3,146	3,903	**9,525**
Views Per User	2.08	4.30	**2.83**
Average Engagement Time (seconds)	44	86	**45**
Total Downloads	53	181	**367**
Users who Downloaded Documents	36	89	**44**
Average Number of Downloaded Files/User	1.5	2.0	**8.5**

Financial + In-Kind Contributions

The Society's 2025 achievements were supported by significant financial and in-kind. contributions of time, staff resources, venues, event support, and refreshments.

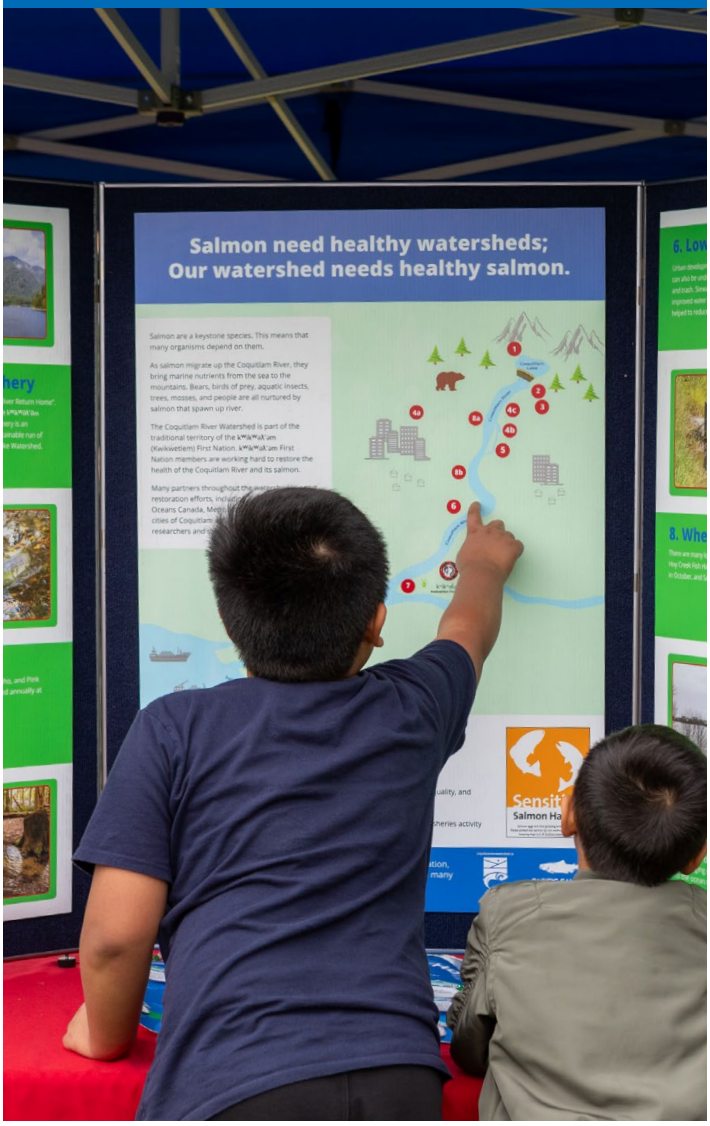
The value of in-kind contributions in 2025 totaled $12,495, a modest increase from 2024 and included approximately 424 volunteer hours from the Society's members, partner organizations, and community volunteers. This support was essential to stewardship activities such as Rain Garden maintenance and renewal, as well as participation in Core Committee meetings, strengthening collaboration and education for watershed health.

In-kind Contributions of Volunteer Hours

Community Events and Stewardship Events	151
Community Meetings and Presentations	155
Watershed Plan Projects	83
Society Board Meetings	35
Total	424

Revenue plus in-kind donations resulted in contributions valued at a total of $115,714 in 2025. Financial Revenue for 2025 totalled $102,823, a slight decrease in 2024. Despite this decline, the Society ended the year with a modest carryover of $1,704.

In-kind contributions of meeting venues, refreshments and equipment: $680.00



Coquitlam River Watershed Society 2025 Financial Statement

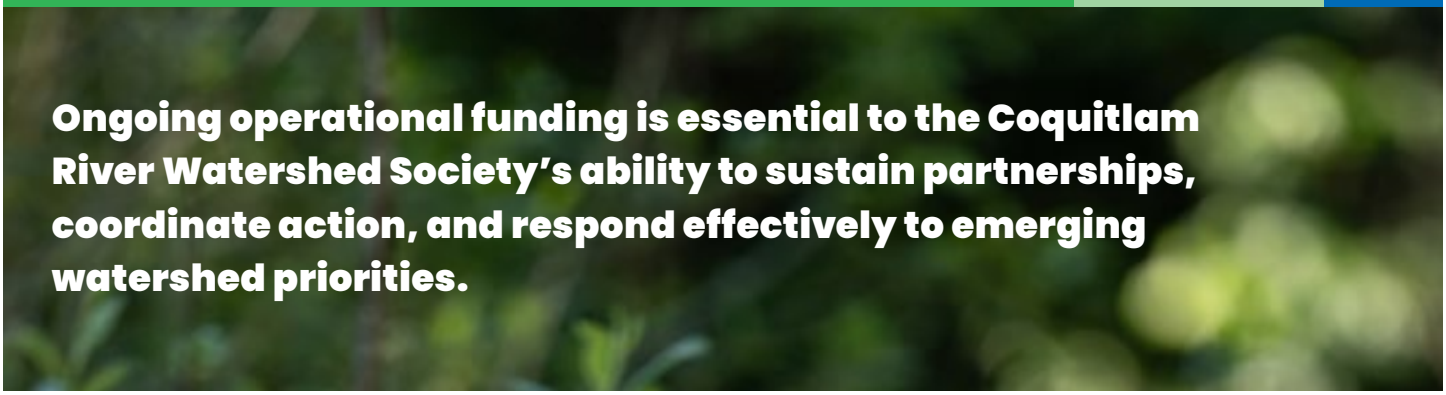
As at December 31, 2025

Coquitlam River Watershed Society
2025 Financial Statement

As at December 31, 2025

REVENUE	2025
Source	
Carryover	3,434.67
Greater Vancouver Water District (Metro Vancouver)	36,070.00
City of Coquitlam	35,000.00
Kwikwetlem First Nation	14,000.00
Jack Cewe Construction	5,000.00
Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program	750.00
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	2,250.00
Government of Canada - CSJ	5,412.00
Pacific Salmon Foundation	560.00
Interest	742.84
Total Revenue Received	**103,219.51**
EXPENDITURES	
Payroll	
Coordinator/ED	65,839.00
Communications Coordinator	6,600.00
Outreach Coordinator	515.40
CSJ Graphic Designer	6,793.28
Payroll Taxes	4,282.40
Office	378.03
Outreach and Events	6,533.85
Administration	622.35
Interest & Bank Charges	134.14
Membership and Subscriptions	1,037.28
Refreshments	790.78
Recognition	100.08
Advertising and Promotion	615.41
Accounting and Legal Fees	2,901.90
Storage Locker	1,671.09
Equipment Rental	105.10
Insurance	550.00
Communications	1,611.06
Mileage	168.41
Other Expenses	15.62
Professional Fees and Honouraria	250.00
Total Expenditures	**101,515.18**
Remaining Carryover (Revenue - Expenditures)	**1,704.33**
ASSETS	
Remaining Kwikwetlem Funds*	14,000.00
Operating Reserve**	45,000.00
Total Assets	**59,000.00**

* Remaining funds to be disbursed in January 2026
** Operating Reserve to bridge funding gaps in 2027



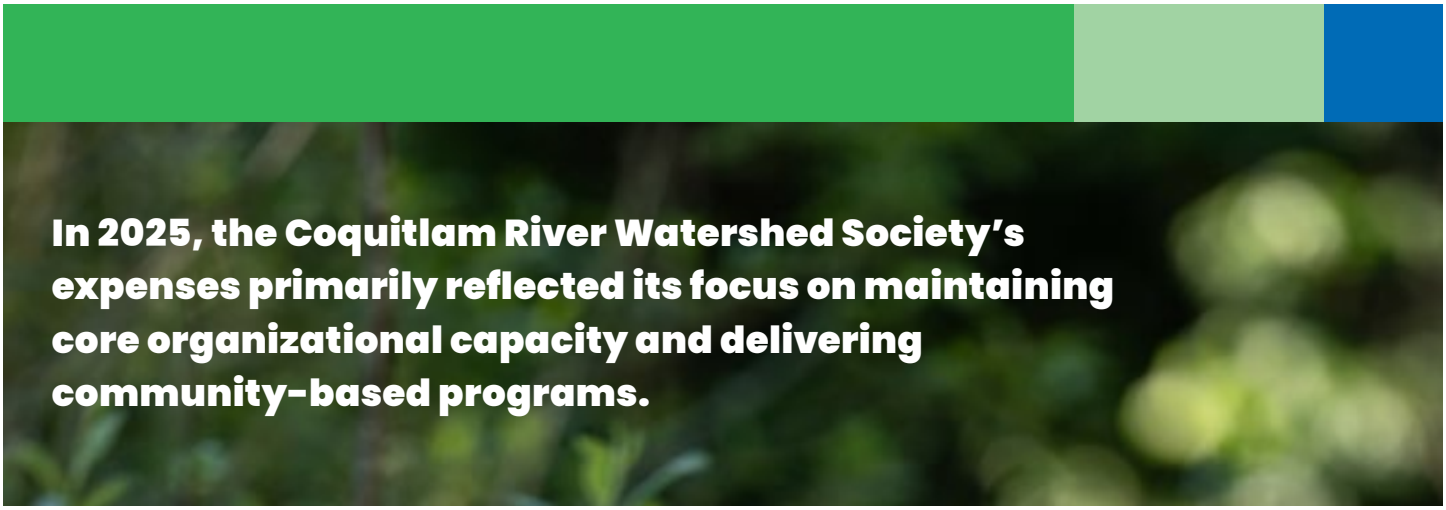
Ongoing operational funding is essential to the Coquitlam River Watershed Society's ability to sustain partnerships, coordinate action, and respond effectively to emerging watershed priorities.

Long-standing, multi-year support from kʷikʷəƛ̓əm First Nation, the City of Coquitlam, and the Greater Vancouver Water District has provided a stable foundation for maintaining core capacity, stewarding collaborative relationships, and translating plans into on-the-ground outcomes. We also gratefully acknowledge Jack Cewe Construction Ltd. for its contribution toward operations, which helps support the Society's day-to-day effectiveness. In 2025 stable financial contributions through multi-year commitments contributed 82% of the Society's total revenue. The Society's multi-year funding commitments conclude in 2026. Active renewal efforts to secure continued operational funding for 2027 and beyond are in progress. In parallel, the Society is exploring new and additional sources of operational support to strengthen long-term resilience.

Project-specific grants remain critical to helping the Society achieve it's Mission. In late 2024 and 2025, several grants were awarded that contributed to watershed projects in 2025. Some projects were successfully concluded in 2025, while others will continue into the coming year.

Grants Awarded or active in 2025

Source	Outcome	Project Period	Funding	Matching + In-kind Contribution.	Total
Pacific Salmon Foundation	**New Salmon Display**	August 2024 – March 2025	$2,250	$5647	$7897
Pacific Salmon Foundation	**Purchase of clean-up equipment for stewardship**	January – March 2025	$560	$567	$1127
Government of Canada, Canada Summer Jobs	**Salary support to hire a graphic designer**	May – August 2025	$5,412	$1381	$6793
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	**Community outreach and engagement**	July 2025 – July 2026	$2,800	$2,800	$5600
Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program	**Respectful Recreation printing and outreach**	August – December 2025	$750	$1,070	$1820
Pacific Salmon Foundation	**ipad purchase and programming for data gathering and program**	January – March 2026	$1,152	$5,048	$6200



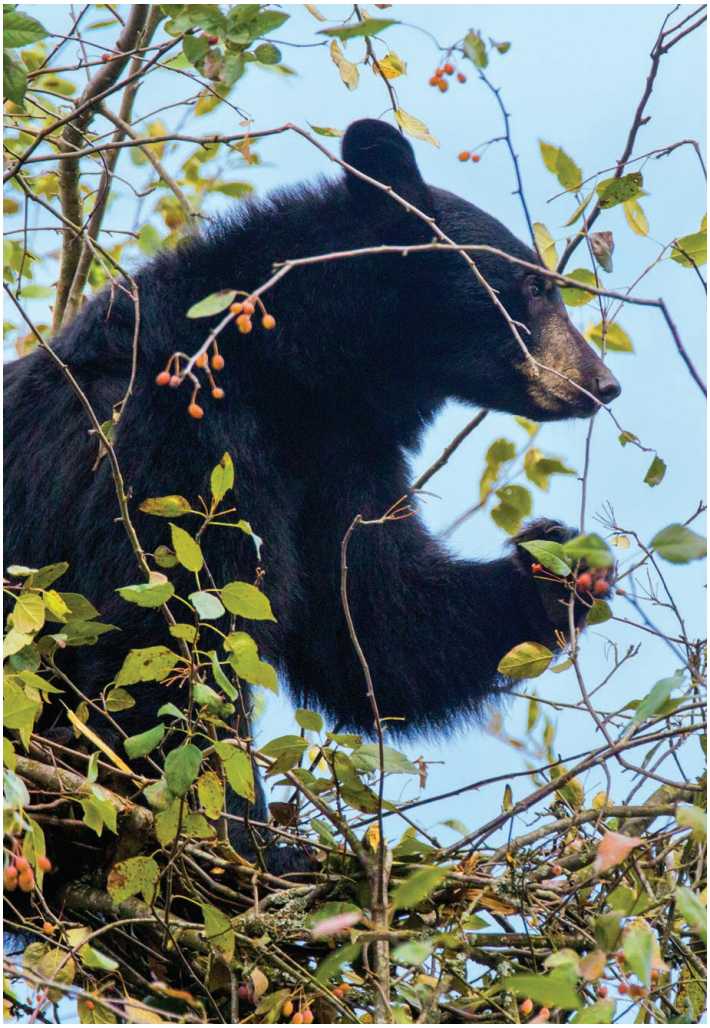
In 2025, the Coquitlam River Watershed Society's expenses primarily reflected its focus on maintaining core organizational capacity and delivering community-based programs.

In 2025, the largest share of expenditure was directed to payroll and associated taxes, supporting the Executive Director/Coordinator role, communications, outreach, and project-based positions. Program and operating costs—including outreach and events, communications, office and administrative expenses, professional services, insurance, and equipment—supported stewardship activities, partner engagement, and day-to-day operations. Overall expenditures totalled $101,515.18, aligning closely with revenues received and demonstrating careful financial management while sustaining the Society's operational effectiveness.

The Society's project work accounted for approximately 15% of total in-kind and financial contributions:

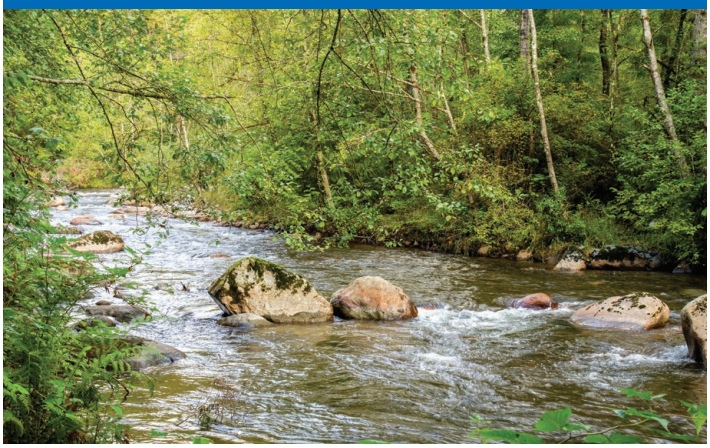
CRWS Project	Total Cash and In-kind
New Salmon Display	$7,897
Stewardship Equipment and Storage	$1,127
Responsible Recreation	$4,500
Resource Catalogue	$1,400
Rain Garden Maintenance	$1,170
Other Outreach and Events	$1,300
Total	$17,394

Since 2020, the Society has made annual contributions to an operating reserve, ranging from $5,000.00 to $10,000.00. With the most recent contribution made at the end of 2024, and interest accrued over the past year, the fund balance now stands at $45,742.00. Given the smaller carryover from 2025 to 2026, the Board will consider the level of contribution to be made for 2025. With current multi-year Financial Agreements up for renewal during 2026, the an operating reserve provides assurance that Society can bridge a temporary reduction in available operational funding.



Looking Ahead

As the Society moves into 2026, its work will continue to advance the goals of the Lower Coquitlam River Watershed Plan through **stewardship, outreach, advisory action, reconciliation, and strengthened partnerships.**



With several multi-year funding agreements up for renewal in 2026, **significant effort will be required to renew sustainable funding for the Society.**

Stormwater
- Continue to facilitate volunteer stewardship of the demonstration Rain Garden in Lions Park, Port Coquitlam.
- Explore the possibility of installing a Rain Garden in Coquitlam.

Invasive Species
- Facilitate 2–3 stewardship events, including invasive species pulls and riverside clean-ups.
- Develop an invasive species walking tour with and for secondary school students.

Vandalism and Illegal Activity
- Continue to facilitate riverside clean-ups in with community members and partner organizations.

Salmon and Habitat
- Integrate education on the salmon cycle into outreach programs, highlighting connections between salmon, forests, wildlife, and people.
- Plan a visit to the new Kwikwetlem Salmon Hatchery.
- Continue to implement the Respectful Recreation campaign by engaging stakeholder groups and educating the public through outreach.
- Partner with the Kwikwetlem First Nation to provide public outreach in parks.

Communications
- Add a "Report a Concern" page to the CRWS website to assist the public in reporting environmental and safety concerns to the appropriate agency, in response to frequent reported concerns in the watershed
- Maintain and enhance communications with funders, members, partners, and the community.
- Continue to bring informative displays to 5–8 festivals and events in Coquitlam and Port Coquitlam.
- Renew and present the Watershed Atlas to members and the community.

Partnerships
- Participate on BC Hydro's Coquitlam–Buntzen Water Use Plan Order Review Advisory Committee.
- Participate in other public consultation efforts of our partners.
- Work in regular communication with the Kwikwetlem First Nation to create opportunities for youth and elders to contribute to and benefit from the Society initiatives, linking all activities to reconciliation.
- Partner with municipal parks programs to contribute to and support their stewardship and education initiatives, such as the City of Coquitlam's series of Watershed Workshops.
- Engage post-secondary students and researchers in enriched stewardship activities such as water and soil sampling.
- Re-initiate the Lower Coquitlam Watershed Tour to support awareness of partner-led projects and sites of importance in the watershed.

Operations
- Develop new funding partnerships and pursue multi-year agreements to support long-term organizational sustainability.

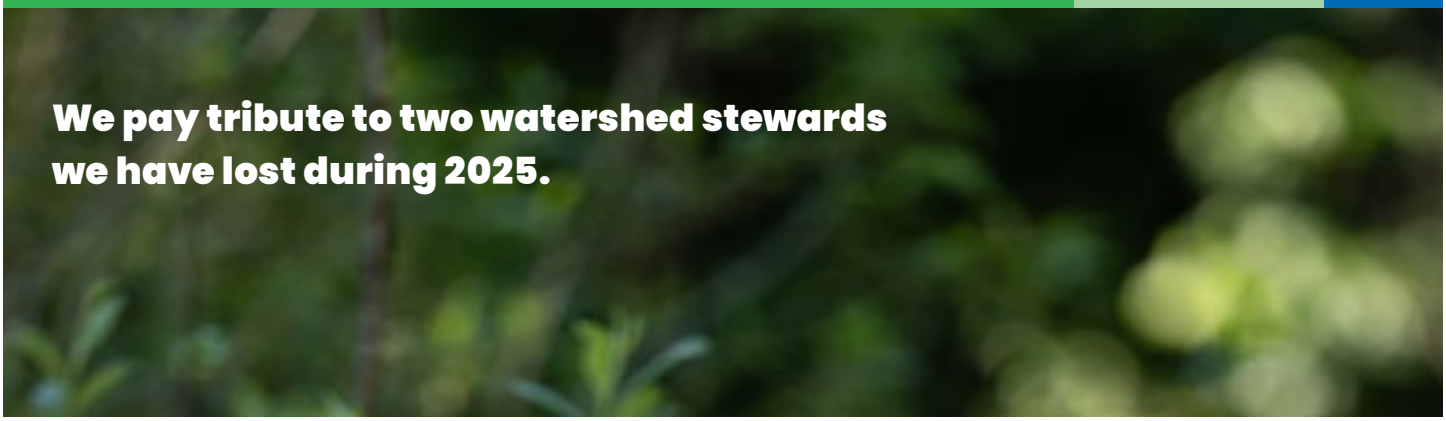
Conclusion

The Society's 2025 Annual Report reflects both continuity and transition — honouring a 15-year legacy of collaboration while strengthening the organizational foundations needed to carry that work forward.

Guided by the Lower Coquitlam River Watershed Plan, the Society continues to translate shared knowledge into practical action through stewardship, education, and advisory initiatives that support water quality, salmon habitat, and responsible use of the watershed.

As the Society looks to the years ahead, its strength remains rooted in collaboration—among First Nation, federal, municipal, regional, community, and stewardship partners, and through the dedication of volunteers and supporters. With an evolving landscape shaped by climate change, development pressures, and funding uncertainty, the Society is well positioned to adapt while remaining grounded in its mission. Together, we will continue working to preserve and enhance the health of the Coquitlam River watershed for people, salmon, and future generations.

In Memoriam



We pay tribute to two watershed stewards we have lost during 2025.

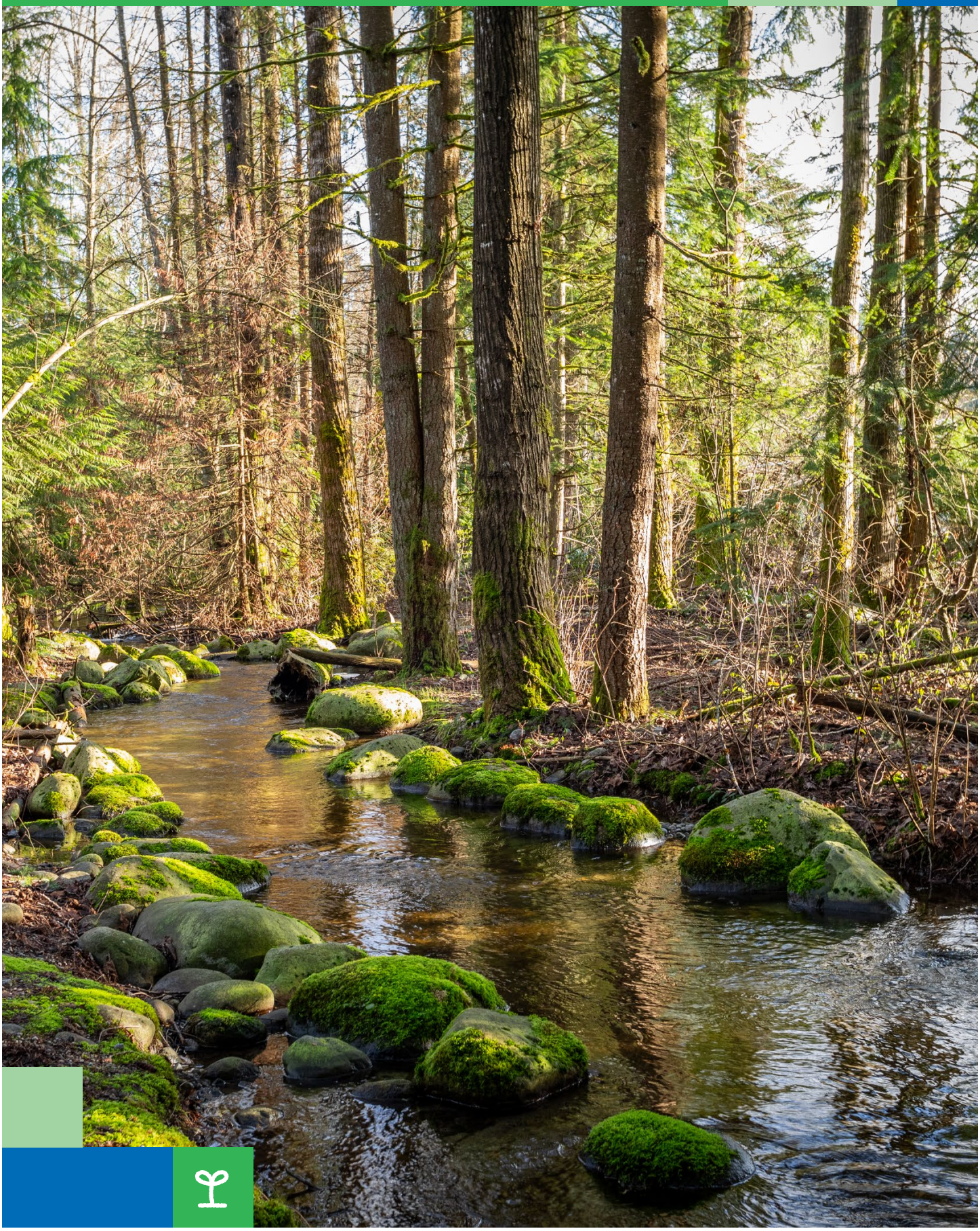
Glen Joe

Kwikwetlem First Nation fisheries manager, fisher and devoted steward committed his life to improve watershed health in the Coquitlam River watershed and support the return of the Sockeye Salmon, symbolic of Kwikwetlem meaning, "Red fish Up the River," to the Coquitlam River. As a founding team member in 2007, Glen was instrumental in the formation of the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable in 2011. His memory will continue to live on in our organization's logo, which Glen was the primary influence in its design. Glen passed away January 4, 2025.

Sandy Budd

President, Maple Creek Streamkeepers, was a community Roundtable member for many years, and served as a Stewardship Sector Representative on the Core Committee from 2022 – 2023. She was a strong voice who tirelessly advocated for the health of the Maple Creek, which traverses through the cities of Port Coquitlam and Coquitlam in the lower Coquitlam River watershed. Sandy passed away on July 2, 2025.

Let us reflect on their decades of stewardship advocacy and profound dedication to improving the health of the Coquitlam River watershed and its tributaries for the benefit of salmon and wildlife.



metrovancouver
SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

To: Water Committee

From: Ross Richardsen, Lead Senior Engineer, Engineering & Construction
George Kavouras, Director, Procurement, Procurement & Real Estate Services

Date: February 18, 2026 Meeting Date: March 11, 2026

Subject: **Award of ITT 25-002 for Construction of Annacis Water Main North – New Westminster Section (Annacis Main No. 5 – North)**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the GVWD Board:

a) approve the award of ITT 25-002 for Construction of Annacis Water Main North – New Westminster Section (Annacis Main No. 5 – North), in the amount of up to $35,323,018.07 (exclusive of taxes) to Hall Constructors, subject to final review by the Commissioner; and

b) authorize the General Manager, Procurement and Real Estate to execute the required documentation once the General Manager, Procurement and Real Estate is satisfied that the award should proceed.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hall Constructor's (Hall) tender was identified as the lowest cost compliant bid, and on that basis it is recommended that the GVWD Board award ITT 25-002 to Hall. Hall has a successful track record of working with GVWD on similar projects.

The Annacis Water Main North combined with the Annacis Water Supply Tunnel, and Annacis Water Main South will significantly increase water supply capacity south of the Fraser River to the Kennedy Reservoir.

ITT 25-002 was issued on December 2, 2025, to seven pre-qualified tenderers and the procurement was executed in accordance with the terms and conditions of Metro Vancouver's Procurement Policy. The ITT 25-002 evaluation team have considered the tenders received, and on that basis recommend that the GVWD Board award ITT 25-002 to Hall.

PURPOSE

Pursuant to the *GVWD Officers and Delegation Bylaw No. 247, 2014* (Bylaw) and *Board Policy No. FN-031*, procurement contracts which exceed a value of $10 million require the approval of the GVWD Board.

BACKGROUND

Metro Vancouver is sourcing installation services for the Annacis Water Main North – New Westminster Section, which runs from 10th Avenue and 13th Street to Auckland Street and 11th Street in the City of New Westminster. This project phase involves installing approximately 2 km of 1.8 m diameter welded steel water main and one cast-in-place concrete line valve chamber.

The Annacis Water Main North project consists of two sections, one in the City of New Westminster and one in the City of Burnaby, and when complete, will connect the South Burnaby Main No. 2 to the Annacis Water Supply Tunnel, as shown in **Attachment 1**.

To maintain the project schedule, the New Westminster Section is being constructed first, followed by the Burnaby Section, which is currently in detailed design. The new water main, when combined with the Annacis Water Supply Tunnel and Annacis Water Main South projects, will increase the water supply capacity south of the Fraser River to the Kennedy Reservoir.

PROCUREMENT SUMMARY

RFQ No. 23-367 was issued on November 2, 2023, to prequalify proponents to participate in ITT 25-002. Fifteen proponents responded to RFQ No. 23-367; of those, seven were shortlisted and invited to respond to ITT 25-002.

ITT 25-002 Submissions

Tenders	Pricing (excluding taxes)
Hall Constructors	$ 35,323,018.07
B&B Contracting (2012) Ltd.	$ 37,029,600.00
Matcon Civil Constructors Inc.	$ 38,078,500.00
Sandpiper Contracting LLP	$ 40,116,528.54

Metro Vancouver received five tenders. Four tenders were compliant. The compliant tenders were evaluated against each other based on the total tender prices submitted. The lowest tender was submitted by Hall. Hall has a successful track record of working with GVWD on similar projects.

ALTERNATIVES

1. THAT the GVWD Board:
   a) approve the award of ITT 25-002 for Construction of Annacis Water Main North – New Westminster Section (Annacis Main No. 5 – North), in the amount of up to $35,323,018.07 (exclusive of taxes) to Hall Constructors, subject to final review by the Commissioner; and
   b) authorize the General Manager, Procurement and Real Estate to execute the required documentation once the General Manager, Procurement and Real Estate is satisfied that the award should proceed.

2. THAT the GVWD receive the report dated February 17, 2026, titled, "Award of ITT 25-002 for Construction of Annacis Water Main North – New Westminster Section (Annacis Main No. 5 – North)" for information.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The approved capital budget for the project is $115,100,000 which includes the design and construction and has $6,357,257 spent to date (January 15, 2026). The award of ITT 25-002 in the amount of up to $35,323,018.07 (exclusive of taxes) is within the Board approved 2026-2030 capital plan and below the engineer's estimate. Finance has reviewed and confirmed that funding is available to award this contract within the approved capital budget.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The construction of the Annacis Water Main North is being coordinated with the Annacis Water Supply Tunnel and the Annacis Water Main South projects. The timely award and installation of the Annacis Water Main North – New Westminster Section will facilitate the coordinated commissioning of these adjacent projects.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that GVWD Board approve the award of ITT 25-002 for Construction of Annacis Water Main North – New Westminster Section (Annacis Main No. 5 – North), in the amount of up to $35,323,018.07 (exclusive of taxes) to Hall Constructors and authorize the General Manager, Procurement and Real Estate to execute the required documentation once the General Manager, Procurement and Real Estate is satisfied that the award should proceed.

ATTACHMENT

1. Annacis Water Main North Project Location – Map.

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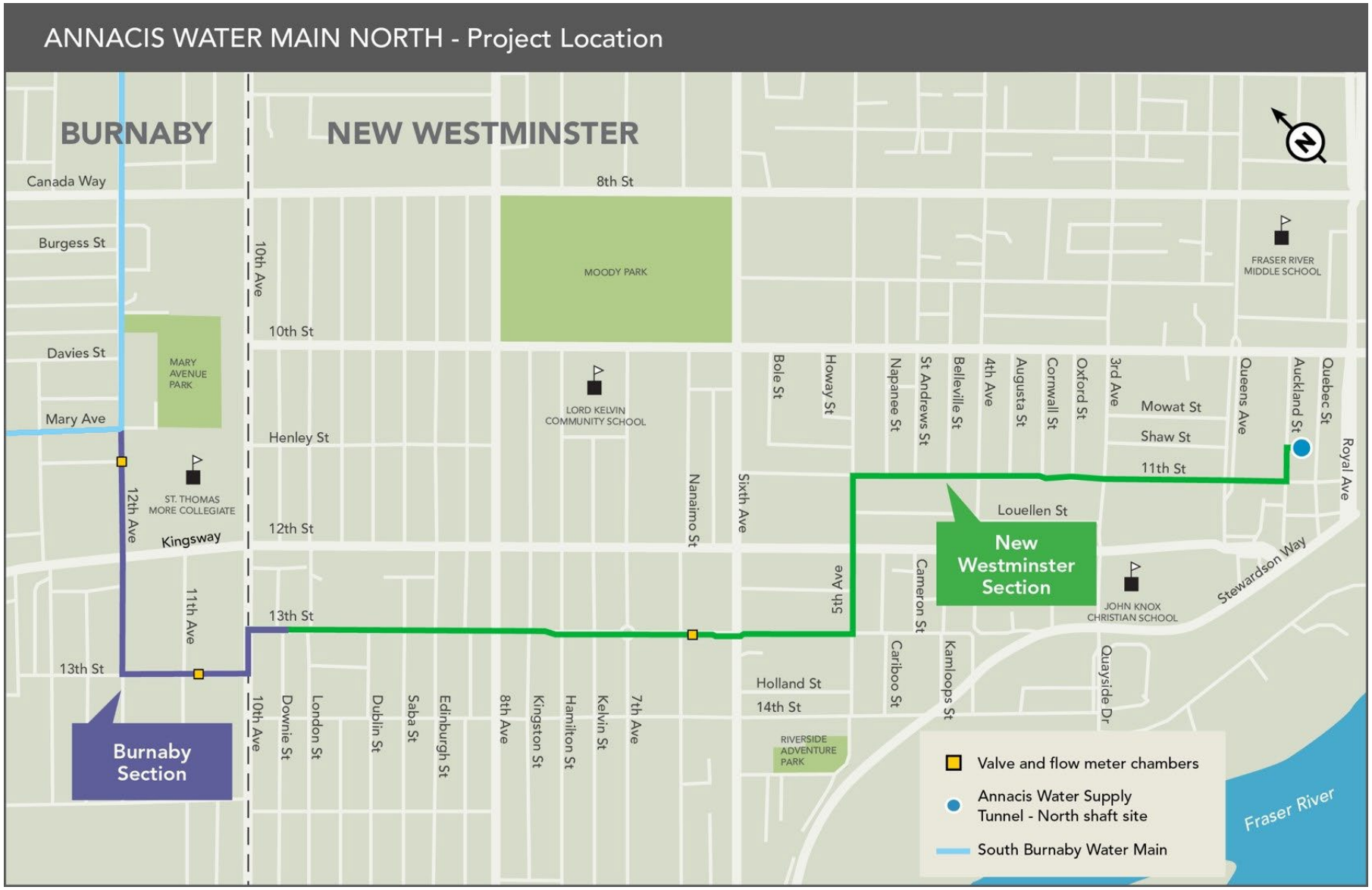

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SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

To: Water Committee

From: Linda Parkinson, Director, Policy, Planning & Analysis, Water Services
Vanessa Anthony, Water Community Engagement Manager, External Relations

Date: February 27, 2026 Meeting Date: March 11, 2026

Subject: **Drinking Water Management Plan – Final Draft**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the GVWD Board:

a) approve the updated *Drinking Water Management Plan* as outlined in the report dated February 27, 2026, titled "Drinking Water Management Plan – Final Draft"; and
b) forward the approved *Drinking Water Management Plan* to member jurisdictions requesting endorsement and implementation of the actions attributed to them.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Metro Vancouver has been working with member jurisdictions, First Nations, and interest holders over the past three years to update its *Drinking Water Management Plan* ("the plan") which sets the strategic direction for the region's drinking water system over the next decade. The plan provides the framework for a regional approach to planning, acting, and adapting together as conditions change to ensure the continued delivery of high-quality drinking water to the region.

Member jurisdictions have been engaged through staff advisory committees in co-developing the updated strategies and actions for the plan, and the Water Committee provided feedback at a special meeting on November 26, 2025. Feedback has been considered and incorporated into the plan. Public feedback has also been considered and incorporated into the plan.

PURPOSE

This report presents the final draft plan and summarizes how feedback was considered prior to seeking GVWD Board approval.

BACKGROUND

Metro Vancouver is updating its non-regulatory plan that guides the drinking water utility by establishing priorities and setting strategic direction for the next ten years.

Since the approval of the 2011 plan, Metro Vancouver has continued with its programs to expand the drinking water system and complete necessary upgrades. This update of the plan is focused on how Metro Vancouver and member jurisdictions can work together to ensure the continued supply of high-quality drinking water in the face of increasing uncertainty and emerging challenges. These challenges include population growth and densification, the impacts of climate change, and aging water infrastructure.

The draft plan includes goals, strategies, and actions for both Metro Vancouver and its member jurisdictions. The staff advisory committees, including Regional Engineers Advisory Committee (REAC) and REAC Water Sub-Committee, have been extensively engaged in co-developing the updated strategies and actions included in the plan.

ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

The plan was developed in three phases. During each phase, Metro Vancouver engaged member jurisdictions, First Nations, government agencies, academic institutions, industry, interest groups, and the public. A comprehensive overview of the engagement can be reviewed in **Attachment 1.**

First Nations

Metro Vancouver carried out a separate government-to-government engagement process with First Nations, alongside joint technical workshops that included both First Nations and member jurisdictions. This tailored approach involved ongoing dialogue and a mix of individual online and in-person meetings to ensure Indigenous perspectives were meaningfully incorporated into the plan.

The purpose of this engagement was to better understand First Nations' interests and values related to water and to align on how those values should be reflected in the plan. Key themes that emerged, and are now embedded throughout the plan, include salmon conservation, water conservation, environmental stewardship, and protection of water quality.

Member Jurisdictions

Throughout the plan update, Metro Vancouver worked closely with member jurisdictions, including REAC and REAC Water Sub-Committee members. Metro Vancouver hosted a series of meetings and technical workshops focused on refining the goals, guiding principles, priority areas, strategies, and actions. These sessions strengthened the foundations of the plan by grounding decisions in regional expertise, identifying barriers and opportunities for coordinated action, and clarifying roles and responsibilities.

Workshops on system resilience, environmental protection, water supply, conservation, and workforce development surfaced clear themes: the need for stronger regional coordination, more measurable and outcome-oriented actions, clearer assumptions and priorities, and improved information-sharing across jurisdictions. Workshops on water metering demonstrated conceptual support for advancing residential water metering while acknowledging varying local capacities and constraints as well as cost implications.

Water Committee

A special meeting was held on November 26, 2025, where Water Committee members reviewed the draft strategies and actions and were given the opportunity to provide feedback. Overall, there was support for the goals, strategies, and actions in the draft plan. Members discussed the approach to metering, the potential benefits of leak reduction, and several shared how their jurisdictions were moving forward with metering. Members also voiced support for the inclusion of an operational workforce development area. Feedback was provided suggesting that the word 'encourage' be included in the actions with respect to advancing metering. Members also emphasized the need to make clearer connections between proposed actions, financial impacts, and overall fiscal responsibility, and requested that the plan better define its scope by specifying what is and is not included. Staff have made changes to the final draft plan to reflect this feedback.

The Public

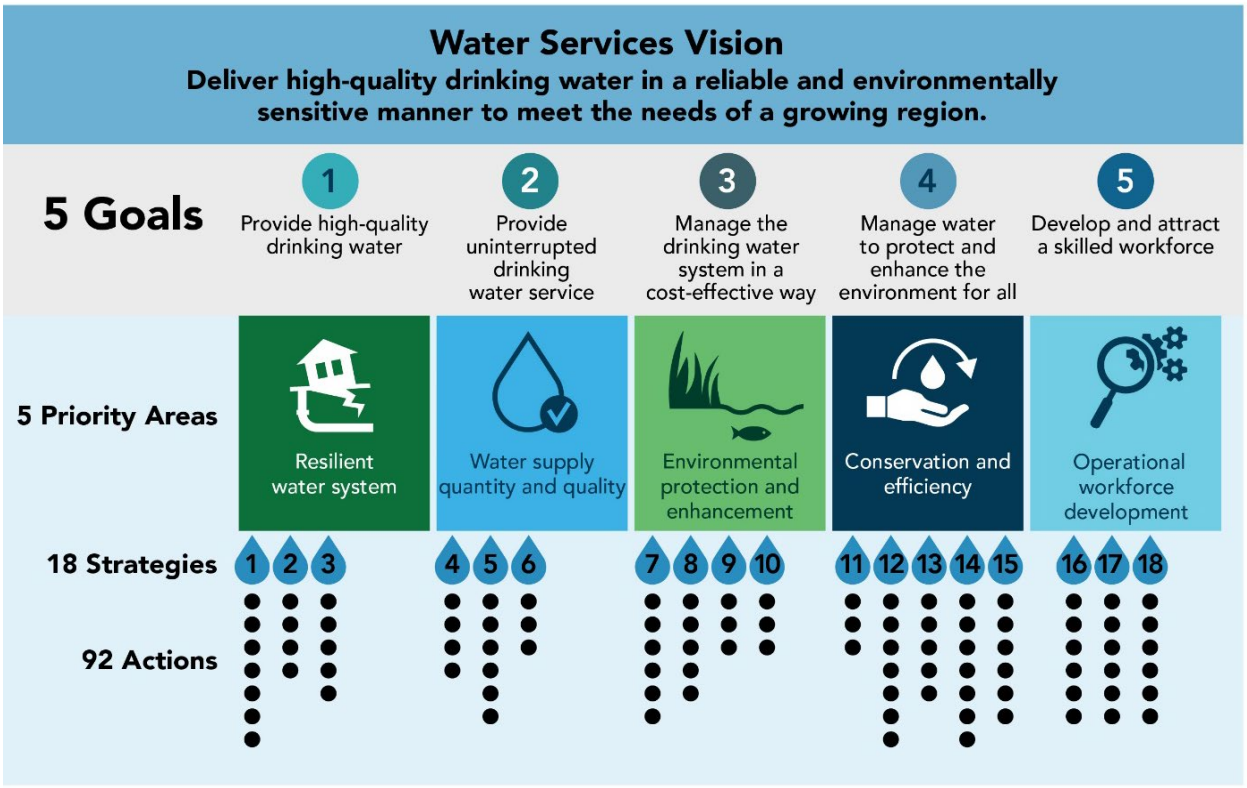
The 'Our Water. Our Future.' engagement program reached more than 66,000 people over three phases and included interactive booths at community events across the region, an activation at the Pacific National Exhibition, virtual open houses, and two online surveys in which over 950 people participated. The engagement program was designed to improve public understanding of the drinking water system, strengthen appreciation of drinking water as a precious resource, and solicit input into the draft plan.

Participants emphasized the importance of strengthening resilience to climate change, drought, and seismic risk, protecting water quality, reducing water loss, advancing metering and conservation, and supporting coordinated regional implementation. Feedback directly informed refinements to the plan's strategies and actions and confirmed broad public alignment with the priority areas and overall direction of the plan, particularly around conservation.

COMPONENTS OF THE PLAN

The plan comprises five overarching goals, five priority areas, 18 strategies, and 92 actions. The following graphic provides an overview of all components of the plan.

The table on next page identifies the alignment between plan priority areas and strategies and the plan's goals demonstrating how each strategy contributes to achieving the five goals. The full list of actions can be reviewed in **Attachment 2.**



	STRATEGIES	GOALS				
		1 Provide high-quality drinking water	2 Provide uninterrupted drinking water service	3 Manage the drinking water system in a cost-effective way	4 Manage water to protect and enhance the environment for all	5 Develop and attract a skilled workforce
Priority Area – Resilient Water System						
1	Advance planning and designing for resilient infrastructure		2			
2	Respond and recover from emergencies		2			
3	Proactively manage existing infrastructure for longevity		2	3		
Priority Area – Water Supply Quantity and Quality						
4	Prepare for water quality changes due to climate change and natural hazards	1	2		4	
5	Protect and manage water quality	1	2			
6	Prepare for future drinking water supply and demands		2	3		
Priority Area – Environmental Protection and Enhancement						
7	Reduce GHG Emissions and implement energy efficiency measures		2	3	4	
8	Advance ecological health and environmental stewardship	1			4	
9	Support healthy fish populations in the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam river systems				4	
10	Minimize the environmental impacts of leaks and spills			3	4	
Priority Area – Conservation and Efficiency						
11	Advance metering to support conservation and system efficiency		2	3	4	
12	Reduce drinking water use through active conservation		2	3		
13	Promote the recovery and reuse of non-potable water		2	3		
14	Optimize cost efficiency across operational and capital programs			3		
15	Increase operational efficiency			3		
Priority Area – Operational Workforce Development						
16	Promote regional youth recruitment opportunities					5
17	Collaborate with key industry advocates and training providers					5
18	Enhance career development opportunities for existing Metro Vancouver operators		2			5

ALTERNATIVES

1. THAT the GVWD Board:
   a. approve the Drinking Water Management Plan 2026, as presented in the report dated February 27, 2026, titled "Drinking Water Management Plan – Final Draft"; and
   b. forward the Drinking Water Management Plan 2026 to member jurisdictions requesting endorsement and implementation of actions attributed to them.

2. THAT the GVWD Board receive for information the report dated February 27, 2026, titled "Drinking Water Management Plan – Final Draft".

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A high-level assessment of the potential financial impact of the proposed strategies and actions in the plan confirmed that most of Metro Vancouver's actions will be carried out using current staff resources that are funded through existing annual program budgets, resulting in no net increase in spending. The remaining actions that require additional funding will have minimal impact on the GVWD operating budget.

Actions that result in projects that require capital spending will be approved annually through the GVWD Board as part of the annual capital planning and budget approval process. The timing of each project will be reviewed and updated based on alignment with strategic priorities, risk to system operations, financial sustainability, and available resources.

The updated plan focuses on reducing infrastructure and operating costs by extending the capacity of existing water and liquid waste systems through the Conservation and Efficiency priority area. This will be achieved by encouraging water metering to find and fix leaks as well as other active conservation measures (Strategy 11 and 12) and promoting the recovery and reuse of non-potable water (Strategy 13). The plan aims to lower per capita water use thereby allowing current infrastructure to support expected population growth for longer.

The plan strengthens existing cost-containment efforts through "optimizing cost efficiency across operational and capital programs" (Strategy 14). The table on the previous page clearly links goals and strategies, making the cost-efficiency components easy to identify.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

First Nations Priorities

As members implement key actions within their respective jurisdictions, it is important that attention is given to the priorities, values, and interests of First Nations, which were integrated throughout the plan development process. First Nations emphasized their support of universal water metering, increased use of non-potable water sources, and reducing the region's high per capita consumption rate. Other priorities and values shared by First Nations focused on recognizing the importance of actions and outcomes that advance conservation and emphasize environmental stewardship, particularly the protection of natural environments across the watersheds — not limited to water supply areas. Ongoing engagement with First Nations during the implementation phase is critical to ensure their priority areas are fully considered and reflected in decision-making.

Member Implications
Members should anticipate that achieving metering targets and implementing leak reduction programs will involve capital investments and ongoing operational expenses. Several members have already obtained Council approval to progress their metering programs. Metro Vancouver's Residential Water Metering in Metro Vancouver Best Practices Guide for Local Governments (2019) provides information on the costs and benefits of water metering programs. Each member is unique and can build on existing resources and knowledge from across the region to develop cost estimates for progressing the actions within their communities.

Reduction in water use will also help members preserve capacity in their local water supply and liquid waste systems, to support increased densification and redevelopment by freeing up capacity to serve their growing populations.

The final draft plan was presented to REAC at their February 6, 2026, meeting and to the Regional Administrative Advisory Committee (RAAC) at their February 26, 2026, meeting. Both committees indicated support for the draft plan and provided positive feedback on the plan update process.

CONCLUSION
Metro Vancouver works collaboratively with member jurisdictions to provide high-quality drinking water to over three million residents across the region. Success depends on coordinated planning, shared understanding of system pressures, and collective action across all levels of the drinking water system. The *Drinking Water Management Plan* provides the framework for this collaboration. It supports a regional approach to planning, acting, and adapting together as conditions change to ensure the continued delivery of high-quality drinking water to the region.

ATTACHMENTS
1. Drinking Water Management Plan Final Engagement Report 2026.
2. Drinking Water Management Plan 2026.
3. Drinking Water Management Plan - Final Draft – Presentation.

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Drinking Water Management Plan

Final Engagement Report 2026

About Metro Vancouver

Metro Vancouver is a diverse organization that plans for and delivers regional utility services, including water, sewers and wastewater treatment, and solid waste management. It also regulates air quality, plans for urban growth, manages a regional parks system, provides affordable housing, and serves as a regional federation. The organization is a federation of 21 municipalities, one electoral area, and one treaty First Nation located in the region of the same name. The organization is made up of four separate legal entities, each governed by its own Board of Directors. Board directors are elected officials from member jurisdictions.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Metro Vancouver acknowledges that the region's residents live, work, and learn on the shared territories of many Indigenous peoples, including 10 local First Nations: q̓icə̓y̓ (Katzie), q̓ʷɑ:n̓ƛ̓ən̓ (Kwantlen), kʷikʷəƛ̓əm (Kwikwetlem), máthxwi (Matsqui), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), qiqéyt (Qayqayt), Semiahmoo, Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), scəw̓aθən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen), and səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh).

Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone who provided input into the *Drinking Water Management Plan* through our engagement process. Metro Vancouver embraces collaboration and innovation to provide sustainable regional services that contribute to a livable and resilient region and a healthy natural environment for current and future generations. The purpose of this engagement was to gather input on the goals, guiding principles, priority areas, and strategies and actions within the scope of the plan update. Input helped shape the plan which will ensure that drinking water in the region continues to be high-quality, sustainably managed, and reliably delivered. We appreciate the thoughtful feedback people shared through the engagement process.

4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, BC, V5H 0C6
metrovancouver.org

February 2026

Cover: Engagement at Khatsalano, July 5, 2025

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About the Drinking Water Management Plan

High-quality drinking water is essential for human life and a healthy environment. By 2040, it is projected that close to four million residents will rely on Metro Vancouver's high-quality drinking water supply. Using water wisely now will help us ensure we have enough for future generations.

The *Drinking Water Management Plan* establishes the strategic direction for the region's drinking water utility over the next decade. The plan outlines goals, strategies, and actions for Metro Vancouver and member jurisdictions and reflects the shared responsibility across the region given the need for coordinated implementation. This model of regional collaboration keeps costs down, improves efficiency, and ensures our communities stay resilient in the face of climate change, population growth, and seismic risks.

Since the last update in 2011, Metro Vancouver has taken proactive steps to address population growth, seismic risks, and the impacts of climate change. These efforts are critical to maintaining a reliable drinking water supply and managing demand as conditions evolve. By updating this plan, Metro Vancouver and its members can align priorities and prepare to address current and upcoming challenges.

The updated *Drinking Water Management Plan*:

- Establishes goals, strategies, and actions to ensure Metro Vancouver can continue to supply high-quality drinking water in the face of climate change, population growth, seismic events, aging infrastructure, and high levels of water use
- Outlines how Metro Vancouver and its members plan to work together to align priorities and implement actions
- Incorporates First Nations' interests and priorities
- Provides a strong rationale to support decision-making

Coquitlam Canada Day engagement, July 1, 2025

PNE interactive water services booth, August 21, 2025

About the Engagement Program

Engagement for the development of the plan update unfolded across three distinct but connected phases. Together, these phases created a region-wide conversation that moved from establishing shared values and long-term priorities, to refining draft strategies and actions, to gathering final comments on the full draft plan.

PHASE 1 2020–2023

- Background research and technical review
- Gap analysis of 2011 *Drinking Water Management Plan*
- Preliminary engagement
- Draft guiding principles and goals

PHASE 2 2023–2025

- Develop draft strategies and actions
- Technical workshops
- Engagement on draft priority areas, strategies, and actions

PHASE 3 2025–2026

- Completion of the full draft plan
- Engagement on the full draft plan
- Finalize the plan
- Board approval

Engagement with First Nations, member jurisdictions, interest holders, and the public was central to the plan update.

Throughout the first and second phases of engagement, Metro Vancouver delivered a mix of online and in-person opportunities to ensure accessible, inclusive ways for participants to learn about the plan and share their perspectives. During the third phase, Metro Vancouver held an online comment period to collect final feedback on the draft plan. Each phase paired clear, plain-language information with interactive formats designed to support meaningful participation across diverse audiences.

This approach helped translate complex, long-range water system challenges and planning considerations into accessible, relatable information that supported informed feedback. The insights gathered through this process directly shaped the plan's development from goals and guiding principles to refined strategies and actions.

Phase 1 Engagement

This phase focused on sharing the vision and shaping the guiding principles and goals for the plan. Through two online webinars, an online survey, several public events, and technical and advisory group workshops, participants highlighted the importance of securing water for future generations, strengthening conservation and efficiency, protecting ecosystems, and ensuring system resilience.

Feedback emphasized valuing water as a precious resource that must be conserved and the importance of ensuring that the drinking water system is resilient to changing conditions.

Pleasant Day engagement, Vancouver, August 9, 2025

Phase 2 Engagement

This phase focused on reviewing and refining the plan's draft strategies and actions through a region-wide, story-driven engagement program: **Our Water. Our Future**. The program was built around the idea that every drop of water has a story, using participants' personal experiences with drinking water to connect them to the plan and make it accessible and relatable. Engagement opportunities included an online survey, an interactive booth at community events, a PNE activation, a public webinar, advisory group meetings, and interest holder meetings.

More than 33,000 people engaged with **Our Water. Our Future**. across multiple channels. Feedback showed strong support for all five priority areas and consistently highlighted the need to prepare for climate change, drought, and seismic risk; strengthen conservation and efficiency, including pay-by-use and leak detection through water metering; advancing use of non-potable water where appropriate; and continuing to ensure clear lawn watering rules and drought communication. Feedback also highlighted ongoing interest in operational readiness and protecting water quality and environmental health.

Additionally, Metro Vancouver held technical workshops that brought together staff from several First Nations, member jurisdictions, the Regional Engineers Advisory Committee – Water Subcommittee (REAC-WSC), neighbouring municipalities and regional districts, health authorities, BC Hydro, school districts, water sector associations, educators and other government agencies to hear from one another and to share their input and perspectives.

Phase 3 Engagement

This phase focused on inviting comments on the final draft plan through an online survey, supported by newspaper ads, social media, webpage updates, and direct outreach to project subscribers, interest holders, and previous workshop participants.

First Nations Engagement

Any long-range plan that affects the region, like the *Drinking Water Management Plan*, also affects First Nations and their communities.

Throughout each phase of the plan, Metro Vancouver held a separate, government-to-government process with First Nations, and engaged First Nations through online dialogues, correspondence, one-on-one meetings, and staff participation in technical workshops. The purpose of this engagement was to better understand First Nations' interests and values related to water and align on how those interests and values can be reflected in the plan.

In addition to feedback on specific aspects of the plan, First Nations input emphasized the importance of early and ongoing involvement, relationship-building, and collaboration in drinking water planning. Listening, sharing, and dialogue created space for reflection and greater understanding — insights that will continue to inform Metro Vancouver's work beyond the scope of the plan. The plan reflects key themes heard during engagement with First Nations, including:

- Reconciliation – include cultural and traditional knowledge in planning
- Salmon Conservation – protect salmon habitats and address migration challenges caused by low water flows
- Water Conservation and Use – prioritize water conservation, explore reuse options, and promote metering with the goal of reducing high water use
- Environmental Stewardship and Accountability – work together on forest management to reduce wildfire risks
- Water Quality – ensure strong water testing and keep communities informed about drinking water quality

These and other themes discussed with First Nations have been embedded throughout the plan. Metro Vancouver recognizes that each First Nation is unique, and we look forward to working with First Nations individually and collectively to achieve the goals established in the plan.

Coquitam Reservoir, low reservoir levels fall 2022

Phase 1: A Region-Wide Vision

The first phase of engagement focused on establishing a shared foundation for the plan by inviting input on the draft guiding principles and goals.

Participants were introduced to the purpose and scope of the plan and invited to reflect on what matters most for the future of drinking water in the region through a mix of online and in-person engagement opportunities. Each activity paired clear background information with accessible formats that invited participants to learn about drinking water system planning, the challenges the system faces, and share their input.

By asking participants to reflect on their priorities, values, and expectations for drinking water, the first phase of engagement created a strong foundation for technical and strategy development in the second. This approach ensured that early input shaped the plan's values and included a broad range of perspectives from across the region.

Online Survey

The online survey provided an accessible, region-wide opportunity for participants to review the vision and draft guiding principles and goals of the plan and share detailed input. The survey included:

- A clear overview of the draft goals and guiding principles
- A multiple-choice question inviting participants to share what they view as the three most critical challenges facing drinking water management
- Multiple-choice questions inviting participants to rate how each guiding principle reflects their values for drinking water management
- Multiple-choice questions inviting participants to rate their familiarity with, or the importance of, each draft goal
- Open-ended questions offering opportunities for participants to provide additional comments

Public Events

Metro Vancouver held a public event in North Vancouver celebrating the Water Services' 100 Year Anniversary on July 20, 2024. At the event, Metro Vancouver distributed information cards in the form of a bookmark directing people to the online survey.

Presentations and Webinars

Online interactive sessions included presentations by Metro Vancouver staff about the drinking water system, the challenges facing drinking water in our region, and the plan update. Participants were invited to share their priorities for the future of our drinking water and provide feedback about the draft goals and guiding principles. Metro Vancouver staff answered questions from those in attendance.

Metro Vancouver engaged its Youth and Education Advisory Panel — an advisory group made up of high school students, post-secondary students, and educators from across the region. The group was presented with an overview of the challenges facing drinking water in our region and the draft goals of the plan, and a roundtable discussion about what was most important to the participants when it comes to drinking water. This format created a structured, dialogue-based experience where youth could meaningfully engage with the plan update in a collaborative setting.

Technical Workshops

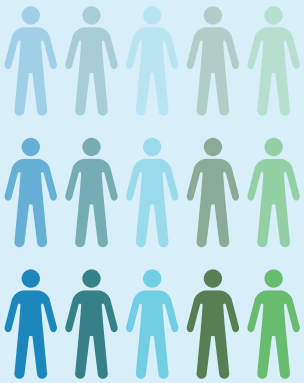
Metro Vancouver worked closely with the Regional Engineers Advisory Committee (REAC) and the Regional Engineers Advisory Committee – Water Subcommittee (REAC-WSC) to help shape the plan's early direction. Committee members provided insight and practical guidance on the draft goals and guiding principles, ensuring they reflected the realities of delivering high-quality drinking water across a complex, multi-jurisdictional system.

Phase 1 Engagement Reach and Participation

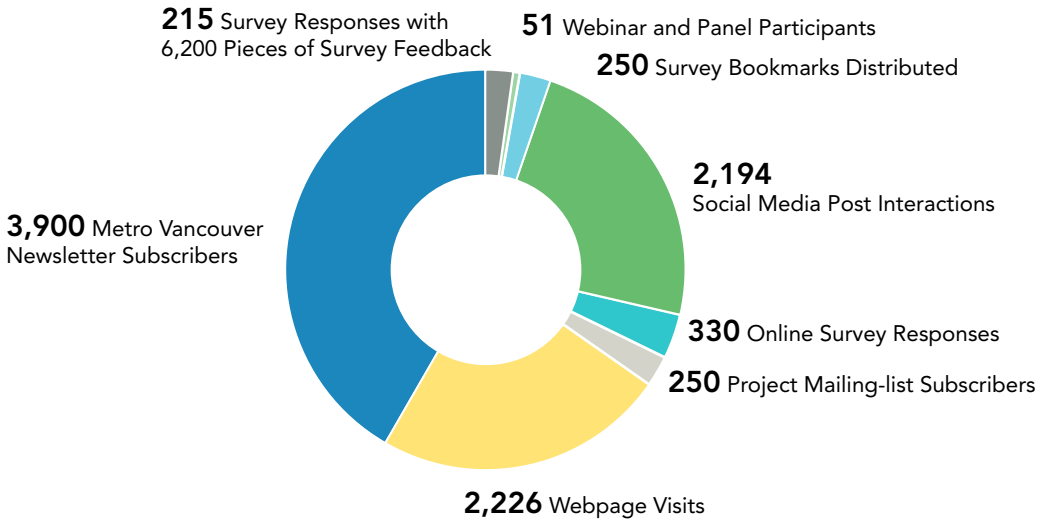
How We Engaged

- **2** Online Public Webinars
- In-Person Youth and Education Advisory Panel Presentation
- Drinking Water Management Plan Online Survey
- Interactive Project Webpage
- **21** Social Media Posts
- Survey Invitation Bookmarks
- **1** Article to Metro Vancouver Newsletter Subscribers
- **4** E-Newsletters to Drinking Water Plan Subscribers
- Public Event

Participation



Nearly **10,000** interactions across Metro Vancouver



Phase 2: Discussion of Draft Strategies and Actions

The second phase of engagement focused on refining the draft priority areas, strategies, and actions of the plan through a region-wide engagement program designed to be accessible, interactive, and story-driven.

In this phase, Metro Vancouver provided both online and in-person opportunities for engagement. Each activity combined clear information with approachable, hands-on experiences that invited people to learn, connect, and share their perspectives.

The plan update addresses complex, long-range challenges including climate change, seismic risk, population growth, water system resilience, high water use, and more. For many people, these issues can feel abstract. **Our Water. Our Future.** bridged that gap with a simple, human-centered idea: Every drop of water has a story.

Stories helped residents see themselves in the plan and understand how planning decisions connect to everyday experiences like safe homes, thriving communities, and a resilient environment. Real-life anchor stories were shared across the website, booth displays, and social media to spark recognition and guide conversations about the draft plan.

By grounding this engagement program in storytelling, interactive experiences, and clear information, Metro Vancouver created a meaningful way for people to learn about the draft plan and share their thoughts. This approach helped make the plan more relatable and ensured that feedback gathered during this phase reflected lived experience, practical concerns, and the diverse perspectives of residents across the region.

Online Survey

The online survey provided an accessible, region-wide opportunity for participants to review the priority areas, draft strategies, and actions of the plan and share detailed feedback. The survey included:

- A clear overview of the five priority areas
- Multiple-choice questions inviting participants to rate the importance of each priority
- Open-ended questions offering opportunities for participants to provide additional comments
- A prompt for participants to share their own water story

Interactive Community Booth at Events Around the Region

The booth offered a suite of engaging, low-barrier activities, including:

- **The Water Story Wall**, where participants shared their own water stories on a large water-glass display, symbolically "filling" it over the course of each event
- **Trivia-based games**, where staff playfully tested participants knowledge of themes like leak detection, conservation, system resilience, and long-term planning
- **Educational Materials**, on-site information that encouraged participants to learn and ask questions about the plan and the draft strategies and actions
- **The full online survey**, where participants could submit their feedback on the draft strategies and actions digitally or on hard copy

The combination of stories, hands-on activities, and direct conversations helped people make real connections to the plan's content before providing feedback.

An Activation at the PNE

Because of the PNE's scale and pace, this booth was intentionally designed as a fast-moving, high-volume engagement experience. It included:

- A compact, accessible "Plinko" trivia game tailored for rapid participation
- Two multiple-choice questions included in the Metro Vancouver PNE survey focused on core themes
- Visual displays highlighting the plan and the "Every drop of water has a story" concept
- Staff that were available to explain the purpose of the plan and direct visitors to the survey

This streamlined format allowed thousands of visitors to learn about the plan and share input in a way suited to the event environment.

Presentations and Webinars

An online interactive session included a presentation by Water Services representatives about the challenges facing the drinking water system and some of the draft strategies and actions to address the challenges. Attendees tested their water knowledge with a short trivia game and provided feedback through virtual polls.

A session with the Youth and Education Advisory Panel used an interactive engagement activity tailored for youth. The session included an overview of the five priority areas and facilitated small-group discussions on Conservation and Efficiency and Operational Workforce Development. This format created a structured, dialogue-based experience where youth could meaningfully engage with the plan in a collaborative setting.

Stakeholder Meetings

Metro Vancouver held five stakeholder meetings with representatives from:

- Building Owners & Managers Association of BC
- Condominium Home Owners Association of BC
- British Columbia Institute of Technology - Engineering and Geospatial Technologies, School of Construction and the Environment
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University - School of Brewery and Operations
- Simon Fraser University - School of Sustainable Energy Engineering

These sessions provided opportunities for detailed discussion of the plan's draft strategies and actions and gathered targeted feedback from industry, academic, and sector-based perspectives.

Additionally, a Regional Communications Advisory Group meeting was attended by over 20 participants, with communications representatives from each of Metro Vancouver's member jurisdictions.

Pleasant Day engagement, Vancouver, August 9, 2025

Technical Workshops

The most substantial technical engagement for the plan update took place during the second phase of engagement. Metro Vancouver convened a series of workshops with the Regional Engineering Advisory Committee - Water Sub-Committee members, staff from several First Nations, neighbouring municipalities and regional districts, health authorities, BC Hydro, school districts, water sector associations, educators, and other government agencies. Informed by a discussion paper, these sessions were designed to test and refine draft strategies and actions under each priority area.

World Café Workshops

Metro Vancouver used a World Café format to support targeted, iterative discussion. Each session included stations representing one or two strategies. Participants moved through stations in small groups, reviewing earlier comments before adding their own perspectives.

This format ensured ideas accumulated across rounds, allowing participants to build on each other's thinking and highlight areas of alignment, tension, or uncertainty.

Workshops were held on the following topics:

- **Resilient Water System:** A session focused on seismic preparedness, power resiliency, climate impacts, and safeguarding critical system assets
- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction & Environmental Protection and Water Supply Quantity and Quality:** A session exploring water quality risks, ecological health, fish habitat, and future drinking water demands. Included a guest presentation from the Portland Water Bureau on climate adaptation in drinking water systems
- **Conservation and Efficiency:** Participants explored actions related to residential metering, leak detection and reduction, active conservation measures, non-potable reuse, seasonal demand management, and pricing tools
- **Operational Workforce Development:** Discussions focused on strengthening training, recruitment, succession planning, and operational readiness across the regional water workforce

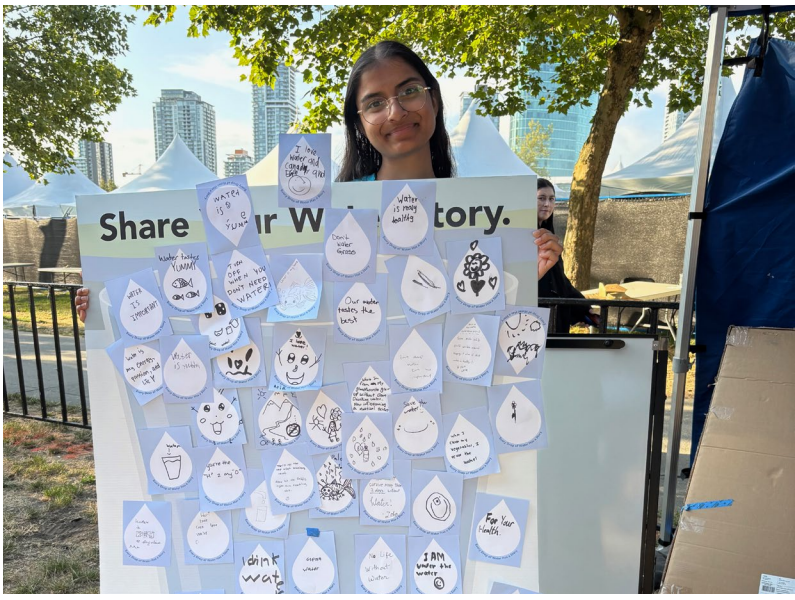
Across all workshops, participants emphasized clarity of roles, practical implementation pathways, sequencing, and the importance of balancing affordability, resilience, and long-term sustainability.

Water Conservation and Metering Workshops

In parallel with the priority area workshops, Metro Vancouver held four sessions dedicated to conservation and advancing residential metering. These workshops directly shaped the conservation strategies in the plan, including the development of a regional per capita reduction target and member-specific metering targets.

Workshops included:

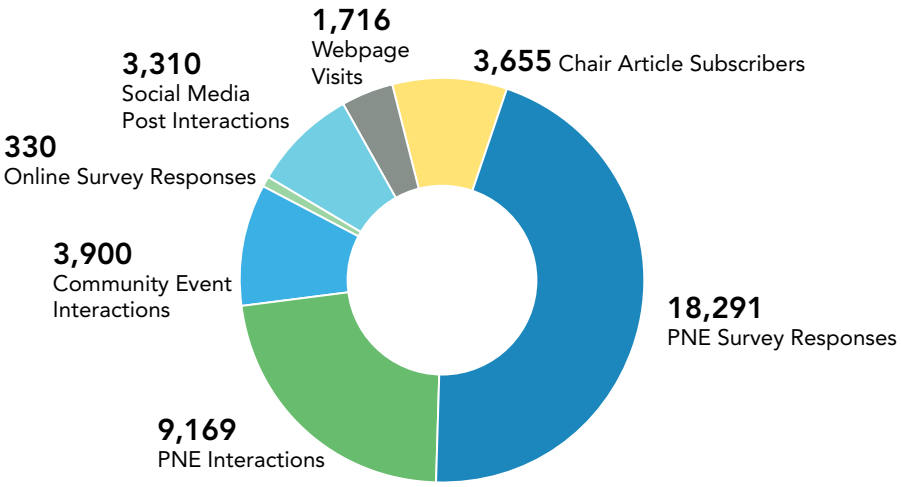
- **Metro Vancouver Conference Day:** Drinking Water Conservation: Early framing discussion on how regional conservation goals can support long-term planning
- **Water Metering Workshop 1:** Focused on enabling metering for new residential construction and service line replacement
- **Water Metering Workshop 2:** Addressed the challenges of metering existing residential properties, including cost, equity, and technical barriers
- **Metro Vancouver Conference Day:** Drinking Water Conservation: Explored the concept of a regional conservation target and the role of metering in achieving long-term per capita demand reduction



Surrey Fest, July 19, 2025

Phase 2 Engagement Reach and Participation

How We Engaged	Participation
7 Community Events	 Age Range: 18–55+
15 Day PNE Activation	
Interactive Project Webpage	
2 Metro Vancouver PNE Survey Questions	
Drinking Water Management Plan Online Survey	**+33,000** People Interacted with **Our Water. Our Future.**
16 Social Media Posts	
Chair E-Article	
2 Advisory Meetings	
7 Stakeholder and Advisory Meetings	Over **321** Water Stories Shared
Online Webinar	



Phase 3: Opportunity for Final Comment

To gather final feedback on the final draft plan before it moves forward for Board approval, Metro Vancouver held a comment period, updated the project webpage, hosted an online public survey, and invited mailing-list subscribers, interest holders, and participants from earlier technical workshops to participate in the survey and share the survey with their networks.

Online survey

The online survey provided an accessible, region-wide opportunity for participants to review the final draft Drinking Water Management Plan and share detailed feedback. The survey included:

- A clear overview of the purpose of the Drinking Water Management Plan update
- The full final draft plan
- Multiple-choice questions asking whether the information in the final draft was clear and whether it reflected participants' priorities
- Open-ended questions inviting additional comments

Phase 3 Engagement Reach and Participation

How We Engaged	Participation
Interactive Project Webpage	**308** Online Survey Responses
Drinking Water Management Plan Online Survey	**222** Social Media Post Interactions
7 Newspaper ads	**5,719** Webpage Visits
3 Social Media Posts	**+23,000** people engaged
5 Stakeholder Mailouts	

Youth and Education Advisory Panel session, September 22, 2025

Promoting Opportunities to Participate

To ensure broad awareness of the engagement opportunities and encourage participation in the plan update, Metro Vancouver carried out a coordinated promotional campaign across multiple channels. The goal was to reach residents though common channels and invite them to learn about the draft plan and share their feedback.

Drinking Water Management Plan Update Webpage

In Phase 1, a dedicated project webpage offered information on the vision and draft goals and guiding principles of the plan update and invited visitors to engage on the draft goals and guiding principles via the Phase 1 online survey.

In Phase 2, the webpage shared the draft plan priority areas, strategies, and actions, presented a series of water stories and invited people to contribute their water stories, promoted engagement opportunities and directed visitors to the Phase 2 online survey.

In Phase 3, the webpage shared the final draft of the plan and invited visitors to provide final comments via the Phase 3 online survey.

Signage

During Phases 1 and 2, Metro Vancouver installed over 80 posters and signs at water infrastructure sites, regional parks, and key community locations across the region. Each sign included a QR code directing people to the plan webpage and survey. These signs helped raise visibility for the engagement program and invited residents to get involved while visiting local parks, community centres, and high-traffic public spaces.

Social Media

In Phase 1, Metro Vancouver promoted the engagement opportunity through 21 posts on Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), and Facebook. The social media strategy was implemented through a series of organic and paid posts to build awareness of the project and generate interest.

In Phase 2, Metro Vancouver shared 16 story-based and event-focused posts across on Instagram, X, and Facebook. These posts:

- Introduced the community water stories featured in the engagement program
- Promoted opportunities to drop by the interactive booth
- Encouraged residents to complete the online survey
- Shared reminders as the engagement period neared its close

These posts helped ensure that residents across the region had clear and accessible opportunities to participate in shaping the plan.

In Phase 3, Metro Vancouver shared three posts on Instagram, X, and Facebook to raise awareness of the final draft plan comment period and encourage people to review the draft and complete the short survey.

Metro Vancouver LinkedIn post, Summer 2025

Information Card Distribution

During Phase 1, an information card in the form of a bookmark was distributed at public events across the region between April 26 and July 26, 2024. The bookmark was available at the City of Surrey's Party for the Planet, the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Greater Vancouver Water District, Water Wagon events, watershed tours, and at various regional events.

Email Newsletters

To reach residents directly:

- Four e-newsletters were sent to Metro Vancouver Water Services database subscribers and partner associations such as the BC Water and Waste Association (BCWWA), highlighting Phase 1 engagement and inviting people to participate
- The BC Water and Waste Association Waterline newsletter included information featuring the Phase 1 engagement and inviting people to participate
- An article was included in the Metro Vancouver Update email newsletter, highlighting the launch of Phase 2 engagement and inviting people to participate

Print Ads

During Phase 1, three print ads ran in the Surrey Now Leader, North Delta Reporter, and North Shore News highlighting the engagement opportunity.

During Phase 3, ten print and digital ads ran in the Delta Optimist, Langley Advance, North Shore News, Richmond News, Surrey Now Leader, Tri-Cities Dispatch, and Vancouver Sun highlighting the engagement opportunity.

Coquitlam Canada Day, July 1 2025

What We Heard and How It Shaped the Plan

The following section summarizes feedback received over Phases 1 and 2, who participated, the key themes that emerged from each group, and presents tables showing how their feedback shaped the plan.

First Nations

Metro Vancouver heard from participating First Nations during Phases 1 and 2, via discussions and subsequent correspondence. Additional feedback from First Nations staff was received through their participation in the technical workshops, this feedback is reflected in the technical workshop feedback summary.

Emerging Themes

Across online and in-person discussions, participants emphasized the importance of early, meaningful, and ongoing collaboration with First Nations in drinking water planning. Participants emphasized that water is and always has been important to the history, culture, and well-being of First Nations.

Listening, sharing, and talking together have created opportunities for reflection and awareness that will continue to inform Metro Vancouver's work beyond the plan update.

What We Heard	How It Shaped the Plan
Reconciliation Ensure early and meaningful engagement with all regional First Nations Work closely with local First Nations to incorporate cultural and traditional knowledge into management planning Revise the guiding principles to recognize UNDRIP and Indigenous rights	The plan incorporates stronger commitments to early collaboration and recognizes the need for capacity-supportive engagement. Actions referencing partnership, co-creation, and shared stewardship were updated to reflect this direction. Strategies under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Priority Area emphasize ongoing collaboration with First Nations as strategic partners to support ecological health and ensure access for cultural practices. Metro Vancouver continues to build and strengthen respectful and reciprocal relationships with First Nations, guided by the principles of UNDRIP as a standard of achievement to be pursued in a spirit of partnership and mutual respect. As part of our continued reconciliation efforts, Metro Vancouver is committed to meaningful engagement with First Nations on our plans, programs, and projects, as outlined in Metro Vancouver's Board Strategic Plan, 2022–2026.
Salmon Conservation Maintain and protect fish habitats particularly for the salmon population Address concerns about the low downstream water flow due to dam infrastructure interrupting salmon migration patterns	Strategies under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Priority Area commit to collaborate with First Nations to increase high-quality fish habitats and support migration and spawning for native fish species.

What We Heard	How It Shaped the Plan
Water Conservation and Use Prioritize water conservation (e.g., metering, reuse, rainwater harvesting) and reduce reliance on expanded infrastructure Explore opportunities for recycling water, such as rainwater harvesting and explore ways of replenishing and reusing water Address the region's high per-capita drinking water use Promote metering and advocate to the Province to advance metering	Strategies under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Priority Area include commitments to collaborate with First Nations to identify and pursue opportunities for non-potable water use in their communities and integrate non-potable water use into policies, bylaws, and operations. Strategies under the Conservation and Efficiency Priority Area commit to developing metering implementation guidance, expand Metro Vancouver's bulk metering program, and encourage members to advance metering in ways that align with their local needs, including metering new builds, fully metering the industrial, commercial, and institutional (ICI) sector, expanding voluntary programs, and, where appropriate, exploring universal metering programs. A per capita reduction target is included in the plan reflecting the need for a shared benchmark to guide future planning and collaboratively developed a regional drinking water use reduction target. Actions are included for Metro Vancouver to collaborate and advocate with the Province, members and industry partners to advance adoption of non-potable water systems.
Environmental Stewardship and Accountability Collaborate on forest management practices to minimize the risk of wildfires	Strategies under the Water Supply Quantity and Quality Priority Area commit to strengthen resilience to climate change by researching and applying emerging technologies and fostering knowledge sharing to enhance forest-management practices.
Water Quality Ensure robust testing and provide ongoing communication about drinking water	Strategies under the Water Supply Quantity and Quality Priority Area commit to strengthen integrated, climate-responsive water quality monitoring.

Member Jurisdictions

Metro Vancouver convened a series of technical workshops with the Regional Engineering Advisory Committee - Water Sub-Committee members, staff from several First Nations, neighbouring municipalities and regional districts, health authorities, BC Hydro, school districts, and other government agencies. Together, the Phase 1 and Phase 2 technical workshops:

- **Strengthened the foundations** of the plan by grounding the Goals and Guiding Principles in regional expertise
- **Refined priority areas, strategies, and actions** through iterative, staff-focused discussions
- **Identified barriers** and surfaced practical opportunities for coordinated action
- **Clarified responsibilities** between Metro Vancouver and member jurisdictions
- **Built shared understanding** of challenges such as climate change, affordability, population growth, and system resilience

Feedback from these sessions directly shaped revisions to the draft strategies and actions across all five priority areas and strengthened the overall basis of the updated plan.

Workshop 1: System Resilience

Across the resilience workshops, participants expressed strong support for the direction of the strategies and emphasized the need to move faster on regional preparedness. They highlighted the importance of identifying system vulnerabilities, improving transparency around seismic and climate risk assessments, and clarifying Metro Vancouver's anticipated level of service after a major event. Members consistently asked for stronger coordination across jurisdictions, including clearer communication on project sequencing, shared emergency scenarios, and opportunities to align infrastructure upgrades.

Participants also stressed the value of mutual aid arrangements, shared emergency resources, and regular tabletop exercises to strengthen regional response capacity. Many encouraged more specific timelines and outcomes in the plan while ensuring alignment with existing studies. First Nations emphasized the need for early involvement, capacity supports, and meaningful collaboration in resilience planning. Overall, the workshops reflected a shared sense of urgency and a call for more cohesive, region-wide action.

Workshop 2: Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Environmental Protection

Participants supported the environmental protection strategies and agreed that ecological considerations need to be integrated early into project planning. They encouraged Metro Vancouver to strengthen the measurability of the actions, improve clarity around intended outcomes, and build in more structured collaboration with municipalities, First Nations, and regulatory bodies. Many noted that ecological restoration, invasive species management, and infrastructure planning are shared responsibilities that require coordinated effort across the region.

First Nations highlighted the need for meaningful participation, field-based studies, and financial support to enable their involvement. Participants emphasized valuing the ecological services provided by the watersheds, improving fish habitat protection, and preparing for climate-driven impacts such as hotter summers and more extreme storms. While the strategic direction was broadly supported, participants encouraged clearer commitments and a stronger link between the actions and on-the-ground implementation.

Surrey Fest, July 19, 2025

Workshop 3: Water Supply Quantity and Quality

Participants emphasized the importance of grounding long-term water supply planning in strong data and adaptable modelling that accounts for climate change, emergencies, and regional growth. They encouraged Metro Vancouver to refine the strategies with clearer priorities, stronger implementation detail, and enhanced methods for forecasting peak demand under future scenarios. Several participants underscored the need to integrate emergency planning, wildfire risk, and changing seasonal patterns directly into supply planning.

There was broad interest in revisiting alternative water sources, supporting an Adaptive Pathways approach, and ensuring population projections reflect on-the-ground trends. Participants agreed that supply and conservation strategies must work together, and that clearer sequencing of major infrastructure investments would help members prepare locally.

Workshop 4: Conservation and Efficiency

Participants expressed strong conceptual support for residential metering but noted that capital costs and capacity vary widely across municipalities. They encouraged Metro Vancouver to provide consistent data, shared messaging, and regional framing to help build elected member and public understanding. Members also expressed interest in mandating metering for new construction while taking a phased or voluntary approach to existing homes.

Beyond metering, participants supported enforcement tools, seasonal rates, and improved leak detection and management. For non-potable water reuse, participants saw long-term potential but flagged significant regulatory, financial, and operational barriers. Industrial and commercial applications were viewed as the most feasible starting point, with opportunities strongest when systems are integrated early in development planning.

Workshop 5: Operational Workforce Development

Participants agreed that the region is facing a serious workforce challenge requiring collective action. Municipalities consistently reported shortages of distribution operators, limited access to training that reflects real-world needs, and growing difficulty recruiting and retaining qualified staff. Members encouraged Metro Vancouver and partners to collaborate on a region-wide assessment of operator demand and explore new pathways for training, including hands-on programs, paid-to-learn models, and stronger links with post-secondary institutions.

There was strong interest in supporting internationally trained professionals, expanding co-op and career-awareness programs, and improving access to local continuing education opportunities. Participants also highlighted retention challenges driven by cost of living and out-of-region training models. Overall, members emphasized that workforce development needs to be positioned as a shared regional priority with coordinated solutions.

Surrey Fest, July 19, 2025

Emerging Themes Across all Technical Workshops

Across all technical workshops, participants conveyed a shared desire for clearer, more measurable actions, stronger regional coordination, and improved information-sharing between Metro Vancouver, First Nations, member jurisdictions, and key agencies. They emphasized the need to recognize capacity differences, align with complementary regional and provincial initiatives, and avoid duplicating existing work.

Most importantly, participants expressed a strong sense of urgency. Climate change, population growth, aging infrastructure, and workforce pressures are accelerating, and they encouraged Metro Vancouver to prioritize, sequence, and implement actions in a way that enables the region to move forward together.

What We Heard	How It Shaped the Plan
A strong desire for clearer, more measurable actions across all Priority Areas.	Actions were revised to improve clarity and intent, and language was strengthened where appropriate. An implementation plan will be developed which will further define timing, roles, and performance measures to maintain flexibility while improving accountability.
A need for greater transparency and regional coordination on resilience, emergency planning, and infrastructure sequencing.	Strategies under the Resilient Water System Priority Area were refined to emphasize shared planning, improved data and information-sharing, and more coordinated emergency preparedness activities with member jurisdictions and First Nations.
Interest in understanding system vulnerabilities, including single points of failure and seismic risks.	Actions in the plan reflect the importance of risk assessments, redundancy planning, and increasing automation. These elements will be further developed through the implementation phase and associated technical studies.
First Nations called for early, meaningful involvement, resourcing to support participation, and clearer commitments to collaboration.	The plan incorporates stronger commitments to early collaboration and recognizes the need for capacity-supportive engagement. Actions referencing partnership, co-creation, and shared stewardship were updated to reflect this direction.
Support for ecological protection paired with calls for more clarity on outcomes, integration with other MV departments, and alignment with municipal and regulatory requirements.	Environmental Protection actions were revised to better reflect early integration of ecological considerations, cross-departmental coordination, and opportunities for shared data, restoration initiatives, and cumulative effects awareness.
A need for adaptive, data-driven water supply planning that reflects climate change, growth, drought, and emergency scenarios.	Water Supply Quantity and Quality strategies now more clearly reference scenario and adaptive pathways planning, and enhancing modelling tools.
Broad conceptual support for conservation and residential metering, but concerns about cost, feasibility, and consistency across the region.	The Conservation and Efficiency Priority Area includes clearer roles for Metro Vancouver in developing shared data, supporting communications and education, and encouraging regional consistency. Actions related to metering encourage phased approaches.

What We Heard	How It Shaped the Plan
Interest in advancing non-potable water reuse, despite barriers related to regulation, cost, and system maintenance.	The plan acknowledges the long-term potential of non-potable water systems and focuses on foundational actions such as research, collaboration with regulators, and advocacy and promotion rather than prescribing widespread implementation.
A region-wide operator shortage and strong support for collective workforce development approaches.	Operational Workforce Development actions were strengthened to emphasize regional coordination, partnerships with training institutions, exploration of hands-on learning pathways, and improved access to training and continuing education.
A shared sense of urgency and a desire to see prioritization to help move from planning to action.	The plan was refined to better convey the rationale for action, identify sequencing considerations, and support a clear transition into implementation, recognizing differing capacities across the region.

PNE interactive water services booth, August 21, 2025

Interest Holders

The following section summarizes what we heard from interest holders during Phases 1 and 2. Interest holders included representatives from industry, academia, utilities, professional associations, and sector organizations.

Interest holder engagement took place through targeted stakeholder meetings, technical workshops, and advisory sessions. These sessions provided opportunities for detailed discussion of the plan's draft strategies and actions and gathered targeted feedback grounded in operational experience, applied research, and sector-specific considerations.

Emerging Themes

Across discussions, participants emphasized the importance of advancing conservation and metering in a way that balances effectiveness with affordability. Participants expressed strong support for offering incentives and reducing administrative barriers to rainwater recovery and reuse, and identified the importance of consistent technical guidance, shared data, and regional coordination for successful metering implementation.

What We Heard	How It Shaped the Plan
Conservation Start metering with new buildings, offer conservation incentives (e.g., provide stormwater credits), and reduce administrative barriers for rainwater recovery systems	Strategies under the Conservation and Efficiency Priority Area commit to developing metering implementation guidance, expand Metro Vancouver's bulk metering program, and encourage members to advance metering in ways that align with their local needs, including metering new builds, fully metering the industrial, commercial, and institutional (ICI) sector, expanding voluntary programs, and, where appropriate, exploring universal metering programs. A per capita reduction target is included in the plan reflecting the need for a shared benchmark to guide future planning and collaboratively developed a regional drinking water use reduction target. Actions are included for Metro Vancouver to collaborate and advocate with the Province, members and industry partners to advance adoption of non-potable water systems.
Water System Education and Operational Workforce Share curriculum resources that connect students to current and future water system challenges. Provide water maps and a one page info sheet with basic statistics and visuals to support education Partner with post-secondary institutions on research advocacy for federal and provincial infrastructure funding and explore mobile training units for operators	Strategies under the Conservation and Efficiency Priority Area and the Operational Workforce Development Priority Area emphasize collaboration with regional school district partners to support public education, school-based engagement, and knowledge-sharing to foster interest in stewardship and water-system roles.

Youth and Education Advisory Panel

The following section summarizes the feedback received from the Youth and Education Advisory Panel feedback during Phases 1 and 2. Approximately 20 youth joined each in-person panel.

Discussions focused on what participants valued most about drinking water, Conservation and Efficiency, and Operational Workforce Development, providing space for youth to reflect on drinking water challenges, long-term sustainability, and career pathways.

Emerging Themes

Across both sessions, participants emphasized the importance of continuous equitable access to drinking water, easy-to-understand information, hands-on learning, and more public education about careers in the water sector and responsible drinking water use.

Panel participants were concerned about the sustainability of our drinking water sources and supply, particularly in changing climate conditions. They advocated using technology and innovation to make conservation simple and intuitive for residents and businesses.

Participants also encouraged Metro Vancouver to develop creative engagement tools for youth, such as videos, games, and interactive demonstrations to make conservation relatable and careers in the water sector more appealing to young people. Other concerns raised included over-expansion of infrastructure, protecting ecosystems, and drinking water quality.

What We Heard	How It Shaped the Plan
Water Use and Reuse Promote water collection and recycling for non-potable uses	Strategies under the Conservation and Efficiency Priority Area commit to collaborate with Province, member jurisdictions, academic institutions, and industry partners to demonstrate and promote the adoption of non-potable water systems through advocacy, education, and applied research.
Conservation and Efficiency Increase restrictions on using drinking water for purposes such as washing cars and watering lawns Create "youth boards" or youth-led initiatives Provide easy-to-understand explanations of the full water cycle, including impacts at the household and regional levels Develop a youth-focused education program, including information on metering, consumption, and leak detection	Strategies under the Conservation and Efficiency Priority Area commit to: • Work with members to conserve drinking water by reducing seasonal demand through strengthening enforcement, updating water restrictions and local bylaws, and promoting outdoor water use efficiency • Advance region-wide drinking water conservation through targeted education, communication, and behaviour change campaigns • Collaborate with regional school district partners to support public education and school-based engagement on the importance of water conservation.

What We Heard	How It Shaped the Plan
Operational Workforce Development Meet students "where they are" by visiting schools and youth spaces Make the application system smoother with more visible entry-level pathways Organize youth recruitment opportunities Provide labour market information, including the variety of available water operator roles and their required skills	Strategies under the Operational Workforce Development Priority Area commit to: • Collaborate with regional school district partners to identify recommended pathways to support water operations career awareness through existing youth programs and activities • Create youth recruitment opportunities • Develop a communications toolkit for youth audiences

PNE interactive water services booth, August 21, 2025

Public

The following section summarizes public feedback received during Phases 1 and 2 through webinars, community events, the PNE activation and survey, water stories submissions, and the online plan surveys. Together, these engagement channels provided a regional picture of public values, priorities, and concerns related to drinking water and the plan update.

Emerging Themes

Across all engagement channels, residents emphasized the importance of preparing for climate change, drought, and seismic risk; strengthening conservation and efficiency, including fair billing and leak detection through water metering; advancing use of non-potable water where appropriate; and ensuring clear lawn watering rules and drought communication. Feedback also highlighted ongoing interest in protecting water quality, environmental health, and operational readiness.

What We Heard	How It Shaped the Plan
Conservation Implement water metering to improve leak detection and enable the introduction of pay-by-use billing for drinking water use Implement mandatory metering for all buildings to detect leaks, measure use, and support fair billing Design metering to allow residents to see how much water they use between billings Provide clarity on water billing in multi-unit residences (tenant vs. owner) and provide adjustments and discounts for larger households Introduce rebates for water-efficient appliances Promote water-friendly landscaping and ban the use of drinking water for lawn watering Make it easier to report watering violations and strengthen enforcement and fines for violations Extend summer watering restrictions	Strategies under the Conservation and Efficiency Priority Area commit to: • Working with members to conserve drinking water by reducing seasonal demand through strengthening enforcement, updating water restrictions and local bylaws, and promoting outdoor water use efficiency • Advancing region-wide drinking water conservation through targeted education, communication, and behaviour change campaigns • Developing metering implementation guidance, expanding Metro Vancouver's bulk metering program, and encouraging members to advance metering in ways that align with their local needs, including metering new builds, fully metering the industrial, commercial, and institutional (ICI) sector, expanding voluntary programs, and, where appropriate, exploring universal metering programs

What We Heard	How It Shaped the Plan
Planning and future-proofing infrastructure Plan ahead for future growth and drought so the region does not run out of drinking water Be more transparent and cost-efficient when planning and implementing large infrastructure projects Increase infrastructure resilience Expand reservoirs and use water supplies from other areas that have excess Upgrade and repair aging infrastructure Strengthen the drinking water system's earthquake preparedness and its ability to restore service after an earthquake	Strategies under the Conservation and Efficiency Priority Area commit to optimizing cost efficiency across operations and capital projects. Strategies under the Resilient Water System Priority Area commit to proactively manage existing infrastructure for longevity, and strengthen seismic assessment, system redundancy, and post-event recovery readiness. Strategies under the Water Supply Quantity and Quality Priority Area include preparing for future drinking water supply and demands by using adaptive planning, analyzing sector-specific demand trends, and developing a drought response plan.
Collaboration Bring municipalities and other agencies together to collaborate on drinking water management across the region	The Guiding Principles emphasize shared responsibility, regional coordination, and collaborative implementation across members and agencies.
Education Inspire water stewardship through public education and awareness Integrate water conservation education in school curriculums and provide simple and effective ways for people to conserve water, offering more education about water and where it comes from	Strategies under the Operational Workforce Development Priority Area commit to: • Collaborate with regional school district partners to identify recommended pathways to support water operations career awareness through existing youth programs and activities • Develop a communications toolkit for youth audiences
Environmental considerations Preserve and improve the health and well-being of ecosystems and the natural environment Adopt long-term solutions to fish migration across dams (e.g., fish ladders)	Strategies under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Priority Area commit to: • Increase high-quality fish habitat and support migration and spawning for native fish species by collaborating with partners, such as First Nations and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and sharing environmental monitoring efforts • Design and plan projects to minimize or avoid impacts to the surrounding environment

Public continued…

What We Heard	How It Shaped the Plan
Water quality and security Guarantee the quality and security of our drinking water supply, even in the event of a natural disaster or extreme weather	Strategies under the Water Supply Quantity and Quality Priority Area commit to prepare for water quality changes due to climate change and natural hazards and protect and manage water quality. Strategies under the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Priority Area emphasize reducing the impacts of natural hazards and protect water supply area ecosystems through continued risk assessments.
Water use and reuse Make it easier to collect and reuse water (e.g., rainwater harvesting and greywater) Introduce incentives for water reuse including rainwater capture, wastewater recycling, stormwater harnessing, and greywater systems	Strategies under the Conservation and Efficiency Priority Area commit to collaborate with Province, member jurisdictions, academic institutions, and industry partners to demonstrate and promote the adoption of non-potable water systems through advocacy, education, and applied research.
Industrial and commercial use Charge higher fees for excessive industrial use and regulate sectors that rely heavily on watering (e.g., landscaping, golf courses) Require high-demand industries to use non-potable alternatives (e.g., seawater)	Strategies under the Conservation and Efficiency Priority Area commit to progress a region-wide drinking water conservation program for the industrial, commercial, institutional, and agriculture sectors.
Fiscal accountability and transparency Improve municipal accountability for leakage and project cost overruns Ensure cost-effective planning and learn from past infrastructure challenges	Strategies under the Conservation and Efficiency Priority Area commit to optimizing cost efficiency across operations and capital projects.
Operational workforce Promote drinking water-related careers through education, youth outreach, and public watershed tours	Strategies under the Operational Workforce Development Priority Area emphasize public outreach, workforce promotion, youth engagement and education, and training partnerships.

Additional Feedback

When asked if there was anything else Metro Vancouver should consider as it finalizes the plan, some respondents requested the addition of fluoride. While this request was noted, it is outside the scope of the plan update.

Phase 3 Feedback

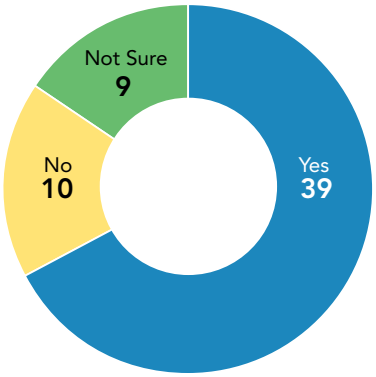
The following section summarizes the feedback received through the Phase 3 online survey. The survey focused on three key areas: the clarity of the draft plan, its alignment with public priorities, and final considerations before Board approval.

Together, these responses provided a regional picture of how participants viewed the final draft Drinking Water Management Plan and whether it reflected their values related to drinking water, environmental protection, and long-term system reliability.

Clarity of the final draft plan

The survey's first multiple-choice question asked respondents about the clarity of information:

Is the information in the final draft Drinking Water Management Plan clear?

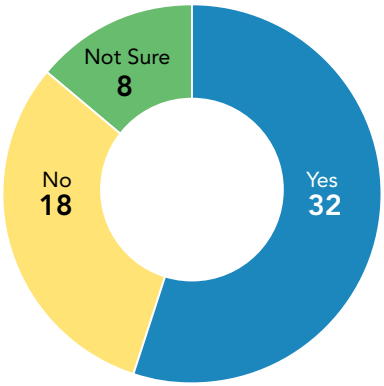


Most respondents agreed that the information in the draft plan was clear. A few respondents offered suggestions regarding the layout and design of the plan, which were incorporated into the final document.

Alignment with public priorities for drinking water management

The survey's second multiple-choice question asked respondents to indicate whether the final draft reflected their top priorities for drinking water management:

Does the final draft reflect the priorities that matter most to you (e.g., conservation, drinking water quality, environmental protection, a reliable system)?



Over half of the respondents indicated that the final draft reflected the priorities that mattered most to them. Some respondents requested greater transparency around project costs. Others encouraged Metro Vancouver to continue public education and engagement on drinking water as the plan moves into implementation.

Final considerations

When asked if there was anything else Metro Vancouver should consider before finalizing the Drinking Water Management Plan, respondents offered suggestions around the following themes:

- Protecting watersheds and ecosystems: respondents called for stronger protection of forests, rivers, streams, and fish habitats, and cautioned that development or infrastructure should not compromise source water quality.
- Reducing water use: respondents called for stronger conservation measures and expressed concerns about the impacts of population growth and climate change on the region's future water supplies.
- Explaining how the plan will be carried out: several respondents wanted clearer explanations of how specific actions in the plan would be implemented, monitored, and enforced over time.
- Clarity about costs: some respondents requested more detailed information on project costs, timelines, and how spending decisions are made.

Pleasant Day engagement, Vancouver, August 9, 2025

Contact Us

Metro Vancouver Information Centre:

604-432-6200

(Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm)

Email: icentre@metrovancouver.org
(Please include, "*Drinking Water Management Plan* Update" in the subject line)

Website: metrovancouver.org and search "*Drinking Water Management Plan* Update"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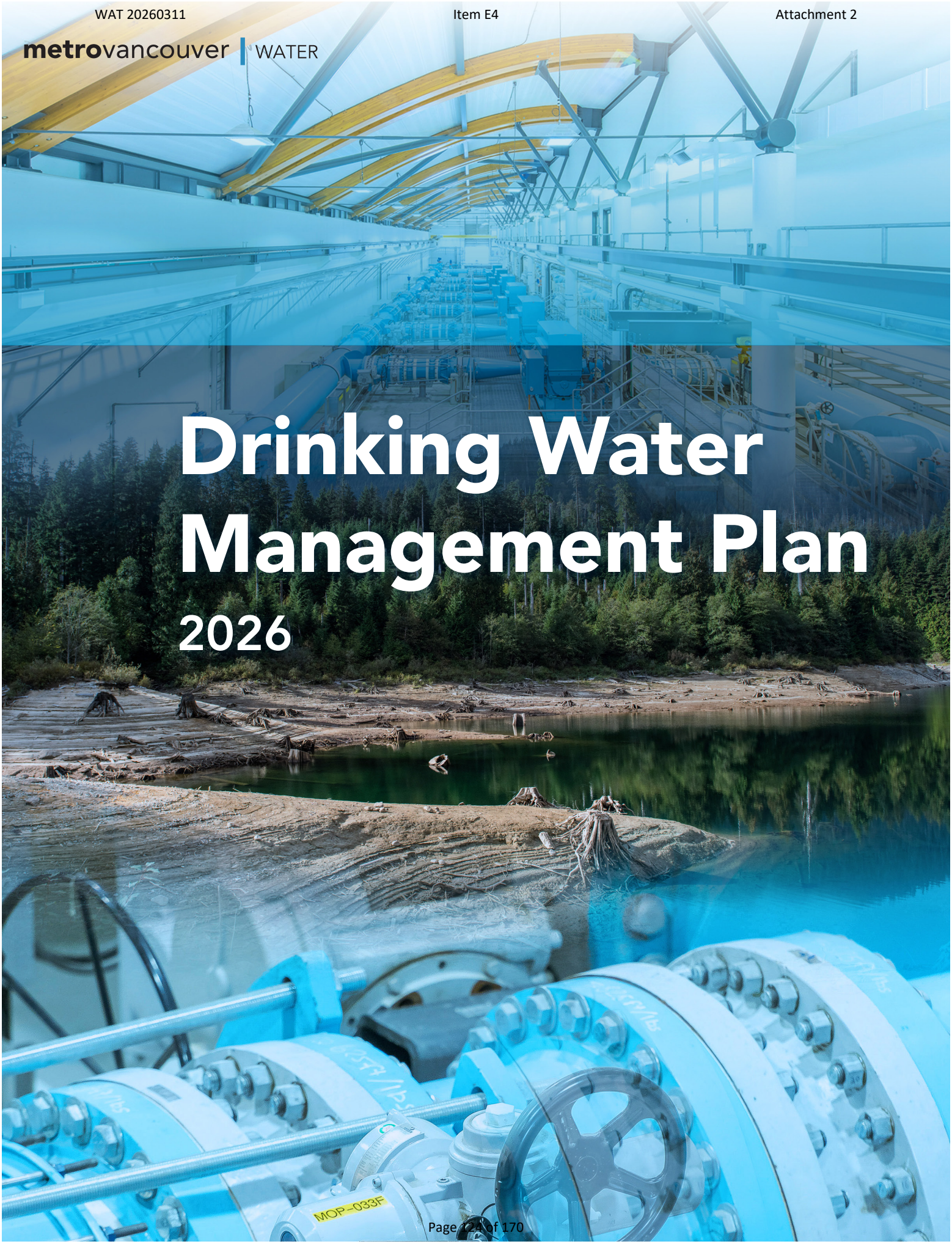

Drinking Water Management Plan

2026

About Metro Vancouver

Metro Vancouver is a diverse organization that plans for and delivers regional utility services, including drinking water, sewers and wastewater treatment, and solid waste management. It also regulates air quality, plans for urban growth, manages a regional parks system, provides affordable rental housing, and serves as a regional federation. The organization is a federation of 21 municipalities, one electoral area, and one treaty First Nation located in the region of the same name. The organization is made up of four separate legal entities, each governed by its own Board of Directors. Board directors are elected officials from member jurisdictions.

About the Greater Vancouver Water District

The Greater Vancouver Water District (GVWD) is a statutory corporation which serves its 18 member municipalities, one electoral area, and one treaty First Nation. The objectives of the GVWD are to protect the regional water supply areas, store, treat, deliver, and ensure the quality of our drinking water. Additionally, to upgrade, maintain, and expand the regional water system, promote water conservation, plan for future drinking water needs, and ensure resilience in the face of climate change impacts.

Directors of the GVWD Board are mayors and councillors appointed by membership councils, and their votes on resolutions are population-weighted. The GVWD and its member jurisdictions work together to plan and manage the supply and transmission of drinking water across the region.

In this plan, the GVWD is referred to as 'Metro Vancouver'. All further references to 'Metro Vancouver', or commitments and responsibilities assigned to 'Metro Vancouver' in this plan should be interpreted to refer to the 'Greater Vancouver Water District (GVWD)' alone. In this plan, 'Metro Vancouver' does not refer to any entity other than the GVWD.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Metro Vancouver acknowledges that the region's residents live, work, and learn on the shared territories of many Indigenous peoples, including the 10 local First Nations: q̓i̓c̓əy̓ (Katzie), q̓ʷɑːn̓ƛ̓ən̓ (Kwantlen), kʷikʷəƛ̓əm (Kwikwetlem), máthxwi (Matsqui), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), qiqéyt (Qayqayt), Semiahmoo, Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), scəẇaθən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen), and səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh).

Jurisdictions in the Region

GVWD Members

Village of Anmore

Village of Belcarra

City of Burnaby

City of Coquitlam

City of Delta

Electoral Area A

City of Langley

Township of Langley

City of Maple Ridge

City of New Westminster

City of North Vancouver

District of North Vancouver

City of Pitt Meadows

City of Port Coquitlam

City of Port Moody

City of Richmond

City of Surrey

City of Vancouver

District of West Vancouver

scəẇ aθən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen First Nation)

4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, BC, V5H 0C6 I metrovancouver.org I February 2026

Front cover: Barnston Pump Station, Seymour Reservoir
Back cover: Second Narrows Water Supply Tunnel

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Executive Summary

Metro Vancouver provides high-quality drinking water through its member jurisdictions to over three million residents across the region — that's more than half of BC's population. This includes acquiring and maintaining supply, as well as treating, testing, and delivering water through a complex system of water supply areas, dams, treatment facilities, reservoirs, pump stations, and over 520 kilometres of large diameter water mains. From the regional system, drinking water is then conveyed to individual homes and businesses through infrastructure owned and operated by member jurisdictions.

Proactive utility planning is essential to ensuring the water system continues to operate reliably, sustainably, and cost-effectively. *The Drinking Water Management Plan* (DWMP) is Metro Vancouver's 10-year strategic plan that outlines goals, strategies, and actions for Metro Vancouver and member jurisdictions and reflects the shared responsibility across the region given the need for coordinated implementation. This model of regional collaboration keeps costs down, improves efficiency, and ensures our communities stay resilient in the face of climate change, population growth, and seismic risks.

Climate change is bringing hotter and drier summers, reduced snowpack, and more variable rainfall — all factors that affect how and when reservoirs refill — therefore impacting water supply. Population growth is increasing overall demand for drinking water, and changes to land use are altering patterns of water use across the region. Metro Vancouver's population projections (July 2025) indicate that an estimated 3.5 million people will call this region home by 2035, and over four million by 2050.

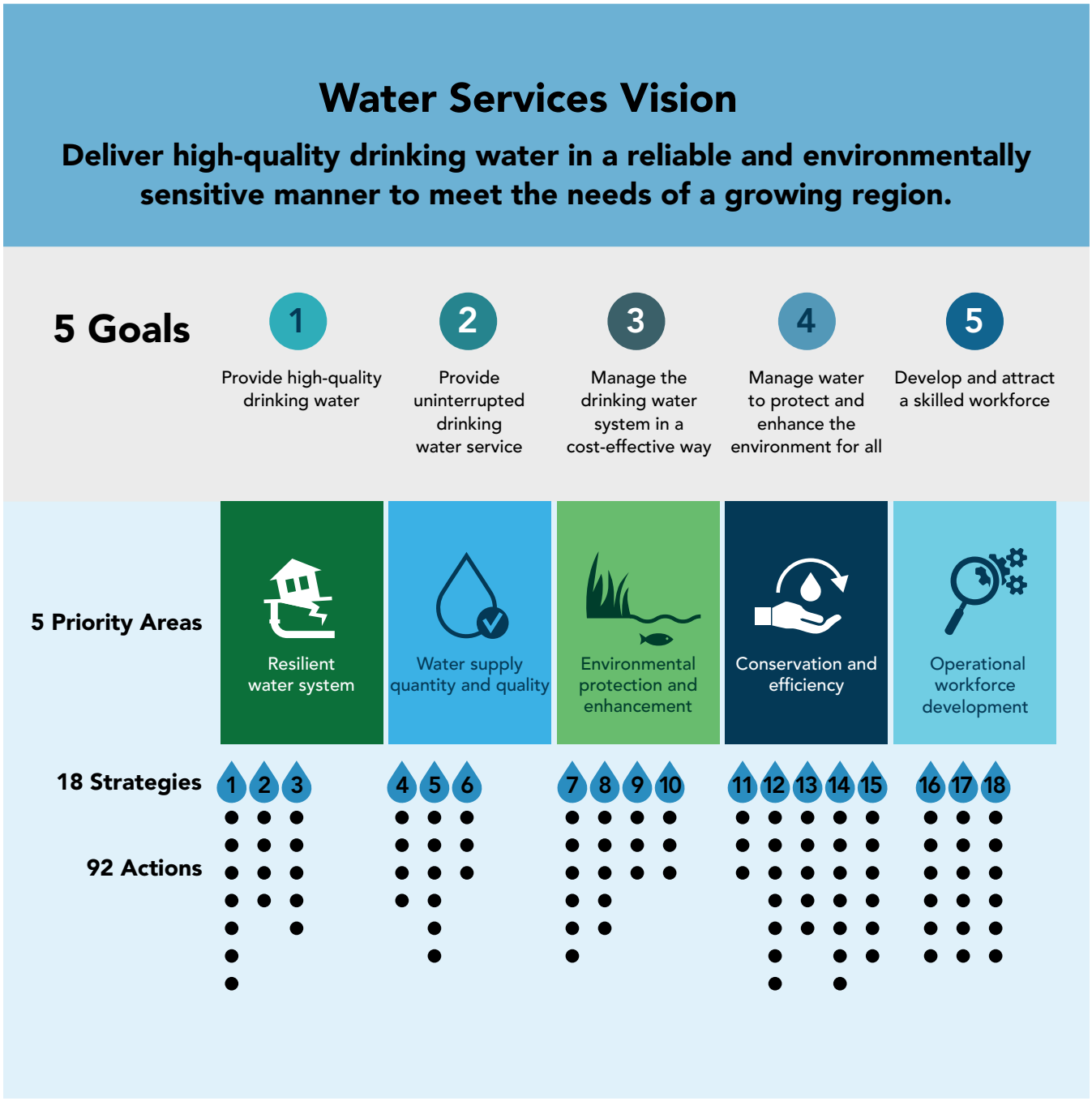
These conditions heighten the importance of managing drinking water use wisely, making the most of existing infrastructure capacity, and planning carefully for future investments. Infrastructure is complex and expensive and includes water treatment plants, dams, and massive water supply tunnels. These projects require careful planning, long timelines, and significant investment, yet they're essential to keeping our region healthy, livable, and prepared for the future.

The plan responds to these conditions through strategies and actions organized in five priority areas:

- **Resilient Water System** – strengthening the system's ability to anticipate, withstand, and recover from climate extremes, seismic events, natural hazards, and other disruptions
- **Water Supply Quantity and Quality** – protecting source water, planning for future supply needs, and preparing for changing water quality conditions
- **Environmental Protection and Enhancement** – supporting ecological health, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and protecting fish habitat and local ecosystems
- **Conservation and Efficiency** – reducing per capita water use, improving system efficiency, encouraging metering, and promoting leak reduction, behavioural change, and non-potable water use
- **Operational Workforce Development** – attracting, training, and retaining the skilled workforce needed to operate and maintain a complex drinking water system

Development of the plan was informed by research, technical analysis, and a multi-year engagement process involving First Nations, member jurisdictions, interest holders, academic partners, government agencies, non-profit organizations, industry, and the public. Across all engagement activities, people expressed strong support for drinking water conservation, environmental protection, and system reliability.

Together, the goals, strategies, and actions in this plan provide a clear, coordinated path for managing the region's drinking water system in a changing climate, supporting a growing population, and ensuring the continued reliable delivery of high-quality drinking water for generations to come.



This snapshot provides an overview of all components of the Drinking Water Management Plan. Detailed descriptions of each component are provided in subsequent sections of the plan.

Introduction

The *Drinking Water Management Plan* sets the direction and priorities for drinking water initiatives for the region. The plan is the region's shared strategy for protecting, managing, and investing in the drinking water system over the next decade. Together with member jurisdictions, Metro Vancouver is working to ensure that drinking water in the region continues to be:

- High-quality: meeting or exceeding regulatory requirements
- Sustainably managed: using only what we need, protecting what we have
- Reliably delivered: through a system that's built to last

In addition to planning over the next decade, Metro Vancouver undertakes long-term water planning studies to ensure the future supply of high-quality drinking water for generations to come. This plan has been informed by long term planning studies, the most recent of which is the *Water Supply Outlook 2120* which presented key findings and actions to guide Metro Vancouver towards a resilient, adaptable strategy to continue supplying the region with high-quality drinking water over the next 100 years.

Second Narrows Water Supply Tunnel North Shaft

Plan Context – Adapting the Plan for Today's Conditions

The region's drinking water system is shaped by several challenges that are evolving at the same time: climate change, population growth, aging infrastructure, and seismic risk. Combined with ongoing expectations for reliability and increasing uncertainty in projections, these pressures are shifting how Metro Vancouver plans for the future.

Since the last plan, published in 2011, the region has benefited from improvements in water quality, system reliability, and continued reductions in seasonal per capita water use through high-efficiency fixture upgrades and strengthened outdoor watering restrictions. However, the operating environment has changed. Summers are becoming hotter and drier, rainfall patterns more variable, and the region is projected to grow by more than 40,000 people per year.

Metro Vancouver has one of the highest per capita water consumption rates in Canada, meaning there is substantial opportunity to use water more efficiently. Strong conservation and demand management can play a major role in ensuring the long-term sustainability of the system. Today's economic conditions also reinforce the importance of fiscal responsibility and making the most of existing infrastructure capacity.

In this context, the plan widens the regional focus from building system capacity to managing water consumption and efficiency for the long-term.

Understanding Our Drinking Water System

Metro Vancouver's drinking water system begins high in the mountains and moves through a complex system before reaching homes and businesses.

Source Water and Reservoirs

Three mountain reservoirs, located within the protected Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam water supply areas, along with three alpine lakes, capture and store rainfall and snowmelt. These reservoirs refill primarily during the fall and winter and are relied upon to provide water throughout the year.

Filtration and Treatment

There are multiple measures (a multi-barrier approach) to protect water quality in the drinking water system, including protected water supply areas, treatment facilities, secondary disinfection, extensive monitoring, as well as trained and certified operators. Water from Capilano and Seymour is treated at the Seymour Capilano Filtration Plant through filtration and UV treatment, while Coquitlam water is treated at the Coquitlam Water Treatment Plant through ozone and UV treatment.

Regional Transmission System

Over 520 kilometres of large diameter water mains connect a network of dams, pump stations, storage reservoirs, and disinfection stations to the member jurisdiction distribution systems. Metro Vancouver operates a network of billing meters to measure and record flows to each member.

Local Distribution Systems

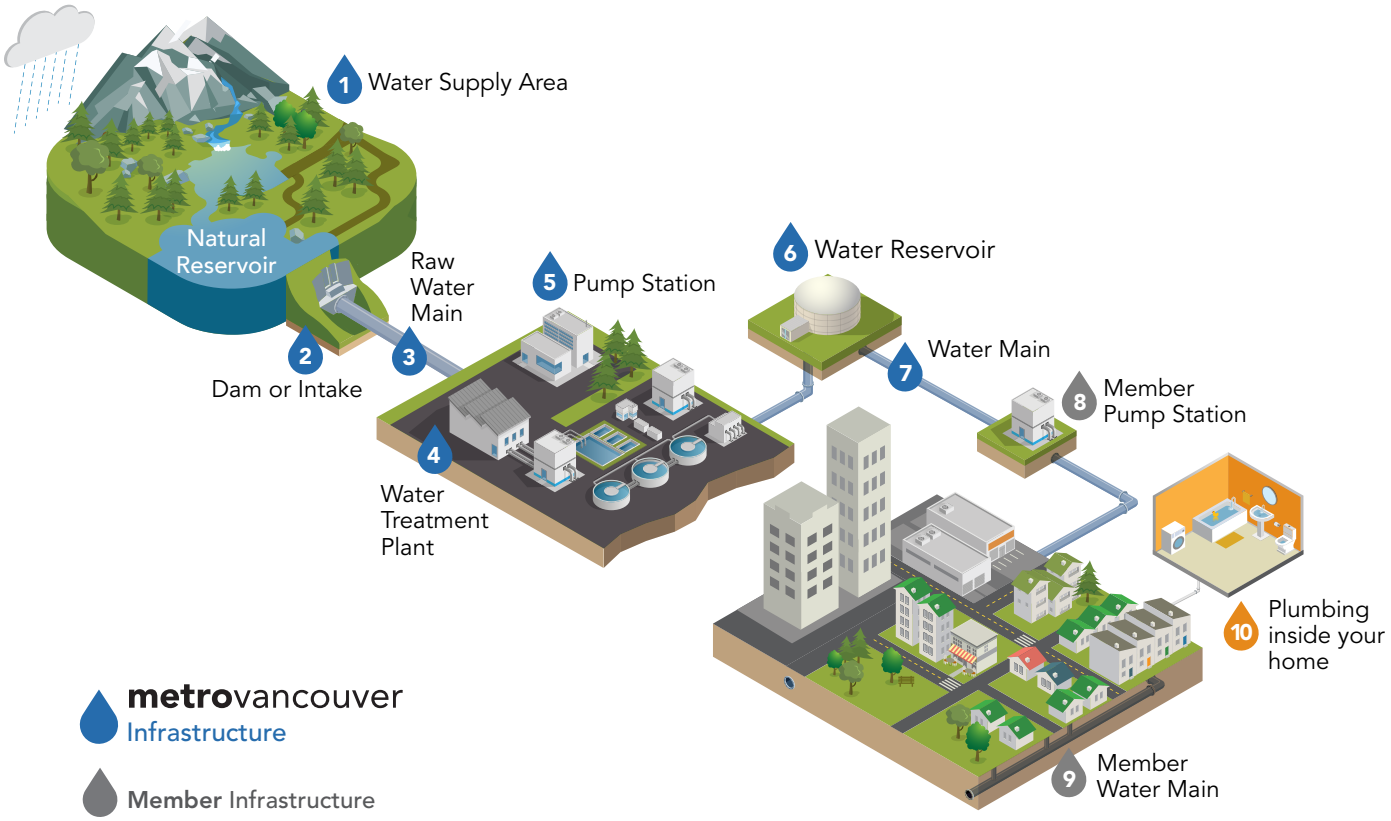
Member jurisdictions receive drinking water at connection points and distribute it through their local networks of mains, pump stations, and reservoirs to the taps of homes and businesses.

Shared Responsibility

Metro Vancouver manages source water, treatment, and regional transmission infrastructure.
Member jurisdictions manage local distribution infrastructure, metering, local bylaws, and customer-facing programs. The plan provides a shared direction for coordinating these responsibilities.

How does water get to your home?

Metro Vancouver and its members work together to supply high-quality drinking water to the region.



Interpretive signage at Capilano Reservoir

Challenges Facing the Regional Water System

The plan responds to several interconnected challenges facing the regional water system:

Population Growth

Population growth and changes to land use are increasing the overall demand for drinking water in the region. Metro Vancouver and members update regional and municipal population projections (including First Nations' populations) on an annual basis to guide land use and infrastructure planning. The most recent projections (July 2025) estimate that the Metro Vancouver region will grow by over 40,000 people each year, increasing total water demand and accelerating the need for coordinated system planning.

Climate Change and Increasing Uncertainty

Climate projections predict rising temperatures, longer dry periods, reduced snowpack, and more intense rainfall events. These changes put greater pressure on source reservoirs during the summer and change the timing and reliability of their refill. Snowpack has historically acted as a natural buffer, releasing water gradually through spring and keeping the reservoirs full into early summer. Today, warming winters are reducing snow accumulation, and spring snowmelt patterns are becoming more variable, creating uncertainty of how long stored water will last. The region can no longer rely on historic patterns to predict future supply. Planning must account for variability in precipitation, snowpack, and reservoir refill timing, as well as more frequent extreme weather events.

High Per Capita Use and Seasonal Summer Water Use

Per capita water use in the Metro Vancouver region remains one of the highest in Canada. Summer outdoor use in particular drives increases in demand, at a time when the reservoirs are receiving minimal inflows.

Aging Infrastructure

The GVWD is over 100 years old. Much of the regional network of pipes, tunnels, and pump stations was built decades ago. Upgrades are constantly being made to the water system to maintain the quantity and reliability of high-quality drinking water to the region.

Aging infrastructure in both the regional and member distribution systems is susceptible to leakage. The system losses, including the rate of leakage, throughout the region is not accurately quantified but understood to be around 20% for members with low levels of metering.

Second Narrows Water Supply Tunnel

Regional Affordability

Layered upon these challenges is the issue of regional affordability. Metro Vancouver understands the pressure residents are experiencing from rising costs. The plan is taking action by emphasizing the efficient use of existing infrastructure to help manage long term costs.

Seymour Capilano Filtration Plant

Seismic Risk

Metro Vancouver is located in a seismically active region. Ensuring that critical drinking water infrastructure can withstand a major earthquake and continue to function afterward is a core component of long-term system resilience.

Skilled Workforce

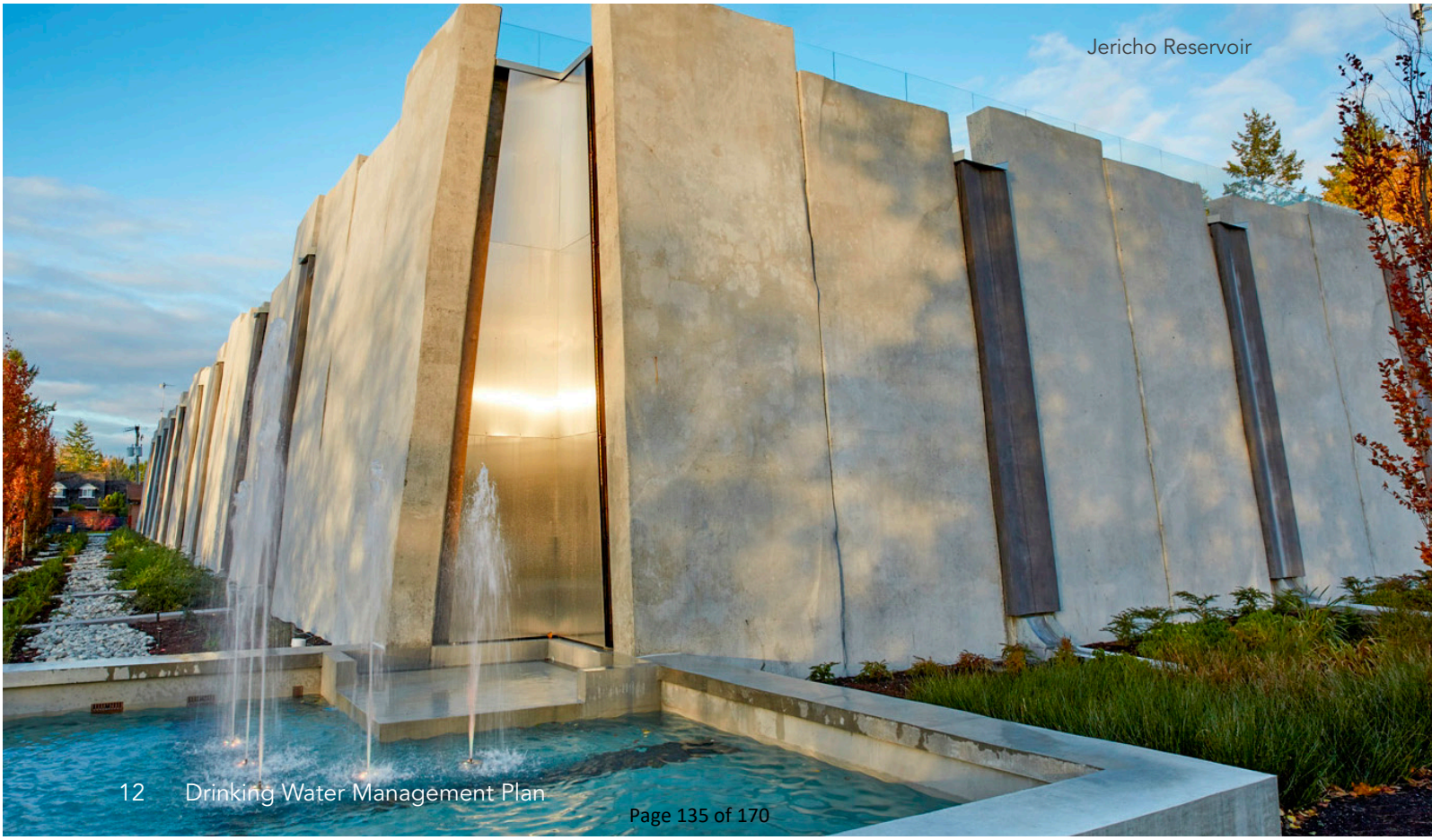
The increase in demand and resulting system growth and complexity requires a larger skilled workforce which is currently under strain from retirements and a lack of skilled certified applicants, particularly in the water operations field.

How the Plan Responds

The plan provides the coordinated regional strategy needed to respond to these challenges by outlining strategies and actions that will:

- Strengthen system resilience to the impacts of climate change including hotter, drier summers, and increased drought risk
- Ensure the region continues to manage treatment, storage, demand, and supply in an integrated, adaptive, and forward-looking way that will meet evolving requirements
- Address system leakage, support conservation and efficient water use to serve growing populations to maximize the capacity life of existing infrastructure, and optimize timing of future investments
- Guide design and construction of water infrastructure, perform operations, and implement programs in an environmentally sustainable and responsible manner
- Attract and retain a reliable and skilled workforce to maintain and operate a growing and increasingly complex water system

The plan defines a shared regional strategy for protecting, managing, and investing in the drinking water system, establishing the policy direction that supports coordinated planning and collaboration among Metro Vancouver and its member jurisdictions. New or expanded initiatives that require additional budget or staff will be brought forward to the GVWD Board for consideration in annual operating and/ or capital planning cycles. Large capital projects will continue to progress through the stage gate process and will be brought to the GVWD Board at relevant stages for information and/or approval.



Jericho Reservoir

About the Plan Process

The plan was developed in three phases. At each phase, Metro Vancouver engaged First Nations, member jurisdictions, government agencies, academic institutions, industry, interest groups, and the public. The process also included in-depth research and technical analysis to ensure the plan is evidence-based, inclusive, and reflects the values of the communities it serves.

PHASE 1 2020–2023

- Background research and technical review
- Gap analysis of 2011 Drinking Water Management Plan
- Preliminary engagement
- Draft guiding principles and goals

PHASE 2 2023–2025

- Development of draft strategies and actions
- Technical workshops
- Engagement on draft priority areas, strategies, and actions

PHASE 3 2025–2026

- Completion of the full draft plan
- Engagement on the full draft plan
- Finalize the plan
- Board approval

Working Collaboratively with Member Jurisdictions

Metro Vancouver works collaboratively with member jurisdictions to provide high-quality drinking water to over three million residents across the region. Success depends on coordinated planning, shared understanding of system pressures, and collective action across all levels of the drinking water system. The plan provides the framework for continuing and enhancing this cooperation. It supports a regional approach to planning, acting, and adapting together as conditions change.

Throughout the plan update, Metro Vancouver worked closely with member jurisdictions through a series of meetings and technical workshops focused on refining the goals, guiding principles, priority areas, strategies, and actions. These sessions strengthened the foundations of the plan by grounding decisions in regional expertise, identifying barriers and opportunities for coordinated action, and clarifying roles and responsibilities.

Workshops on system resilience, environmental protection, water supply, conservation, and workforce development surfaced clear themes: the need for stronger regional coordination, more measurable and outcome-oriented actions, clearer assumptions and priorities, and improved information-sharing across jurisdictions.

Workshops on water metering demonstrated conceptual support for residential metering while acknowledging varying local capacities and constraints, and cost implications.

Member jurisdictions also emphasized the importance of early and meaningful involvement of First Nations, recognizing the need for capacity supports and deeper collaboration across all areas of the plan.

Feedback from member jurisdictions directly shaped revisions across all priority areas, resulting in clearer, more practical, and regionally coordinated strategies that reflect shared challenges and support a cohesive, long-term approach to drinking water planning, delivery, and resilience.

Engaging With First Nations

Metro Vancouver recognizes and respects the existing Aboriginal and treaty rights of Indigenous peoples in Canada, as recognized and affirmed by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

In addition, both the governments of Canada and British Columbia have enacted legislation to affirm the application of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) to laws within their jurisdiction. In its preamble, UNDRIP states that "respect for Indigenous knowledge, cultures, and traditional practices contributes to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment."

As part of our continued reconciliation efforts, Metro Vancouver is committed to meaningful engagement with First Nations on our plans, programs, and projects, as outlined in Metro Vancouver's Board Strategic Plan, 2022–2026. Metro Vancouver continues to build and strengthen respectful and reciprocal relationships with First Nations, guided by the principles of UNDRIP "as a standard of achievement to be pursued in a spirit of partnership and mutual respect."

Fleetwood Reservoir
Mural Artist: Elinor Atkins, Kwantlen First Nation

Metro Vancouver would like to express sincere appreciation to the First Nations for their time, expertise, and perspectives shared throughout the plan update. Metro Vancouver recognizes that First Nations knowledge and guidance have been crucial in shaping the direction of the plan and will continue to inform Metro Vancouver's work now and in the future.

Throughout each phase of the plan, Metro Vancouver held a separate, government-to-government process with First Nations, and involved First Nations in joint workshops held with member jurisdictions. This customized engagement approach included ongoing dialogue, and online and in-person one-on-one meetings with First Nations. The purpose of this engagement was to better understand First Nations' interests and values related to water and align on how those interests and values can be reflected in the plan.

Listening, sharing, and talking together have created opportunities for reflection and awareness that will continue to inform Metro Vancouver's work beyond the plan. The plan reflects key themes heard during engagement with First Nations, including:

- **Reconciliation** – include cultural and traditional knowledge in planning
- **Salmon Conservation** – protect salmon habitats and address migration challenges caused by low water flows
- **Water Conservation and Use** – prioritize water conservation, explore reuse options, and promote metering to reduce high water use
- **Environmental Stewardship and Accountability** – work together on forest management to reduce wildfire risks
- **Water Quality** – ensure strong water testing and keep communities informed about drinking water quality

These and other themes discussed with First Nations have been embedded throughout the strategies and actions of the plan. Metro Vancouver recognizes that each First Nation is unique, and we look forward to working with First Nations individually and collectively to achieve the goals established in the plan.

Pleasant Day engagement, Vancouver

Engaging With the Public

Public engagement for the plan unfolded across the three interconnected phases, each designed to make water system planning accessible, informative, and meaningful for residents across the region.

Metro Vancouver delivered a mix of online and in-person opportunities — including surveys, webinars, a story-driven community engagement program, interactive booths at regional events, and large-scale activations at the PNE — paired with clear, plain-language information to support informed participation. Across all engagement channels, residents consistently emphasized:

- The importance of preparing for climate change, drought, and seismic risk
- Strengthening conservation and efficiency, including fair billing and leak detection through water metering
- Protecting water quality and environmental health
- Ensuring clear communication about lawn watering rules and drought conditions

Feedback from the public directly shaped revisions across multiple priority areas, reinforcing the need for adaptive planning, improved transparency, and stronger regional coordination. This multi-phase approach created a region-wide conversation about the future of drinking water and ensured that public values, concerns, and priorities are reflected throughout the plan.

New West Pride event engagement, New Westminster

Alignment and Linkages

The *Drinking Water Management Plan* supports and is supported by the goals, priorities, strategies, and actions set out in other Metro Vancouver plans. Together, these plans collectively guide regional decision-making on climate resilience, infrastructure investment, environmental protection, and sustainable growth. The table below outlines the interdependence and shared priorities between the *Drinking Water Management Plan* and other relevant Metro Vancouver plans:

Other Metro Vancouver Plans		Links to the Drinking Water Management Plan
	**Board Strategic Plan (2022–2026)** Provides a framework for Board decisions to address regional priorities, today and for the long-term.	Establishes Board direction which informs DWMP strategies and actions that shape annual work plans across service areas. Shared priorities: climate action, resilient services, and infrastructure
	**Climate 2050 (2018–2019)** Establishes Metro Vancouver's long-term climate strategy, guiding climate policy for 25 years.	Prioritizes climate action and resilience which are reflected in the DWMP strategies and actions. Shared priorities: climate adaptation, and mitigating climate risks to the water system
	**Clean Air Plan (2021)** Sets a 10 year plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve 2030 emissions targets while focusing on ecological health and environmental stewardship.	Shared priorities: reducing greenhouse gas emissions, enhancing ecological, and environmental health
	**Metro 2050: Regional Growth Strategy (2022)** Provides a regional vision for managing growth, protecting ecosystems, and ensuring efficient infrastructure to build resilient, connected communities.	Shared priorities: managing increased water demand from population growth, ecological health, environmental stewardship, and climate adaptation and mitigation.

Other Metro Vancouver Plans		Links to the Drinking Water Management Plan
	**Liquid Waste Management Plan (2026)** Establishes community-specific solutions for Metro Vancouver and its member jurisdictions to manage wastewater and rainwater, and to address growing pressures in the region while protecting public health and the environment.	Aligns with the DWMP through the circular water economy, recognizing the strong link between drinking water use and wastewater volumes. Shared priorities: water conservation, non-potable water use, climate adaptation, and resource efficiency

Circular Water Economy

The circular water economy is a system where water and wastewater are treated as valuable resources that are sustainably managed to reduce waste and protect water for future needs. The principles of a circular economy extend beyond water reuse and conservation; they also encompass energy recovery and resource optimization.

Strategies and actions in *Drinking Water Management Plan*, particularly those of the Conservation and Efficiency and Environmental Protection and Enhancement priority areas, support a circular water economy by ensuring resources are conserved and repurposed for long-term environmental and economic benefits.

The *Drinking Water Management Plan* and the *Liquid Waste Management Plan* together advance environmental protection and reduce infrastructure costs by conserving system capacity, reducing wet-weather flows and organic loadings, and encouraging water conservation, and the 2026 update to the *Liquid Waste Management Plan* further aligns with the *Drinking Water Management Plan* through a shared focus on recovering water from wastewater processes.

The Drinking Water Management Plan

Water Services Vision

Deliver high-quality drinking water in a reliable and environmentally sensitive manner to meet the needs of a growing region.

Guiding Principles

- Value water as a precious resource that must be conserved
- Work collaboratively and engage people in planning and implementation
- Advance reconciliation with local First Nations
- Act in a financially responsible manner
- Prioritize conservation over water supply expansion
- Make the drinking water system resilient to changing environmental conditions and natural hazards
- Make the drinking water system and operations carbon neutral
- Promote an equitable drinking water system
- Rely on science-based evidence to make decisions
- Emphasize continuous improvement

Goals

The plan includes five goals that guide the strategies and actions developed through this update process:

1. Provide high-quality drinking water
2. Provide uninterrupted drinking water service
3. Manage the drinking water system in a cost-effective way
4. Manage water to protect and enhance the environment for all
5. Develop and attract a skilled workforce

How the Plan is Organized

The plan is organized around five priority areas. Each priority area brings together strategies and actions that focus on a common theme in the region's drinking water system. This approach demonstrates how different strategies work together to achieve multiple goals and benefits by clearly connecting actions to the bigger picture.

Relationship between Priority Areas, Strategies, and Actions

- Priority Areas describe the major themes shaping Metro Vancouver's drinking water future
- Strategies outline the broad approaches for addressing each theme
- Actions identify the specific steps Metro Vancouver and member jurisdictions will take

The Five Priority Areas

Priority Areas, Strategies, and Actions

The following table identifies the alignment between plan priority areas and strategies and the plan's goals demonstrating how each strategy contributes to achieving the five goals.

STRATEGIES		GOALS				
Priority Area – Resilient Water System						
1	Advance planning and designing for resilient infrastructure		2			
2	Respond and recover from emergencies		2			
3	Proactively manage existing infrastructure for longevity		2	3		
Priority Area – Water Supply Quantity and Quality						
4	Prepare for water quality changes due to climate change and natural hazards	1	2		4	
5	Protect and manage water quality	1	2			
6	Prepare for future drinking water supply and demands		2	3		
Priority Area – Environmental Protection and Enhancement						
7	Reduce GHG Emissions and implement energy efficiency measures		2	3	4	
8	Advance ecological health and environmental stewardship	1			4	
9	Support healthy fish populations in the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam river systems				4	
10	Minimize the environmental impacts of leaks and spills			3	4	
Priority Area – Conservation and Efficiency						
11	Advance metering to support conservation and system efficiency		2	3	4	
12	Reduce drinking water use through active conservation		2	3		
13	Promote the recovery and reuse of non-potable water		2	3		
14	Optimize cost efficiency across operational and capital programs			3		
15	Increase operational efficiency			3		
Priority Area – Operational Workforce Development						
16	Promote regional youth recruitment opportunities					5
17	Collaborate with key industry advocates and training providers					5
18	Enhance career development opportunities for existing Metro Vancouver operators		2			5

Priority Area: Resilient Water System

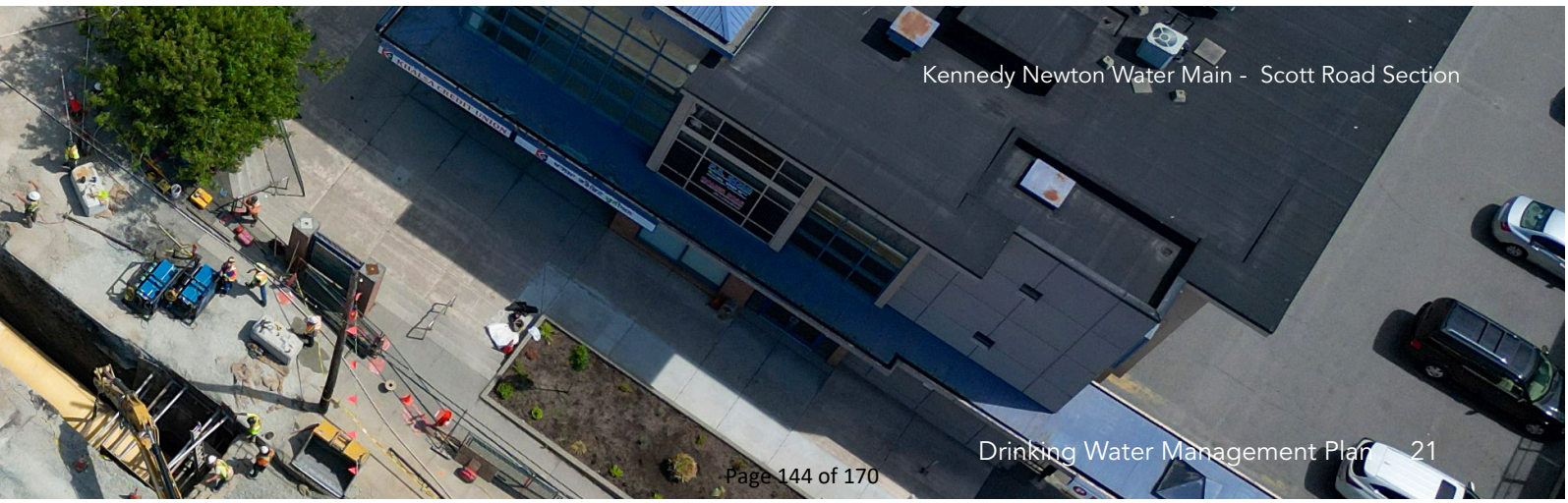
Metro Vancouver's drinking water system is under increasing pressure from climate change, population growth, aging assets, and seismic risk. Extreme heat, shifting snowpack patterns, and more frequent storms are already influencing water quality and supply, while the system must also be ready to operate during power disruptions and other emergencies. To stay ahead of these challenges, Metro Vancouver must strengthen its ability to anticipate, withstand, and recover from future disruptions.

This priority area focuses on designing, operating, and maintaining infrastructure to remain reliable under climate extremes and natural hazards, while ensuring rapid and effective emergency response, extending the life of existing infrastructure, and building new infrastructure that supports long-term system resilience, including seismic preparedness, redundancy, and strategic renewal to maintain high-quality drinking water delivery under all conditions.

Strategy 1: Advance planning and designing for resilient infrastructure		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Increase the seismic resilience of the water system by conducting prioritized structural analysis to identify seismic vulnerabilities	Metro Vancouver
2	Increase the automation of the seismic response for the water system including automatic shutoffs throughout the transmission system and automated building damage assessments	Metro Vancouver
3	Coordinate with member jurisdictions to identify points of possible failure due to seismic activity in the transmission and distribution systems to support the planning of upgrades and redundancy.	Metro Vancouver and Member Jurisdictions
4	Assess and address infrastructure vulnerabilities to extreme heat, wildfires, floods, landslides, seismic activity, winter storms, and other emerging hazards to support the development and implementation of an infrastructure resiliency framework and inform infrastructure upgrades	Metro Vancouver
5	Increase water system redundancies and flexibility to prepare for the possibility of infrastructure failures	Metro Vancouver
6	Integrate climate resiliency design standards into infrastructure planning and design	Metro Vancouver
7	Develop a coordinated approach to planning and constructing utilities in the shared rights-of-way with members, First Nations, and other utilities	Metro Vancouver and Member Jurisdictions

Strategy 2: Respond and recover from emergencies		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Define supply commitments in the event of an emergency	Metro Vancouver and Member Jurisdictions
2	Collaborate with member jurisdictions to implement the Regional Temporary Provision of Drinking Water Guideline	Metro Vancouver and Member Jurisdictions
3	Strengthen emergency preparedness, security, and business continuity through regular updates of the security and emergency plans	Metro Vancouver
4	Coordinate emergency preparedness and response with member jurisdictions, First Nations and other levels of government (i.e., Federal and Provincial government)	Metro Vancouver and Member Jurisdictions

Strategy 3: Proactively manage existing infrastructure for longevity		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Continue the implementation of the Water Services Asset Management Plan in accordance with international standards and industry best practices	Metro Vancouver
2	Strengthen internal asset management capabilities and resourcing through developing in-house task analysis and reliability programs	Metro Vancouver
3	Implement a comprehensive spare parts strategy by establishing a centralized management system with expanded inventory for critical infrastructure and developing proactive replacement plans for assets lacking manufacturer support	Metro Vancouver
4	Evaluate dam capacity and debris management practices to ensure resilience against extreme weather and landslide events and identify necessary capital improvements to implement remedial measures	Metro Vancouver
5	Improve front-line staff experience (utility, ease of use and access, efficiency, reliability) with asset documentation including drawings, enterprise asset management software, and digital field applications for data collection	Metro Vancouver

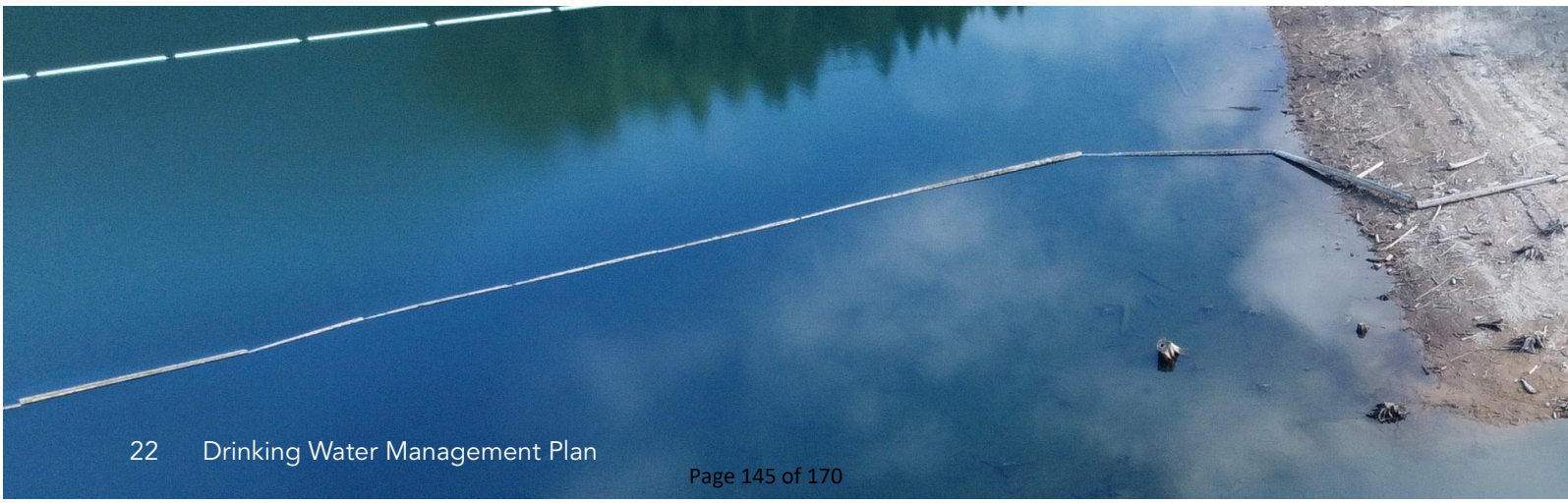

Kennedy Newton Water Main - Scott Road Section

Priority Area: Water Supply Quantity and Quality

Metro Vancouver's drinking water system relies on the health and resilience of its water supply areas to deliver high-quality drinking water. Increasing pressures from climate change and population growth are reshaping water supply dynamics and creating new challenges for both water quantity and quality. Hotter, drier summers, reduced snowpack, heavier storms, and more variable hydrology are driving greater uncertainty, while natural hazards such as wildfires, floods, and droughts heighten risks to source water quality. At the same time, growing demand and high per capita consumption require proactive planning to secure future supply. These stressors require stronger protections for source water, more adaptive treatment processes and forecasting tools, and continuous optimization of water quality throughout the network to ensure high-quality drinking water for a growing region.

This priority area focuses on ensuring a reliable supply of high-quality drinking water by preparing for water quality changes, protecting and managing water quality across the system, and planning for future drinking water demands. These strategies strengthen source water protection, enhance treatment and monitoring, and help ensure that the region can continue delivering a high-quality, reliable supply of drinking water as conditions evolve.

Strategy 4: Prepare for water quality changes due to climate change and natural hazards		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Assess risks to water supply areas from climate change and natural hazards by applying updated climate projections and scenario-based analysis to identify emerging threats to source water quality	Metro Vancouver
2	Strengthen resilience to climate change by researching and applying emerging technologies and fostering knowledge sharing to enhance forest management practices	Metro Vancouver
3	Improve the ability to respond to rapid changes in source water quality by exploring treatment enhancements and increasing system interconnectivity	Metro Vancouver
4	Assess and mitigate the impacts of rising water temperatures on treated water quality across the supply system	Metro Vancouver



Strategy 5: Protect and manage water quality		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Enhance protection of water supply areas by implementing and enforcing access bylaws, defining conduct for work activities, and working with First Nations to address access for cultural practices while safeguarding source water quality	Metro Vancouver
2	Improve water quality at in-system reservoirs by enhancing circulation and optimizing turnover and maintenance	Metro Vancouver
3	Implement operational practices that enhance reservoir turnover by prioritizing withdrawal from reservoirs over transmission pipes	Member Jurisdictions
4	Integrate water quality planning into transmission modelling, infrastructure-strategy development, and the design and delivery of transmission projects	Metro Vancouver
5	Integrate water quality monitoring stations into the asset-management portfolio to support long-term monitoring reliability	Metro Vancouver
6	Protect water quality in local distribution systems by implementing a regional cross-connection control approach and collaborating with Metro Vancouver to optimize water quality	Member jurisdictions

Strategy 6: Prepare for future drinking water supply and demands		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Use adaptive planning to refine the timing of future supply increments	Metro Vancouver
2	Investigate changes in drinking water demand across different sectors to support accurate modelling of future demand forecasts	Metro Vancouver
3	Develop a drought response plan to manage water supply during potential multi-year droughts	Metro Vancouver

Coquitam Reservoir, low reservoir levels fall 2022

Priority Area: Environmental Protection and Enhancement

Healthy, resilient water supply areas are the foundation of Metro Vancouver's drinking water system, but they face growing pressures from climate change, surrounding urban development, and increased demand driven primarily by population growth. These challenges threaten the forests, wetlands, waterways, and wildlife, making ecological stewardship critical for maintaining water quality, conserving biodiversity, and building long-term resilience.

To address these risks, Metro Vancouver has adopted Climate 2050 strategies, aiming for carbon neutrality by 2050. While the water system has relatively low emissions due to gravity-fed flows and renewable electricity, further improvements are possible. Protecting and stewarding more than 60,000 hectares of coastal temperate rainforest will play a vital role in climate mitigation and adaptation while efforts continue to reduce environmental impacts across water supply, treatment, and transmission systems.

This priority area focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, advancing ecological health and environmental stewardship across Metro Vancouver, and supporting healthy fish populations in the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam river systems. By aligning drinking water management with environmental protection, Metro Vancouver supports a more sustainable, resilient, and vibrant region.

Strategy 7: Reduce GHG emissions and implement energy efficiency measures		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Develop and implement energy resilience measures by integrating low GHG fuels and technologies, exploring fuel recycling, and addressing barriers to adoption	Metro Vancouver
2	Develop a diverse portfolio of energy sources, energy efficiency, and capacity management opportunities, including potential storage options	Metro Vancouver
3	Develop and work towards clear and realistic carbon reduction targets for the water system using a scope-based carbon accounting approach	Metro Vancouver
4	Support and prioritize the adoption of low carbon transportation assets and fuels to reduce carbon emissions	Metro Vancouver
5	Optimize energy efficiency in the regional water system and utility operations to reduce energy-related emissions through research and strategic planning of renewable energy integration and generation opportunities	Metro Vancouver
6	Implement fiscally responsible, low carbon procurement and construction practices to reduce emissions and prioritize sustainable solutions	Metro Vancouver

Capilano rotary screw trap

Strategy 8: Advance ecological health and environmental stewardship		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Integrate ecological enhancement and carbon sequestration measures into the design and delivery of capital infrastructure projects where feasible to mitigate the environmental impacts of water infrastructure	Metro Vancouver
2	Design and plan projects to minimize or avoid impacts to the surrounding environment through adoption of carbon neutral processes, technologies, and recycled materials where feasible	Metro Vancouver
3	Support ecological health through integrated management of natural assets, ecological enhancement initiatives, and collaboration with partners such as First Nations and member jurisdictions	Metro Vancouver
4	Identify opportunities to reduce the impacts of natural hazards and protect water supply area ecosystems through continued risk assessments and develop strategies and solutions to address these risks	Metro Vancouver
5	Collaborate with partners, such as First Nations and technical associations, to deliver public education initiatives that promote ecological health and environmental protection	Metro Vancouver

Strategy 9: Support healthy fish populations in the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam river systems		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Increase high-quality fish habitat and support migration and spawning for native fish species by collaborating with partners, such as First Nations and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and sharing environmental monitoring efforts	Metro Vancouver
2	Protect fish habitat and minimize spawning impacts by identifying feasible options for improving Metro Vancouver's ability to monitor and manage ramping rates and environmental flows	Metro Vancouver
3	Manage the source reservoir supplies during the high demand period to support environmental flow needs in the fall, especially during drought conditions, and incorporate this consideration into operational planning	Metro Vancouver

Strategy 10: Minimize the environmental impacts of leaks and spills		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Minimize leaks and spills from new and existing infrastructure, equipment, and operations by updating, developing, and applying design practices and further investigating options for diversion or treatment	Metro Vancouver
2	Strengthen environmental and operational resilience by developing or improving environmental management programs and tools under the Environmental Management System, such as those that manage hydrocarbons or support wildlife	Metro Vancouver
3	Develop and implement quantitative metrics and staff training to accompany the roll-out of new and updated environmental management programs	Metro Vancouver

Juvenile Chinook Salmon

Priority Area: Conservation and Efficiency

Metro Vancouver's drinking water system is increasingly influenced by hotter, drier summers, shifting weather patterns, and population growth, all of which place greater pressure on how water is used across the region. Reducing per capita water use and finding and fixing leaks will preserve existing system capacity, thereby prolonging future infrastructure investments.

Early in the plan update process, Metro Vancouver and members identified the need for a shared benchmark to guide future planning and collaboratively developed a regional drinking water use reduction target. Given the region is not fully metered, it is challenging to calculate a meaningful and consistent per capita residential demand. Though gross or total per capita doesn't directly reflect residential demand, it is included to provide a benchmark the region can collectively work towards.

Regional Target: Metro Vancouver and members will work together to keep total annual average water use to a maximum of 320 litres per capita per day by 2035.

Technical analysis through the Assessment of Drinking Water Conservation Potential study identified a combination of actions that support progress toward this target, including finding and fixing leaks, using pricing structures that encourage efficient use of drinking water, and implementing focused education and behaviour-change programs.

To better manage higher summer water use, members and Metro Vancouver will work together to strengthen education, enforcement, and updates to watering restrictions and local bylaws.

Metering is recognized as a best practice tool that enables many of these efforts, such as improved leak detection, customer awareness, and pay-for-use billing. Members are encouraged to advance metering in ways that align with their local needs, including metering new builds, fully metering the industrial, commercial, and institutional (ICI) sector, expanding voluntary programs, and, where appropriate, exploring universal metering programs.

Advancing non-potable water recovery and reuse, along with improving operational efficiency, further supports shift towards using water that is treated to a level that matches its use and reflects responsible stewardship of public infrastructure and investment.

Together, these actions strengthen fiscal responsibility by helping expand the life of existing infrastructure — in both the drinking water and liquid waste systems. Encouraging water conservation to reduce dry weather flows is a priority within the Liquid Waste Management Plan (2026).

Strategy 11: Advance metering to support conservation and system efficiency		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Members are encouraged to require metering, through local bylaws, on all new residential, industrial, commercial, and institutional construction and one or more of the following by 2028: Properties undergoing major renovations Properties undergoing utility service replacement Properties participating in a voluntary metering program Properties undergoing transfer of ownership Properties with secondary or laneway suites Existing meter-ready connections Connections with pools, hot tubs, and/or water features	Member Jurisdictions
2	Members are encouraged to increase the percentage of drinking water that is metered (all sectors) by 2035, from 2021 levels: In jurisdictions where less than or equal to 25% of drinking water volume is metered, target to increase to 2.0 times that amount If 26% to 50% of drinking water volume is metered, target to increase to 1.5 times that amount If 51% to 75% of drinking water volume is metered, target to increase to 1.2 times that amount If more than 76% of drinking water volume is metered, target to increase to 1.1 times that amount	Member Jurisdictions
3	Develop metering implementation guidance and communication materials to support member jurisdictions in policy adoption, public engagement, and rollout	Metro Vancouver

Strategy 12: Reduce drinking water use through active conservation		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Implement leakage reduction programs	Member Jurisdictions
2	Research and promote emerging technologies for leak reduction and system efficiency	Metro Vancouver
3	Advance region-wide drinking water conservation through targeted education, communication, and behaviour change campaigns	Metro Vancouver and Member Jurisdictions
4	Work together to conserve drinking water by reducing seasonal demand through strengthening enforcement, updating water restrictions and local bylaws, and promoting outdoor water use efficiency	Metro Vancouver and Member Jurisdictions
5	Explore the use of water pricing structures that promote conservation, such as tiered, and seasonal rates	Metro Vancouver and Member Jurisdictions
6	Work with the Province to limit the use of once-through cooling systems through the BC Plumbing Code	Metro Vancouver
7	Progress a region-wide drinking water conservation program for the industrial, commercial, institutional, and agriculture sectors	Metro Vancouver and Member Jurisdictions

Strategy 13: Promote the recovery and reuse of non-potable water		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Collaborate with the Province, member jurisdictions, academic institutions, and industry partners to advance the adoption of non-potable water systems through advocacy, education, and applied research	Metro Vancouver
2	Collaborate with member jurisdictions and First Nations to identify and pursue opportunities for non-potable water use in their communities through research, engagement, and pilot projects	Metro Vancouver
3	Support member jurisdictions and First Nations to integrate non-potable water use into policies, bylaws, and operations	Metro Vancouver
4	Implement non-potable water systems and use fit-for-purpose water where feasible in Metro Vancouver infrastructure, and buildings	Metro Vancouver
5	Demonstrate and promote non-potable water systems within regional, and member facilities	Metro Vancouver and Member Jurisdictions

Strategy 14: Optimize cost efficiency across operational and capital programs		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Conduct post-project audits of design and construction to identify lessons learned and opportunities for cost efficiency	Metro Vancouver
2	Develop equipment-level budgeting and reporting for major assets (e.g., pumps) to improve life cycle cost management	Metro Vancouver
3	Optimize and expand Metro Vancouver's in-house capacity in design, construction management, and inspections for capital project delivery to reduce overall project cost	Metro Vancouver
4	Explore innovative procurement strategies that integrate contractor involvement in the design process to optimize competition during tendering	Metro Vancouver
5	Develop facility-level upgrade plans that coordinate the delivery of major and minor capital projects to optimize cost-effectiveness and minimize duplication of effort	Metro Vancouver
6	Expand Metro Vancouver's bulk metering program to include the installation of meters on all new and replacement connections as well as unmetered existing connections, where feasible	Metro Vancouver
7	Expand key performance indicators to promote long-term monitoring of financial performance	Metro Vancouver

Strategy 15: Increase operational efficiency		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Develop key performance indicators for maintenance programs	Metro Vancouver
2	Develop and implement automation strategies for the operations of the treatment and transmission system	Metro Vancouver
3	Evaluate and implement opportunities to maximize beneficial use of treatment residuals and evaluate solutions to reduce residual production and improve dewatering to reduce transport costs	Metro Vancouver
4	Develop a long-term strategy to reduce the number of direct connections to enhance system efficiency	Metro Vancouver
5	Foster stronger collaboration with member jurisdictions to enhance knowledge sharing, optimize operations across systems, and uphold the shared commitment to deliver high-quality drinking water to the region	Metro Vancouver
6	Continue to identify non-regional assets in the transmission system and pursue asset transfer strategies with relevant members	Metro Vancouver

Priority Area: Operational Workforce Development

Metro Vancouver relies on a skilled and qualified workforce to reliably deliver high-quality drinking water. The sector is currently facing a critical shortage of water operators across North America due to retirements, growing competition for skilled workers, and a lack of awareness of the career path amongst younger generations. Ensuring long-term system reliability requires proactive strategies to attract youth to the career path, recruit new qualified operators, and retain existing operators to meet the operational requirements of our growing and complex regional water system.

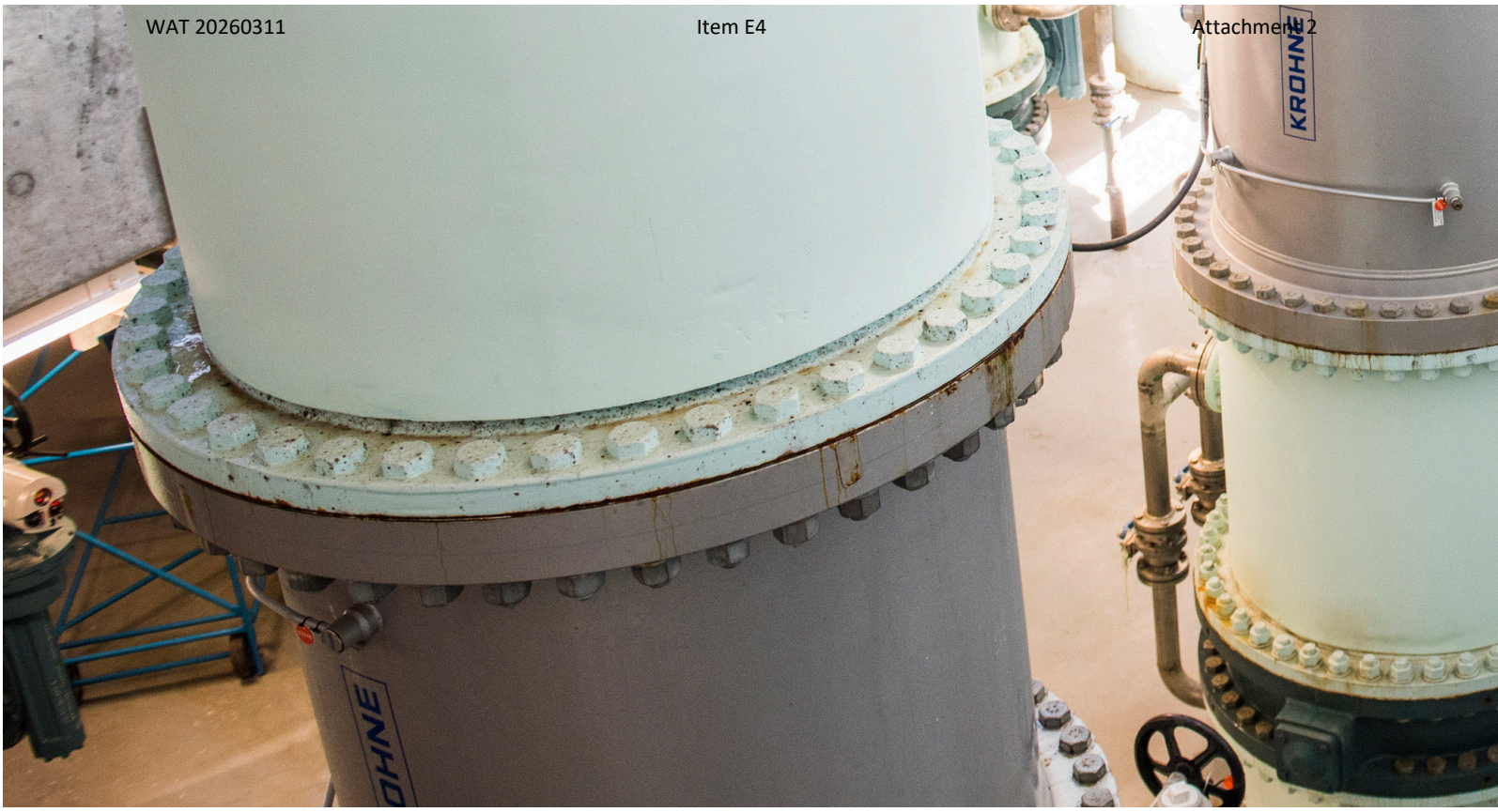
This priority area focuses on recruiting and retaining qualified water operators by engaging youth and emerging professionals, collaborating with industry stakeholders and post-secondary institutions, and strengthening workforce planning. These actions help ensure Metro Vancouver can sustain a skilled and qualified operations workforce with the capacity to deliver high-quality, reliable drinking water for generations to come.

Strategy 16: Promote regional youth recruitment opportunities		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Collaborate with regional school district partners and Metro Vancouver School and Youth Leadership program participants to identify recommended pathways to support water operations career awareness and education goals and objectives through existing youth programs and activities	Metro Vancouver
2	Identify opportunities to enhance and further integrate water operations career awareness through existing Metro Vancouver School and Youth Leadership Programs	Metro Vancouver
3	Identify opportunities to provide a job-shadow 'day in the life of an operator' program or similar program for interested students	Metro Vancouver
4	Work with First Nations to identify the best communication approach to inform interested youth of water operations career opportunities	Metro Vancouver
5	Develop a communications toolkit to target various youth audiences to promote the water operations career path as a dynamic technical career option with strong growth potential and long-term stability	Metro Vancouver
6	Develop recruitment messaging for relevant platforms to help address operations career awareness gaps and to target individuals in minimum-wage jobs who are interested in a stable career opportunity	Metro Vancouver

Second Narrows Water Supply Tunnel

Strategy 17: Collaborate with key industry advocates and training providers		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Work with post-secondary institutions and local training and certification providers to create or expand current water operator certificate and diploma programs	Metro Vancouver
2	Collaborate with industry advocates to develop and deliver outreach campaigns that raise awareness of water sector career opportunities	Metro Vancouver
3	Collaborate to develop a communications toolkit of information on career opportunities for use in communication materials by Metro Vancouver and industry associations	Metro Vancouver
4	Participate in industry workshops, roundtables, and other events to identify new opportunities for engagement and recruitment	Metro Vancouver
5	Advocate for Metro Vancouver needs with local training and certification providers including BC Water and Waste Association (BCWWA) and Environmental Operators Certification Program (EOCP)	Metro Vancouver
6	Support staff who actively participate in industry associations where there is a benefit to both Metro Vancouver and the staff member	Metro Vancouver

Strategy 18: Enhance career development opportunities for existing Metro Vancouver operators		
#	**Action**	**Responsible**
1	Work with Metro Vancouver water operations staff to identify critical positions for potential workforce planning and develop individual employee development plans to support internal growth	Metro Vancouver
2	Work with water operators, as necessary, to develop individual employee development plans	Metro Vancouver
3	Develop and deliver programs or resources to actively support continuing education	Metro Vancouver
4	Evaluate the creation and implementation of a water operator continuing education guideline	Metro Vancouver
5	Seek opportunities for water operators to participate in peer-to-peer connection and knowledge exchange opportunities to highlight the work they do, when resources allow	Metro Vancouver
6	Advocate for BCWWA and EOCP to create a Community of Practice for water operators across the region	Metro Vancouver

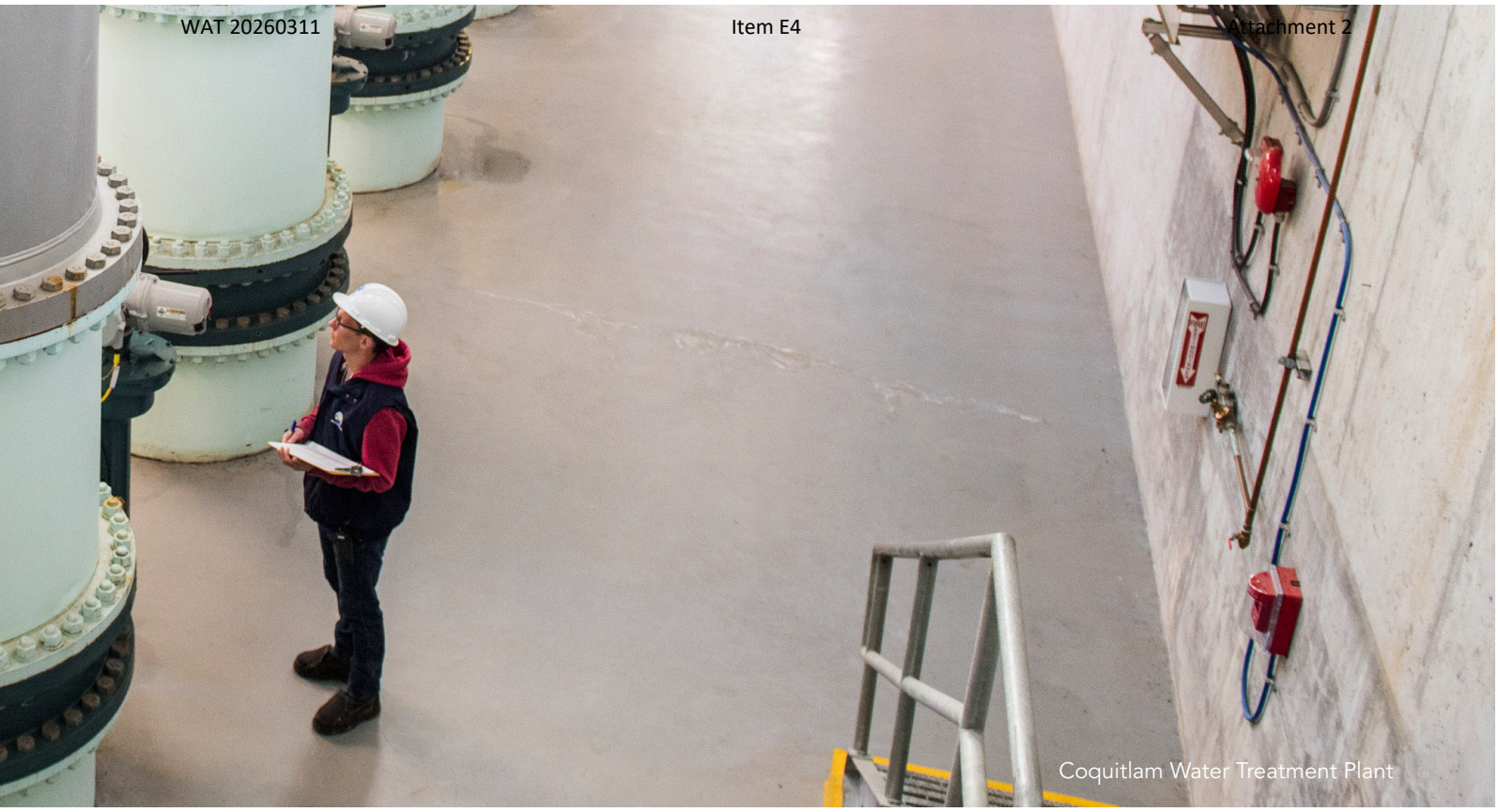


Monitoring and Reporting

The approach to monitoring and reporting for the plan will be developed following the plan's approval. This ensures that the monitoring framework and reporting framework aligns with the final goals, strategies, and actions. The future monitoring process will include tools to track progress, evaluate effectiveness, and identify opportunities for continuous improvement, while reporting mechanisms will provide transparency and accountability.

Specific indicators, data collection methods, and reporting timelines will be determined during the implementation phase of the plan, in consultation with subject matter experts. This staged approach allows flexibility to incorporate best practices and operational considerations as they evolve, ensuring that monitoring and reporting remain practical, meaningful, and responsive to changing needs.

Metro Vancouver produces an annual peak day report, annual water consumption statistics report, and bi-annual water use by sector report. These reports will be reviewed and built upon as needed to track and report on progress related to actions outlines in the plan.



Coquitlam Water Treatment Plant

Financial Implications

A high-level assessment of the potential financial impact of the proposed strategies and actions in the plan confirmed that most of Metro Vancouver's actions will be carried out using current staff resources that are funded through existing annual program budgets, resulting in no net increase in spending. The remaining actions that require additional funding will have minimal impact on the GVWD operating budget.

Actions that result in projects that require capital spending will be approved annually by the GVWD Board as part of the annual capital planning and budget approval process. The timing of each project is reviewed and updated based on alignment with strategic priorities, risk to system operations, financial sustainability, and available resources.

The updated plan focuses on reducing infrastructure and operating costs by extending the capacity of existing water and liquid waste systems through the Conservation and Efficiency priority area. This will be achieved by encouraging water metering to find and fix leaks, as well as other active conservation measures (see Strategy 11 and 12). By lowering per-capita water use, the plan helps extend the ability of current infrastructure to accommodate future population growth.

The plan also strengthens existing cost-containment efforts through the Conservation and Efficiency priority area Strategy 14: "Optimize cost efficiency across operational and capital programs." The table on page 19 shows how the goals for the plan connect to each strategy, including those focused on improving cost efficiency.

Glossary

Adaptive Planning
A planning approach develops multiple future scenarios and adjusts future decisions based on monitoring of specific driving parameters, new information, and changing conditions, ensuring the system remains resilient over time.

Asset Management
A coordinated approach to operating, maintaining, renewing, and replacing infrastructure to ensure long-term performance and reliability.

Behaviour-Change Programs
Education, communication, and outreach initiatives designed to encourage people to use water more efficiently.

Carbon Reduction Targets
Goals that guide efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the drinking water system's operations and infrastructure.

Climate Change Projections
Scientific estimates of future climate conditions such as temperature, rainfall, and snowpack, based on global and regional modelling.

Drought
A naturally reoccurring period of abnormally dry conditions that may result in water scarcity or other adverse impacts on people, aquatic ecosystems, wildlife or vegetation and may directly impact the regional drinking water system through reduced streamflow, snowpack, and reservoir refill.

Environmental Flows
Water released downstream of reservoirs to support fish and aquatic ecosystems year-round, with particular focus during dry conditions.

GHG Emissions (Greenhouse Gas Emissions)
Emissions from energy use and operations that contribute to climate change. Reducing GHG emissions is a key component of Metro Vancouver's environmental strategy.

Leak Detection
Techniques and technologies used to identify and repair hidden leaks from water pipes to reduce water loss and improve system efficiency.

Member Jurisdictions
A partnership of 18 municipalities, one electoral area (Area A), and one Treaty First Nation (sc̓əw̓aθən məsteyəxʷ Tsawwassen First Nation) which comprise the Greater Vancouver Water District.

Meter
A device installed either at the service connection to a property or the connection to the water distribution system to measure the volume of water passing through it.

Metering
The practice of measuring the volume of water used at all properties within the water system through the use of a meter at the connection to the distribution system. Metering helps identify leaks, enables system monitoring, allows for equitable billing, and supports efficient water use.

Natural Hazards
Events such as wildfires, landslides, floods, storms, and earthquakes that can affect source water quality, supply reservoir operation, or infrastructure.

Non-Potable Water
Water that is not treated for drinking but can be used for other purposes, such as irrigation, toilet flushing, or industrial processes.

Total or Gross Per Capita Water Use
The average annual daily volume of potable water supplied by Metro Vancouver, divided by the serviced population, in a calendar year.

Reservoir Refill
The process of water filling reservoirs through inflows from rainfall and snowmelt, during fall, winter, and spring.

Reservoir Reserves
Storage volumes in reservoirs that are held for essential needs or can only be accessed under specific operating conditions.

Seismic Risk
The potential impacts of earthquakes on the drinking water system, requiring preparedness measures such as system redundancy and infrastructure strengthening.

Source Water
Raw, untreated water stored in the region's supply reservoirs before it enters treatment facilities.

Summer Water Use
Seasonal indoor and outdoor water use (including lawn and garden watering), that significantly increases regional demand during hot and dry periods.

System Losses
Drinking water that is lost to leaks, faulty meters, firefighting needs, flushing of water mains, and other unmetered water uses in the distribution system.

Transmission Mains
Large-diameter pipes that move treated drinking water from Metro Vancouver facilities to member jurisdictions for local distribution.

Treatment (Water Treatment)
Processes that remove contaminants and disinfect source water to meet drinking water quality standards.

Water Supply Areas
Protected land areas that collect rainfall and snowmelt and drain into reservoirs. Metro Vancouver's water supply areas are closed to the public to safeguard source water quality.

Information

604-432-6200 I icentre@metrovancouver.org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SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

Drinking Water Management Plan – Final Draft

PLANNING TODAY TO CONTINUE TO DELIVER RELIABLE, HIGH-QUALITY DRINKING WATER TOMORROW

Linda Parkinson
Director, Policy, Planning, & Analysis, Water Services

Vanessa Anthony
Water Community Engagement Manager, External Relations

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Water Committee - Meeting, March 11, 2026
82614092

1

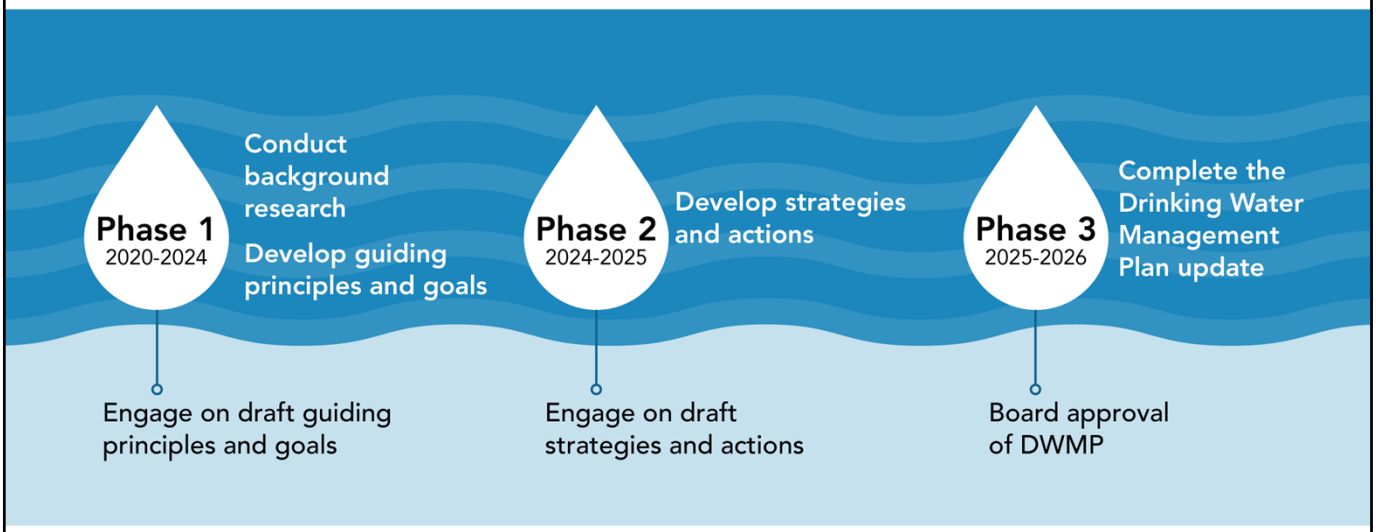
AGENDA

- Plan development
- Summary of engagement
- Key features of the plan
- Next steps

Our Water.
Our Future.

2

PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



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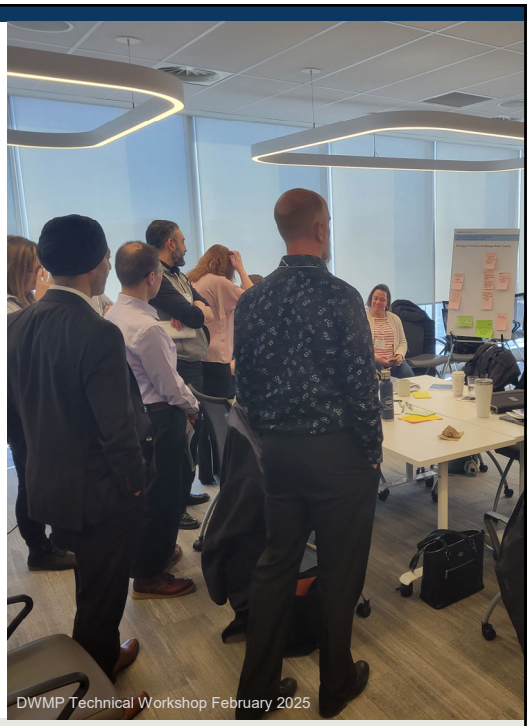
ROLE OF MEMBER JURISDICTIONS

- High-level collaboration with staff advisory committees throughout plan development
- Ongoing technical input as strategies and actions were refined
- Iterative feedback incorporated across phases


DWMP Technical Workshop February 2025

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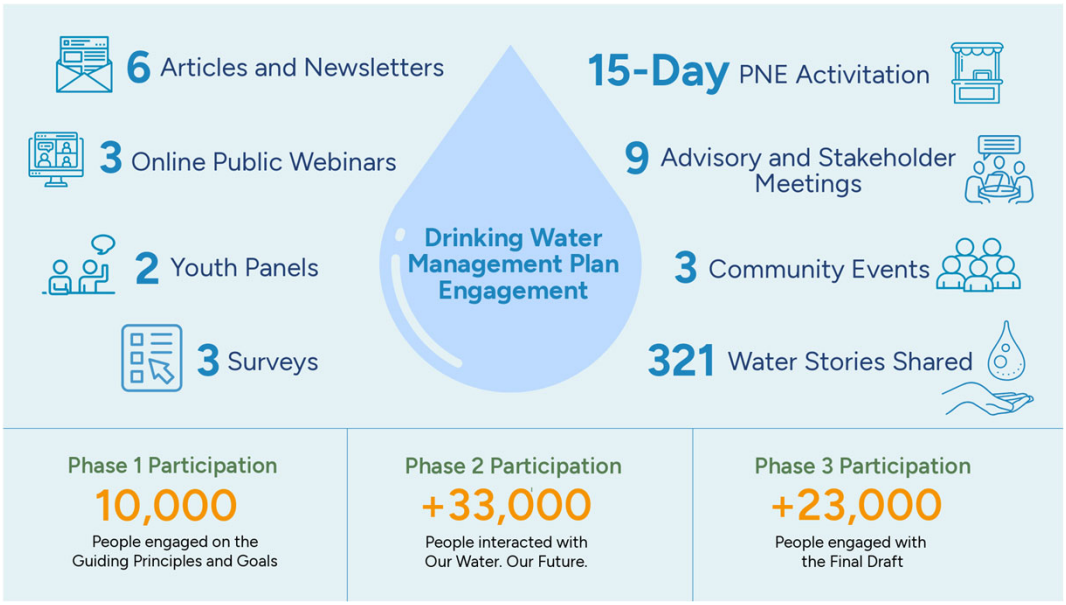
ENGAGING PEOPLE ACROSS THE REGION



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PUBLIC AND FIRST NATIONS SHARED PRIORITIES

Protect the system	Plan for the future	Use water wisely
Be fiscally responsible	Work together	Think long term

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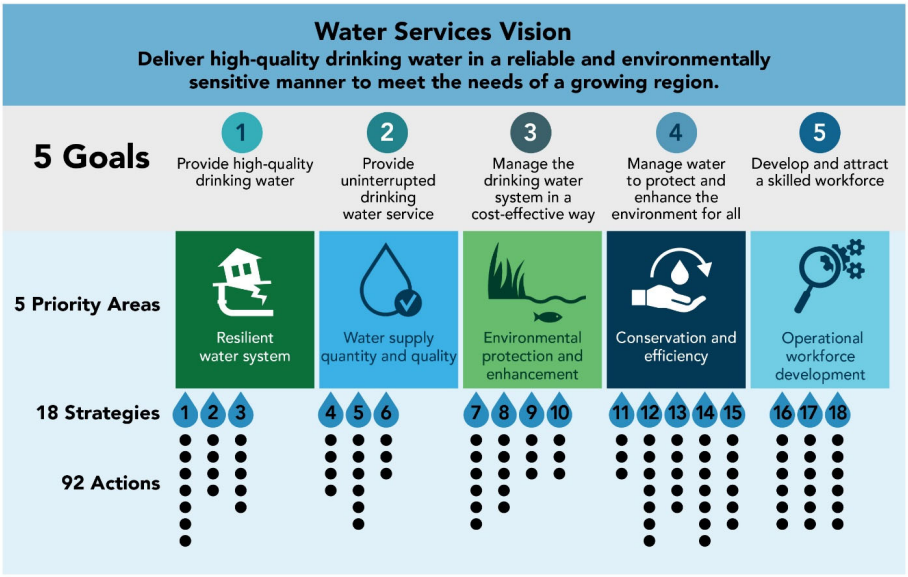
WATER COMMITTEE INPUT CONSIDERED IN THE FINAL DRAFT

- Support for metering and frame as ‘encourage’ rather than prescriptive
- Explore leak detection methods that can achieve demand reduction target
- Support for operational workforce development priority area
- Make links to financial impacts and fiscal responsibility clearer
- Clarify plan scope (what it covers, and what it does not)

DRINKING WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN OVERVIEW



STRATEGIES	GOALS				
	1 Provide high-quality drinking water	2 Provide uninterrupted drinking water service	3 Manage the drinking water system in a cost-effective way	4 Manage water to protect and enhance the environment for all	5 Develop and attract a skilled workforce
Priority Area – Resilient Water System					
1 Advance planning and designing for resilient infrastructure		2			
2 Respond and recover from emergencies		2			
3 Proactively manage existing infrastructure for longevity		2	3		
Priority Area – Water Supply Quantity and Quality					
4 Prepare for water quality changes due to climate change and natural hazards	1	2		4	
5 Protect and manage water quality	1	2			
6 Prepare for future drinking water supply and demands		2	3		
Priority Area – Environmental Protection and Enhancement					
7 Reduce GHG Emissions and implement energy efficiency measures		2	3	4	
8 Advance ecological health and environmental stewardship	1			4	
9 Support healthy fish populations in the Capilano, Seymour, and Coquitlam river systems				4	
10 Minimize the environmental impacts of leaks and spills			3	4	
Priority Area – Conservation and Efficiency					
11 Advance metering to support conservation and system efficiency		2	3	4	
12 Reduce drinking water use through active conservation		2	3		
13 Promote the recovery and reuse of non-potable water		2	3		
14 Optimize cost efficiency across operational and capital programs			3		
15 Increase operational efficiency			3		
Priority Area – Operational Workforce Development					
16 Promote regional youth recruitment opportunities					5
17 Collaborate with key industry advocates and training providers					5
18 Enhance career development opportunities for existing Metro Vancouver operators		2			5

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LOOKING AHEAD

- March 27: GVWD Board
- Q2 2026: Publish *Drinking Water Management Plan 2026*

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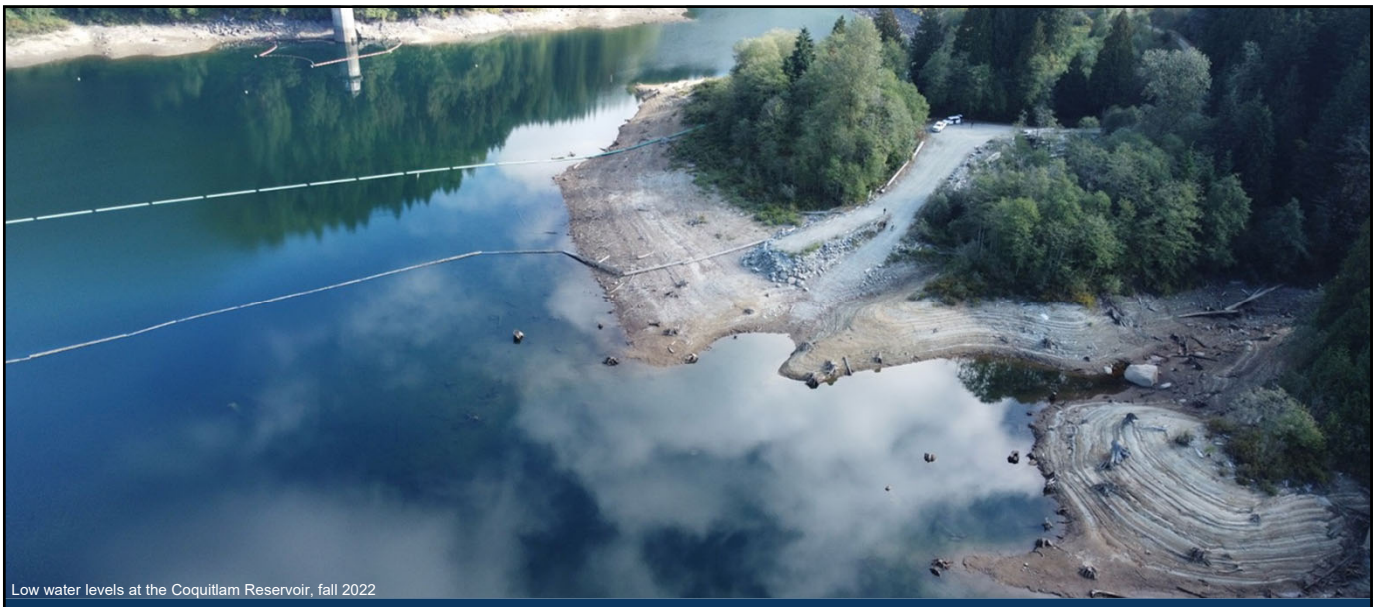

Questions

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11

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SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

To: Water Committee

From: Marilyn Towill, General Manager, Water Services

Date: February 23, 2026 Meeting Date: March 11, 2026

Subject: **Manager's Report**

RECOMMENDATION
THAT the Water Committee receive for information the report dated February 23, 2026, titled "Manager's Report".

---

1. In-Kind Donation for Salmonid Habitat Restoration

Water Services, Watersheds and Environment Division received a formal letter of recognition (**Attachment 1**) from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), in December 2025, acknowledging the in-kind support and valuable partnership that exists between the two organizations.

Specifically, Metro Vancouver provided significant collaboration toward salmon habitat restoration in the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve, including work completed between 2021 and 2025 at the Junior Creek Pond Complex and along the Seymour River; areas that play an important role in supporting Coho Salmon recovery in the Seymour Watershed. DFO's letter highlights the wide range of in-kind assistance Metro Vancouver contributed, including machinery and operator time, material delivery, site access improvements, environmental monitoring, and on-site coordination. These efforts enabled DFO to complete several major restoration and maintenance activities, such as rebuilding flow-control structures, stabilizing eroded areas following severe storms, and addressing streambank instability near the Junior Creek outlet. DFO recognized that Metro Vancouver's support helps to ensure these long-standing enhancement sites remain functional, resilient, and capable of sustaining key fish habitat in the area.

The letter also speaks to the strong partnership that has developed between Metro Vancouver and DFO over several decades, and how this partnership has helped maintain reliable hydrology and habitat conditions at restoration sites in both the Seymour and Coquitlam watersheds. Notably, DFO has acknowledged the positive outcomes resulting from this shared work that demonstrate the value of continued stewardship and collaboration.

This recognition reflects the dedication and professionalism of Metro Vancouver staff, the positive relationships built with DFO, and the organization's long-standing commitment to protecting and enhancing regional fish habitat.

2. Water Committee Tour – June 2026

In lieu of the June 17, 2026 meeting, a Water Committee tour is being planned. Further details will be provided at the April Committee meeting.

3. Water Committee 2026 Work Plan

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Letter of Acknowledgement dated December 2, 2025 from Fisheries and Oceans Canada.
2. Water Committee 2026 Work Plan.

80827826

December 2, 2025

Jesse Montgomery, MSc., RPBio
Division Manager, Environment
Metro-Vancouver
2369 Lillooet Rd, North Vancouver, BC V7J 2H9

Dear Jesse:

Subject: Acknowledgment of In-Kind Donation for Salmonid Habitat Restoration

On behalf of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Habitat Restoration Centre of Expertise – Lower Fraser, I am writing to formally recognize and acknowledge Metro Vancouver's significant in-kind contributions to the maintenance and restoration of salmonid habitat within the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve, with specific regard to the Junior Creek Pond Complex, and the Seymour River bank bioengineering works completed between 2021 and 2025.

These works represent long-standing partnership and shared responsibility for maintaining the function of historic enhancement sites central to coho salmon recovery in the Seymour watershed.

Background Context – Junior Creek Pond Complex

Junior Creek and its enhancement site were originally constructed in 1993–1994 by DFO, Metro Vancouver, and partners, creating approximately 1,000 m² of pond habitat and 3,000 m² of constructed stream habitat within a groundwater-fed system originating from the 18-inch and 24-inch dam drains at the Seymour Falls Dam. These structures, still operated and monitored by Metro Vancouver's group, provide the perennial flow source sustaining the Junior Creek system. Historic water supply pathways are documented in Metro Vancouver's annual asset reports and form the hydrologic basis for ongoing habitat functionality.

Metro Vancouver Contributions (2021–2025)

Between 2021 and 2025, Metro Vancouver provided extensive in-kind support that enabled DFO to complete critical restoration and maintenance works at the Junior Creek Pond Complex and along the Seymour River, ensuring these historic enhancement assets remain functional and resilient.

Metro Vancouver's contributions included:

- Machinery time (excavator, mini-excavator, backhoe, crawler carriers)
- Material delivery and mobilization from Patton Creek Quarry

- Site access improvements and safe crossing of the Seymour Main watermain (swamp pads, temporary road works)
- Operator time, equipment logistics, and on-site coordination
- Environmental monitoring and support during construction and emergency works

With this support, DFO successfully undertook a multi-stage rehabilitation of the Junior Creek diversion reconstruction of the flow-control structures, armouring of the rock-ramp spillway, excavation and maintenance of eroded sections following the November 2022 atmospheric storms. These works ensured that flow remained directed into Junior Creek rather than being lost to the adjacent side channel, thereby protecting the 1990s-era spawning channels and rearing ponds downstream.

Metro Vancouver also enabled DFO to address bank instability along the Seymour River near the Junior Creek outlet by providing access, equipment, operators, bank bioengineering supplies, and mitigation efforts around a large destabilized rootwad exerting erosive pressure on the bank. These interventions maintained channel connectivity, protected the Junior Creek outflow structure, and prevented further habitat degradation in the lower reach.

Ongoing Monitoring and Maintenance Support

Metro Vancouver continues to provide environmental monitoring time and operational support that directly benefits the function and longevity of the Junior Creek system and other historic restoration assets in the Seymour and Coquitlam watersheds. This includes:

- Turbidity and water quality checks
- Bird and wildlife surveys
- Annual site access and infrastructure inspections
- Periodic maintenance of habitat-supporting drainage and water supply structures

The Metro Vancouver fisheries asset report documents the organization’s role in maintaining infrastructure such as the dam drains, diversion points, culverts, and spillway structures that support the hydrology of the Junior Creek system.

Observed Habitat Outcomes

The Seymour Salmonid Society recorded high numbers of returning wild (non-hatchery) coho salmon spawning pairs within the Junior Creek Pond Complex and associated channels during October–November 2025. These returns highlight the biological importance of maintaining the diversion, and

downstream channels, and they demonstrate the tangible outcomes associated with Metro Vancouver's ongoing support.

Conclusion

DFO sincerely appreciates Metro Vancouver's continued collaboration and voluntary stewardship in the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve. The in-kind machinery time, operator effort, environmental monitoring, and logistical support provided over the past four years have been essential to safeguarding and restoring critical salmonid habitats, particularly within the Junior Creek Pond Complex and along the Seymour River.

We look forward to continued partnership in supporting and maintaining these important restoration assets.

Sincerely,
Garrett Peters, P.Eng.
Senior Engineering Technician
Habitat Restoration Centre of Expertise – Lower Fraser
Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Water Committee 2026 Work Plan

Report Date: February 23, 2026

Priorities

1st Quarter	Status
2026 Water Committee Meeting Schedule and Work Plan	Completed
GVWD Capital Program Update	Completed
Drinking Water Management Plan Update	In Progress
Fleetwood Reservoir Update	In Progress
Water Supply Area Fisheries Initiatives Annual Update	In Progress
Contract Approvals as per the *Procurement and Asset Disposal Authority* Policy	In Progress
Transaction Approvals as per the *Real Estate Authority* Policy	In Progress
Water Policies (as applicable)	In Progress
2nd Quarter	
2025 Year End Financial Performance Results	Pending
GVWD 2025 Water Quality Annual Report	Pending
GVWD 2025 Dam Safety Program Annual Update	Pending
GVWD 2025 Water Supply System Annual Update	Pending
GVWD Water Use by Sector Report 2003 - 2023	Pending
Major Projects Update	Pending
Water Supply Preparedness Update for Summer 2026	Pending
Wildfire Preparedness Update	Pending
Contract Approvals as per the *Procurement and Asset Disposal Authority* Policy	Pending
Transaction Approvals as per the *Real Estate Authority* Policy	Pending
Water Policies (as applicable)	Pending
3rd Quarter	
GVWD Capital Program Five Year Outlook	Pending
GVWD Electrical Energy Use, Generation, and Management	Pending
Drinking Water Quality Public Communications	Pending
Major Projects Update	Pending
Contract Approvals as per the *Procurement and Asset Disposal Authority* Policy	Pending
Transaction Approvals as per the *Real Estate Authority* Policy	Pending
Water Policies (as applicable)	Pending
4th Quarter	
GVWD Annual Budget and 5-Year Financial Plan	Pending
GVWD Capital Program Update	Pending
Long Term Water Supply Planning Update	Pending
Water Supply Performance for Summer 2026	Pending
Water Communications and Public Outreach Results	Pending
Contract Approvals as per the *Procurement and Asset Disposal Authority* Policy	Pending
Transaction Approvals as per the *Real Estate Authority* Policy	Pending
Water Policies (as applicable)	Pending