



## **ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Wednesday January 20th, 2016 - 6:30 pm  
Committee Room - 2

### **MINUTES**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillor Patrick Johnstone	Co-Chair, Council Member
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy	Co-Chair, Council Member
Peter Rautenbach	Post-Secondary Student
Wilmer Lau	Local Business Representative
Karla Olson	Community Member
Todd Beernink	Community Member
Hilary Miller	Community Member
Reginald Zotzman	Community Member
Amanda Semenov	Community Member
Kathleen Somerville	Committee Member

**ABSENT:**

Alex Csizmadia	Community Member
----------------	------------------

**VOTING MEMBER REGRETS:**

Giuliana Graves	Community Member
Robert McGregor	Education Sector Representative

**STAFF:**

Jennifer Lukianchuk	Environmental Coordinator
Mark Allison	Manager, Strategic Initiatives & Sustainability

*A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:29 p.m.*

**1. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

There were no additions.

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**2.1. Adoption of Minutes from the meeting of September 23, 2015**

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the amended minutes of the Environment Advisory Committee held September 23, 2015 be received and adopted.*

**CARRIED**

All Committee members present voted in favour of the motion.

**2.2. Adoption of Minutes from the meeting of November 25, 2015**

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the minutes of the Environment Advisory Committee held **November 25, 2015** be received and adopted.*

**CARRIED**

All Committee members present voted in favour of the motion.

**3. PRESENTATIONS****3.1. Urban Forest Management Strategy & Tree Bylaw – Dean Gibson (Attachment-1)**

Dean Gibson, Director of New Westminster Parks Recreation and Culture provided handouts outlining information regarding the City's Urban Forest Management Strategy. Mr. Gibson advised that this is a broad based strategy that addresses how the city plans to take care of its trees. The strategy as well as the Tree Protection Bylaw was recently adopted by the City Council.

**In response to questions from the committee, Mr. Gibson provided the following information:**

- Developers have the right to develop a property in accordance with existing zoning bylaws. The City is working with owners and developers to protect existing trees on their properties by engaging and educating them and by putting tree protection bylaw measures in place;
- The Tree Protection Bylaw was built around guidelines that are working well in other municipalities;
- The City has an extensive list of trees that can be planted and is referenced in this Bylaw;
- City staff along with the Parks and Recreation department can be contacted to provide information as to how close a tree can be planted to a City's sidewalk and powerlines;
- The City is currently reviewing methods of subsidizing planting trees on private lands;
- The City's Parks Tree Program requires all diseased trees to be cut and repurposed into benches and other furniture and
- If a resident identifies that a tree is being removed without a permit, staff suggested taking pictures and noting the name of the landscaping company and calling the City's main line to report the issue.

**Procedural Note:** Dean exited the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

**3.2. 2014 Corporate GHG emissions update & FCM's PCP program award – Jennifer Lukianchuk (Attachment-2)**

Jennifer Lukianchuk, Environmental Coordinator advised that this plan was developed in 2008 and the City has been maintaining an inventory of City's greenhouse gas emissions and consumption for approximately eight years. Since that time, the City has managed to decrease its GHG emissions significantly in four different sectors.

Ms. Lukianchuk noted to members that New Westminster is one of the first municipalities to join the Partners for Climate Protection Program (PCP) and has managed to reduce its corporate GHG's by following its Five Milestone Framework and has been successful in achieving all the milestones. Ms.

Lukianchuk advised that a report was presented to Council on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 and is available for viewing online on the City’s website.

Wilmer Lau, Local Business Representative, advised that the River Market participated in the Climate Smart Program and were required to inventory of their electric and gas consumption. In the process, they found that electricity is very expensive but has less greenhouse gas emissions compared to gas. They tried to reduce their consumption for both economic as well as environmental reasons and reached the conclusion that it would have been impossible to manage that without measuring their energy consumption. For this reason Mr. Lau reiterated the importance of installing smart water meters in the City to reduce water consumption.

Councillor Patrick Johnstone, Co-Chair, requested that Mark Allison, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability, provide information regarding various options of water meters at a future meeting.

**3.3. Reflections on the Solar Market in BC – Richard Siegenthaler (Attachment-3)**

Richard Siegenthaler, Solar Heating Specialist, advised that he works for a company called Reconsulting, which provides engineering consulting services regarding renewable energy solutions and energy efficiency and conservation in solar technology. It also provides options and risk assessments to interested applicants and implements solar technology as well as energy planning services. Mr Siegenthaler distributed handouts providing project examples that they have been involved in the last three years such as College of the Rockies, Aquarius Strata Downtown and a Yoga Ashram in Kootenays.

**In response to questions from the Committee, Mr. Siegenthaler provided the following information:**

It is not anticipated that organic printing technology, which is being discussed in Copenhagen, would be implemented in the near future, as there are lot of uncertainties in the market causing fluctuations.

The efficiency of the solar panels depends primarily on temperature. At lower temperatures, the panels become more efficient. Increased daily sunshine hours can provide additional efficiency. Efficiency can also depend on the angle at which the panels are installed.

There is a possibility to use solar thermal technologies to tailor to the thermal needs of a building that may be currently addressed by natural gas.

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy, Co-Chair, informed members that a Solar Tree is a combination of solar panels with public art typically on a pillar that looks like a tree.

**Procedural Note:** Mr. Siegenthaler exited the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

4.1. There was no unfinished business.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

5.1. Fossil Fuels update – Mark Allison

Mark Allison, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability provided handouts regarding his update on Fraser Surrey Docks Coal Facility. Mr. Allison advised that Port Metro Vancouver (PMV) has approved the application to change the permitting approval for the Fraser Surrey Docks (FSD). FSD had applied to change their method of transport from barges which were going to go to Texada Island and then shipped over to ocean going ships. The new proposal would have ocean going ships come to Fraser Surrey docks. In response to this significant change, City requested Port Metro Vancouver to use their new review process but this proposal was rejected. When City submitted an application for Q2Q Bridge, PMV decided to put us in the highest review category and requested the City to complete twelve different review studies before considering our proposal.

Mr. Allison advised that the City is still intervenors in the Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion project and they have not provided the City with enough information to convince us that their construction techniques would reduce the risk of rupture in the area of the stream and will withstand a seismic event. Their construction activity demonstrates potential harm to the environment and could place lot of endangered species at risk especially the Nooksack Dace. Their construction staging area would be the Brunette Watershed which is flood plain and has been heavily contaminated due to past industrial activity. The project could impact sediment going down the Brunette River. The City would not support Trans Mountain Pipeline's application going forward until they provide an emergency response plan and information regarding spill response. With assistance from consultants, the City has a better understanding of what species are at risk in the Brunette River watershed as well as understanding of our local environment. Mr. Allison advised that the feedback received from the members of this committee is appreciated.

Moving forward, the City is waiting for a written response and recommendations from Trans Mountain which they are supposed to provide after these oral hearings.

## **5.2. Envision 2032 Implementation update – Mark Allison**

Mark Allison, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability, reported that the City had endorsed Envision 2032 couple of years ago. Envision 2032 is the City's sustainability framework and outlines eleven different policy areas that discusses what the City could do to achieve our desired sustainability state in twenty years. The City did not have an implementation strategy when Envision 2032 was introduced as it was tied with lot other projects that were going on such as the Master Transportation Plan and the Official Community Plan. The staff sustainability team is going to be reconstituted and their main task this year will be to work on sustainability indicators monitoring and reporting system. City staff will be working with number of other committees to help identify key indicators that we should be monitoring and to determine whether or not we are achieving the sustainability goals and objectives that are listed in Envision 2032.

Staff encouraged members to visit [Envision2032.ca](http://Envision2032.ca) to read the sustainability framework and provide suggestions and feedback. Mr. Allison suggested nine items that the Committee should review in order to have detailed discussions regarding them at a future meeting.

## **6. REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

### **6.1. Environmental Coordinator's Update – Jennifer Lukianchuk**

Jennifer Lukianchuk, Environmental Co-ordinator, will provide an update at the next meeting.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1. There was no correspondence.

**8. NEXT MEETING**

Date: TBA

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

---

**Councillor Jaimie McEvoy**  
Chair

---

**Sandy Kalra**  
Recording Secretary