New Westminster
Minutes

Mayor's Youth Climate Leadership Team

Wednesday, July 16, 2025
4:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, Second Floor
New Westminster City Hall, 511 Royal Avenue

Present:	Mayor Patrick Johnstone, Facilitator Juno Avila-Clark Elizabeth Cavanagh Ruqaiyah Clouden Shreeya Jagadeesh Leo Li Lili Mizuno Justine Rosendo Lucille Stathis
Staff Present:	Leya Behra, Deputy Director, Climate Action Britney Dack, Supervisor, Land Use Planning Erika Mashig, Deputy Director, Parks, Planning, and Policy Laura Sampliner, Manager, Climate Action Sophie Schreder, Executive Assistant to the Mayor Sheena Soon, Parks and Open Space Planner Ashleigh Young, Manager, Communications Paolo Zenone, Youth Centre Supervisor
Absent:	Uliana Chernykh Curtis Lever Irene Lu Max MacInnes-Cann Mahsa Soltani

1. CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Facilitator called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. and recognized with respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsurrendered land of the Halkomelem speaking peoples. It was acknowledged that colonialism has made invisible their histories and connections to the land. It was recognized that, as a City, we are learning and building relationships with the people whose lands we are on.

2. MINUTES

MOVED and SECONDED
THAT the Minutes of the Mayor's Youth Climate Leadership Team meeting held on June 18, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

3.1 Draft Rain Garden Plan, Construction Details and Materials for Review

Erika Mashig, Deputy Director, Parks, Planning, and Policy, presented a draft Rain Garden Plan for the Youth Climate Action Leadership Team project and distributed site plan details (attached to and forming part of these Minutes as Schedule 1) for the rain garden, to be implemented on the Glenbrook site. It was noted that once a list of needed materials is compiled, staff will source and deliver them to the project site. E. Mashig then highlighted that staff are currently devising a plan for the implementation of vegetation at the project site and will guide Leadership Team members through the planting process. She noted that installation may be scheduled for later in September to align with planting considerations such as weather and staff availability.

In response to queries from the Leadership Team, staff noted that:

- staff will determine the appropriate plant species for the site;
- the feasibility and logistics of incorporating public art into the Glenbrook rain garden project may be explored, and there is potential to use boulders included in the design plan as surfaces for painted artwork;
- signage may be implemented following the initial installation date; and
- it is anticipated that installation will begin on September 27, 2025.

3.2 Update on Indigenous Name of Glenbrook Stream

Mayor Patrick Johnstone and Sophie Schreder, Executive Assistant to the Mayor, provided information on the Indigenous history of Glenbrooke North, noting that a Katzie ethnographic note document is available and includes some place names; however, the information has not yet been verified by local Nations. S. Schreder noted that it may be

challenging to identify a single name for the area as reference to an area can vary from Nation to Nation.

4. EXERCISES & ACTIVITIES

4.1 Milestone Planning

S. Schreder noted that notification of the project was shared through the École Glenbrook Middle School's newsletter and no feedback positive or negative has been received.

Discussion took place regarding the logistics of including students in the planting process. Identified volunteer tasks included sanding, planting, and painting. The Leadership Team noted the potential to limit the number of volunteer spots, with an invitation to be extended to the School at the beginning of the 2026/2027 school year.

Signage information will need to be finalized by September 8, 2025.

A completed flyer for neighbourhood notification must be prepared and submitted to the City by August 25, 2025. Flyer distribution is scheduled for September 6, 2025, with volunteers meeting at Glenbrook Middle School at 2:00 p.m.

The Leadership Team noted that potential handles have been secured in advance of the social media launch.

A representative from the Climate Action Hub contacted the Leadership Team and offered their support.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned (7:00 p.m.).