

# The need for a uniform smoking and vaping bylaw for MVRD

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Randall Ash, Vancouver Coastal Health

Les Hagen, Action on Smoking & Health

Gwenyth Dwyn, Fraser Health Authority



# Tobacco facts



- 50,000 annual deaths in Canada = 20 percent of all deaths
- 6,000 annual deaths in British Columbia (2017)
- 1 million Canadians suffering from resulting illnesses
- 1 in 2 smokers will die prematurely
- Secondhand smoke kills 1,000 annually; no safe level of exposure
- Economic cost is \$12 billion/year (2017)

# Recent developments

- Cannabis legalization
- Substantial increase in youth/recreational vaping
- Smoking restrictions are expanding outdoors
- Alignment on smoking/vaping/cannabis restrictions
- TransLink smoking/vaping ban



# Elements of a comprehensive bylaw

- Align restrictions on smoking/vaping/tobacco/nicotine/cannabis
- Create smoke-free:
  - ❖ parks and recreation spaces
  - ❖ public events and markets
  - ❖ playgrounds, sports fields, spray parks, skate parks, etc.
  - ❖ beaches and trails
- Establish uniform setback distance

# Elements of a comprehensive bylaw

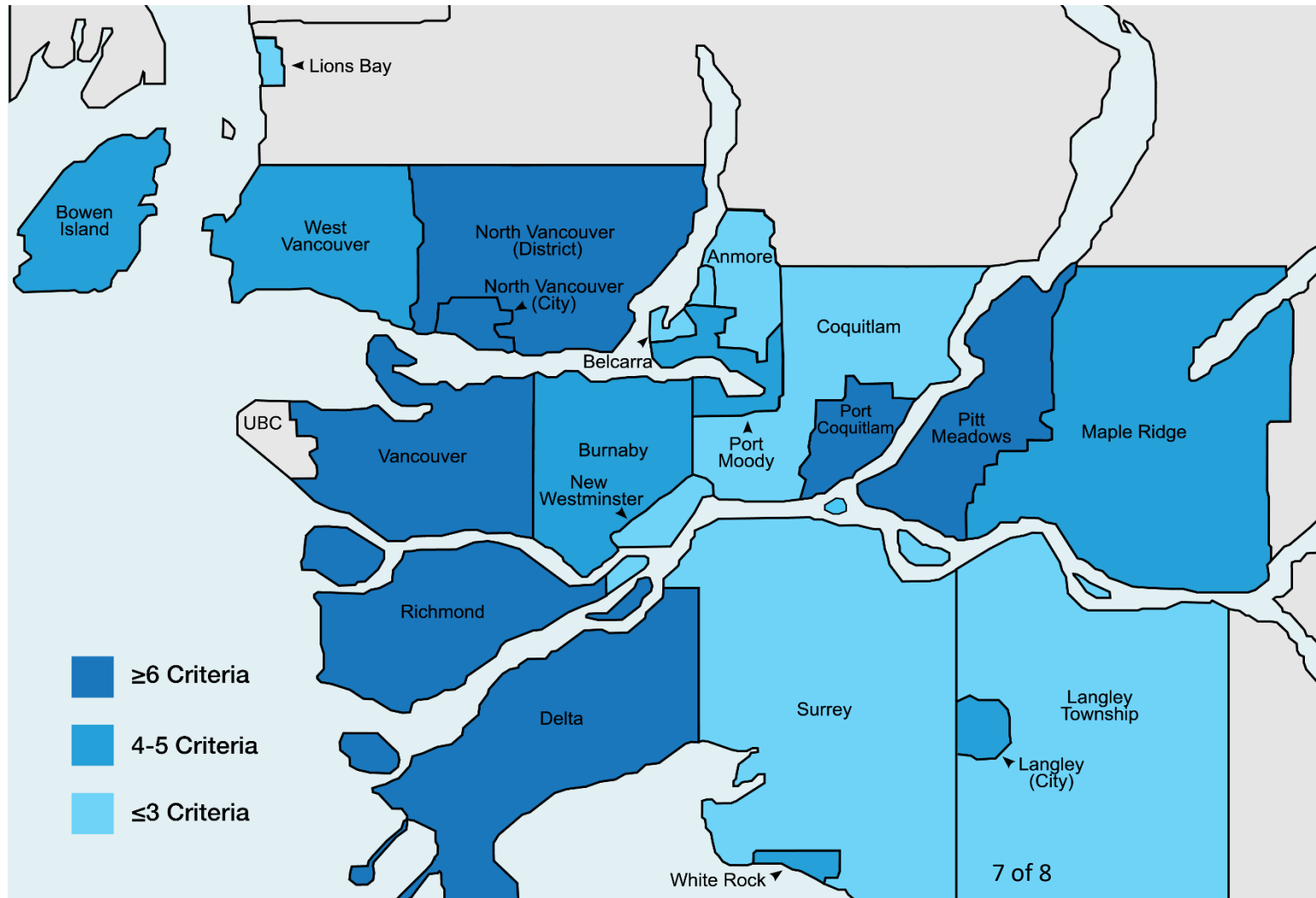
- Consider banning smoking in:
  - ❖ hotel/motel rooms
  - ❖ group living facilities
  - ❖ public housing
  - ❖ new multi-unit housing
  - ❖ hookah smoking in public establishments
- Consider licensing the retail sale of tobacco and vaping products
- Exemptions for Indigenous use of sacred tobacco

# Purpose of uniform restrictions on smoking and vaping

- Reduce modelling to children and youth
- Maximize protection from secondhand smoke
- Easy to understand and comply
- Simplify enforcement
- Reduce litter and wildfires



# Existing smoking bylaws in MVRD



## Smoke-Free Spaces Criteria

- Playgrounds
- Parks
- Sports fields & facilities
- Beaches
- Outdoor markets
- Outdoor events
- Trails

# Action request

1. We request that MVRD administration review existing smoking bylaws in the region and prepare a **draft regional bylaw** for the Board's consideration.
2. We request that MVRD staff consult with ASH Canada, Fraser Health Authority, and Vancouver Coastal Health in the development of a draft regional bylaw.

