



# Port Cities Committee

## Terms of Reference

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The Port Cities Committee is a standing committee of the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) Board which provides advice and recommendations to the Board on issues related to port activities involving relationships with the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, other senior governments. The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (VFPA) is a new organization which resulted from merging three former port authorities (Vancouver, Fraser River, and North Fraser).

The impact of port operations has region-wide implications for port services, economic development, management of marine and estuarine environments, and other common regional matters such as property taxation.

Prior to the port amalgamation, the VFPA and Metro Vancouver worked together to develop a preliminary *Engagement Framework* that will establish and guide the relationship and ongoing liaison between the two agencies. The preliminary *Engagement Framework* will be expanded and formalized into a regional Charter to be developed over the next 12 months

The role of the Port Cities Committee is to:

- Engage in a dialogue with the VFPA and other senior governments to exchange information and discuss issues and solutions of mutual interest. Such forums are defined in the Engagement Framework; and to
- Review and resolve port related issues that impact port cities and the region such as land assessment and use, taxation, dredging, community involvement and communication.

In carrying out this role, the Committee may provide advice and direction to staff as to the scope and priority of work to be carried out. However, where such direction represents a significant expenditure of funds, the Committee shall refer the matter to the Board, with appropriate recommendations for decision by the Board.

### **Committee Membership**

The Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the Port Cities Committee are appointed by the Chair of the GVRD Board of Directors. Membership is selected from the members representing the 16 port cities within Metro Vancouver.

The Committee is supported by the Port Cities Advisory Task Force of the Regional Administrative Advisory Committee (RAAC). The Chair and Vice-chair represents this task force at Committee meetings.

A Metro Vancouver staff will be assigned as a 'duty manager' to the Committee. The duty manager will be responsible for coordinating agendas and will be the principal point of contact for committee members.

### **Committee Meetings**

The Port Cities Committee will meet at intervals it determines to be appropriate, in consultation with the duty manager and Corporate Secretary. A quorum of 50% plus one of the Committee membership is required to conduct Committee business.