



Welcome to the Metro Vancouver Electoral Area A Bulletin – a bi-annual publication sharing Metro Vancouver information with Electoral Area A residents. For UBC/UEL residents, Maria Harris, the Metro Vancouver Director for Electoral Area A, also submits regular reports to the UNA Board and the UEL Community Advisory Council.

# ELECTORAL AREA A BULLETIN

June 2015

## Metro Vancouver enacts increased water conservation measures

Due to unseasonably dry and hot weather, Metro Vancouver residents are being asked to reduce discretionary use of water including lawn sprinkling, washing cars, driveways and sidewalks. Reservoir levels need to be maintained for priority needs in homes and businesses, and for community needs like fire protection.

Watering lawns is permitted once a week in the morning but prohibited during evening hours when demand is highest for domestic uses like cooking, dishwashing, laundry and showers. The increased restrictions apply to lawn sprinkling only and not to watering flowers, vegetables, shrubs and trees. Metro Vancouver [member municipalities](#) enforce the lawn sprinkling regulations.

Other ways to conserve water include: sweeping driveways, sidewalks, and garden paths rather than spraying them with water, ensuring there are full loads for dish and clothes washers, using a spray nozzle with an automatic shut-off when washing your car or watering plants, fixing leaking faucets and hose connections, turning off the tap when brushing your teeth or washing dishes.

## Current Lawn Sprinkling Regulations

Residential:

- Even-numbered addresses may sprinkle lawns 4 a.m. – 9 a.m. Monday
- Odd-numbered addresses may sprinkle lawns 4 a.m. – 9 a.m. Thursday

Non-residential:

- Even-numbered addresses may sprinkle lawns 1 a.m. – 6 a.m. Wednesday
- Odd-numbered addresses may sprinkle lawns 1 a.m. – 6 a.m. Tuesday
- Municipal parks must also follow the once weekly lawn sprinkling times

For more information, visit: <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/water/conservation-reservoir-levels/summer-water-2015/>

## Fire Smart Workshop for Indian Arm and Pitt Lake Residents

Date: Saturday, July 11, 2015

Time: 10 a.m. – Noon

Location: Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department Station, 2690 E Road, Anmore BC V3H 5G9

Metro Vancouver provides emergency management services for Electoral Area A. Helping Electoral Area residents be prepared for emergencies is a key part of this service. In late May, Safety, Security & Emergency Management staff held a FireSmart Workshop for residents in the Howe Sound community of Strachan Point. They will be holding another FireSmart Workshop for residents of Indian Arm and Pitt Lake on Saturday, July 11, 2015. The two-hour Workshop will cover how to prevent, prepare for and stop fires in homes, cabins and adjacent wooded areas, as well as an overview of emergency management. Topics include:

- Fire prevention strategies and the BC Provincial FireSmart Program
- Tips for fireproofing your home
- Basic firefighting tips
- Portable fire extinguisher training and a hands-on practice session
- Introduction to equipment, including stand pipes, portable pumps, forestry hoses and nozzles
- Emergency management, response and preparedness
- Available brochures and guidebooks

For questions or to confirm your attendance (not required but appreciated), please contact Marcin Pachcinski, Division Manager, Electoral Area & Environment, at 604.451.6562 or [marcin.pachcinski@metrovancouver.org](mailto:marcin.pachcinski@metrovancouver.org)

# ELECTORAL AREA A BULLETIN

## Get Involved! Apply to Sit on the Board of Variance or Advisory Planning Commission

Metro Vancouver is looking for community volunteers to apply to serve on one of two bodies that deal with land use planning matters in Electoral Area A: the Board of Variance and the Advisory Planning Commission. Both meet infrequently on an as-needed basis. There are rarely more than two meetings in a year and in some years there are none.

For details on the Board of Variance and the Advisory Planning Commission, see the attached information sheet and Expression of Interest Form. Please return the Expression of Interest Form by July 27, 2015.

## Deep Cove Parking

Electoral Area A Director Maria Harris and Metro Vancouver staff have been working with the District of North Vancouver regarding parking restrictions on Panorama Drive in Deep Cove, which impact Electoral Area A Indian Arm water-access residents who customarily park on the Drive. To provide perspective, the District has calculated there to be 55 parking spots along Panorama Drive, with more than double that number of parking permits issued to residents of the Drive. Due to ongoing high demand from District and non-District residents with water access properties, the District issued an additional 12 parking permits in late April, five of which were allotted for non-District, full-time residents of Indian Arm. The District staff are committed to continued monitoring of parking

availability on Panorama Drive, taking into account the parking needs of non-District residents. Metro Vancouver staff and the Electoral Area Director will continue to work with the District of North Vancouver on addressing Electoral Area A residents' parking concerns.

Full-time year-round Electoral Area A Indian Arm residents can contact the District of North Vancouver (604.990.2311) to put their names on a waitlist for parking passes. For more information on Deep Cove parking issues, please visit [www.dnv.org/deepcove](http://www.dnv.org/deepcove).

## Howe Sound Community Forum

The Howe Sound Community Forum took place on May 1st on Bowen Island. The Forum brings together representatives from government, First Nations and various stakeholder groups to discuss issues and projects of interest to Howe Sound communities. The Electoral Area A Director and Metro Vancouver staff have regularly participated in the forum. Highlights from May's Forum include:

- The David Suzuki Foundation has recently published Sound Investment: Measuring the Return on Howe Sound's Ecosystem Assets. The report estimates the economic value of ecological services from Howe Sound's watersheds to be \$800 million to \$4.7 billion each year. Find out which ecosystem provides the highest value per hectare on page 8. <http://www.davidsuzuki.org/publications/downloads/SoundInvestment-HoweSoundEcosystemAssets.pdf>

- A representative from the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations provided more details on the Cumulative Effects Assessment and Monitoring Project for the Howe Sound Area. The two year project will compile baseline data on key ecological values in the region with expected completion in spring 2017. Metro Vancouver staff have requested additional information about the project and have asked to be involved as part of the technical team of representatives from local government.
- The Marine Life Sanctuaries Society gave a presentation on glass sponges, their importance to the ecosystem and reefs found in Howe Sound which are unique in the world. Learn more about sponge research done by the Society. <http://mlssbc.com/programs/sponge-research/>

## Wood Stove Exchange Program – \$250 Rebates Available

Metro Vancouver residents are eligible to receive a \$250 rebate for trading in their old uncertified wood burning appliance for a new low emission appliance. Exchanging old wood stoves for low-emission replacements can make a difference in air quality within neighbourhoods.

For details on how to take advantage of this program, search “wood stove exchange” on [www.metrovancouver.org](http://www.metrovancouver.org).

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## Building Bylaw Review

Electoral Area planning, building and legal staff are reviewing the GVRD Electoral Area A Building Administration Bylaw No. 1043, 2006. The revisions are focused on updating the bylaw to reflect local experience and best practices and reformatting the bylaw for easier interpretation and legal applicability. On March 25, 2015, Bill 3 – Building Act became law. This new provincial building act seeks in part to standardize building regulations across various jurisdictions, which means it could limit local governments' ability to enact code requirements which differ from the BC Building Code. Electoral Area staff are working to incorporate Bill 3 requirements into the draft GVRD Electoral Area A Building Administration Bylaw and afterwards will seek public review of and input into the draft bylaw (expected in late 2015/early 2016).

## Building Inspection Services

Metro Vancouver provides Building Inspection Services to all areas of Electoral Area A, with the exception of UBC, UEL and First Nations reserves. Metro Vancouver staff encourage you to please get in touch with our office well in advance of any land clearing, building, renovating, or demolishing. Metro Vancouver staff can assist you in the building permit process, the required documentation, and any questions you may have.

## Buying Property in the Electoral Area?

If you or someone you know is buying or selling property in the Electoral Area A (except for UBC/UEL), we encourage you to get in touch with Metro Vancouver staff to request any records on file before purchasing or

listing a property. The types of records commonly available are building plans, occupancy permit records and geotechnical reports. In addition, we often have copies of water tests, septic approvals, gas inspections and electrical inspections on file. Please contact Tom Pearce, Regional Planner, at 604.432.6383.

For legal plans and documents registered on title, please contact the BC Land Title Office by visiting [www.itsa.ca](http://www.itsa.ca) or calling 604.630.9630.

## Organics Disposal Ban

On January 1 2015, Metro Vancouver introduced the Organics Disposal Ban. The Ban helps encourage generators to recycle food waste rather than throwing it in the garbage. Like other disposal bans, the Organics Disposal Ban is enforced at Metro Vancouver and City of Vancouver waste disposal facilities. When a waste hauler brings a load of garbage into a facility, the load is inspected for banned materials, and the hauler is subject to a financial penalty if the amount of banned material in the load exceeds a specified threshold.

The first six months show some early success - recycling rates for food waste have increased significantly since the implementation of the ban - in the first quarter of 2015, food waste recycling rates were 50 per cent higher than the first quarter of 2014. And Inspection reports show that 99 per cent of loads received at Metro Vancouver's regional disposal facilities are complying with the organics disposal ban before enforcement begins on July 1.

The first six months of 2015 were an education period, and starting July 1 penalties will be applied to loads with excessive amounts of food waste or

clean wood. Penalties will be applied on loads of garbage with over 25 percent organic waste mixed in with regular garbage. Penalties are charged to the waste haulers that deliver the loads to Metro Vancouver disposal facilities.

Disposal bans are an effective tool for ensuring recyclable materials are kept out of the waste stream, and they will help our region reach our [recycling goals](#) of 70 per cent in 2015 and 80 per cent by 2020.

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/media-room/media-releases/solid-waste/402/initial-success-for-waste-clean-wood-disposal-bans-enforcement-begins-july-1>

## Love Food Hate Waste

Households in the Metro Vancouver region generate about 190,000 tonnes of food waste every year, adding on average about \$700 a year to each household's grocery bill. Metro Vancouver's new Love Food Hate Waste campaign provides residents with simple steps they can take to use more of the food they purchase.

Visit [www.lovefoodhatewaste.ca](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.ca) to find tips, recipes and share ideas on how to reduce your food waste when preparing meals, keep your food fresh for longer and much more.



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## Electoral Area Grants

Metro Vancouver was advised in April 2015 that it will receive approximately \$62,000 in unconditional grant funding from the BC Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development.

This grant funding is intended to assist regional districts in their efforts to provide local services to unincorporated areas, particularly those that are non-urban in nature (i.e., the Electoral Area other than UBC/UEL). Metro Vancouver staff, in consultation with the Electoral Area A Director, are in the process of developing processes for the use of these funds.

## Upcoming Electoral Area Sub-Committee Meetings

The Intergovernment and Finance - Electoral Area Sub-Committee is comprised of seven members: Electoral Area A Director Maria Harris (Chair) and six Directors from Metro Vancouver municipalities (Tim Stevenson (VC), Vancouver; John Becker, Pitt Meadows; Karl Buhr, Lions Bay; Ralph Drew, Belcarra; Mary Martin, Surrey; and Mae Reid, Coquitlam). The Sub-Committee meets several times per year at the Metro Vancouver Boardroom to address Electoral Area matters. The next scheduled meetings of the Electoral Area Sub-Committee are:

- Wednesday, September 30, 2015  
9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, November 4, 2015  
9:00 a.m.

As meeting dates and times are sometimes rescheduled, please check the Meeting Calendar web page ([www.metrovancouver.org](http://www.metrovancouver.org) → **Boards top tab** → **Meeting Calendar**) for up-to-date meeting information and agendas.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Marcin Pachcinski, Division Manager, Electoral Area & Environment, at 604.451.6562 or [marcin.pachcinski@metrovancouver.org](mailto:marcin.pachcinski@metrovancouver.org).

### Stay informed! Subscribe to Metro Vancouver's Electoral Area A E-mail List

Email is one of the fastest ways Metro Vancouver can send information related to events and issues of interest to you and your community.

To subscribe, visit: <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/electoral-area-a/mailling-list/Pages/default.aspx> or go to the Electoral Area A main page and click on "Electoral Area A Mailing List."

For an archive of past bulletins, please search for "Electoral Area A" on [www.metrovancouver.org](http://www.metrovancouver.org)

### Contact information:

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## Volunteer Opportunities

### Board of Variance and Advisory Planning Commission

Metro Vancouver invites residents of Electoral Area A to apply to serve on one of two bodies that deal with land use planning matters. Residents may apply to serve on both bodies, but if chosen, may only serve on one.

#### Board of Variance (BOV)

The Board of Variance (BOV) is a decision-making body which considers minor variances or exemptions to bylaw regulations that are requested due to hardship. Applications considered include:

- Variances to the siting, size, or dimension of a building;
- Exemptions from the prohibition of structural additions or alterations to a legal non-conforming use;
- Variances to subdivision servicing requirements in an area zoned for agricultural or industrial use; and
- Setting aside the determination of the building inspector regarding the extent of damage preventing reconstruction of a non-conforming use.

**Composition:** 3 members. Candidates must not be employees or officers of Metro Vancouver and cannot serve on the APC during their term on the BOV.

**Term:** 3 years; expected to begin fall 2015.

**Meeting Frequency:** As applications arise. There are rarely more than two meetings in a year and in some years there are none. Meetings are held at Metro Vancouver's head office in Burnaby, BC.

**Remuneration:** This is a volunteer, unpaid position; members will, however, be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses that arise directly out of the fulfillment of their duties.

**How to apply:** Please fill out and return the Expression of Interest Form found on the back of this page. Appointments to the BOV and the APC are made by the Metro Vancouver Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Electoral Area Director. Please return the Expression of Interest Form by **July 27, 2015**.

**Questions?** Please contact Marcin Pachcinski, Division Manager, Electoral Area and Environment, by phone at 604.451.6562 or by email at [marcin.pachcinski@metrovancover.org](mailto:marcin.pachcinski@metrovancover.org).

#### Advisory Planning Commission (APC)

The Advisory Planning Commission (APC) is a panel of volunteer citizens who advise the Metro Vancouver Board and/or the Electoral Area Director on land use planning matters referred to them by the Board and/or Director. These matters may include:

- New bylaws and bylaw amendments;
- Rezoning applications;
- Development variance permits; and
- Other land use matters referred by the Board or Electoral Area Director.

**Composition:** 8 members, consisting of one resident or property owner from each of the following Electoral Area communities: Barnston Island, Bowyer Island, Montizambert Wynd, Ocean Point, Passage Island, Pitt Lake, Strachan Point, and Upper Indian Arm. Candidates must not be employees or officers of Metro Vancouver and cannot serve on BOV during their term on the APC.

**Term:** 2 years; expected to begin fall 2015.

**Meeting Frequency:** As needed. There are rarely more than two meetings in a year and in some years there are none. Meetings are held at Metro Vancouver's head office in Burnaby, BC.



## Expression of Interest Form

I would like to be considered for the: *(tick one or both, but if chosen, you may only serve on one.)*

- Board of Variance (BOV)       Advisory Planning Commission (APC)

Name:
Address:
Telephone:
Email:
Why are you interested in serving on the BOV/APC?
What contribution do you believe you can make to the BOV/APC? Please include any education, skills, abilities and specialized knowledge you have that may be useful to the BOV/APC.
Have you worked with a similar group or organization in the past? If so, please list the group or organization and your role.

Please return this form by **July 27, 2015** to:

Marcin Pachcinski, Division Manager, Electoral Area and Environment

**Tel:** 604.451.6562      **Fax:** 604.432.6296

**Email:** [marcin.pachcinski@metrovancover.org](mailto:marcin.pachcinski@metrovancover.org)

**Mail or Courier:** 4330 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC V5H 4G8