

Board in Brief

For Metro Vancouver meetings on Friday, Nov. 12, 2010

Please note these are not the official minutes. Board in Brief is an informal summary. Material relating to any of the following items is available on request.

For more information, please contact Bill Morrell, Corporate Relations, 604-451-6107, or Glenn Bohn, Corporate Relations, at 604-451-6697.

Greater Vancouver Regional District

Auditor General's Report on the Agricultural Land Commission

Approved

In September 2010, the B.C. Auditor General made nine recommendations to improve the Agricultural Land Commission's ability to preserve agricultural land, ensure the commission can evaluate the cumulative impacts of its policy and application decisions and strengthen the enforcement program so protects the Agriculture Land Reserve.

The Board approved an Agriculture Committee recommendation to:

- a) communicate by way of a letter to the British Columbia Minister of Agriculture and Lands their support for the mandate and work of the Agricultural Land Commission and the allocation of adequate resources to this agency, and invite the Metro Vancouver Agriculture Advisory Council to provide input to the draft letter; and
- b) Invite the British Columbia Minister of Agriculture and Lands to an Agriculture Committee meeting to discuss the mandate and funding of the Agricultural Land Commission.

Proposal for Hosting 2011 International Regions Benchmarking Consortium (IREC) Conference

Approved

The International Regions Benchmarking Consortium is a network of mid-sized metropolitan regions with a shared interest in comparing and learning from each other as to how to improve their economic performance while adhering to the goal of sustainability.

The Board approved an Intergovernmental Committee recommendation to approve Metro Vancouver hosting this year's International Regions Benchmarking Consortium Conference in September/October of 2011.

Metro Vancouver would contribute no more than \$50,000 to the conference costs.



metro
vancouver

www.metrovancouver.org

Term of Office of Elected Officials

Approved

People elected to municipal councils now have a three-year term office.

The Board approved the following Intergovernmental Committee recommendation:

Whereas the Local Government Elections Task Force's mandate was to deliberate and make recommendations on enacting new legislative provisions in order to improve the electoral process for local government elections across British Columbia; and

Whereas the Local Government Elections Task Force was paid for with provincial tax dollars; and

Whereas the Local Government Elections Task Force recommended the term of office for elected officials be extended to four years; and

Whereas a four year term would benefit the taxpayers by providing more stability, saving significant tax dollars by having fewer elections and ensuring greater focus on sound planning; and

Whereas a four year term would provide new councillors the ability to settle into their roles and responsibilities and allow them to implement their visions and achieve their goals;

Therefore be it resolved that the Metro Vancouver Board write a letter to the Provincial Government requesting they adopt the task force recommendation of a four year term.

Administrative, Financial and Timing Implications of Regional Growth Strategy Processes

Received

Responding to a number of questions from the City of Coquitlam, a four-page staff report provides an overview of the administrative, financial and timing implications of the proposed Regional Growth Strategy.

Metro Vancouver External Appointments – Status Report October 2010

Received

The Board received for information the following reports from Metro Vancouver representatives to external organizations:

- a) Report on the Recent Activities of Fraser Basin Council from Director Richard Walton
- b) Report on Activities of the GVRD/UBC Joint Committee from Director Maria Harris
- c) Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Committee Progress Report on Treaty Negotiations and Aboriginal Relations from Director Ralph Drew
- d) Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia – Activities for the period of May 2010 – October 2010 from Directors Malcolm Brodie, Derek Corrigan, Richard Walton, Wayne Wright, Gayle Martin, Darrell Mussatto, Joe Trasolini, Raymond Louie, and Judy Villeneuve
- e) Report on the Recent Activities of the Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department from Alternate Director Michael Wright
- f) Report on Union of British Columbia Municipalities Activities from Director Greg Moore

Delegations' Executive Summaries Presented at Committee – November 2010

Received

The Board received for information a letter from the President of the University of Alma Mater Society re: Draft Regional Growth Strategy – UBC Students Need Rapid Transit Now.

Staff Recommendation:

The Regional Growth Strategy provides a growth management vision for a sustainable future, and will guide the development of Metro Vancouver over the coming decades.

The draft strategy, Metro Vancouver 2040: Sharing Our Future, has five goals: create a compact urban area; support a sustainable economy; protect the environment and respond to climate change impacts; develop complete communities; support sustainable transportation choices.

The growth strategy was developed over several years, with three rounds of public consultation taking place since 2007.

The Board introduced a bylaw to adopt a regional growth strategy for the Greater Vancouver Regional and referred the strategy to a public hearing at the following times and dates:
Wednesday, November 24, at 1 p.m. – Northeast Sector, at the Executive Inn, Coquitlam
Tuesday, November 30, at 6 p.m. – North Shore, at the Pinnacle Hotel at the Pier, City of North Vancouver
Wednesday, December 1, at 7 p.m. – South of Fraser. Sheraton Guildford, Surrey
Thursday, December 2, at 7 p.m. – Burrard Peninsula, Metro Vancouver Board Room, Burnaby
In December 2010, a report on the public hearing will go to the Board. It will include a recommendation on whether to send the bylaw to affected local governments for acceptance. Once the Bylaw is sent to affected local governments, they have 60 days to accept or not accept the Regional Growth Strategy.

B.C. Ferry Authority Board of Directors Appointment

Approved

The B.C. Ferry Authority, which has two major ferry terminals in Metro Vancouver, has requested that Metro Vancouver nominate directors to the authority's board.

The Board approved a recommendation to delegate to a task force established by the Chair and/or Board to choose a Metro Vancouver nominee.