Regular Council Meeting

Monday, November 14, 2011

Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Council Chambers
       Richmond City Hall
Present: Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie
        Councillor Linda Barnes
        Councillor Derek Dang
        Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt
        Councillor Greg Halsey-Brandt
        Councillor Sue Halsey-Brandt
        Councillor Ken Johnston
        Councillor Bill McNulty
        Councillor Harold Steves

        Corporate Officer – David Weber

Call to Order: Mayor Brodie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

RES NO. ITEM

MINUTES

R11/19-1  1. It was moved and seconded
That:
(1) the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on Monday,
    October 24, 2011, be adopted as circulated; and
(2) the Metro Vancouver ‘Board in Brief’ dated Friday, October 28, 2011
    be received for information.

CARRIED
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RES NO.  ITEM

R11/19-2  It was moved and seconded
That a letter be sent to Metro Vancouver asking how Metro Vancouver plans to implement the Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Committee (LMTAC) mandate, in particular relating to treaty and new relationships.

CARRIED

AGENDA ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

R11/19-3  It was moved and seconded
That consideration of changes to the December 2011 Schedule of Meetings, to reschedule the December 12th Regular Council meeting to December 19th, and the Public Hearing from December 19th to December 20th, be added to the agenda as Item No. 20A.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS

Public Works Project of the Year Award

(1) Jim Young, Manager, Engineering Design & Construction, introduced Murray Steer, President, Public Works Association of BC, and advised that the City of Richmond was being presented with the 2011 Public Works Project of the Year Award for the No. 4 Road Drainage Pump Station and Park Plaza. Mr. Young noted that the Public Works Association gives consideration to factors such as innovation, sustainability, and complexity and quality of work, and that this was the fourth time in the past five years that the City of Richmond had won this award.

Mr. Young also recognized the following three key staff members for their contribution to the project: Mile Racic, Project Manager, Milton Chan, Senior Project Engineer, and Derek Hunter, who was responsible for operations.
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Prior to presenting the award to Mayor Brodie, Mr. Steer stated that the award provides a great opportunity for the Public Works Association of BC to recognize good work, and facilitate pride and honour in the work done in the field on a daily basis.

IOC/IAKS Gold Medal & IPC/IAKS Award of Distinction for Richmond Olympic Oval

(2) Marion LaRue, Cannon Design Architecture, spoke about the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and the International Association for Sports and Leisure Facilities (IAKS) Gold Medal, and the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and IAKS Award of Distinction, which were both presented to the City of Richmond and Cannon Design Architecture at an awards ceremony in Cologne, Germany for the Richmond Olympic Oval.

Ms. LaRue noted that the awards are the highest and most prestigious international awards for sport and leisure facilities, and the Oval was the only one of the 135 entries to have won both awards.

In conclusion, Ms. LaRue stated that it has been an honour and pleasure to work with Richmond City Council and its dedicated staff team on the Richmond Oval. Prior to accepting the award on behalf of the City, Mayor Brodie thanked Ms. LaRue and the team at Cannon Design for their contribution to the Oval.

Global Accessibility Map

(3) Bill Oakes, Stakeholder Engagement Manager, Global Accessibility Map, Rick Hansen Foundation, and Alan Hill, Cultural Diversity Coordinator, provided a live demonstration of the Global Accessibility Map (GAM), and illustrated the functionality of the Consumer Reviews Tool, including the type of information consumers would enter when completing the ratings information.

The GAM was launched in October, 2011, and at this time the objective was to expand the GAM into the City by entering ratings for venues in Richmond. A star system rating is used to rate venues for accessibility in mobility, sight and hearing.
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RES NO. ITEM

Richmond Public Library Annual Report

(4) Pat Watson, Board Chair, and Greg Buss, Chief Librarian, provided an overview of the library’s activities and spoke about the challenges the library is faced with in the upcoming year. Ms. Watson also recognized all members of the Library Board as well as friends of the Library.

During the presentation, the following was noted:

- 2011 marks the Richmond Public Library’s 35th anniversary;
- the Richmond Public Library has the highest circulation per capita, the highest number of visits per capita, and the greatest number of program attendance per capita amongst large urban libraries, while having the lowest library cost per use;
- in 2010, the Richmond Public Library provided 600,000 hours of free computer time to the public along with computer instruction and advice; and
- library staff are now using online tools and social media technologies to provide services such as the online chat service, which is available to all library customers whenever the library is open, and provides customers with immediate access to library staff.

Ms. Watson also recognized the cash and in-kind donations received by the Richmond Public Library in 2010, and briefly spoke about a Chinese book collection consisting of over 45,000 items, valued at approximately 1.2 million dollars that will be donated by Dr. Yat-Wah Lee and Mrs. Lee from their personal library.

In conclusion, Ms. Watson noted that the success of the Richmond Public Library lies with the enthusiasm of Richmond residents, and thanked all the donors, including individuals, corporate donors, and community partners, as well as City Council and staff for their support.
RES NO.  ITEM

R11/19-4  It was moved and seconded
(1)  That the Richmond Public Library Board Annual Report to Council be received for information; and
(2)  That staff provide comments and recommendations regarding the process for finalization of the Richmond Public Library’s Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

R11/19-5  2.  It was moved and seconded
That Council resolve into Committee of the Whole to hear delegations on agenda items (8:24 p.m.).

CARRIED

3.  Delegations from the floor on Agenda items:

Item No. 7 – Council Referral on BC Hydro Smart Meters

Roland Hoegler, 6550 No. 4 Road, with the aid of video presentations, illustrated how a smart meter, hooked up to an empty house with a vandalized power panel, continued to emit read outs even though there was no power at the house.

Mr. Hoegler made reference to the Clean Energy Act, and quoted the following: "The authority may, by itself, or by its engineers, surveyors, agents, contractors, subcontractors or employees, enter on any land, other than a private dwelling, without the consent of the owner, for a purpose relating to the use, maintenance, safeguarding, installation, replacement, repair, inspection, calibration or reading of its meters, including smart meters, or of its smart grid." He then expressed his opinion that in accordance with the Act, any Corix (smart meter installers for BC Hydro) employee who is on private dwelling property is considered to be trespassing.
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Item No. 7 – Council Referral on BC Hydro Smart Meters

Donna Thompson, owner and resident of a condominium in Richmond, spoke about how residents in her building were not given any advance warning regarding the installation of smart meters. She stated that a total of 96 smart meters were now installed at her building, 24 of which are attached to the outside wall of her condominium unit. Ms. Thompson expressed her concerns about smart meters and shared her belief that combined, the 96 smart meters would emit readings for a minimum of three hours and twenty minutes per day. A detailed submission of Ms. Thompson’s presentation is attached, and forms part of these minutes as Schedule 1.

Item No. 7 – Council Referral on BC Hydro Smart Meters

Kelly Masterson, 8160 Colonial Drive, explained how she lived adjacent to the electrical room in her townhouse complex, and how the installation of smart meters has resulted in her having 15 smart meters approximately two feet away from where she spends most of her time. Ms. Masterson shared that she had been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS), and spoke about her decline in health prior to the installation of smart meters, and the side effects she has encountered since the installation of the smart meters on October 24th, 2011, including increased heart rate, tingling in her legs and arms, loss of dexterity in her fingers and difficulty concentrating. A detailed submission of Ms. Masterson’s presentation is attached, and forms part of these minutes as Schedule 2.

Item No. 7 – Council Referral on BC Hydro Smart Meters

Michelle Khong, spoke about information that has been provided by BC Hydro regarding smart meters, expressing her belief that BC Hydro’s claim that smart meters transmit signals for only one minute per day is confusing and misleading, as smart meters emit 20,000-30,000 millisecond bursts of radiating frequencies which occur every few seconds throughout the day. Ms. Khong also expressed concerns about BC Hydro’s independent testing of smart meters, and provided information on approved microwave exposure limits from other countries in comparison to Canada. A detailed submission of Ms. Kong’s presentation is attached, and forms part of these minutes as Schedule 3.
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RES NO.  ITEM

Item No. 7 – Council Referral on BC Hydro Smart Meters
Carol Day, 11631 Seahurst Road, thanked City Council for the proposed resolution on the smart meter matter, and circulated a letter from former Premier Bill Vander Zalm highlighting that smart meters are banned in the Netherlands. Ms. Day also circulated a sample sign that she encouraged residents to put on their old analog meters if they did not wish to have a smart meter installed in their home. A copy of Ms. Day’s submission is attached, and forms part of these minutes as Schedule 4.

R11/19-6   4. It was moved and seconded
That Committee rise and report (8:51 p.m.).
CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA

R11/19-7   5. It was moved and seconded
That Items 6 through 19 be adopted by general consent.
CARRIED

6. COMMITTEE MINUTES

That the minutes of:

(1) the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday, November 7, 2011;

(2) the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday, October 25, 2011; and

(3) the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011;

be received for information.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT
RES NO. | ITEM
---|---
7. | COUNCIL REFERRAL ON BC HYDRO SMART METERS
(File Ref. No.: 01-0150-20-BCHY1) (REDMS No. 3392394, 3392208)

(1) That the staff report entitled “Council Referral on BC Hydro Smart Meters” from the Interim Director, Sustainability and District Energy, dated October 24, 2011 be received for information;

(2) WHEREAS significant and serious health, privacy and other concerns have been identified regarding the installation of wireless smart meters in British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS BC Hydro is proceeding with its program to install wireless smart meters in British Columbia although it recognizes there is active discussion and ongoing research into the possible health and environmental effects related to radio frequency signals and its is aware the World Health Organization has called for further investigation on this matter in its press release issued on May 31, 2011;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Richmond strongly request a moratorium be placed immediately on the mandatory installation of wireless smart meters until the major issues and problems identified regarding wireless smart meters are independently assessed and acceptable alternatives can be made available at no added cost to the consumer, and that homeowners, including the owners of strata units, be given the option to opt-out of the Smart Meter Program whether or not a smart meter has been installed in their home;

(3) That letters be written to the Premier, the Minister of Energy, the local MLAs, and the CEO of BC Hydro accordingly; and

(4) That a letter be sent to the Medical Health Officer requesting that he conduct an investigation as to whether smart meters pose a health hazard.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT
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RES NO.  ITEM

8. GLOBAL ACCESSIBILITY MAP (GAM)  
(File Ref. No. 11-7000-06/2011-Vol 01) (REDMS No. 3246778 v.3, 3390923) 

That the City partner with the Rick Hansen Foundation and Richmond Centre for Disability (RCD) to support the launch and development of Global Accessibility Map Customer Service and Professional Assessment tools. 

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

9. SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK – PROPOSED SOLID WASTE STRATEGIC PROGRAM  
(File Ref. No.: 10-6405-00, XR: 10-6370-01) (REDMS No. 3395281) 

That the Solid Waste Sustainability Strategic Program, as presented in Attachment 1 to the report dated October 18, 2011, be endorsed as the solid waste component of the City’s Sustainability Framework. 

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

10. METRO VANCOUVER: PAN-MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT BYLAW  
(File Ref. No.: 01-0157-01) (REDMS No. 3400974) 

That Council endorse the adoption of The Greater Vancouver Regional District Pan-Municipal Affairs Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1157, 2011 by Metro Vancouver. 

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

11. LABOUR RELATIONS CONVERSION AND AMENDMENT INTERIM BYLAW  
(File Ref. No.: 01-0157-20-LREL1, XR: 05-1650-01) (REDMS No. 3400659) 

That Council consent on behalf of the electors to the Labour Relations Conversion and Amendment Bylaw by adopting the following resolution:

"The Council of the Municipality of Richmond consents on behalf of the electors to the adoption of ‘The Greater Vancouver Regional District Labour Relations Conversion and Amendment Bylaw No. 1156, 2011.’" 

ADOPTED ON CONSENT
12. SCOTCH POND HERITAGE COOPERATIVE
   (File Ref. No: 06-2025-20-008) (REDMS No. 3393088)
   
   That staff prepare a detailed report on the status of Scotch Pond, including
   the condition of the building, the floats, the pilings, the channel, and the
   shoreline and provide a copy of the current agreement to determine whether
   the agreement needs updating.

   ADOPTED ON CONSENT

13. REQUEST TO EXTEND THE TEMPORARY EXHIBITION OF THE
    PUBLIC ARTWORK “WATER #10”
    (File Ref. No. 11-7000-09-20-129) (REDMS No. 3378876)
    
   That the extended temporary exhibition of the artwork “Water #10” until
   the end of 2013 at the Cambie Drainage Pump Station in Richmond, as
   outlined in the staff report dated October 11, 2011 from the Director, Arts,
   Culture & Heritage, be approved.

   ADOPTED ON CONSENT

14. OVAL WEST WATERFRONT PARK – CONCEPT DESIGN
    (File Ref. No. 06-2400-20-OWWA1/01) (REDMS No. 3383678)
    
   That the concept design for the Oval West Waterfront Park, as detailed in
   the staff report entitled “Oval West Waterfront Park – Concept Design”
   from the Senior Manager, Parks, dated October 18, 2011, be endorsed.

   ADOPTED ON CONSENT
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RES NO. ITEM

15. APPLICATION BY AMPAR VENTURES LTD. FOR REZONING AT 9451/9491/9511/9531/9551 BRIDGEPORT ROAD AND 9440/9460/9480 BECKWITH ROAD FROM SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSING DISTRICT, SUBDIVISION AREA F (RS1/F) AND SCHOOL AND INSTITUTIONAL USE (SI) TO LIGHT-INDUSTRIAL, OFFICE AND HOTEL (Z110) – BRIDGEPORT VILLAGE (CITY CENTRE)
(File Ref. No. 12-8060-20-8767/8764, RZ 10-539048) (REDMS No. 3205526, 3218472, 3218563)

(1) That Official Community Plan, Amendment Bylaw No. 8767, to amend Schedule 2.10 of Official Community Bylaw 7100 (City Centre Area Plan – Bridgeport Village) “Urban Centre T4 (25m)” specifically for 9451/9491/9511/9531/9551 Bridgeport Road and 9440/9460/9480 Beckwith Road, to permit 60% non-industrial uses and 40% industrial/office uses of the net floor area and to permit non-industrial uses to extend from 50m to 65m north of Bridgeport Road, be introduced and given first reading;

(2) That Bylaw No. 8767, having been considered in conjunction with:

(a) the City’s Financial Plan and Capital Program;

(b) the Greater Vancouver Regional District Solid Waste and Liquid Waste Management Plans;

is hereby deemed to be consistent with said program and plans, in accordance with Section 882(3)(a) of the Local Government Act;

(3) That Bylaw No. 8767, having been considered in accordance with OCP Bylaw Preparation Consultation Policy 5043, is hereby deemed not to require further consultation; and

(4) That Bylaw No. 8764, to create “Light-Industrial, Office and Hotel (Z110)” – Bridgeport Village (City Centre) and rezone 9451/9491/9511/9531/9551 Bridgeport Road and 9440/9460/9480 Beckwith Road from “Single Detached (RS1/F)” and “School and Institutional Use (SI)” to “Light-Industrial, Office and Hotel (Z110) – Bridgeport Village (City Centre)”, be introduced and given first reading.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT
RES NO. ITEM

16. 0901551 BC LTD. HAS APPLIED TO THE CITY OF RICHMOND FOR PERMISSION TO REZONE 7331 BRIDGE STREET AND 9571 GENERAL CURRIE ROAD FROM SINGLE DETACHED (RS1/F) TO SINGLE DETACHED (ZS14) IN ORDER TO CREATE 9 SINGLE FAMILY LOTS.
(File Ref. No. 12-8060-20-8805/8816, RZ 11-562929) (REDMS No. 3248590, 3218459, 3336563, 3356235)

(1) That Bylaw 8816 for the text amendment of Permitted Density section of the "Single Detached (ZS14) – South McLennan (City Centre)" zone, be introduced and given first reading.

(2) That Bylaw No. 8805, for the rezoning of 7331 Bridge Street and 9571 General Currie Road "Single Detached (RS1/F)" to "Single Detached (ZS14) – South McLennan (City Centre)", be introduced and given first reading.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

17. APPLICATION BY AJIT THALIWAL FOR REZONING AT 10391 FINLAYSON DRIVE FROM SINGLE DETACHED (RS1/D) TO SINGLE DETACHED (RS1/B)
(File Ref. No. 12-8060-20-8822, RZ 11-588990) (REDMS No. 3367097, 280247, 3375982)

That Bylaw No. 8822, for the rezoning of 10391 Finlayson Drive from "Single Detached (RS1/D)" to "Single Detached (RS1/B)", be introduced and given first reading.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

18. APPLICATION BY RAJ DHALIWAL FOR REZONING AT 10020 AQUILA ROAD FROM SINGLE DETACHED (RS1/E) TO COACH HOUSES (RCH)
(File Ref. No. 12-8060-20-8824, RZ 11-585027) (REDMS No. 3373251, 1791415, 3376091)

That Bylaw No. 8824, for the rezoning of 10020 Aquila Road from "Single Detached (RS1/E)" to "Coach Houses (RCH)", be introduced and given first reading.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT
RES NO. ITEM

19. HOUSING AGREEMENT (CONCORD MONET PROJECT GP LTD.) BYLAW NO. 8828 - TO SECURE AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS LOCATED IN 9099 COOK ROAD
(File Ref. No. 12-8060-20-8828) (REDMS No. 3390859, 3390857, 3384399)

That Bylaw No. 8828 be introduced and given first, second, and third readings to permit the City, once Bylaw No. 8828 has been adopted, to enter into a Housing Agreement substantially in the form attached hereto, in accordance with the requirements of s. 905 of the Local Government Act, to secure the Affordable Housing Units required by Rezoning Application No. 10-557918.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

NON-CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE –
Mayor Malcolm D. Brodie, Chair

20. POLICE PRESENCE IN THE DOWNTOWN CORE
(File Ref. No. 09-5355-20-COMP2/2011-Vol 01(11.43 V11)) (REDMS No. 3376028)

R11/19-8 It was moved and seconded

That:

(1) a City Centre Community Police Office be considered on a 3 year trial basis:

(a) at 5671 No. 3 Road, as the temporary location in the downtown area;

(b) a maximum of $573,800 in total costs over 3 years ($167,000 in capital costs and operating costs of $406,800) be funded from the existing RCMP budget; and

(2) staff report back in three months regarding the success of the program.

CARRIED
OPPOSED: G. Halsey-Brandt
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RES NO. ITEM

20A. DECEMBER 2011 MEETING SCHEDULE
(File Ref. No.) (REDMS No. 3407234)

R11/19-9 It was moved and seconded

(1) That the Regular Council Meeting of Monday December 12, 2011
(open and closed) be re-scheduled to Monday December 19, 2011 at
7:00 pm (Open Council) in the Council Chambers and 4:00 pm (Closed
Council) in the Anderson Room; and

(2) That the Public Hearing scheduled for Monday December 19, 2011 be
re-scheduled to Tuesday, December 20, 2011 at 7:00 pm in the Council
Chambers.

CARRIED

BYLAWS FOR ADOPTION

R11/19-10 It was moved and seconded

That the following bylaws be adopted:

Zoning & Development Bylaw No. 5300, Amendment Bylaw No. 8498
(8091 and 8131 No. 2 Road, RZ 08-422812)

Richmond Zoning Bylaw No. 8500, Amendment Bylaw No. 8690
(10071 No. 1 Road, RZ 10-538208)

Consolidated Fees Bylaw No. 8636, Amendment Bylaw No. 8798

Business Licence Bylaw No. 7360, Amendment Bylaw No. 8799

Richmond Zoning Bylaw No. 8500, Amendment Bylaw No. 8784
(10491/10511 Bird Road, RZ 11-572970)

Richmond Zoning Bylaw No. 8500, Amendment Bylaw No. 8808
(10600, 10700 Cambie Road and Parcel C (PID 026-669-404), (RZ 11-
561611)

CARRIED
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RES NO. ITEM

R11/19-11 It was moved and seconded  
That Richmond Zoning Bylaw No. 8500, Amendment Bylaw No. 8737  
(16540 River Road, RZ 10-524476) be adopted.

CARRIED
OPPOSED: G. Halsey-Brandt

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT PANEL

R11/19-12 21. It was moved and seconded  
(1) That the minutes of the Development Permit Panel meeting held on  
Wednesday, October 26, 2011, and the Chair’s report for the  
Development Permit Panel meetings held on September 29, 2010,  
October 13, 2010, and October 26, 2011, be received for information.

(2) That the recommendations of the Panel to authorize the issuance of:  
(a) a Development Permit (DP 11-561612) for the property at  
10600, 10700 Cambie Road and Parcel C (PID 026-669-404);  
and

(b) a Development Permit (DP 09-494270) for the property at 8091  
and 8131 No. 2 Road;  
be endorsed, and the Permits so issued.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

R11/19-13 It was moved and seconded  
That the meeting adjourn (10:17 p.m.).

CARRIED
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, November 14, 2011

RES NO.  ITEM

| Mayor (Malcolm D. Brodie) | Corporate Officer (David Weber) |

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Monday, November 14, 2011.
My name is Donna Thomson. I own, and live in, a condo in Richmond. I am adamant that the city ensure apartment and condo owners have wired meters as opposed to the new wireless smart meters. I'll explain why by explaining my own situation. I now have 24 smart meters attached to the outside wall of my condo unit. In addition, this complex is 4 stories high and there are meters placed in the same position on each floor. Therefore I am not only affected by the meters outside my apartment but also am affected by those on the other 3 floors – making 96 meters altogether. They are only a few feet from where I spend a great deal of my time. As I am retired, I spend a lot of time at home. I spend most of my time within my apartment within 20 feet of the 24 meters and a great deal of time in my kitchen, only 2 or 3 feet away. In fact the furthest I can get away from these meters is approximately 25 feet, if that. To not have choice in this matter is totally undemocratic. I have purposefully stayed away from wireless. The only wireless device I have is my cell phone which I use for emergencies only. I have always made decisions with my health in mind and am totally appalled that I find myself in this situation. I love my apartment and had intended to remain here for the rest of my life. Hydro has informed me that the smart meter is only working for a few minutes a day, however, in my situation that is 2 times 24 times 4 which comes to 3 hours and 20 minutes each day, minimum. Because people who live in condos live in such close proximity to each other, we are already being exposed to an increased number of radio waves even without including the smart meters. We definitely don't want this extra exposure to electromagnetic or radio waves.

I ask that you take my situation to Hydro and to the Provincial Government and that you demand the smart meters be replaced with wired meters immediately – while hydro is still in our area.

I believe it is Richmond City Council’s duty to protect it’s citizens and there is no definitive answer regarding the safety of these smart meters. People in apartments and condo’s require wired meters such as, I understand, those that commercial buildings will be equipped with. I know I am not the only apartment dweller who is faced with extreme exposure to the radio waves coming from these smart meters. Remember, asbestos, at one time, was not seen as being carcinogenic.

Thank you.
I would like to just say a few words, to put a Human Face on Smart Meters.

My background is not in technical side of the issue. But by no means am stupid person. I have a Bachelors degree in Architectural Science, particularly in Building Sciences, so I am by no means a technical Luddite.

I was gainfully employed in the Building Industry until I was diagnosed 15 years ago with Multiple Sclerosis, or MS. MS is a neurological disease which essentially ‘short circuits’ the electrical impulses from the brain and causes loss of control to motor functions in my body. Specifically, it is a progressive form of the disease and will result in a steady decline in my health.

MS is something that I have learned to take in stride. There are many worse afflictions in life today and I have come to terms with my ‘lot in life’. Over the past 15 years, I have experienced a slow and steady decline in my motor functions, and I have been fortunate compared to others with MS.

I am a single parent of a 13 year old daughter, and my primary concern in life is that I can house, clothe, feed, and usher her along into adulthood.

My primary concern with the introduction of Smart Meters is the potential effect they may have on my health. I do not have a contingency plan if my health were ever to take a ‘nosedive’. Thus I strive to avoid anything that may speed up my decline.

Once I was aware of the introduction of Smart Meters by BC Hydro, I became alarmed. I pored over the BC Hydro information posted on their website, but I found it very shallow and it did not inspire much confidence in how safe this wireless technology was. I already suffered from daily internal electrical signal interruptions in my body, and did not want to volunteer for further external interference.

Now, I was a little more concerned than most, not only because of my MS, but because of the fact that I live in a townhouse immediately adjacent to the electrical room for our cluster of 15 units. Basically, I am separated by a wood frame drywall partition from 15 Smart Meters. On one side of the partition is my dining room and coincidentally my computer where I spend far too much time, and on the other side of the wall, approximately 2 feet away, is a bank of 15 meters.

Once I realized this, I immediately contacted BC Hydro and refused to allow them to install a meter, and posted a sign on the electrical room door to that effect.

Well, as far as I know, 3 weeks ago, on October 24 th , they then only installed 14 of my neighbors Meters, and left my analogue meter stand.

Within about 24 hours, I noticed when I sat at my computer, I now began to feel an increase in my heart rate, tingling in my legs and arms, loss of dexterity in my fingers, and difficulty concentrating on what I was working on.
At first I thought it was maybe just me over reacting, but it has now been 3 weeks and each time it sit down a my computer, I similarly start to vibrate. People suggest to me that I just move my computer. I would, but my total townhouse is only 750 sf, and there is really nowhere else to move it.

My house as modest as it may be is the total accumulation of everything that I had earned, throughout my working life, prior to my untimely ‘early retirement’ at the ripe old age of 36. I now am still hammering away at the mortgage on my disability income, to provide some sort of security and a home for myself and my child. I now feel our security and safety is threatened. On the day the Smart Meters were installed, which was coincidentally my daughter’s 13th birthday, she cried uncontrollably and said that our home was the only place that she felt safe, and now THEY had wrecked it. Thank you BC Hydro for that wonderful birthday gift.

I spoke to Richmond Councilor Bill McNulty shortly before Remembrance Day, as he was collecting donations on behalf of the Veterans. We chatted about the sacrifices that the Vets had made for our freedoms in Canada. Somehow, it doesn’t feel very FREE anymore.

I resent the fact that BC Hydro has more rights in MY HOUSE than I do. In my own home, I cannot protect my health, I cannot protect my privacy, I cannot provide security for my child, and I as a taxpayer will have to contribute to paying for this loosely tested technology to the tune of 1 billion dollars, at a time when fiscal restraint is being demanded around the world. I find BC Hydro’s actions irresponsible abusive.

I realize that it is the BC Provincial Government’s call on this issue, and copies of this ‘diatribe’ will be circulated forthwith to whomever’s e-mails I can discover, but I entreat Richmond City Council, to speak for, and on behalf of all Richmond Residents, to put more pressure on ‘the powers that be’. The only real action in this Province has only ever come from the ‘grass roots’, and our Cities and Municipalities are a much stronger force than you give yourselves credit for.

To coin the mantra of the day, we are the 99%.

Thank you.

Kelly Masterson
103-8160 Colonial Drive
Richmond, BC v7c 4t7
604-241-4815
To: Richmond City Council for November 14, 2011 City Council Meeting on Smart Meters

From: Michelle Khong

BC Hydro’s claim that Smart Meters transmit signals for “only one minute a day”:

- This statement continues to confuse the public, as most residents we have spoken to have been misled to assume that the transmission occurs for only one minute during the day, possibly when most people are not home. Then during the rest of the time/hours there is absolutely no radiation.
- The truth is that this “one minute” is the TOTAL of 20,000-30,000 millisecond bursts of radiating frequencies which occur every few seconds round the clock, even when people are sleeping.

BC Hydro’s latest “Independent” testing which the Chief Medical Officer of Richmond referenced:

- Was conducted by a hired, private consulting firm called Planetworks in North Vancouver.
- The “2.3 microwatts/cm2” result they quoted was measurement of “a two-day average”. That means they ignored the PEAK spiking levels which cause more harm to human cells.
- This is like saying that one who drives a car at 200 km/hr should not be issued a speeding ticket because when “averaging” with the time that the car stops at the red light, the “average speed” is only 10 km/hr and thus there is no danger.
- Distance of collection antenna: If the collection antenna in the test is just a few metres away from the Smart Meter, the radiation level will be much lower than in reality. In real life, where both devices could be kilometers apart, the devices would be sending out stronger signals in order to connect.
- Further, there was no mentioning of testings on multiple-meters.
- Without multiple-meters included, the radiation level reported will not be realistic, because it leaves out radiation from transmission once every few seconds between smart meters within the grid.
- Also, Richmond is a city with rapid condo development. Some buildings have up to a hundred electrical metres in a small room next to residents’ dwellings. Excluding the scenario of multiple meters tightly packed together on one wall, any test result would be completely inadequate for proper assessment.

Comparing results from the private consultant’s testing to the BCCDC report:

- “Measurable levels are found by BCCDC only when the instrument probe was in actual contact with certain areas of the Smart Meter casing, or in close proximity to the: collector antenna.” The above statement by Chief Medical Officer is inaccurate.
- According to that report, data collected away from the meter also reported readings up to 20 microwatts/cm2 (0.020 milliWatts/cm2), not just in actual contact.
- On Page 3 of the BCCDC report, they included testing results by EPRI (Electrical Power Research Institute) in USA which was conducted also on ITRON smart meter (same as used by BC Hydro). http://www.bccdc.ca/NR/rdonlyres/43EF885D-8211-4BCF-8FA9-0B34076CE364/0/June92011_BCCDCReport_BCHydroSmartMeters.pdf
- The radiation levels reported by EPRI at 3 feet in was 11.76 to 79.3 microwatts/cm2.
- The radiation level reported by BC Hydro’s private consultant at 20 cm was only 2.3 microwatts/cm2, completely inconsistent with the higher levels stated in both the EPRI test result (which was 22-26 times higher) and the BCCDC’s test result (which was 8.7-22 times higher).
- Again, all these tests were conducted with just a single meter. When more meters are present and running, the levels will be even stronger. In California, real-life testing at apartment buildings showed
radiation over 200 microwatts/cm². [http://www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca/html/?p=1060](http://www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca/html/?p=1060)

- Declaring the meters safe for all households based on inadequate testing is hazardous.

Is non-ionizing low-level microwave radiation harmful to health?

- Both Dr. Perry Kendall and Dr. James Lu refer to Health Canada for safety standard.
- Unfortunately, Health Canada has the most unsafe standard for microwave radiation in the world. Their guideline only recognizes the heating/thermal effects caused by such radiation.
- Many other governments recognize non-thermal effects caused by electromagnetic radiation and set their exposure limits to hundred or thousands of times lower than our Canadian one.
- Dr. Perry Kendall’s statement is inaccurate: “given the current scientific evidence, the consensus of public health practitioners is that at current exposure levels these electromagnetic fields do not constitute a threat to the health of the public”
- There is currently no consensus in the world about this. Industry-funded studies mostly reported no adverse effects, while non-industry funded studies mostly reported adverse biological effects. Some governments who take precaution to protect citizens’ health set their exposure limits to as low as 2.4 or 0.0001 microwatts/cm², while governments like USA and Canada set obsolete and unsafe standards up to 1000 microwatts/cm² to facilitate unrestrained expansion of wireless industries.
- As in the cases of DDT, Agent Orange, asbestos, thalidomide, BPA and tobacco, government regulation often lags behind the actual need.
- These are testimonies by people who felt sick after Smart Meters were installed in the U.S.: [http://emfsafetynetwork.org/?page_id=2292](http://emfsafetynetwork.org/?page_id=2292)
- On Oct 28, 2011, California’s utilities company PG&E started offering analogue meter back to consumers because of severe complaints on health effects from wireless Smart Meters. [http://www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca/html/?p=1635](http://www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca/html/?p=1635)
- Since Health Canada has no stringent regulation to protect citizens from microwave radiation, citizens are taking personal measures to protect themselves by saying NO to Smart Meters. We seek City Council’s support to uphold this right.

Smart Meter Collecting Antennas:

- “BC Hydro responded that for safety and security reasons, it does not disclose the location grid infrastructure.”
- Residents who are concerned about these collecting antennas should have the right to know their location. BC Hydro once again shows their lack of transparency.

Effects on Employment

- The report by City Staff was forwarded to COPE (Canadian Office and Professional Employees Union). This was their reply after they contacted BC Hydro on the information presented: “BC Hydro said they believed the statements were true because they had been in talks with Corix about sourcing jobs from meter readers and other Hydro employees. However, it is our opinion that since there has been no formal agreement this is not correct. We asked Hydro to contact the City to correct this view.”

Jarrah Hodge
Communications Representative
COPE 378
p: 604.473.3857
JHodge@cope378.ca
# Microwave Exposure Limits

**300MHz-300GHz in μW/cm² (microwatts/cm²)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Radiation Source</th>
<th>Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada, USA</td>
<td>600-1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiation measured from bank of Smart Meters at Apartment Buildings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiation measured from a Single Smart Meter by Electrical Power Research Institute, USA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiation measured from a Single Smart Meter by BC Centre of Disease Control</td>
<td>≥ 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(no test for multiple-meters scenario)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China, Russia, Italy, France (Paris), Poland, Hungary</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland Precautionary Limit for Sensitive Areas (Children, Elderly, Medically-challenged)</td>
<td>4.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium (Brussels, Wallonia, Flanders), Bulgaria, Luxembourg</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BC Hydro's Claim on Smart Meter's Radiation (Average measurement)</td>
<td>2-2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lichtenstein</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria (Salzburg) Indoor-Outdoor</td>
<td>0.0001-0.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cosmic Background</td>
<td>&lt; 0.00000000001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**U.S. Nuclear Expert Dr. Daniel Hirsch:** The cumulative radiation emitted by Smart Meters are at least 100 times more powerful than cell phone.


[http://www.committeetobridgethegap.org/pdf/110212_RFrad_comments.pdf](http://www.committeetobridgethegap.org/pdf/110212_RFrad_comments.pdf)

1 W(Watt) = 1,000 mW (milliWatts)  
1 W(Watt) = 1,000,000 μW (microWatts)

1 mW (milliWatt) = 1,000 μW (microWatts)  
1 m² = 10,000 cm²  
V/m = W/m² x 377


Radiation measured from bank of Smart Meters at Apartment Buildings: http://www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca/html/?p=1060


Italy: http://www.who.int/docstore/peh-emf/EMFStandards/who-0102Europe/Italy_files/table_datoteke/Italy_DPCM_RF_eng.pdf


Poland: http://www.who.int/docstore/peh-emf/EMFStandards/who-0102Europe/Poland_files/table_datoteke/poljski1883.pdf

Hungary: http://www.salzburg.gov.at/Proceedings_%2815%29_Sage_2.pdf


3. Study of Smart Meter EMF Emission by EPRI:

The Electrical Power Research Institute (EPRI, USA) conducted an extensive study on the RF emission of Smart Meters [Ref.3] and found that the exposure levels were significantly below the applicable Exposure Limits during continuous mode (duty cycle = 100%).

Considering that Smart Meters emit only few minutes per day, the daily exposure of an individual standing within a short distance of the Smart Meter would be much lower.

An example of EPRI survey results is shown in Table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location relative to meter (feet)</th>
<th>900 MHz RF LAN(\textsuperscript{a})</th>
<th>2.4 GHz Zigbee(\textsuperscript{d})</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surface</td>
<td>606 µW/cm\textsuperscript{2} (MPE) \textsuperscript{b}</td>
<td>1000 µW/cm\textsuperscript{2} (MPE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>58, 9,67 (6.75)</td>
<td>79, 3 (7.93)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>52, 5 (0.875)</td>
<td>61, 5 (6.15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>21.67 (0.361)</td>
<td>25, 8 (0.258)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>11.16 (0.186)</td>
<td>14, 2 (0.142)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5.76 (0.096)</td>
<td>7, 1 (0.071)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(\textsuperscript{a}) LAN: Local Area Network
(\textsuperscript{b}) MPE: Maximum Permissible Exposure
(\textsuperscript{c}) Zigbee: A data protocol used by the Home Area Network (HAN)
(\textsuperscript{d}) MPE: Maximum Permissible Exposure

The measurement of RF Power Density is illustrated in the following picture (Figure 1).

Figure 1 - Technician Measuring the RF power density from a Smart Meter

4 \text{W/cm}\textsuperscript{2} = \text{Microwatts per cm}\textsuperscript{2}
Message re Smart Meters to Delta Council

from Bill Vander Zalm

Dear members of Delta Council,

Please review the below and consider taking action at the Council level to stop the installation of the Smart Meters in Delta. You can be the leader among Municipalities by taking a firm stance on behalf of Delta Citizens. Insist, by resolution of Council, that no further action to install Smart Meters be taken in Delta until further study and research, particularly in areas where Smart Meters have already been installed.

The below report is from California but there are similar findings in such other places as the Netherlands where now they are banned completely.

Why should we allow The Provincial Government and the B.C. Hydro to play Russian Roulette with our health and well being? If the Provincial government (ala B.C. Hydro) has a billion dollars to spend - there are many social needs, during a time of recession, that are far more in need than changing meters.

Please give consideration to a resolution similar to the rough example below:

- Whereas, there appears to be no valid research done by B.C. Hydro into the overall effects of "Smart Meters";
- and whereas, there has been no consultation with our people by the provincial government about the Smart Meter installation program;
- and whereas, the billion dollars proposed to be spent on Smart Meter installation may better be used during this time of recession, in areas of Social suffering and need;
- and whereas, because of Smart Meters, people in the province and our Municipality, have expressed concern about the invasion of privacy and the move to globalization;
- and whereas, Smart Meters have already been installed in various European and North American locations;
- and where now a number of these entities have expressed concern about the health impacts on its citizens:

Therefore be it resolved that our Municipality will require a permit, prior to installation, and that permits will be withheld until the completion of satisfactory research into health safety and that our residents be provided with the option of a wired meter installation.

Thank you for your consideration and action,

Bill Vander Zalm
ATTENTION!
CORIX
Smart Meter Installer
for BC HYDRO
NO TRESPASSING
DO NOT INSTALL
SMART METER HERE

THIS IS NOTICE OF MY
REFUSAL TO ACCEPT
A "SMART METER"
AT THIS ADDRESS:

____________________
Owner/Resident

Analogue Meter Reader Still Welcome