

MEETING MINUTES



Beyond, Every Day.

Environmental Advisory Committee

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| Meeting Date: | October 20, 2022 | Meeting Time: | 1:00 – 3:00 PM |
| Location: | Microsoft Teams | Prepared by: | Brenden McBain |
| In Attendance: | Wendy Avis Brenden McBain Floyd Yamamoto Karen Wong Rene McKibbon Andrea McDonald Derek Jennejohn Mary Point Eddie Uyeda Judy Williams Babak Behnia Taylor Groenewoud Rene McKibbin | YVR, Climate and Environment – Chair YVR, Climate and Environment Citizen Representative, Richmond City of Vancouver Canadian Wildlife Service (ECCC) Fraser Basin Council Metro Vancouver Musqueam – YVR Transport Canada Fraser River Coalition City of Richmond Environment Canada Environment and Climate Change Canada | |
| Guests/Presenters: | David McPhie Simon Robinson Ethan Gao | YVR, Climate and Environment YVR, Climate and Environment YVR, Engineering | |
| Regrets: | Kevin Eng Richard Holt Morgan Guerin Bijan Pourkarimi Myrka Manzo June Ryder | City of Richmond Environment and Climate Change Canada Musqueam Indian Band City of Vancouver Citizen Rep Air Canada Nature Vancouver | |
| Secretary: | Elena Le | YVR, Climate and Environment | |

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Discussion:

1. Introductions & Welcome

Wendy welcomed the committee and shared the meeting etiquette. Wendy acknowledged that YVR is on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam people and the importance of the 30-year agreement in place to support our relationship. Wendy welcomed new members into the committee, ran through the meeting agenda, and encouraged participants to share their comments and questions as well as taking breaks throughout the meeting

2. Review of previous minutes

Simon Robinson confirmed that he had followed up with City of Richmond about the Ferguson Road realignment project and hence the action item from May 5, 2022 meeting is complete.

- *Simon had followed up with City. May's meeting minutes are finalized and will be posted on the YVR [website](#)*

No comments or questions were raised regarding the draft meeting minutes from the May 5, 2022 meeting, so they will be adopted as final and posted at yvr.ca in English and French.

3. Airport Authority Updates

Wendy presented information on the return of passenger activity, including a passenger count as of August 2022 and a projection for the end of the year. It was noted that domestic travel activities have returned to pre-pandemic levels, while transborder and international traffic are still recovering.

There have been staffing changes in the Climate and Environment department: Jennifer Aldcroft and Marion Town have left the Airport Authority; David McPhie is now Manager (previously Energy Manager); Wendy Avis is acting director; and Andrea Price has joined as the new Energy Manager, bringing in her vast array of experience to support YVR's net zero emissions goal.

Wendy also updated the committee about YVR's recent environmental actions, including participation in Transport Canada's Aviation Climate Action Plan and hosting the BC Airports Decarbonization Workshop in partnership with Victoria International Airport and Kelowna International Airport. YVR became the first airport in Canada and one of only three airports in North America to achieve Airport Carbon Accreditation Level 4+. At the 6th Annual Cascadia Innovation Corridor Conference, YVR along with Port of Seattle and Port of Portland signed an [agreement to declare commitment to sustainability and decarbonizing aviation](#). When asked a question about Port of Vancouver's involvement, Wendy confirmed that Port of Vancouver is not part of the agreement as it is focused on aviation (Ports in US often include both maritime and aviation).

4. Energy Management

David McPhie provided a review of Strategic Energy Management at YVR, an energy use monitoring process that focuses on reducing consumption while ensuring efficiency and conservation. The Airport is currently looking at ways to improve the energy monitoring information systems. YVR's Energy Management Program is supported by BC Hydro with staff funding and by the Energy Optimization Team with ongoing energy planning and management. BC Hydro also supports YVR with EnergyWise @YVR, a tenant engagement program dedicated to supporting Terminal and Sea Island tenants with technology improvements and operational changes to achieve higher energy efficiency.

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Regarding Road Map to Net Zero, it was noted that much work is underway to achieve decarbonization goals outlined in the plan. David discussed two Energy Efficiency Studies which focused on HVAC and Domestic Hot Water Systems in the Main Terminal. It was found that 90% of terminal natural gas use could be saved with 8 bundles of Energy Efficiency Measures. These studies act as a basis for multiple Roadmap to Net Zero Projects.

David provided a timeline and more detailed description of a few projects. The Main Terminal Lighting Project focuses on lighting upgrades across the Main Terminal, totaling to 21,000 light lamps and 80,000 square meters of the terminal. The new lights are energy-efficient, saving \$280,000 and 38 tonnes of GHGs a year, improving lighting quality and passenger experience. Delta Tritec Group, an indigenous-owned company, completed the work on this project. David shared updates on the Bag Hall Lighting Improvements and ITB High-Efficiency Hot Water Heaters and provided a brief description of a few planned projects for 2023, including the Phase 2 of the Main Terminal Lighting Efficiency Project and DTB Domestic Hot Water Loop Upgrade.

5. Update on Development Projects at YVR

Simon Robinson introduced the participants to two new construction projects that are currently undergoing impact assessment review: the Sea Island Conservation Area (SICA) Dike Upgrade and Million Air Soil Remediation. Ethan Gao from Engineering provided an overview of the SICA Dike Upgrade project which will raise the crest of the dike by 4.7m. This elevation aligns with the provincial guidelines to accommodate sea level rise by 2100 and Fraser River flooding. A cross-section of a SICA West Dike Typical Section was shown to the committee and Ethan pointed out areas of concern which the project will address including climate change-related issues, impacts on major infrastructure and vegetation, dike stability, maintenance, future erosion and seismic protection. All stakeholders and parties are being engaged through email, site visits, meetings, and provided with relevant documents to address any possible concerns. A concern was raised about the necessity of the project and environmental impacts of raising the dike and if the public was consulted in the planning process. Simon responded that the dike upgrade is important for accommodating future sea level rise, the project imposes minimal impacts on the surrounding wildlife, habitat, and vegetation, and parties that were consulted include the Musqueam Indian Band, Environment Canada, Transport Canada, and Nature Vancouver. A high-level report of the project will be sent to the aforementioned committee member. In response to a question about the duration of the vegetation planting post-construction monitoring period, Simon gave an estimate of 2-2.5 years.

Simon provided a summary of other development projects at YVR. Active projects include the North Runway End Safety Area, CORE, the South Field Electrical Centre, Templeton Development, Ferguson Road Realignment, Floodbox E and Sea Air Hangar improvements. Completed projects include North runway pavement repairs, Airside/Taxiway pavement repairs, Air Canada Parking Lot, and Cargo Carrier Road. When inquired about the status of Ferguson Road Alignment, Simon responded that clearing and gravel preloading are complete, and the project is aimed to finish by 2023.

6. Round Table and Discussion

The Fraser Basin Council has recently [certified BC Transit's new HandyDART centre on Vancouver Island as Salmon Safe](#) on Connect with Andrea McDonald at amcdonald@fraserbasin.ca for more information.

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Metro Vancouver informed the Committee that 31 air quality monitoring stations operating within the Lower Mainland are working continuously to provide detailed air conditions data, with improvements to the YVR station currently underway. Metro Vancouver is developing climate action initiatives including reducing greenhouse gas emissions from buildings across the region and regulating boilers and process heaters emissions.

ECCC is currently working to advance commitments on how to better support low-emission groundside equipment and decarbonization of the aviation section.

7. **New / Other business**

- None.

8. **Upcoming Meetings**

- Thursday, January 19th from 1 PM to 4 PM
- Thursday, May 4th from 1 PM to 4 PM
- Thursday, October 19th from 1 PM to 4 PM
- Summer Tour - TBD

Action Items:

- Brenden McBain to send out the survey about participants preferred future method of meeting (online or in-person).

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, Jan 19th, 2023 at 1 p.m.