

MEETING MINUTES



Environmental Advisory Committee

Meeting Date:	Jan 19, 2023	Meeting Time:	1:00 – 3:00 PM
Location:	Microsoft Teams	Prepared by:	Elena Le
In Attendance:	Wendy Avis Brenden McBain Simon Robinson Karen Wong Rene McKibbin Andrea McDonald Mary Point Eddie Uyeda Babak Behnia Taylor Groenewoud Rene McKibbin Bijan Pourarimi Morgan Guerin	YVR, Climate and Environment – Chair YVR, Climate and Environment YVR, Climate and Environment City of Vancouver Canadian Wildlife Service (ECCC) Fraser Basin Council Musqueam - YVR Transport Canada City of Richmond Environment Canada Environment and Climate Change Canada City of Richmond Citizen Rep Musqueam Indian Band	
Guests/Presenters:	Brenden McBain Simon Robinson Mary Point Dave Schneider Allison Rogers Amelia Gregg Zia Rahimi-Motem Mark McCaskill	YVR, Climate and Environment YVR, Climate and Environment Musqueam – YVR YVR, Airside Operations Canada Post Canada Post Canada Post FSM Group	
Regrets:	Shelina Sidi Judy Williams June Ryder Myrka Manzo	Metro Vancouver Fraser River Coalition Nature Conservancy BC Air Canada	
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

Wendy provided an update on the previous meeting's action item. A survey was sent out to the committee about the preferred method of meeting for 2023, where most respondents expressed a preference for virtual meetings. Hence, meetings of this year will continue to be virtual, with a hybrid mode only considered when there is sufficient uniqueness to the meeting. Additionally, a summer field trip with a focus on YVR's environmental programs will be planned, and the exact date will be announced to all participants.

No comments or questions were raised regarding the draft meeting minutes from the October 20, 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 staffing changes as well as the impact of severe weather on airport operations in December 2022. Cathy Pham has recently come back to the ENV Department as an Environmental Analyst, where she will be supporting carbon and energy data profiles under our Roadmap to Net Zero and Environmental Management Plan. The team has also welcomed Lionel Leong back on the one-year term Environmental Analyst – Noise Management to support a temporary leave.

The committee was briefed on the recent travel disruptions caused by severe winter storm events, with hundreds of flights delayed or cancelled. Many YVR employees stepped in to assist affected passengers by managing queues, providing information, distributing food, water, blankets, and other comfort items. YVR also provided access to hotel rooms and meal vouchers over the period of delay. Tamara Vrooman, President and CEO has initiated an after-action review where stakeholders and the public will be engaged to voice their experiences and improvements. The review can be followed [here](#).

At the end of 2022, YVR saw a total of 18.4 million passengers, as compared to a projected 7 million passengers at the beginning of the year. When asked about the reasons why there was a big discrepancy in the actual versus forecasted numbers, Wendy cited the early lifting of pandemic restrictions and unanticipated surge in travel demands, especially domestic travels.

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4. 2022 Environmental Auditing Program Results

Brenden McBain provided an overview and shared results of the 2022 Environmental Auditing Program. Every year, operations and tenant audits are conducted to mitigate environmental risks, provide assurance of due diligence, and meet obligations with Transport Canada. These audits not only independently assess tenant operations but also provide us with critical relationship-building opportunities. Over forty tenants and several YVR Airport Authority departments have been involved in the program. One participant inquired about the process of choosing tenants, to which Brenden responded that audits are decided on a risk-based approach and a cyclical basis of four years. A few categories are considered during audits, such as fuel tanks, hazardous materials management, waste, emergency spill response, water pollution control, halocarbons, and contaminated sites management.

In 2022, twelve audits were completed with mostly tenants that handle jet fuel. Audits saw positive results with no high-risk findings and the number of findings decreased by 20%, with some cases by over 40%. Overall, tenants have made great improvements over the auditing cycles, proving that changes to audits are taking an effect. It was noted that the COVID-19 pandemic still posed considerable difficulties to the tenants, causing the loss of key staff and/or continuous onboarding of new employees. Staffing challenges have been identified as the root cause of spill incidents, hence, ENV is committed to increasing oversight and education around spill preparedness for our business partners.

5. Update on Development Projects at YVR

Simon Robinson provided the committee with a high-level summary of new, active, and completed development projects. Two new development projects were highlighted; the 2023 South Airfield Improvements; and Canada Post Expansion. Both projects will be undergoing impact assessment review in early 2023.

South Airfield Improvement Project

Dave Schneider from Airside Operations presented on the South Airfield Improvement project. The project consists of several related work areas primarily consisting of pavement rehabilitation and airfield lighting upgrades. The projects include Taxiway Lima full-length overlay, pavement rehabilitation on Taxiways Lima 2 and Lima 4, and Delta 3, extension of Taxiway Alpha and airfield lighting upgrades. Work will take place between April and November. Dave explained the purpose of the project is to enhance safety, optimize operations, extend life of airfield assets, and prepare for 2024 rehabilitation work. A map outlining the project locations was shown to the participants while Dave listed the work that will occur in each targeted area. During the construction there will be changes to runway and taxiway operations.

Canada Post Expansion Project

Allison Rogers and Zia Rahimi-Motem from Canada Post presented on the proposed Canada Post Expansion Project. The existing Canada Post Pacific Processing Center (PPC) has been operational since 2014. The project aims to build a new plant adjacent to the PPC to assist with growing demands, capacity, and service improvements. The new building will be designed to be highly energy efficient and will target net zero energy as well as green building standards. Two

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questions were asked about the project's timeline, to which a high-level estimation was provided. The project is currently in early planning stage will be going through the Impact Assessment Act review soon. The design and preloading phase is expected to begin at the end of 2023, building construction will be in 2025 and will continue through 2027.

Vancouver Airport Fuel Delivery Project

Mark McCaskill updated the committee on the Vancouver Airport Fuel Delivery Project. The project is an aviation fuel delivery system, which includes a marine terminal, fuel receiving facility, and an underground pipeline. The project is being constructed to serve the long-term fuel demands of the airlines and airport while meeting high safety and reliability standards. Mark provided details of the safety features of the project, such as fuel transfer procedures, spill response, spill prevention, emission control, fire suppression, and operational procedures. The project has been under construction for 5 years and is nearing completion. Commissioning will occur in Q1 and Q2 of 2023 and Q3 will see the first fuel shipments and commencement of operations. One attendee asked if the potential additional risks of the new fuel delivery process were included in the environmental review process, which Mark confirmed they were and that environmental risks have been thoroughly assessed and mitigated. Another participant inquired about the type of fuel accepted in the pipeline, and whether Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) has also been considered. Mark explained that only JET A-1 fuel has been planned in the system, and future inclusion of SAFs would require technical, but feasible, changes to the facilities, as well as potentially requiring an environmental assessment.

6. Round Table and Discussion

Babak Behnia notified the committee that the new City of Richmond Citizen Representative has been selected and will join the next EAC meeting. Babak also provided an update on changes recently made to the Citizen Representative nomination process.

ENV is currently working on a summer tour for the committee. There has also been one change of date in the 2023 meeting schedule from October 20th to October 12th.

7. New / Other business

None

8. Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, May 5th from 1 PM to 4 PM

Summer Tour - TBD

Thursday, October 12th from 1 PM to 4 PM

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Action Items:

None

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, May 4th, 2023, at 1 p.m.