

MEETING MINUTES



Beyond, Every Day.

Environmental Advisory Committee

Meeting Date:	May 5, 2022	Meeting Time:	1:00 – 3:00 PM
Location:	Microsoft Teams	Prepared by:	Wendy Avis
In Attendance:	Marion Town Wendy Avis Jennifer Aldcroft Myrka Manzo Kevin Eng Babak Behnia Floyd Yamamoto Alena Straka Bijan Pourkarimi Rene McKibbon Teresa Fresco Judy Williams Shelina Sidi Eddie Uyeda	YVR, Climate and Environment – Chair YVR, Climate and Environment YVR, Climate and Environment Air Canada City of Richmond City of Richmond Citizen Representative, Richmond City of Vancouver Citizen Representative, Vancouver Canadian Wildlife Service (ECCC) Fraser Basin Council Fraser River Coalition Metro Vancouver Transport Canada	
Guests/Presenters:	Simon Robinson	YVR, Climate and Environment	
Regrets:	Richard Holt June Ryder Mary Point Morgan Guerin	Environment and Climate Change Canada Nature Vancouver Musqueam – YVR Musqueam Indian Band	
Secretary:	Wendy Avis	YVR, Climate and Environment	

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Discussion:

1. **Introductions & Welcome**

Marion Town welcomed the committee and shared some tips for good online meetings. Marion 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. Participants introduced themselves and their organization. New committee members – Babak Behnia from the City of Richmond and Bijan Pourkarimi, citizen rep from the City of Vancouver - were welcomed. Marion ran through the meeting agenda and encouraged participants to share their comments or questions during the meeting.

2. **Review of previous minutes**

No comments or questions were raised regarding the draft meeting minutes from the May 5, 2022 meeting, so they will be posted at yvr.ca.

3. **Airport Authority Updates**

Marion presented information on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on passenger activity showing that passenger numbers have been in sync with vaccination rates, with the exception of the omicron outbreak. In total, 2.8 million passengers have passed through YVR this year, as of March. This is 342% higher than last year, but 54% less than 2019. YVR is expecting a very busy summer, with passenger numbers increasing to 60,000 per day by end of June.

YVR's [Annual and Sustainability Report \(ASR\) and Financial Statements](#) and the [Annual Noise Management Report](#) the are now publicly available and will be presented at the Annual Public Meeting will be on May 9; a recording of the meeting will be available at yvr.ca/apm.

4. **2021 Environmental Results**

Wendy Avis and Jennifer Aldcroft presented the results from 2021 against YVR's Environmental Management Plan. YVR remains carbon neutral and emissions in 2021 were 11% below 2020 levels. However, this reduction was due to changes in the Government of BC's methodology for calculating the emissions factor for electricity and not from reduced energy use. Potable water use increased by 18% over 2020 and waste production decreased by 14% with a diversion rate of 48%. YVR successfully renewed its Salmon-Safe certification, completed over 90 project reviews, 80 construction site visits and 11 environmental audits. Water quality monitoring is a cornerstone of the airports' approach to environmental protection and stewardship and as one of the measures of that are tracked, acted and reported upon we noted that there were 2 incidents of water samples with glycol readings over 100 mg/L. Information on the 2021 noise concerns was also provided, showing a 27% decrease in number of concerns with a 7% increase in number of individuals who expressed concern, 94% of which were submitted by 3 individuals.

5. **Salmon-Safe Re-certification**

Wendy Avis and Theresa Fresco shared that YVR has been recertified Salmon-Safe for another five years! A [public announcement](#) was made on Earth Day (April 22nd) with [a video](#) made in collaboration with YVR, Musqueam and the Fraser Basin Council. The recertification comes with eight new conditions including enhancing stormwater management, additional water quality testing, update of the Integrated Pest Management Plan, continuous improvement of water conservation and riparian

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habitat enhancement. The renewal assessment also marks the first time that indigenous ways of knowing have been incorporated into a re-certification process which has led to a deeper understanding of the ecosystem of Sea Island, a strengthening of the friendship between YVR and the Musqueam community which will be carried forward throughout the work over the next 5 years.

6. Update on Development Projects at YVR

Simon Robinson provided a summary of the new, active, and completed development projects at YVR. New projects include the Seair Hangar Door Replacement and the Cargo Carrier Road (both posted on the Impact Assessment Registry), the development of a new cargo warehouse, Phase 2 of the Air Canada parking lot and repairs to the north Runway and taxiway pavements. Active Airport Authority projects include CORE, the North Runway Emergency Safety Area (RESA), the South Field Electrical Centre, the Floodbox E replacement, the Templeton Development (including the opening of the park on May 17th) and the Ferguson Road Realignment and tenant projects underway include FedEx parking lot and the VAFFC truck offloading roadwork.

The City of Richmond offered assistance with connecting to the community about the opening of the park at Templeton and also requested a long-term overview of the Ferguson Road re-alignment project including timing, potential development and engagement with stakeholders and partners. Simon will arrange a meeting with City of Richmond EAC representatives and noted that the goal is to open the new road by the end of 2023.

Simon also noted that the proposed [Land Use Plan Amendment](#), which was presented to the EAC at the May, 2021 meeting, was approved by the Minister of Transport on February 28, 2022. These changes, resulting from the impact of the pandemic and in response to our Strategic Plan objectives, include deferral of a third parallel runway, airside development at Airport South, repurposing of runway 13-31 and cargo and logistics development on the Northlands. This brings the total area of greenfield land available to approximately 400 acres, however, it was noted that this is first step in the process of development which will include ongoing planning and business case development (including environmental assessment) and working closely with Musqueam, stakeholders and the community.

7. Air Canada's Net Zero Emissions Goal

Myrka Manzo provided information on Air Canada's goal to achieve net zero emissions from all Air Canada operations by 2050, with milestone targets for 2030 of 20% reduction from flight operations and 30% reduction from ground operations over 2019 levels. Initiatives include the development of new aircraft technologies, increasing the use of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), investing in carbon offsets and carbon negative technologies, electrifying ground support equipment and sourcing renewable energy for their facilities.

8. Industry Collaboration and Current Issues

Marion noted that YVR contributed to a report recently released by Deloitte Canada called [Reaching cruising altitude: a plan for scaling sustainable aviation fuel in Canada](#), that states that Canada must take immediate action to decarbonize its economy, including the use of SAF in aviation, if it is to reach its net-zero carbon goal by 2050 and lays out pathways to achieve this.

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9. Round Table and Discussion

Work continues Canada's Action Plan to Reduce GHGs from Aviation, led out of Transport Canada with ECCC participation, including developing an inventory of emissions from aviation, forecasting growth and determining reduction opportunities.

10. New / Other business

- None.

11. Upcoming Meetings

- Summer Tour – deferred
- Thursday, October 20, 2022, from 1PM to 4PM

Action Items:

- Simon Robinson to follow up with City of Richmond about the Ferguson Road realignment project.

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 1 p.m.