

# MEETING MINUTES



Beyond, Every Day.

## Environmental Advisory Committee

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	January 29, 2019	<b>Meeting Time:</b>	1:00 PM
<b>Location:</b>	Link Boardroom 1	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Tegan Gallilee-Lang
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Marion Town Wendy Avis Kevin Eng Haylea Hoikka Shirin Kalyan Elaine Xu Richard Holt  Theresa Fresco Cristofor Ursache Eddie Uyeda	YVR, Environment – Chair YVR, Environment City of Richmond City of Vancouver Citizen Representative, Vancouver World Duty Free Environment and Climate Change Canada Fraser Basin Council MTU Maintenance Ltd. Transport Canada	
<b>Guests/Presenters:</b>	Shaye Folk-Blagbrough Amanda Chow Brenden McBain Myriame Gabay Simon Robinson	YVR, Environment YVR, Environment YVR, Environment YVR, Environment YVR, Environment	
<b>Regrets:</b>	Jacquelyn Kankam Courtney Albert Jason Hwang Judy Williams Laurie Bates-Frymel Morgan Guerin June Ryder	Air Canada Canadian Wildlife Services Fisheries and Oceans Canada Fraser River Coalition Metro Vancouver Musqueam Indian Band Nature Vancouver	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Tegan Gallilee-Lang	YVR, Environment	

Discussion:

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

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Marion Town welcomed the committee.

## 2. **Review Minutes from October 24, 2018**

Marion Town asked the committee if there were any comments or questions on the draft meeting minutes from the October 24, 2018 meeting. It was noted that few members that were present at the last meeting were also present at the current meeting. It was decided that a reminder would be sent out to those attending the last meeting to review the minutes. If none, the minutes will be adopted as final and will be posted on the YVR website ([www.yvr.ca](http://www.yvr.ca)).

## 3. **Environmental Advisory Committee Structure**

Marion Town presented the structure of the environmental advisory committee (EAC), including a summary of each member relationship.

## 4. **Fraser Basin Council – Salmon-Safe Program**

Theresa Fresco presented an overview of the Salmon-Safe Program. Salmon-Safe's core concepts highlight the connection between human and salmon habitats. Salmon-Safe is an independent, non-profit eco-label that started in the United States and came to BC in 2010. The Fraser Basin Council is now the sole organization delivering the Salmon-Safe program in BC. There are several certification programs under Salmon-Safe; YVR falls under infrastructure certification. Two projects in Vancouver recently won the 2018 Salmon-Safe BC Design Competition for Urban Development, which provided them with grants towards acquiring their Salmon-Safe Certification.

Marion Town characterized YVR's experience with Salmon-Safe certification as challenging but rewarding. Through pursuing certification, connections between different operations were forged within YVR and new opportunities for environmental management were identified.

## 5. **Environmental Management Plan – 2019 Projects**

The YVR environment team presented projects under the Environmental Management Plan that they are pursuing in 2019.

### **Waste Management**

Shaye Folk-Blagbrough presented 2019 waste management initiatives. In 2019, YVR is building a new staffed centralized waste station in the Domestic Terminal Building pre-security food court to support improvements in waste diverted from landfill and provide heightened customer service. YVR will also pilot three artificial intelligence (AI) waste bins in the terminal buildings. These public bins will undergo a pilot period of data collection and will eventually be able to identify individual waste items and inform people how to sort their waste. The committee inquired about the analytic capabilities of these stations. Shaye responded that the AI stations will be able to tell YVR about the composition of waste being deposited.

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The committee inquired about how liquid waste was treated at YVR. Shaye replied that managing liquid waste, which can be heavy, is supported by introducing more liquid waste diversion areas, including at drains and bins at security areas and sinks at the new waste sortation stations. She noted that the AI stations will ask people to sort their liquids into the organics waste stream.

The committee asked if YVR had any initiatives targeting plastic waste. Shaye replied that YVR introduced a “Skip the Straw” program in 2018, has banned Styrofoam from food and beverage outlets, is supporting tenants to replace food and beverage plastic products with compostable ones, exploring ways to replace plastics in vending machines, and working to replace plastic bags. Because heavier items are being sold in duty-free areas, strong bags are essential.

The committee inquired about diversion of food waste to Surrey’s biofuel facility. Shaye replied that YVR has contractual obligations with a waste hauler that currently has other disposal arrangements for compostable waste.

The committee asked whether YVR had achieved its 50% waste diversion goal. Marion Town replied that it had, and that the goal had been achieved ahead of schedule, continued over a few years and had continued despite significant growth in passengers.

## **Water Conservation**

Amanda Chow presented planned 2019 water conservation initiatives. In 2019, YVR will continue upgrading water fixtures, specifically those that weren’t upgraded in 2018.

The committee asked whether water conservation was the only motivation for urinal retrofits. Amanda responded that water conservation was the main motivation but that tenants that had undertaken urinal retrofits also observed cost savings. YVR will continue administering water audits for tenants on Sea Island to identify water conservation opportunities in 2019. YVR is exploring uses for non-potable water and is looking to pick a project in this area in 2019.

## **Tenant Engagement**

Wendy Avis presented 2019 tenant engagement initiatives that aim to reduce their environmental footprint. In 2019, YVR will continue to provide tenants with the tools to map and reduce their emissions through training and advisors YVR has contracted with Climate Smart. The 2018 Climate Smart YVR supported cohort was comprised of 16 Sea Island businesses. In 2019, YVR is targeting more new businesses and will hold training in April and May. A total of 41 businesses from Sea Island have participated in Climate Smart at YVR since 2015.

YVR will also be exploring ways to increase ground power unit (GPU) and pre-conditioned air (PCA) equipment usage for planes docked at YVR. Usage of this equipment allows planes to turn off their auxiliary power units (APUs), which reduces GHG emissions, improves air quality, and saves on jet fuel. In 2018, YVR installed PCA units at six gates. In 2019, YVR will install two PCA units at the two remaining gates able to accommodate the equipment, resulting in 100% of Vancouver’s gates equipped.

## **Ecosystem Health**

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Wendy Avis summarized the Ecosystem Health initiatives YVR is exploring in 2019. These include continued work on habitat improvements, stormwater management plan modelling, and invasive species management.

The committee inquired as to the nature of stormwater management plan modelling. Marion Town replied that perhaps the next environmental advisory committee meeting could include a presentation about stormwater management plan modelling.

## 6. 2018 Environmental Audit Program Results

Brenden McBain presented the 2018 Environmental Audit Program results, noting that audits at YVR are conducted for a variety of reasons, including reducing risk, meeting YVR sustainability goals as well as to ensure compliance with regulatory standards. Tenants are chosen to be audited based on a risk-based points system that YVR has developed, with higher risk operations audited at least every three years. In 2018, YVR developed educational Spill Response posters that were distributed to tenants. Audit results are reported each year in the Annual Sustainability Report. Results from 2018 tenant audits indicate that improvement of signage, storage, and tracking of disposal of hazardous materials are areas where educational material will be most helpful in 2019.

## 7. Contaminated Sites Management at YVR

Brenden McBain presented an overview of contaminated sites management at YVR. By definition, a contaminated site is a site where substances occur at concentrations above background or specified levels and pose or have the potential to pose an immediate or long-term hazard to human health or the environment. Following standard approaches, YVR conducts environmental site assessments as a means of managing the risk associated with contaminated sites. Environmental site assessments occur in three phases and are conducted at the beginning and end of a tenant lease by the landlord and tenant, respectively.

The committee asked if contamination spreads easily on sea island because of tidal movement. Brenden replied that because of our soil composition, typically contaminants on sea island stay in the same place.

The committee inquired about the fate of anti-freeze agents used on planes. Marion Town responded that glycol used in deicing aircraft is collected on location, stored and removed for treatment off-site and that glycol exceedances are reported annually.

## 8. Global Reporting Initiative Overview

Myriame Gabay presented an overview of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). The GRI is an independent international organization that helps businesses and governments worldwide understand and communicate their impacts. GRI Standards are global standards for sustainability reporting, representing the global best practice for reporting on a range of economic environmental and social impacts. One benefit of reporting using GRI is that results are directly comparable between organizations. YVR's 2018 GRI Report will launch April 26<sup>th</sup> and follows GRI standards. It includes 17 impacts, each having a detailed management approach including plans, initiatives, programs and policies.

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The committee asked if the topics are broad and when new topics are selected. Myriame replied that the topics for GRI reporting are overarching. They are reviewed on a small scale every year and on a larger scale every 3-4 years.

## 9. Update on Construction Projects at YVR

Simon Robinson provided a detailed update on completed, active, and planned construction projects.

- Completed: Multi-Use Pathway, EV Charging Stations, Building Energy Retrofits
- Active: CORE Program, West Deicing Pad, Pier D Expansion, Remote Stand Operations, RESA, Designer Outlet Centre expansion
- Planned: Templeton Redevelopment, EV Charging Stations, South and SICA Dyke Upgrades, Sea Air Dock Replacement

Following this summary, a committee member inquired as to whether deicing was automated. Simon replied that at YVR the airlines have coordinated application through a single provider using a manual system to apply fluid depending on conditions. The current deicing expansion project's design includes a liner under the pavement of the pad, to support collection and removal to a glycol containment lagoon that EAC members visited on a tour in 2018.

The committee asked if construction projects are required to reuse materials. Simon replied that every construction plan must have a waste diversion plan and that most reusable material is asphalt, concrete, or wood. Marion Town noted that YVR has one of the best construction recycling rates in the Province, averaging between 97 to 98 per cent over the last several years.

The committee inquired as to whether there is a pricing system in place for YVR's charging stations. Amanda Chow replied that there are no added charges to plug in at present. The committee inquired whether there are electric vehicle charging stations in place for employee parking lots, because some tenant employees own electric vehicles and park in the Templeton employee lot. Amanda replied that there are employee charging stations in 2 locations and that the installation of charging stations in the Templeton lot is on the horizon.

Simon presented the Pier D expansion project. The expansion will open in 2020 and will introduce an expanded terminal with 8 new wide body gates. The new building will continue with YVR's well-known sense of place: a quiet terminal, First Nations and other art, and plenty of gate seating.

Amanda presented the newly constructed multi-use pathway. The new pathway was created and paved in 2018 and extends from Flight Path Park to BCIT along Cessna Drive. Painted lines were recently added to the pathway, and a crosswalk button was installed at Cessna Drive and Russ Baker Way. The pathway will soon get a new seal that will cover some equipment damage recently done to the path.

The committee inquired whether there was a greenway underneath the SkyTrain, as there are in other parts of Metro Vancouver. Marion replied that there are several parallel cycling routes to the terminal, but there is not one under the Canada Line.

## 10. Update VAFFC

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Marion Town provided an update on the VAFFC project and noted that the status has not changed since the last update. While the full environmental assessment has been approved, a minor landscaping issue associated with a permit is awaiting approval by the City of Richmond.

## 11. Other Business

Marion Town informed the committee that in November and December, due to a shortage of natural gas, YVR switched from natural gas to diesel as fuel for heating the terminal. This was unavoidable on the part of YVR though its contract with Fortis and as a fuel source has a larger greenhouse gas emissions footprint.

Marion opened the table for other discussion items. The committee brought to attention a recent air quality study done by McGill at YUL. Marion mentioned that YVR benefits from a permanent Metro Vancouver air quality monitoring station on Sea Island and noted that YVR may soon have results from a Transport Canada temporary mobile unit.

The committee inquired about programs YVR administers to encourage sustainability among Sea Island tenants. Marion replied that many programs exist, some under Project Green YVR, including incentives to become Climate Smart members, retrofit water fixtures, and support conversion to electric vehicles airside. The committee inquired about implementing incentives for electric airplanes. Marion replied that concepts like that would be considered this year in developing the next Environmental Management Plan.

### *Action:*

- 1. Circulate the CityNews AI Waste Bin Video*
- 2. Circulate the 2019-2023 Noise Management Plan when it is complete and accepted by Transport Canada.*

**Next Meeting Date: May 30, 2019**