

MEETING MINUTES



Beyond, Every Day.

Environmental Advisory Committee

Meeting Date:	January 20, 2022	Meeting Time:	1:00 – 3:00 PM
Location:	Microsoft Teams	Prepared by:	Wendy Avis
In Attendance:	Marion Town Wendy Avis Jennifer Aldcroft Hayley Lai Kevin Eng Floyd Yamamoto Tami Gill Richard Holt Rene McKibbon Teresa Fresco Shelina Sidi Mary Point Morgan Guerin Eddie Uyeda	YVR, Climate and Environment – Chair YVR, Climate and Environment YVR, Climate and Environment YVR, Climate and Environment City of Richmond Citizen Representative, Richmond City of Vancouver Environment and Climate Change Canada Canadian Wildlife Service (ECCC) Fraser Basin Council Metro Vancouver Musqueam – YVR Musqueam Indian Band Transport Canada	
Guests/Presenters:	Amanda Chow Brenden McBain Simon Robinson	YVR, Climate and Environment YVR, Climate and Environment YVR, Climate and Environment	
Regrets:	Myrka Manzo Shirin Kalyan Patrick Gosselin July Williams June Ryder	Air Canada Citizen Representative, Vancouver Fairmont Hotel Vancouver Airport Fraser River Coalition Nature Vancouver	
Secretary:	Hayley Lai	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. 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 October 21, 2021 meeting, so they will be posted at yvr.ca in English and French.

3. **Airport Authority Updates**

Marion presented information on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on passenger activity and YVR operations, including passenger count on a yearly and monthly basis and the testing facilities set up in the Terminal. In response to a question about impacts of passenger numbers on YVR's revenue and environment staffing, Marion indicated that as traffic improved over 2020 and YVR has developed a post-pandemic strategy with financial sustainability and safe travel as critical cornerstones, and that key areas of the organisation, including the Climate and Environment department have staff levels increase from previous reductions.

Mike McNaney has joined YVR as VP and Chief External Affairs Officer, bringing industry experience which will be important for YVR's strategy. It was noted that there have been some staffing changes in the ENV department with the departure of Shaye Folk-Blagbrough, and changes to make Amanda Chow a Senior Environmental Specialist, Oge Moss an Environmental Analyst and Jack Liu returning as an Environmental Analyst for construction monitoring.

Marion presented the [2022-2024 Strategic Plan](#), which focuses on six themes (Staying Ahead of COVID, Strengthening the Core, Purpose Through People, Financial Sustainability, Climate, and Gateway to the New Economy) through four lenses (digital, climate, reconciliation, and financial sustainability).

4. **2021 Environmental Initiatives – Updates**

Amanda Chow spoke to three paper reduction goals and targets YVR set in 2021, one of which focused on reducing Airport Authority printing activity and two which focused on reducing paper used by our partners in the terminal including boarding passes receipt length from BorderXpress. The Airport Authority was pleased to see our printing reduce by 42% from 2020 and to forge strong and positive waste reducing relationships with our terminal partners through the initiatives.

Amanda also recapped 2021 Project Green YVR (PGYVR) activities including EnergyWise @YVR, EnviroWise @YVR, the PGYVR Annual Summit, Green Excellence Awards, and YVR Green Partners. When asked how Project Green initiatives fit into other initiatives at YVR, an example was provided whereby tenants were supported through PGYVR to become more sustainable through water fixture retrofit projects that would also advance YVR's water consumption reduction goals and reduce water consumption on Sea Island. ENV is always seeking to reach out to tenants to support them in their efforts to reduce their environmental footprints.

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5. **2021 Environmental Auditing Program Results**

Brenden McBain provided an overview of the audit program and audits done in 2021. Using a risk-based approach to determine when tenants should undergo an audit, parameters include assessing the size of operation, use of hazardous materials and proximity to sensitive ecosystems, most tenants are audited every four years. In 2021, audits were completed for eight tenants as well as YVR's back-up generators and fuel systems and no major issues were found, despite some tenants facing staffing challenges. Once findings are identified, ENV works with tenants and provides any relevant support materials, such as spill management and hazardous waste management posters, to help address the issues. The program provides a valuable opportunity for YVR to engage tenants, ensures good oversight of operations, and information is shared with the Board of Directors.

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 a path along Ferguson Road to enable pedestrians to travel off the road shoulder and the North Runway End Safety Area SA. Active Airport Authority projects include CORE, the South Field Electrical Centre, the Templeton Development and the Ferguson Road Realignment and tenant projects underway include FedEx parking lot and the VAFFC truck offloading roadwork. Planning for the Flood Box E replacement and Ferguson Road Realignment is underway with, construction likely starting in late Spring. The federal Impact Assessment Registry was updated for the Floodbox E project to add Transport Canada as they are now providing funding to the project.

It was noted that water levels at the airport were very high during the rain events of November, with erosion observed north of airport lands at the causeway road leading to Iona Island. YVR infrastructure remained in relatively good shape during these critical events. YVR received funding from Transport Canada to gather baseline data that will support our stormwater management to reflect climate risks. Any new regionally significant climate information from committee members is welcome.

7. **Environmental Management Plan (EMP) – 2022 Planning**

Jennifer Aldcroft and Wendy Avis gave a summary of 2022 EMP plans. Under carbon, the focus is on implementing the roadmap to net zero, the introduction of renewable fuels in 2023, energy efficiency projects including lighting upgrades in the Terminal, maintaining our carbon neutral status, supporting Sustainable Aviation Fuel, implementing the APU shutdown procedure and looking at electrification of Ground Support Equipment. Environment and Climate Change Canada requested a bit more information offline on our APU shut down procedure.

2022 should see the return of many of the waste and recycling initiatives put on hold during the pandemic such as the on-site composter and chopstick recycling program. New initiatives to be launched include paper towel diversion to compost from washrooms, additional centralized waste sortation stations, and water bottle filling stations. YVR also aims to complete their Salmon-Safe recertification in 2022.

8. **Industry Collaboration and Current Issues**

Marion noted that YVR continues to work on getting SAF into use at YVR and within BC, and on supporting value chains within BC and Western Canada. The BC Government is looking to include SAF in low carbon fuel standards. NAV Canada is working on their Vancouver Airspace Modernization project with more information coming this fall.

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9. Round Table and Discussion

Canada's Action Plan to Reduce GHGs from Aviation, led out of Transport Canada with ECCC participation, is under development in advance of the International Civil Aviation Organizations (ICAO) assembly in 2022. The government has initiated discussion with the aviation industry on renewing the voluntary action plan in alignment with a goal of net zero by 2050. Work at ECCC includes developing a model to better understand sources of emissions in aviation and the impact of fuel quality on emissions, including the non-CO2 impacts of aviation.

10. New / Other business

- None.

11. Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, May 5, 2022 from 1PM to 4PM
- Summer Tour – TBD
- Thursday, October 20, 2022 from 1PM to 4PM

Action Items:

- Wendy Avis to provide more information to Richard Holt on YVR's APU Shutdown Procedure.

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 1 p.m.