

## My Upcoming Meetings

### Mayors' Council on Transportation

Thursday, April 25, 2019

### Metro Vancouver Board

Friday, April 26, 2019

### Electoral Area Committee

Wednesday, May 1, 2019



Metro Vancouver Board and Committee Agendas & Minutes

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/search/>

## By-election Update

Following the resignation of the Electoral Area A Director on February 13, 2019, a by-election will be held to fill the vacancy. General Voting Day is Saturday, June 15, 2019. There will also be two advance voting opportunities, on Wednesday, June 5, 2019 and Saturday, June 8, 2019.

Metro Vancouver has set up a dedicated [Elections webpage](#) for all relevant information related to the election, including contact information in case residents or potential candidates have questions. The webpage will be updated throughout the election process.

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/boards/elections/voting/>

## Unflushables Campaign

On April 1, Metro Vancouver launched its third annual Unflushables campaign, which reminds residents not to flush wipes and other items like hair, floss and tampons down their toilets, because they can clog the sewer system and damage pumping equipment. This year's campaign focuses on wipe products, which are often misleadingly marketed as 'flushable.'



Initial findings from tests at Ryerson University found that only 11 of 101 products met the 'flushable' specifications developed by the International Water Services Flushability Group (IWSFG) – and all of those were normal toilet paper.

Every wipe brand tested failed the flushability or disintegration test, as the wipes remained intact even after 30 minutes inside a 'slosh box,' which means they are likely to cause clogs at homes or throughout the wastewater system, including pumps, pipes and other infrastructure. A limited number of products also showed they contained synthetic fibres that could result in the release of microplastics into the ocean.

The Ryerson findings support efforts by the Municipal Enforcement Sewer Use Group (MESUG) and the Canadian Water and Wastewater Association to establish a Canadian specification and/or a requirement for all products labelled as 'flushable.' Metro Vancouver contributed \$10,000 to the development of this specification and the testing by Ryerson University.

Besides wipes, Metro Vancouver's campaign highlights the damage other unflushables can cause to the sewer system. The worst offenders include dental floss, hair, paper towels, tampons and applicators, and condoms. Also on the list of unflushables are medications, which may end up in our environment. Medications should be returned to your local pharmacy for proper disposal through the provincial medications return program.

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/liquid-waste/preventing-problems-pipes/unflushables/>

## Regional Culture Grants

Metro Vancouver provides annual funding assistance to arts and culture organizations for regional projects. Regional culture grants support research, creation, production, dissemination, audience development, project staff and/or administrative capacity building, with a maximum award of \$10,000.

Completed applications must be submitted by 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 15, 2019.

The 2019 application form, project grant eligibility and selection criteria can be downloaded from Metro Vancouver's website.

Questions can be directed by email to Sarah Faucher at [sarah.faucher@metrovancouver.org](mailto:sarah.faucher@metrovancouver.org) or 604-456-8828.

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/cultural-grants>

## Night Quest 2019 Review



On Saturday, March 23, Metro Vancouver hosted Night Quest in partnership with the Pacific Spirit Park Society.

A record-breaking 4,000 visitors attended this year's event in Pacific Spirit Regional Park, exploring two kilometres of lantern-lit trails where park interpreters shared stories, performances, exhibits and activities all about the lives of resident nocturnal animals such as squirrels, skunks and salamanders.

Other activities included storytelling, face painting and roasting marshmallows at the campfire. There was a full lineup of guest exhibitors including the Musqueam Indian Band, Stanley Park Ecology Society, Nature Vancouver, UBC Astronomy Club and others.

If you or your family missed it this time, be sure to catch the next Night Quest, in spring 2020.

### Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation

On April 9, 2019, The Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation, in partnership with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, called for a permanent, predictable, direct federal funding mechanism for modern public transit across Canada. This fund would guarantee Metro Vancouver the transportation funding needed for urgent congestion-fighting transit and road investments.

The Council calls on the federal government to help accelerate completion of the region's current transportation plan, the 10-Year Vision, so the next phase of projects can start being defined in the 30-year Regional Transportation Strategy.

You can learn more about the Council's position and [2019 Federal Election Platform](#) at the links below.

<https://www.curecongestion.ca/>

<https://www.curecongestion.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Cure-Congestion-2019-Federal-Election-Platform.pdf>

### Events

#### **Sustainability Community Breakfast - Managing Invasive Species in the Region**

**April 17, 2019 - BCIT downtown campus, Vancouver**

Get a jump start on May – officially Invasive Species Action Month in British Columbia. Hear about the Metro Vancouver Regional Parks invasive species management program, and how Metro Vancouver is supporting municipalities, including developing best management practices for 11 priority invasive species with the Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver. <http://www.metrovancouver.org/events/community-breakfasts/>

#### **Wednesday Wanderings: Bog Wonders**

**May 1, 2019 – Pacific Spirit Regional Park**

Learn about the unique plant species that thrive in the acid-rich and nutrient-poor bog habitat that would kill most other plants. Discover secrets of this ecologically sensitive wetland.

Ages 19+ \$3 per person, registration with barcode 7629 at <http://www.metrovancouveronline.org/>

**Nature Tot: Bug Out with Invertebrates****May 7, 2019 – Pacific Spirit Regional Park**

Become a nature explorer with your child and experience the wonder of nature together. Ages 3 - 5 (must be accompanied by an adult). \$4.50 per child. Register with barcode 7635 at <http://www.metrovancouveronline.org/>

**Metro Vancouver's Five Year Outlook – Greater Vancouver Board of Trade****Wednesday, May 22, 2019**

Join Metro Vancouver Board Chair Sav Dhaliwal for his inaugural address to the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade. Dhaliwal will outline Metro Vancouver's Five-Year Financial Outlook, including nearly \$5.5 billion worth of capital projects, and discuss key initiatives such as the Climate 2050 strategy and the Industrial Lands Task Force. [More info and registration.](https://www.boardoftrade.com/events/individual-events/1582-6418) <https://www.boardoftrade.com/events/individual-events/1582-6418>

**Media**

*Metro Vancouver Close Up* shows how municipalities and community groups are promoting sustainability and shared regional goals. New videos are posted each month. To see sustainability stories about Metro Vancouver, you can search "Metro Vancouver Close Up" at [metrovancover.org](http://metrovancover.org) or follow [metrovancoverblog.org](http://metrovancoverblog.org).

**For More Metro Vancouver News and Updates**

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/metroudate/>

**Links & Connections****Metro Vancouver**

[www.metrovancouver.org](http://www.metrovancouver.org)

**Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation**

[www.translink.ca/en/About-Us/Governance-and-Board/Mayors-Council.aspx](http://www.translink.ca/en/About-Us/Governance-and-Board/Mayors-Council.aspx)

**Union of BC Municipalities**

[www.ubcm.ca](http://www.ubcm.ca)

**University Neighbourhoods Association**

[www.myuna.ca](http://www.myuna.ca)

**University Endowment Lands Administration**

[www.universityendowmentlands.gov.bc.ca](http://www.universityendowmentlands.gov.bc.ca)

**UEL Community Advisory Council**

[www.uelcommunity.com](http://www.uelcommunity.com)

**Metro Vancouver Media Releases**

[www.metrovancouver.org/media-room](http://www.metrovancouver.org/media-room)

**Metro Vancouver Videos**

[www.metrovancouver.org/media-room/video-gallery](http://www.metrovancouver.org/media-room/video-gallery)

**@MetroVancouver Twitter**

[www.twitter.com/metrovancouver](http://www.twitter.com/metrovancouver)

**Metro Vancouver Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/metrovancouver](http://www.facebook.com/metrovancouver)