

## **COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE TO NOVEMBER 1, 2023 (8:30 a.m.)**

### **Correspondence**

- (1) 16 submissions, October 25-31, 2023, regarding Amendment to Animal Control and Licence Bylaw No. 4545, 2008 and Long-Term Dog Strategy in West Vancouver**
- (2) October 25, 2023, regarding “Eagle Creek Bridge Replacement”**
- (3) Tsleil-Waututh Nation, October 27, 2023, regarding “Invitation: Honouring Tsleil-Waututh Nation Veterans on Indigenous Veterans Day (Nov. 8th)”**
- (4) October 31, 2023, regarding “New Cell Tower Construction 2020 Bellevue Avenue”**
- (5) Committee and Board Meeting Minutes – Board of Variance hearing September 20, 2023; and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting September 27, 2023**

### **Correspondence from Other Governments and Government Agencies**

- (6) P. Weiler, M.P. (West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country), October 31, 2023, regarding “October 2023 MP Newsletter”**

### **Responses to Correspondence**

No items.

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2023 2:55 PM  
**To:** correspondence; Linda Watt; Sharon Thompson; Scott Snider; Peter Lambur; Nora Gambioli; Christine Cassidy; Mark Sager  
**Subject:** On Leash Dog Access in West Vancouver

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization from email address [REDACTED] s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Hello-

We are dog owners and support the motion to permit leashed dogs more access to various outdoor areas in West Vancouver as will be requested by fellow West Vancouver resident [REDACTED] s. 22(1) at your Oct 30th meeting. We share her frustration with being unable to walk our leashed dog in many areas of West Vancouver including the Seawall, Ambleside etc.

We have lived in the [REDACTED] s. 22(1) area since [REDACTED] s. 22(1) and reside at [REDACTED] s. 22(1), West Vancouver, [REDACTED] s. 22(1).

Best Regards

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2023 4:22 PM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Subject:** Concern re amending the bylaw to allow dogs on the main Centennial Dundarave Seawall

**Importance:** High

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Dear Mayor Sager and Councillors Watt, Cassidy, Gambioli, Lambur, Snider and Thompson,

Please do not amend "Animal Control and Licence Bylaw No. 4545, 2008" Schedule A to allow dogs on the Centennial Sea Walk. I'm deeply concerned an influx of dogs would prevent countless devoted regulars from enjoying the Seawall as they do now. Please don't mess with 50+ years of success!

The Dundarave Seawall is a unique gem in West Van. At peak times of day, and certainly when sunny or on weekends, it's bustling with people powerwalking, ambling with a coffee or a stroller, in a wheelchair, or jogging. This very popular recreation corridor is ostensibly that – a corridor. Most people are on the move. Passing people is part of navigating the space. I don't think it's wide enough to accommodate dogs, along with the noise, the tendency to congregate, and the potential altercations, that multiple dogs bring.

New developments and increased density continue to bring more people to the Northshore, and the Seawall. It's already been widened once, and is bound by 2 stone walls/the train tracks and the ocean. You must consider the capacity of that space.

It's such a pleasure to be on the Seawall without having to focus downwards to avoid dog poop or little green bags – an all-too-common fixture on the vast network of shared-use paths and greenspaces we're so lucky to have throughout the community. Too many dog owners aren't responsible and don't clean up after their pets.

Dog owners benefit from many, many dog-friendly spaces. The Dundarave Seawall is just one, finite stretch where people can move without the complication dogs bring to a recreation area. Yes, it does have rules - I can't ride my bike there, and someone else can't rollerblade there, and dogs have a special path just for them, but it functions fantastically for its current use.

The function, flow and appeal of our Centennial/Dundarave Seawall would be severely compromised should dogs be permitted on the main path. Please don't sacrifice what so many people love about the Seawall. I strongly urge you to leave the main part of the Centennial/Dundarave Seawall to people.

Thank you for your consideration,

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, s. 22(1)

PS. Could the dog path at Dundarave be improved somehow, to meet the preferences of dog owners who refuse to use it? Maybe making adjustments to the landscaping, groundcover and/or adding an additional barrier to keep dogs safe from the train tracks that concern some users? Or could lighting be improved at Ambleside, so all users feel comfortable there after sunset. Ambleside remains a great, nearby, dog-friendly alternative. What doesn't work is ignoring the increasing incursion of dogs onto the main part of the seawall. More dog-owners are disregarding the bylaw and it opens the door to conflict, or even confrontation, which no one wants on the Seawall.

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2023 9:38 AM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Subject:** Dogs on seawall

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Please vote to allow dogs on seawall but give stiff penalties for anyone not able to control their dogs or don't pick up poop!

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] s. 22(1) West Vancouver [REDACTED] s. 22(1)

Sent from my Galaxy



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2023 12:06 PM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Subject:** Motion To Allow Dog Access

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization from email address s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

This note is to advise the s. 22(1) family strongly supports the motion.

s. 22(1)

Sent from my mobile. Cheers!

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver BC

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 28, 2023 3:18 PM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Cc:** Linda Watt; Christine Cassidy; Scott Snider; ngamboli@westvancouver.ca; Sharon Thompson; Mark Sager; Peter Lambur  
**Subject:** Proposed amendments to West Vancouver Animal Control Bylaw 4545, 2008

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization from email address s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

I would like to express my strong support for the proposal by Councillors Watt and Cassidy to relax some of the restrictions on proximity to parks, beaches and playgrounds for dogs on leash. We've walked our dogs in West Vancouver for s. 22(1) years now and can attest that most dog owners are responsible and their pets are well behaved. I'm sure there are instances of bad behaviour by pets and their owners, but the same can be said for cyclists, skateboarders, rollerbladers and joggers. The majority are thoughtful and considerate as are the majority of dog owners and it's a shame that they can't enjoy walking along the waterfront with their pets or taking them to watch their children's soccer games.

I also strongly support the proposal to develop a long term strategy/plan to make West Vancouver a friendlier place for dogs and their owners, consistent with the protection and rights of all residents of the Municipality.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, BC

s. 22(1)

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 29, 2023 3:46 PM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Cc:** Linda Watt  
**Subject:** Proposed Dog Leash Bylaw. Monday October 30

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization from email address s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Mayor and Council,

I am a s. 22(1) resident of Horseshoe Bay and I am writing to express my support for villagers, neighbours and visitors being allowed to walk their pets on leash in the newly improved Horseshoe Bay Park.

Unfortunately there will always be some who will not abide by this bylaw but they should not be allowed to prevent the majority from enjoying this space with all members of their family.

Dogs can make a mess but I have to say the Canadian Geese win hands down!

Regards

s. 22(1)

p.s. perhaps in the near future you might consider dogs allowed on beaches during the winter months and before 9am in the summer.... Just a thought

Sent from my iPad--okeydokey

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 29, 2023 4:21 PM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Cc:** Linda Watt; Mark Sager; Christine Cassidy; Nora Gambioli; Peter Lambur; Scott Snider; Sharon Thompson  
**Subject:** For the official record: Support for Dogs at West Vancouver Parks

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organization from email address [REDACTED] s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Dear West Vancouver Mayor and Councillors,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for allowing dogs in certain West Vancouver parks, in particular, Horseshoe Bay. As a resident of this beautiful community, I believe that responsible dog owners should have the opportunity to enjoy our parks with their four-legged companions.

Dogs not only provide companionship and promote physical activity, but they are also an integral part of many families. Allowing well-behaved dogs in our parks can create a more inclusive and vibrant community, fostering a sense of togetherness and cooperation among residents.

I understand that concerns about safety and cleanliness need to be addressed, but many other communities have successfully implemented dog-friendly policies in their public spaces, and I believe we can do the same. By establishing clear guidelines, such as leash requirements, waste disposal regulations, and designated areas for dogs to play, we can ensure a harmonious coexistence of dogs and park-goers.

I kindly request that the West Vancouver Mayor and Council consider reviewing and revising the current regulations to accommodate responsible dog owners. By doing so, we can create a more welcoming and diverse park environment that benefits both people, and their pets.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to the possibility of enjoying our beautiful parks with my 'good dog' in the near future.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

**From:** M Slater <melroy1058@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 29, 2023 11:43 PM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Subject:** Dog bylaw.

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organization from email address melroy1058@gmail.com. Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Dear Mayor & Council,

I am not in favour of the proposal to allow leashed dogs access to some currently off-limit areas.

Visit the Centennial Sea Wall on any given day and you will find entitled dog owners flouting the current bylaws. On a recent mid-week walk I encountered two leashed dogs on the Centennial Sea Walk, an unleashed dog and a dog on an extended leash on the beach path in John Lawson Park, and a dog-poop bag left by the wayside. On my last week-end walk there were too many infractions to count.

We're not enforcing our bylaws as it is. I can only imagine how this will spiral further out of control if this proposal is passed. Dog licensing will not cover additional expenses (hiring extra bylaw officers, adding dog-waste bag dispensers, etc.). There won't be an increase in residents obtaining dog licenses; rather, it will literally be every man and their dog taking advantage of the expanded "dog friendly" areas. And by that, I mean the hordes of visitors who flock to our community and enjoy the amenities local taxpayers pay dearly to maintain. I see no benefit to residents, particularly the many who prefer not to dodge leashes and dog waste.

We already have a dedicated off-leash dog park and dog beach at Ambleside. And the "dog-fence" along the Centennial Sea wall is a marvelous bit of West Van ingenuity that has worked remarkably well for years. As the saying goes, *if it ain't broke, don't fix it!*

Sincerely,

Melinda Slater  
1058 Keith Road  
West Vancouver

Please do not redact.

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 9:24 AM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Subject:** No dogs on Seawalk

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organization from email address [REDACTED] s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Hello Mayor and Council. I wish to record my opposition to having dogs on the Seawalk. They can walk almost anywhere in the municipality, so let us keep that walk way free of dog poop, leashes and dogs which attack people. I have twice been bitten by dogs in unprovoked attacks. Many seniors walk on the seawalk, and do not wish to encounter leads and poop. I also object to dogs roaming around Dunderave Park, and we need larger signs there to remind people they are not allowed.

I live at [REDACTED] s. 22(1) West Van.

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 10:15 AM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Subject:** Please forward this letter to the Mayor and Council  
**Attachments:** Seawalk.pdf

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organization from email address [REDACTED] s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Please forward this letter to the Mayor and Council for reading at the upcoming meeting appropriate for addressing this issue.

Thank you,  
[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

October 29, 2023

The District of West Vancouver,  
750 - 17<sup>th</sup> Street, West Vancouver, B.C.,  
V7V 3T3, Canada

To The Honourable Mr. Mark Sager, Mayor, and The Honourable Council Members of  
The District of West Vancouver,

I wish to address a recent news article that appeared in the October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 issue of the North Shore News stating that Council would be revisiting the idea of allowing dogs to walk alongside their owners along the Centennial Seawalk.

I am against the modification of any bylaw that would either minimize or remove dog restrictions in the District of West Vancouver.

Back in 2010, when this issue was presented before Council, it was unpopular and rejected. West Vancouver residents did not wish any modifications to the existing dog bylaw that pertained to the Centennial Seawalk (hereinafter the "Seawalk"). I have enclosed a North Shore News poll from October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, that overwhelmingly shows this position has not changed.

Secondary concerns include the following:

- more dog feces along the asphalt,
- costly maintenance & repair of dog waste bins (if implemented)
- impeded traffic flow during peak usage periods
- retractable leash tripping hazards
- risk of illness or infection by exposure to dog saliva, particularly in seniors with weakened immune systems who may be unwillingly sniffed or licked by strangers' dogs

The primary concern, is the heightened likelihood of dog bites.

Dogs that are stressed by the presence of other passing dogs or people, could become aggressive and bite with little to no warning. At Ambleside Park, where dogs were initially not allowed throughout the park, but have since been allowed to roam on-leash in most places (and close to a children's playground), a 21-year-old man was walking his Doberman when it was attacked by another dog. While trying to save his Doberman, he was viciously attacked by the other dog, and required



hospital treatment (CTV News, Oct. 12, 2012). The size of the breed is not always indicative of how aggressive it can be.

There have been many cases on the North Shore of residents being bitten by dogs while they were “minding their own business”. Although, not all cases are reported, two such incidents happened fairly recently. One of them was on April 17, 2023, when a Rottweiler bit a 91-year-old man, after “the dog got away from the owner,” (North Shore News, April 26, 2023). The other reported incident happened on February 26, 2021, when a leashed dog managed to bite a North Vancouver woman, who was innocently walking on a path leading up to the entrance of her apartment building.

The Seawalk is connected by footbridge to John Lawson Park, a playground park where young children play, and dogs are not permitted. Families frequently take their children out on the Seawalk for a stroll if they're within the park's vicinity. It would not be wise, therefore, to allow leashed dogs at a nearby locality where children's safety could be at risk. Continuing to have the partitioned dog run along the Seawalk minimizes the risk of any unruly dogs harassing or hurting anyone.

The dog run is in the best of interest of dogs, too. The soft surface of the path is best for their paws and joints, and they're free to roam or run without the constraint of a leash. If dog owners do wish to accompany their dogs side by side, there are fourteen other parks and trails in West Vancouver that accommodate them, including Ambleside Park, Capilano Spirit Trail, Douglas Woodward Park, Lighthouse Park, and many others.

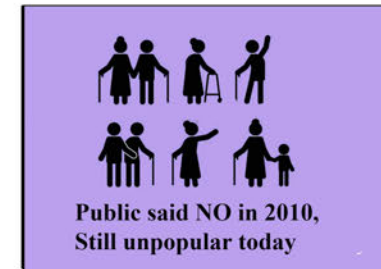
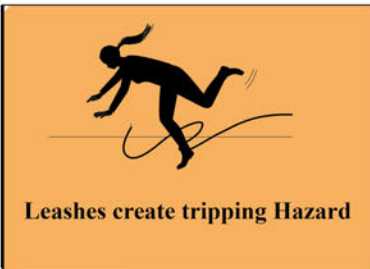
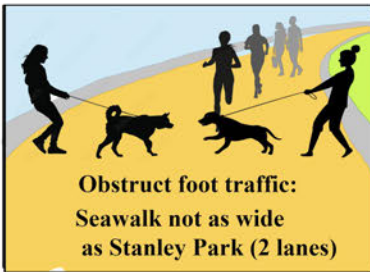
Furthermore, allowing dogs alongside their owners on the Seawalk could be regarded as exclusionary and controversial. For example, those on quicker-mode transport, including roller-bladers and e-scooters, could argue that they are less hazardous than dogs, since dogs are less predictable. Roller-bladers and e-scooter users would see any changes to the bylaw as unfair and discriminatory.

If all types of users were given the green light, the Seawalk would become an unpleasant atmosphere for walkers, joggers, and those with mobility issues.

The Centennial Seawalk has always been an attraction for residents of our community to enjoy, providing a safe, car-free environment for all ages, and is quintessential to our quality of life in West Vancouver. It is iconic in as many ways as it is beautiful. I kindly request that it remain that way.

Thank you for your consideration,  
*A West Vancouver life-long resident.*

## Hazards of Dogs on Seawalk



*Let's respect the wishes of our community*



## Poll Results

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### Should local governments loosen the leash on dog restrictions?

[View related story](#)

Yes 199 votes 25.09 %



No 594 votes 74.91 %



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Total votes: 793

Added: Oct 20, 2023 12:54 PM

[Vote >](#)

[View poll archives >](#)

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*The North Shore News poll is a sampling of public opinion intended solely to allow our readers to express themselves on issues of the day. Its findings may not be representative of the general population of North Shore or other areas.*

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 10:21 AM  
**To:** Mark Sager; Sharon Thompson; Peter Lambur; Linda Watt; Christine Cassidy; Nora Gambioli; Scott Snider; correspondence  
**Subject:** Support for Long Term Dog Strategy for DWV  
**Attachments:** 2023-10-30 Motion for Dogs in Parks DWV.pdf

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Mayor and Council,

Please find attached Support for Long Term Dog Strategy for DWV, for your consideration.

Thank you.

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

**October 30, 2023**

**ATTN: MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

RE: COUNCILLOR'S MOTION REGARDING AMENDMENT  
TO THE DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER ANIMAL  
CONTROL AND LICENCE BYLAW NO. 4545, 2008 AND  
LONG-TERM DOG STRATEGY IN WEST VANCOUVER

I support the motion to allow leashed dogs to be allowed in more areas of parks including along pathways in Horseshoe Bay Park and the Ambleside and Centennial Sea Walk and regarding development of a Long-Term Dog Strategy in West Vancouver.

I am passionate about West Vancouver. As an active community constituent, I look at ways to promote inclusion to make our community a better place to live. There have been many challenges over the past several years and being a responsible pet owner has helped many get through some tough times when isolation was required. Having a safe place to walk a dog, for example, in a community, provides many advantages.

West Vancouver is a place in which there are many beautiful parks for everyone to enjoy. The definition of the Parks & Recreation language that is included on the West Vancouver website – “Explore West Vancouver’s spectacular parks and trails, book a round of golf, find tennis and pickleball courts, visit a local recreation facility, and browse a variety of activities and services for all ages, abilities, and interests,” clearly references *a variety of activities and services for all ages, abilities, and interests*. “All” refers to everyone and suggests inclusivity, which then would include responsible dog owners with pets on a leash.

I encourage you to support inclusivity for responsible pet owners in our community.

SINCERELY,

s. 22(1)

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 12:01 PM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Cc:** Linda Watt  
**Subject:** Dogs on walkways

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To whom it may concern,

As a concerned member of our Horseshoe Bay and West Vancouver community, I would like to provide my support for the motion to allow dogs on walkways in Horseshoe Bay Park and the Aambilside/Dundrave Seawall. Local parks and walkways serve as communal spaces where individuals can relax, exercise, and connect with nature. Denying responsible dog owners the right to walk their dogs on leashes in these areas deprives them of an essential recreational activity. Dogs, much like humans, benefit immensely from the stimulation and exercise these spaces provide. Furthermore, walking dogs on leashes ensures public safety and minimizes disruptions. Responsible dog owners understand the importance of cleaning up after their pets and ensuring they do not disturb others. By allowing leashed dogs, we foster inclusivity, promote well-being for both humans and pets, and strengthen community bonds.

Thank you,

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 1:26 PM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Subject:** Motion to permit dogs on leash on Seawall  
**Attachments:** favicon.ico

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Dear Mayor and Council,

I believe there is a motion on tonight's agenda, viz: **11. Councillor's Motion regarding Amendment to the District of West Vancouver Animal Control and Licence Bylaw No. 4545, 2008 and Long-Term Dog Strategy in West Vancouver** (File: 2150-01)

Although I'm not passionately for or against the idea of leashed dogs being allowed on the Centennial Sea Walk, I'd be happy to see well trained, short-leashed dogs permitted on the sea walk as long as there are strict guidelines in place regarding unruly dogs/owners, and tough sanctions regarding the inevitable "oops" of dog poop left unscooped.

s. 22(1) I walk the sea walk regularly, and inevitably there is the occasional dog owner who walks a leashed dog, and to date it has always been a pleasure to see a beautiful, well behaved puppy on the path. Will that pleasure turn to displeasure if the sea walk gets swarmed with dog-walkers? No lo se.

But certainly willing to see if it works: perhaps a trial run?  
Proceed wisely.

Best wishes,

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver BC

s. 22(1)

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2023 5:06 PM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Subject:** Fwd: Horseshoe Bay Dog Restrictions

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Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Date:** October 30, 2023 at 5:04:37 PM PDT  
**To:** mark@westvancouver.ca  
**Subject:** Horseshoe Bay Dog Restrictions

Dear West Vancouver Mayor and Councillors,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for allowing dogs in certain West Vancouver parks, in particular, Horseshoe Bay. As a resident of this beautiful community, I believe that responsible dog owners should have the opportunity to enjoy our parks with their four-legged companions.

Dogs not only provide companionship and promote physical activity, but they are also an integral part of many families. Allowing well-behaved dogs in our parks can create a more inclusive and vibrant community, fostering a sense of togetherness and cooperation among residents.

I understand that concerns about safety and cleanliness need to be addressed, but many other communities have successfully implemented dog-friendly policies in their public spaces, and I believe we can do the same. By establishing clear guidelines, such as leash requirements, waste disposal regulations, and designated areas for dogs to play, we can ensure a harmonious coexistence of dogs and park-goers.

I kindly request that the West Vancouver Mayor and Council consider reviewing and revising the current regulations to accommodate



responsible dog owners. By doing so, we can create a more welcoming and diverse park environment that benefits both people, and their pets.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to the possibility of enjoying our beautiful parks with my 'good dog' in the near future.

Sincerely, [REDACTED] s. 22(1) West Vancouver [REDACTED] s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

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From: [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 1:03 PM  
To: 'MayorandCouncil' <[MayorandCouncil@westvancouver.ca](mailto:MayorandCouncil@westvancouver.ca)>  
Subject: Very Poor Process

Attention: Mark Sager

CC: WV Council

Re: Lack of Public Consultation

Ref: BLOCKEDnsnews[.]com/local-news/west-van-loosens-leash-on-seawalk-dog-restrictions-7761157BLOCKED

Not that you clearly have a concern, but please know that I am *extremely* disappointed (there is other terminology that out of respect that I will not include) to now read in the latest edition of the North Shore News (link above), that you and council have proceeded to arbitrarily change the current West Vancouver By-law to now permit walking dogs on the Seawalk on leash. This action has been taken in spite of not providing an opportunity for open informed public consultation prior to endorsing this proposal. When this topic/proposal was first informally mentioned in the NS News a couple of weeks ago, I am aware of letters of dissent that had been sent to both your attention and to the editor of the NS News. I can assure you that there are a great many West Vancouver citizens who use the Seawalk on a daily basis that are now most upset.

Know that I, along with a great many others, specifically voted for you and your slate of councilors based on *your personal commitment made to me and to others* to change the often arbitrary and confrontational actions of the administration of the previous mayor and council. I am more than disturbed to now discover that you and your council slate (with one exception) have failed this community with regards to your previous commitment, publically made, to a number of us that you would have an open, consultative administration that would *listen* to West Vancouver citizens. This is a very shortsighted decision. Perhaps you can also provide, in spite of the needed budget impact of additional bins for dog waste you have acknowledged, also plan to budget for and install taps and hoses to wash down and clean the Seawalk as there are no grass areas for dogs to defecate except on the concrete walkway. How very shortsighted.

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, BC

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 1:38 PM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Cc:** Mark Sager; Christine Cassidy; Nora Gambioli; Scott Snider; Linda Watt; Peter Lambur; Sharon Thompson  
**Subject:** Dogs and Democracy

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organization from email address [REDACTED] s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Dear Mayor and Council

I feel it is my democratic duty to speak up about the council meeting last night. I love dogs, but I love freedom and democracy more. In my view, last night was anti-democratic complete with a polite, West Vancouver style of mob rule. First it was shockingly announced there would be no public input allowed on the controversial resolution to allow dogs on the seawall, but rather it would be dictated to WV taxpayers based on the six Mayor and Council with unelected Staff preparing the new bylaw. When that failed and minimal public input was allowed, somehow a relatively large contingent advocating to lay claim to the sea wall for dog walking (dissatisfied with the huge Ambleside Dog Park) heard about last night's resolution that came out of nowhere two weeks ago. I appreciate that the vote last night was not final, however the wheels have been put in motion and it will now be very hard to stop.

Although the initial efforts of some councillors to evaluate the counter position, despite the loud clapping in an emotionally charged meeting last night, ultimately gave in (except for Councillor Gambioli and Thompson on most points), these are the fact-based issues that in my view were not considered to the serious detriment of WV residents and due process:

1. **Unlike Vancouver and North Vancouver, West Vancouver uniquely has a population of almost 50% seniors.** By the way, perhaps this is already planned for the Nov 5 council meeting, but could we have the Royal Canadian Legion back for a proper salute and/or hopefully with a presentation prepared by Staff on the history of the Canadian military and the seniors who fought and died to protect our democracy from socialist-communist dictators, in particular the fight against Nazi Germany and the Holocaust?
2. **The WV seawall is uniquely narrow and open sided with rocks and ocean on one side.** There is nothing to prevent, for example, two jubilant puppies lurching to greet each other on their 3' leashes unintentionally knocking a vulnerable person over onto the rocks. Recall the extremely sad situation on the Stanley Park Causeway where a cyclist was knocked into the traffic and killed by a bus after being accidentally knocked over when she tried to pass a group of young people on the narrow, shared path. I used to cycle/commute over the causeway every day and had to veer way off into the brush to avoid pedestrians chattering away blithely unaware on the narrow path. I could not have done this if there was a cliff and rocks below. Vancouver put up necessary but ugly fencing to prevent this from happening again. Is this what will happen on our beautiful seawall because dog owners from Metro Region aren't satisfied with the huge and beautiful Ambleside Dog Park?
3. **Has anyone asked their dogs (voting by level of excitement) if they want to run and play in a big dog park with their own beach like the Ambleside Dog Park; or, be on a short 3' leash unable to avoid big angry dogs and hold their urine and poo for an hour (or suffer the indignity of urinating/pooing on the cement sidewalk with no sand to cover it)?**
4. **I believe a fact check of statements made last night is in order on the following:**
  - a. *The numbers of seawalls or trails in Canada that do not allow dogs:* I found this article promoting dog free trails without even looking hard. Apparently, this is something desirable.

- b. *The narrowest part of the seawall*: in particular the bend in front of Dundarave. I have stood there many times taking photos and been nervous in the summer months with packed crowds behind me that I could accidentally get pushed over into the rocks if I wasn't watching. It feels more like 6-8' at the narrowest, not 10'. Also, it's not as if the seawall is like a 10' wide sidewalk because it's two ways leaving only 5' per east-west direction which is the same as a 5' wide sidewalk. If the bend in front of Dundarave narrows to say 8' that means it is narrower than a sidewalk.
  - c. *The number of dog owners in WV*. The numbers touted last night were based on the now thankfully ancient history of UN/WHO promoted Covid "lock downs" (Now proven to have been entirely unnecessary except for seniors, who made up 80% of Covid deaths anyways due to neglect in long term care because the healthy did not go to work.) According to the SPCA, they had a huge surge of people returning dogs post-Covid because they could not train nor afford them. Given the financial times we are in, there will presumably be fewer people able to afford dogs. This would leave WV possibly sacrificing our seniors' safety or at least well being to take safe walks, for a very small but vocal minority from Metro Region wanting to use the WV sea wall.
  - d. *The notion that the BC government is making a broad claim that pets are family members to justify their use of the sea wall*. The BC government has made statements in the context of custody cases only. The BC government has specifically not required landlords or stratas to allow dogs/pets. (This is probably because, for one, apartment complexes are dense but have small, limited footprints and there would indeed be urine and feces everywhere since dogs need to ex. urinate about five times a day, not to mention the odd owner with a "pet" boa constrictor as in Ontario cases.)
  - e. *The number of sidewalks in West Vancouver that are as crowded as the seawall*. The argument was made that it was safer to be on the seawall with dogs than on a WV sidewalk. However, with the exception of Marine drive on a busy day, this is an apples and oranges comparison because people do not crowd onto the ex. Argyle or Bellevue sidewalks like they do the seawall, which is the whole point.
  - f. *An important question not asked of Bylaw last night: how many times a year are the police or bylaw called regarding an aggressive dog in a dog park, which could be extrapolated and multiplied for the tight quarters of our narrow seawall*: It's probably very rare, but it does happen. I have walked through the Ambleside dog park regularly for decades and the dogs are well behaved and happy in this wide-open area where they can run and play and share their joy. It's fun to be with them. I have only seen three times where the police or bylaw attended for an aggressive dog and/or owner defending their aggressive dog against another owner, who inevitably have a small dog. This very sad article about the Coal Harbour seawall however, is where a small dog had to be put down after being attacked by a larger dog is such a case.
5. **Consultation with dog behaviour experts like the BC SPCA was not even mentioned last night** While the BC SPCA are strong advocates for dogs and pet ownership, in my experience they are also objective because they don't want pets put in a position that will cause them to be abandoned to the SPCA, for example, dogs being put in tight quarters like the seawall, and getting labelled aggressive if they react because the space is not big enough for multiple dogs to be in, in heat or not in heat, leash or no leash.

In short, in my view it was wrong for the vote to be taken last night without following due democratic processes for public input, and I hope such a situation never occurs again. I'm sure there are many open-minded residents in West Vancouver that can contribute their experiences and would consider well a fair-minded resolution if given the democratic opportunity, instead of having resolutions effectively bypass their public input and be dictated.

I bet the vast majority of WV residents would want the time and money spent on the Mayor's idea for a cycling path from West Vancouver to Whistler, rather than on this divisive resolution with unclear outcomes for dogs on the seawall.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

WV

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2023 2:07 PM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Subject:** Eagle Creek Bridge Replacement  
**Attachments:** Eagle Creek Bridge Replacement.eml

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organization from email address [REDACTED] s. 22(1) . Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Mayor Mark Sager & Council,

It has been almost 7 weeks since I sent an email (attached) to Acting Senior Manager of Parks Jill Lawlor, enquiring about the Eagle Creek Bridge Replacement with no reply. So I am reaching out to you requesting a reply on how the bridge was allowed to deteriorate so badly resulting in a partial collapse.

As per the background explanation for the Eagle Creek Bridge project status , the Parks Department assessed that the age of the wooden bridge structure is approximately 15-20 years old. As a standard wood deteriorates over time becoming weak structurally so I enquired if the District of West Vancouver has "Wood Condition Assessments" performed by an Engineer as other municipalities do to ensure funding is in place to replace or repair before unsafe conditions occur such as this bridge collapse .

Many residents of the neighborhood have either emailed or phoned the contacts on the posted closed signs, emailed to individual council member that I have been informed . It has been 4 months since the bridge partially collapsed and it is estimated that construction will begin early 2024 which may bring the completion date well into next year.

Can the residents of Eagle Harbour and surrounding areas receive a more definitive time line? Such as, has an engineer determined if the existing bridge abutments can be reused? As this would show and provide progress from the last update on August 30, 2023.

Thank you for your time, review and hopefully directing staff for a reply.

Regards,

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 7, 2023 11:24 AM  
**To:** Jill Lawlor  
**Subject:** Eagle Creek Bridge Replacement

Hi Jill,

In an attempt to get a better understanding of the Eagle Creek Bridge replacement plans I am reaching out to you as the website provides good but general information on this project.

In particular I wanted to enquire if the District of West Vancouver has a program to perform structural condition assessments on it's wooden structures in Parks periodically? It was surprising to read on this projects web page that there was no funding or resources planned for it's replacement after being 15-20 years old.

Many of the bridges post dates of the construction on them and there are other structures of substantial size that have been replaced such as the long staircase to Garrow Bay Park recently. As a result as a resident I would have assumed that this work would be a result of condition assessments that would be performed by an engineer as other municipalities on the North Shore use these condition assessments to ensure funding is in place annually to keep park infrastructure in good and safe repair.

Knowing there are environmental and engineering considerations I hope the bridges replacement can be expedited due to safety concerns as the winter months are approaching. Overall hoping that there is a program in place to assure other residents are not put in similar circumstances with restricting families from the beach and accessing the neighborhood.

Regards,

s. 22(1)

**From:** Communications <communications@twnation.ca>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 27, 2023 8:41 PM  
**To:** correspondence; Nelson Cavanaugh  
**Subject:** Invitation: Honouring Tsleil-Waututh Nation Veterans on Indigenous Veterans Day (Nov. 8th)  
**Attachments:** Invitation\_External\_2023 TWN Indigenous Veterans Day.pdf

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organization from email address communications@twnation.ca. Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Hello,

We welcome West Vancouver Mayor and Council to join səliiwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation) as we honour our veterans on Indigenous Veterans Day, November 8<sup>th</sup>, at Whey-ah-Wichen. Please find our invitation attached.

Please let us know should you have any questions.

hay čx<sup>w</sup> qə

Thank you,  
Lindsay

**TWN Communications and Engagement**  
**Tsleil-Waututh Nation | səliiwətał**  
[twnation.ca](http://twnation.ca)



Tsleil-Waututh Nation  
PEOPLE OF THE INLET





# Tsleil-Waututh Nation

## səlilwətał



November 8, 2023

Hello Esteemed Guest,

On behalf of səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation), we invite you to join us on Indigenous Veterans Day as we honour Tsleil-Waututh community veterans at a public event.

**When:** Wednesday, November 8, 2023, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

**Where:** Whey-ah-Wichen, 4141 Dollarton Hwy, North Vancouver, BC V7G 1A1  
Meet in front of the stage near the "Remembrance in Jade" war memorial.

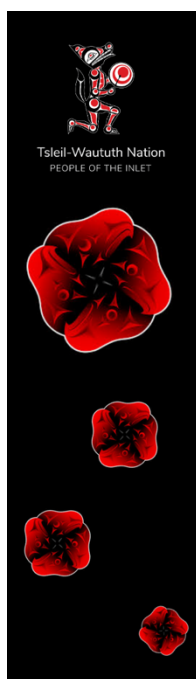
### Background:

This event seeks to honour səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation) community veterans at Whey-ah-Wichen, one of the Nation's ancestral village sites. We aim to educate our youth, our community, and members of the public about the importance of our veterans' service and sacrifice.

The proceedings will include singing and drumming, remarks from Tsleil-Waututh Nation members, and the sharing of veterans' biographies.

The event is open to everyone. Refreshments will be served. A seating area will be provided.

We acknowledge the support of Veterans Affairs Canada.



## HONOURING TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION VETERANS ON INDIGENOUS VETERANS DAY

**November 8, 2023**

**2:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

**WHEY-AH-WICHEN**

Meet at the stage near the "Remembrance in  
Jade" war memorial

Please join us on Indigenous Veterans Day on  
Tsleil-Waututh Nation traditional territory as we  
honour members of our Tsleil-Waututh community  
who served and protected so we can enjoy the  
freedoms we have today.

We cordially invite Community Veterans, their  
descendants, and external guests to witness this day.

Open to the public.  
Refreshments will be served.

We acknowledge funding support from  
Veterans Affairs Canada.



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 11:33 AM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Cc:** Christine Cassidy  
**Subject:** New Cell Tower Construction 2020 Bellevue Avenue

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the organization from email address s. 22(1). Do not click links or open attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe. If you believe this e-mail is suspicious, please report it to IT by marking it as SPAM.

Hi,

s.22(1) once again today Bellevue is closed without proper notice to traffic while a huge crane loads more Cell tower equipment to the roof of this apartment building.

This is the second crane lift in recent months. You will note in the photos the new cell phone equipment attached to a new structural steel frame overhangs the east face of the building.

Was there a proper building permit issued by West Vancouver for such a large structure? We recognize the Federal Government and Health Canada regulate cell phone towers however we are concerned about the health of residents in our building plus those in the rental building immediately below the EMF emissions.

The visual impact of this structure is a distraction to the architecture of the building.

We await your response.

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver BC

s. 22(1)



**THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER  
BOARD OF VARIANCE HEARING MINUTES  
VIA ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION FACILITIES  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023**

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**BOARD MEMBERS:** Chair L. Radage and Members S. Abri, J. Elwick, D. Simmons, and R. Yaworsky attended the hearing via electronic communication facilities.

**STAFF:** P. Cuk, Board Secretary; T. Yee, Building Inspector, and M. Beattie, Legislative Services Clerk, attended the hearing via electronic communication facilities.

**1. Call to Order**

The hearing was called to order at 5 p.m.

Member Abri joined the hearing at 5:02 p.m. via electronic communication facilities.

**2. Introduction**

Staff introduced the Board Members and described the hearing procedure.

**3. Confirmation of the Agenda**

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the September 20, 2023 Board of Variance hearing agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

**4. Adoption of the July 19, 2023 Minutes**

Chair Radage referred to the minutes of the Board of Variance hearing held on July 19, 2023.

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the July 19, 2023 Board of Variance hearing minutes be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

**5. Time Limit of Board of Variance Orders**

Chair Radage read out the following statement regarding Time Limit of Order Approving a Variance and noted that the time limit applied to each application approved by the Board:

Pursuant to section 542(3) of the *Local Government Act*, if a Board of Variance orders that a minor variance be permitted from the requirements of the bylaw, and the Order sets a time limit within which the construction of the building or

structure must be completed, and the construction is not completed within that time, the permission of the Board terminates and the bylaw applies. Further, if that construction is not substantially started within 2 years after the Order was made, or within a longer or shorter time period established by the Order, the permission of the Board terminates and the bylaw applies.

**6. Application 23-030 (1202 Duchess Avenue)**

Staff confirmed the following requested variances regarding a private power pole (accessory structure):

- a) 6.63 m to Front Yard Setback
- b) 0.51 m to Minimum Side Yard Setback
- c) 3.74 m to Accessory Structure Height.

Staff informed of written submissions received for this application prior to the Board of Variance hearing.

Written submissions received:

SUBMISSION AUTHOR	SUBMISSION DATED	#
Redacted	September 20, 2023	1

Staff provided permit history and information regarding the height of the subject property.

H. Sairafi (Tash Engineering Ltd., representing the owner of 1202 Duchess Avenue) described the variance application for a private power pole (accessory structure) and responded to Board members' questions.

Chair Radage queried whether anyone else had signed up to address the Board regarding the subject application. Staff informed that no one else had signed up to address the Board regarding the subject application.

Members of the Board considered:

- All of the submissions;
- Whether the application was for a minor variance that did not
  - result in inappropriate development of the site
  - adversely affect the natural environment
  - substantially affect the use and enjoyment of adjacent land
  - vary permitted uses and densities under the applicable bylaw; or
  - defeat the intent of the bylaw; and
- Whether compliance with the bylaw would cause the applicant undue hardship.

Having read the application dated August 17, 2023, including the applicant's letter, plans and all other related documents, and having read the statutory Notice of Hearing for the subject application, and having inspected and/or viewed images of the subject site, and having heard the submission of H. Sairafi:

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the Board finds that undue hardship would be caused to the applicant by compliance with Zoning Bylaw No. 4662, 2010 (as amended) and orders that Application 23-030 regarding a private power pole (accessory structure) at 1202 Duchess Avenue with variances of:

- 6.63 m to Front Yard Setback
- 0.51 m to Minimum Side Yard Setback
- 3.74 m to Accessory Structure Height

BE ALLOWED pursuant to the plans dated August 8, 2023 submitted with the application; AND THAT if construction is not substantially started within 2 years of the issuance of the Order, the permission terminates and the Zoning Bylaw applies.

CARRIED

**7. Application 23-031 (4702 Caulfeild Drive)**

Staff confirmed the following requested variances regarding a power pole (accessory structure):

- a) 7.1 m to Front Yard Setback
- b) 0.57 m to Minimum Side Yard Setback
- c) 0.82 m to Accessory Structure Height.

Staff informed of written submissions received for this application prior to the Board of Variance hearing.

Written submissions received:

SUBMISSION AUTHOR	SUBMISSION DATED	#
Redacted	September 20, 2023	1

Staff provided permit history of the subject property.

H. Wang (4702 Caulfeild Drive) described the variance application for a power pole (accessory structure). Staff, H. Wang, and W. Yin (4702 Caulfeild Drive) responded to Board members' questions.

Chair Radage queried whether anyone else had signed up to address the Board regarding the subject application. Staff informed that no one else had signed up to address the Board regarding the subject application.

Members of the Board considered:

- All of the submissions;

- Whether the application was for a minor variance that did not
  - result in inappropriate development of the site
  - adversely affect the natural environment
  - substantially affect the use and enjoyment of adjacent land
  - vary permitted uses and densities under the applicable bylaw; or
  - defeat the intent of the bylaw; and
- Whether compliance with the bylaw would cause the applicant undue hardship.

Having read the application dated August 21, 2023, including the applicant's letter, plans and all other related documents, and having read the statutory Notice of Hearing for the subject application, and having inspected and/or viewed images of the subject site, and having heard the submissions of H. Wang and W. Yin:

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the Board finds that undue hardship would be caused to the applicant by compliance with Zoning Bylaw No. 4662, 2010 (as amended) and orders that Application 23-031 regarding a power pole (accessory structure) at 4702 Caulfeild Drive with variances of:

- 7.1 m to Front Yard Setback
- 0.57 m to Minimum Side Yard Setback
- 0.82 m to Accessory Structure Height

BE ALLOWED pursuant to the plans dated August 12, 2023 submitted with the application; AND THAT if construction is not substantially started within 2 years of the issuance of the Order, the permission terminates and the Zoning Bylaw applies.

CARRIED

**8. Application 23-032 (4332 Erwin Drive)**

Staff confirmed the following requested variances regarding additions and alterations:

- a) 0.30 m to Combined Side Yard Setback
- b) 3.4% (27.85 m<sup>2</sup>) to Floor Area Ratio.

Staff informed that no written submissions were received for this application prior to the Board of Variance hearing.

Written submissions received:

SUBMISSION AUTHOR	SUBMISSION DATED	#
None.		

Staff provided permit history of the subject property.

S. Parvaresh (Architect, Noble Architecture, representing the owner of 4332 Erwin Drive) described the variance application for additions and alterations. Staff and S. Parvaresh responded to a Board member's question.

Chair Radage queried whether anyone else had signed up to address the Board regarding the subject application. Staff informed that no one else had signed up to address the Board regarding the subject application.

Members of the Board considered:

- All of the submissions;
- Whether the application was for a minor variance that did not
  - result in inappropriate development of the site
  - adversely affect the natural environment
  - substantially affect the use and enjoyment of adjacent land
  - vary permitted uses and densities under the applicable bylaw; or
  - defeat the intent of the bylaw; and
- Whether compliance with the bylaw would cause the applicant undue hardship.

Having read the application dated August 22, 2023, including the applicant's letter, plans and all other related documents, and having read the statutory Notice of Hearing for the subject application, and having inspected and/or viewed images of the subject site, and having heard the submission of S. Parvaresh:

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the Board finds that undue hardship would be caused to the applicant by compliance with Zoning Bylaw No. 4662, 2010 (as amended) and orders that Application 23-032 regarding additions and alterations at 4332 Erwin Drive with variances of:

- 0.30 m to Combined Side Yard Setback
- 3.4% (27.85 m<sup>2</sup>) to Floor Area Ratio

BE ALLOWED pursuant to the plans dated June 14 and August 17, 2023 submitted with the application; AND THAT if construction is not substantially started within 2 years of the issuance of the Order, the permission terminates and the Zoning Bylaw applies.

CARRIED

**9. Receipt of Written and Oral Submissions**

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT all written and oral submissions regarding the following Board of Variance Applications:

- Application 23-030 (1202 Duchess Avenue);
- Application 23-031 (4702 Caulfeild Drive);
- Application 23-032 (4332 Erwin Drive);

up to and including September 20, 2023, be received.

CARRIED

**10. Public Question Period**

There were no questions.

**11. Next Hearing**

Staff confirmed that the next hearing of the Board of Variance is scheduled for October 18, 2023 at 5 p.m.

**12. Adjournment**

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the September 20, 2023 Board of Variance hearing be adjourned.

CARRIED

The Board of Variance hearing adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Certified Correct:

s. 22(1)



L. Radage, Chair

s. 22(1)



P. Cuk, Secretary

**THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER  
HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
VIA ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION FACILITIES  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023**

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Committee Members: P. Grossman (Chair), B. Clark, A. Hatch, P. Hundal, J. Leger, J. Mawson, and H. Telenius attended the meeting via electronic communication facilities. Absent: L. Anderson, M. Geller; and Councillor C. Cassidy.

Staff: E. Syvokas, Community Planner (Staff Representative); and C. Mayne, Executive Assistant to the Director of Planning & Development Services (Committee Clerk) attended the meeting via electronic communication facilities.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the September 27, 2023 Heritage Advisory Committee meeting agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the July 26, 2023 Heritage Advisory Committee meeting minutes be amended by:

- On the first bullet of the Workplan discussion in the minutes there is an error. On Page 6, Item 8, Bullet 1; change to " the last remnant of an old railway bridge was removed (south footings)".

CARRIED

**REPORTS / ITEMS**

**4. Staff Updates**

**Committee Recruitment**

- Fall committee recruitment will launch October 1. The deadline to apply is 4:30 p.m. on October 31. Once the recruitment is live, Staff will circulate the information to the Committee.

**Proposed Rental-Only Zoning**

- A report to Council was brought forward on September 11 for 1st reading with a recommendation to limit residential use to rental-only on 30 sites which contain existing purpose-built rental buildings in the Ambleside Apartment Area. The Public Hearing is scheduled for October 16, 2023.



- This zoning would help ensure the retention of existing heritage sites in the Ambleside Area and would apply to the iconic “pink and blue” buildings at 2222 Bellevue Avenue and 2190 Bellevue Avenue.

Gems of Ambleside Walking Tour

- Reminder that the tour is November 9 at 10:30 am.

Follow up Re: Budget Requests

- At the July committee meeting the issue of budget requests for the Committee’s 2023 workplan priorities was discussed and a question was asked whether there is a more active way to push forward budget requests to Council.

Budget requests, go through Staff and are reviewed in context of departmental priorities as set by Council and existing staff capacity. The issue has been raised with senior management. The Director of Planning and the Manager of Current Planning are scheduled to attend the October committee meeting and can respond on this issue.

Committee provided comments with Staff responses in *italics*:

- Are we going to miss budget requests? *Senior staff and Council are aware of this request. We will discuss this at the next meeting with senior staff.*
- Is there some way we can prepare senior staff for the next meeting? *You can if you would like to, however senior staff are aware of committee discussions and budget requests.*
- Regarding the rental-only zoning, does this apply to all rental buildings? If there is space for infill development on these sites is the intent that the new building be rental? *The proposal is to apply to RM1 and RM2 zoned sites within the Local Area Plan Boundary. If approved, any new infill development on these sites would be restricted to rental tenure.*

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the July 26, 2023 Heritage Advisory Committee meeting minutes be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

**5. Heritage Project Updates**

Getting ahead of demolitions:

- Since the last meeting the Building Permit webpage was updated with a paragraph at the top of the page with:
  - a) information on how to look up if a property has heritage status in WestMap; and
  - b) advising property owners to contact the Planning Division prior to applying for Building Permit and/or Demolition Permit to inquire what additional options are available to the development of a site while retaining heritage structures.
- This is with an aim to put heritage retention on the radar for anyone looking into

the building permit and demolition permit process.

- Staff are also working with the Senior Manager of Climate Action & Environment who is working on a green demolition bylaw and a house relocation policy to see if there are any regulations or policy that can be considered to disincentivize demolition of heritage sites such as requiring a higher rate of reuse/recycling of materials for heritage sites or requiring relocation and deconstruction where feasible rather than machine demolition.

#### Forestry Artifacts in the Upper Lands

- Planning staff met with parks staff to discuss the concern regarding loss of forestry artifacts in the Upper Lands. A response from parks staff was forwarded to the Committee.
- The Parks department is currently working on a project to better represent heritage landscape resources on the District's GIS system. If we have specific information about the location of the forestry artifacts in the Upper Lands that are on District Lands, we could see about adding this to the GIS system.

#### Update to format of heritage register

- A OneDrive account has been set up for photos to be uploaded; some photos have been added.
- Word document created for the new format.
- Can now begin process of transferring historical information from the inventory.

#### 1591 Haywood Avenue (Clegg House)

- At the meeting on Monday, Council gave first reading to the Heritage Revitalization and Heritage Designation Bylaw for 1591 Haywood Avenue. The Public Hearing date and concurrent public meeting for consideration of the development permit has been set for October 23, 2023. The applicant will be holding a public information meeting on October 10 from 6:45-8:45 p.m. at the West Vancouver Lawn and Tennis Club.

#### The Black Cat

- Staff and Councillor Cassidy, along with heritage consultant Don Luxton, visited the Black Cat again in August to get Don Luxton's thoughts on the condition of the building and the potential opportunities for the Black Cat site. Don indicated that he thought the site did have potential and that the site would likely best lend itself to subdivision into two lots, with an infill on the southern lot and retention and restoration of the Black Cat on the northern lot.
- The next step is to try to get interest in the site by putting together a pitch for a newspaper article to see if any developers are interested in pursuing a Heritage Revitalization Agreement for the site. Originally, we were thinking the pitch would be to the North Shore News, however, when we met with Councillor Cassidy, the property owner, and Don Luxton; it was suggested that perhaps an article in the Vancouver Sun and/or Globe and Mail might be the best approach to reach a wider audience.

Committee provided comments with Staff responses in *italics*:

- There are approximately 170 assets on the heritage register, but many of these may have been demolished and may need to be removed from the register. *In 2021, Staff reviewed all buildings on the heritage register and confirmed through records if they were standing and the register was updated via a report to Council to remove heritage resources from the list which have been demolished. Further, we now have a process in place to ensure any buildings that are demolished are removed from the register. Building permit and demolition permit applications that are received for listed heritage properties are flagged in the system and are reviewed by Planning staff. Typically, a Temporary Order of Protection against demolition is imposed by Council to allow time for Staff to try to negotiate retention of the heritage resource. If we are unsuccessful and the building gets demolished, a note is placed on file to notify planning when the heritage resource is demolished. The building department lets planning know. We also keep records on buildings on the heritage inventory that have been demolished but this is not a public document.*
- Regarding the forestry artifacts in the Upper Lands, P. Hundal indicated that everything below the powerline is owned by BPP and everything above is District land; the assets of concern are above the powerline. *Staff indicated that it would be best to contact Parks staff directly to discuss the assets on District lands.*
- We should also have contact with British Pacific Properties.
- Staff are informed about demolitions. What about significant renovations, are you informed on this? *Yes, we are. We haven't removed homes from the heritage register if they have been renovated; however, we do record the information in our departmental records.*
- Regarding the Clegg House and the tax incentive request, tax incentives are one of the more successful incentive tools, has Council been made aware of this? *This is the first time a tax exemption request for a heritage project has come before Council. It is new territory for West Vancouver. The applicant is asking for 20 years of tax relief. Staff did not find a lot of examples of tax exemptions for residential projects in other municipalities. Staff will need to review more examples of how and where this has been used.*
- At the National Trust Conference last year this was discussed. *We haven't had a lot of uptake on Heritage Revitalization Agreement projects. Development incentives are one thing, but we may need stronger incentives. Staff are supportive, there is policy in the Official Community Plan to support consideration of tax exemptions for heritage projects.*
- Is there an update of the Pilot House Road project? *Staff are currently waiting for a response to comments regarding the formal application.*
- Will this item be on the next Lower Caulfeild Advisory Committee agenda?
- Staff are hopeful that they can get it on, but no committed time on the agenda, working towards that goal.
- Navy Jack House update? *My understanding is that the agreement is not yet finalized.*

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the verbal report regarding Heritage Project Updates be received for information.

CARRIED

## 6. Draft Heritage Plaque Template Designs

The graphics team has developed two plaque templates, one for west coast modern buildings and one for all other heritage buildings. The draft plaque designs were circulated with the agenda package.

Committee provided questions with Staff responses in *italics*:

- What are the thoughts on the crest? *The full coat of arms is too detailed and too small and wouldn't translate well.*
- Is it necessary to include the information regarding the Heritage Revitalization Agreement on these plaques? *The intent was to inform the public on the potential opportunities available through an Heritage Revitalization Agreement.*
- Who designed this? *District Graphic Designer.*
- Does the graphic designer have skillset for this sort of design? Does the graphic designer have a background in heritage in plaques like this? In May, we commented there is a special skill set for this. Can we review the brand and style guide for West Vancouver? *I cannot comment on the heritage expertise of our graphics staff. However, we do not have additional resources, we are relying on our internal staff. The graphic designer was provided with examples of bronze plaques used elsewhere, such as the City of Vancouver's plaque. The draft plaque designs were sent out to sign makers to get quotes and to confirm that its possible to manufacture these in bronze and the proposed size. There were no concerns with the designs.*

Committee provided comments with Staff responses in *italics*:

- That is a lot of small text, hard to read. Don't need these as infomercials.
- If you want something that looks timeless it needs to be simple. Suggest seeing what a sign manufacturer would design as experts in the field. This design looks too modern; doesn't read as heritage. Needs to be more simplified; eliminate angles. Not sure about colonial reference in the crest.
- Curious to see what design a sign manufacturer might come up with; could make design more cost effective. Thinking of the simple design of the blue London heritage plaques. Some sort of pattern could be the piece that distinguishes the two types of plaques. Leaving it open to other categories should they develop. The plaques need to age well, be very simple. We want people to want them on their houses. With regards to the logo, in favour of using the West Vancouver wave. The Heritage Revitalization Agreement process has a place on this plaque, as a way to showcase the house.
- *Are the London plaques informational signs?* The plaques do not have a lot of text, they are very simple with just the name of who lived there, the date and a short description. The colour is very distinctive and memorable.

- A sign manufacturer could be helpful in designing. *Would they do this for a fee? They might do it for free.*
- I like the colour ideas. Something circular or oval, or a different shape with a simple description. The plaques should be timeless and beautiful. Keeping it simple is the hardest part.
- How much time do we have for Boyd House sign? We should have a number of designs or concepts for the next meeting, so we can see what we all like. *The Boyd House is not yet under construction so there is no urgency, however we have to be aware of staff time being used for this project. Several iterations of the designs were created to arrive at the current draft designs.*
- I like the idea of the blue as well, and a real focus on simplicity. Maybe we do not need a big description; the City of Vancouver triangle ones are simple. Keep it simple and graphic. Mid Century modern vs traditional heritage, background having a print, good opportunity to work with an indigenous artist to create a design for the background. We could use the blue colour for the heritage buildings and another colour for west coast modern ones.
- The information about the Heritage Revitalization Agreement should be deleted.
- The long historical description is exhaustive. Looking at other plaques used, they are extremely simple, with just name of building, name of architect, and year built. People know we are in West Vancouver; no need to add name of municipality or colonial crest. I am open to the circle and triangle ideas.
- Interested volunteers could discuss this offline in more depth. I hear oval or circular shapes, I think this is a nice idea. Can be very beautiful based on so many factors. We should talk about this before we go to the manufacturer. We have to define what the character of it is, with a real concept. Strong idea and timeless. We appreciate the effort and express our thanks to the designer. It is a tall order.
- We need to come up with a list of critical requirements. Hard to send something off to any group and have them read our minds. In addition to a list of requirements, it would be helpful to provide examples of signs that we like so whoever we end up sending this to can see what we relate to. Prefer the idea of recognition signage, rather than interpretive signage. It may be worth asking some of other groups to be involved in these signs such as West Coast Modern League and North Shore Heritage.
- We want something timeless, beautiful, simple. Looked at different shapes. We have had these delays; nothing has every come out of it. I don't think we should be designing a plaque. Talking about something that needs to be done by an expert. That is a huge, long timely process. This has been kicked down the road so many times, we need to move forward on this.
- We need to put together a list of critical requirements and images. Then that package can go to a designer. We have more work to do before we send to the designer.
- *Need specific direction on this, there are lots of conflicting opinions. Need to have very specific direction in terms of shape, informational vs. marker for*

*recognition, what text, how big and what colour. Staff need clear direction in order to move this forward.*

- Don't want to use the crest; like the wave. Don't want to replicate the London plaque. Ovals are nice. Working with some first nations imagery could have a place in this. Don't need a lot of text. Some way of noting on the signage itself of how they can find more information. The less text the better.
- We need to remove Heritage Revitalization Agreement process information.
- The City of Vancouver signage shows a triangle piece or another shape below it with more information; so could provide both recognition and option for add on informational signage.
- *Should there be two different designs, one for West Coast Modern and one for everything else?*
  - I am not sure if we need two different signs. Like the idea of an add on sign, using a simple shape. The smaller the sign the less expensive. Start with one and see if it will work for both.
- Let's try to get consensus on design principles and what we are aiming for.
- Design principles and what should be included on the sign:
  - Does everyone like the colour blue? – consensus is all like blue (if it is the West Vancouver blue).
  - Crest – consensus is no.
  - Should "West Vancouver" be on it? - consensus is yes.
  - Should "Heritage Building" be on it? Need something to identify west coast modern style from other heritage. Could say "Heritage Building" or "West Coast Modern Building".
  - Name of Building? – consensus is yes.
  - Name of Architect? – consensus is yes.
  - Year built? – consensus is yes.
  - Address? – consensus is no.
- Is the idea that the sign could be adaptable? If you want more information, you can have a separate plaque? – Yes.
- Most Heritage Revitalization Agreement's have something they are famous for. Most people would want some additional information on it. Do we make everyone buy a separate plaque?
- There is usually some type of history referenced on the plaques. One sentence. Something small, not too much.
- The City of Vancouver triangle marker plaques are for recognition. I like the notion that we are trying to recognize a structure as a heritage landmark. Doesn't preclude more information in certain circumstances.
- *Is the idea to use one design template but identify that it is a heritage building vs west coast modern building?* The group does not have consensus on this.

- Suggest that interested volunteers discuss again offline to confirm recommendations.

It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the discussion regarding Draft Heritage Plaque Template Designs be received for information with thanks and that further discussion be deferred to the next meeting.

CARRIED

## 7. Accessing Heritage Lists from Other Sources

J. Mawson provided an overview of the briefing note which was circulated as part of the agenda package:

- HAC's 2023-2024 workplan includes expanding the Community Heritage Register. This work is to be led by a heritage consultant which will require a budget request.
- The process established in 2008, is that a statement of significance is required for nominations to the register and that a nomination has to go forward to Council to be added.
- there are a number of lists that we can draw on including:
  - Assets that were nominated by community in 2022.
  - 1998 Heritage Inventory, many structures on that list that did not make on to the heritage register.
  - There is a huge amount of work that has been done by North Shore Heritage Preservation Society and West Coast Modern League; they have a database of heritage assets across the North Shore.
- In preparation for engaging a heritage consultant, propose HAC does pre-work using the following suggested process:
  - consolidate available asset lists into one list;
  - invite Staff, HAC members and other heritage groups to confirm whether the assets are still in existence, particularly the 1998 Heritage Inventory list; and
  - refine the list accordingly.
- Confirming the number of potential heritage assets to be reviewed by the heritage consultant will inform the budget request.

Committee provided comments with Staff responses in *italics*:

- Before this goes to a consultant, there would have to be a group working on this within this Committee with other groups, to put the list together.
- Have spoken to heritage groups; have people that are interested in working with our Committee. From the database of several thousand, they have a narrower list to bring forward.
- Makes sense to consolidate the list first, then involve outside groups to review.
- To narrow the list, you have to look at the buildings and it is a lot of work.

- I think the idea is to get the lists to look at them. Getting the list together is a good start.
- Not proposing to go through and evaluate the buildings. West Coast Modern and North Shore Heritage have a pared down list. The idea is to pull together a consolidated list that we would then use for a workplan basis and as a basis for budget ask.
- We would assemble a smaller list to present to the consultant.
- *There would be some vetting and cross-referencing work required, support category resources, the Bob Lewis list, the West Coast Modern list.*
- Who will do the work? John will be prepared to work with Staff and West Coast Modern League and North Shore Preservation, receive and cross reference so we can write a budget request.

It was Moved and Seconded:

That Heritage Advisory Committee proceed with developing a list of assets to be considered for addition to the Community Heritage Register in preparation for evaluation by a heritage consultant.

CARRIED

#### 8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

#### 9. NEXT MEETING

Staff confirmed that the next Heritage Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. via electronic communication facilities.

#### 10. ADJOURNMENT

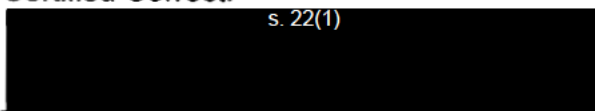
It was Moved and Seconded:

THAT the September 27, 2023 Heritage Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

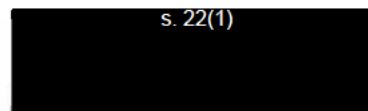
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Certified Correct:

 s. 22(1)

Chair

 s. 22(1)

Staff Representative



**From:** Patrick Weiler MP <patrick.weiler@parl.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 9:05 PM  
**To:** correspondence  
**Subject:** [BULK] October 2023 MP Newsletter

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**Patrick Weiler**  
Member of Parliament for West Vancouver-  
Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country

# OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

@patrickbweiler



patrick.weiler@parl.gc.ca



604 913 2660

Dear Mayor and Council,

October saw some major announcements for new community infrastructure funding, housing projects, [our tourism sector](#), and more across West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country. This includes [nearly \\$90 million to build hundreds of purpose-built rental homes in Whistler, Squamish and Bowen Island](#) and [recreational infrastructure](#) investments and [tourism investments](#) that will help build more accessible, vibrant, and welcoming communities. This month, our government also made important regional investments into BC healthcare and [mental healthcare](#), giving [early childcare workers a sizeable pay raise](#), and business investment, including a climate friendly agri-tech company in West Vancouver. Read below to learn more about these important investments.



In Ottawa, as part of my work on the Finance Committee, we have been focused on Pre-Budget Consultations as we hear from a wide range of voices to set Budget priorities for next year, as well as studying policy decisions and market forces that are increasing the cost of housing in Canada. On October 30th, we welcomed the Governor and Deputy Governor of the Bank of Canada to committee to speak to recent actions and observations of the Bank.

As Co-Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Tourism Caucus, I also engaged this month with a variety of stakeholders to ensure we are supporting this industry as best we can as the government rolls out its new Tourism Growth Strategy. And as Co-chair of the All-Party Cannabis Caucus, I was proud to help mark the five year anniversary since the legalization of cannabis in Canada. You can watch my statement in the House marking this occasion [here](#). I was also thrilled to host our annual Salmon Forever event to highlight the importance of Pacific wild salmon and the work our government is doing to protect our salmon stocks and move towards closed-containment fishing.

The spectacular Sechelt Arts Festival took place this month, along with almost 200 participating venues in the Sunshine Coast Art Crawl. I am always amazed by the artistic talent on the Sunshine Coast and it was a pleasure to experience both events this year. As part of Small Business Week, I met with small business owners to highlight the critical contributions they make to our local economy and communities. This month also marked the biannual Howe Sound Community Forum, hosted this time by the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre in Whistler, where governments throughout Howe Sound get together to advance the economic and social well being in the region. A reception of all UNESCO Biosphere Regions was hosted in Ottawa to end the month.

Finally, the horrific events and humanitarian catastrophe in Israel and Palestine is never far from our minds. The terrorist attack from Hamas on October 7 and the brutal war that has ensued have led to unspeakable tragedy for so many Palestinians and Israelis. We must work to establish a ceasefire, demand the release of all hostages, create and maintain a humanitarian corridor, protect the innocent civilians that are caught in the middle of this war,

and turn our attention to mechanisms that will lead to a lasting peace. You can read more about my thoughts below and in the cross-party statement I signed [here](#).

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## Community Updates: Sea to Sky

I was lucky to be able to meet with so many constituents in the Sea to Sky and make some very important announcements for our community this month. Here are some highlights.

### Federal Funding for Affordable Housing



In Whistler, I made a major announcement of nearly \$90 million to build 238 purpose-built rental homes across four projects for residents of Whistler, Squamish, and Bowen Island through the Rental Construction Financing Initiative (RCFi). The announcement took place at 1315 Cloudburst Drive, a four-story apartment building with both studio and bedroom units, completed in April 2023 and already providing home for Whistler residents. We were able to tour the beautiful development with Roger Soane, CEO of Whistler Sport Legacies Society.

These energy efficient and accessible homes will benefit low and middle-income individuals and families, helping to make our communities more inclusive and equitable. Projects like these are just one part of our government's plan to invest in affordable housing and ensure everyone has a place to call home, and the latest in a long string of investments in affordable housing.

### Investing in BC & Sea to Sky Tourism



Alongside Andrew Day, CEO of BC Parks Foundation, with a magnificent backdrop behind us at the top of the Sea to Sky Gondola, I announced a \$1,018,000 investment for three projects through the Tourism Relief Fund (TRF). Projects include a \$500,000 investment to the Aboriginal Tourism Association of BC to help Indigenous Tourism BC develop their tourism strategy with Destination BC to invest in the Indigenous Tourism sector in BC. A total of \$360,000 went to the BC Parks Foundation to develop an app for self-guided tours in BC parks. Tourism Bowen Island Association received \$158,000 to promote sustainable and community tourism programming.

These investments come on the heels of the Federal Tourism Growth Strategy that was launched earlier this year, with a particular focus on growing Indigenous tourism, recreation and the great outdoors as well as regenerative tourism. These investments are a key example of this strategy in action.

## **Investing in Community Infrastructure & Organizations**





After a beautiful walk along the Cheakamus River and an hour of nature-based yoga with owner and founder, Ellen Reesor, I announced \$1.9 million in PacifiCan funding for 11 projects that will support recreation and tourism in the Sea to Sky. One of the recipients of the TRF was our amazing host Ellen who was able to establish the studio and create an incredibly unique experience. Other recipients included SORCA, the Squamish Windsports Society, Tourism Pemberton and more.

The Sea to Sky is home to some of the most spectacular outdoor recreation and adventure opportunities in Canada. These projects will build more vibrant communities and provide new opportunities for locals and visitors alike to enjoy all the region has to offer.

## **Community Organizations & Festivals in the Sea to Sky**

This month I was able to meet with and ask Lori Pyne, Executive Director of Squamish Helping Hands Society, some questions about the work she does at Under One Roof and Squamish's overdose prevention site. The work that Under One Roof does every day saves lives, and helps build pathways for people to get the assistance they need. We must always debunk harmful assumptions about overdose and safe supply that revictimizes the most vulnerable in our community.



I also sat down with Ashley Oakes, Executive Director of Pearl Space, formerly known as the Howe Sound Women's Centre. They officially unveiled their new name on September 27th and as they have been doing for the last 40 years, they will continue to promote the equality and empowerment of women, non-binary, gender diverse, two-spirit, transpeople, as well as children and youth.

Attending the Howe Sound Community Forum is always an excellent opportunity to collaborate on how we can continue to improve the lives of all those that live in the region. The Whistler Writers Festival was a real treat, and I had the chance to catch up with the master of literary non-fiction, John Vaillant and talk about his book *Fire Weather: The Making of a Beast*. I highly recommend it – as well as his testimony in front of the Standing Committee on Natural Resources he gave several days after.

## **Celebrating Small Business Week**



98% of businesses in Canada are small businesses, making them the backbone of our economy. As the community in Squamish continues growing, we've seen a lot of new small businesses find their place in this beautiful town alongside businesses that have been serving the community for generations. Our government will continue to support small businesses so they can grow and thrive.

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## Community Updates: West Vancouver & Bowen Island

**BC Healthcare Announcement**



October 10th was World Mental Health Day and I joined many of my BC colleagues as well as Minister of Health Mark Holland to announce an agreement of more than \$1.2 billion over the next 3 years for British Columbia's healthcare. Critically, this includes specific funding to enhance access to mental health and addictions services, including the expansion of Foundry centres from 16 to 35. I have spent a lot of time with the Sea to Sky Foundry and know how beneficial their programs are, and I recommend all parents/youth in the region to go check it out.

## **Investing in Small & Medium Sized Businesses**





I joined Minister Harjit Sajjan at Simon Fraser University (SFU) in Burnaby last Thursday for an exciting announcement where we announced funding through PacifiCan's Business Acceleration Pilot program and \$3.5 million in funding to Lucent BioSciences, a climate-friendly agriculture technology pioneer who have a base in West Vancouver. Their product is able to increase crop yields, increase nutrient uptake, capture more carbon from the atmosphere and reduce agricultural runoff – a quadruple win. It was interesting getting to tour their greenhouse at SFU and I look forward to seeing their incredible work continue to grow.

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## Community Updates: Sunshine Coast

### **Celebrating Sechelt Arts Festival**

The Sechelt Arts Festival celebrated its 20th year of providing the Sunshine Coast with a diversity of artistic expressions, featuring emerging artists, workshops, concerts, films and so much more. Now a multi-week event, it is currently the largest multicultural and multidisciplinary arts festival on the Sunshine Coast. Congratulations to the amazing production team and volunteers who bring these experiences to the Coast.

### **Participating in the Sunshine Coast Art Crawl**



The Sunshine Coast Art Crawl is a weekend-long event with hundreds of artists, along with studios, galleries and other venues opening their doors to the public. From Langdale to Earls Cove, this year's event had 188 venues with over 260 artists, the largest number yet! This included 57 new venues with amazing new artists, along with many of the Sunshine Coast's returning favourites.

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# Parliamentary Updates

## OCTOBER IN OTTAWA: A SNAPSHOT

### VOTES

- ✓ M-78 (Inclusion of people with disabilities)
- ✓ 2nd reading of Bill C-320
- ✓ 2nd reading of Bill C-323, Excise Tax amendment for mental health services

### HOUSING STUDY

The housing crisis in Canada is something that impacts all of us, and it's vital that the Government of Canada plays its part in resolving it, in close coordination with the provincial and local governments.

### PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATIONS

I am now working directly on preparations for next year's federal budget, including the important work of pre-budget consultations. This work includes public discussions to hear from Canadians, businesses, not-for-profit organisations and other groups.

### TOURISM MEETINGS

My co-chair, Karen Sorensen, and I met with representatives from across the tourism industry to learn about their concerns and priorities especially as they continue to bounce back after the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### NEW SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Greg Fergus was elected as the new Speaker of the House - the first Black person to hold this position! He is responsible for ensuring that business in the House of Commons is done in an orderly fashion.

### CANNABIS LEGALISATION

October 17th, 2023 marked five years since Canada legalised recreational cannabis consumption. Since then we've seen the removal of unjust criminal records for simple possession charges and new business opportunities for Canada's economy

## Election of a New Speaker of the House

At the beginning of the month, we elected a new Speaker of the House of Commons, Greg Fergus. This was a historical moment as he is the first Black person to hold this position. Congratulations to Speaker Fergus on his momentous election.

## Finance Committee: Pre-Budget Consultations



As part of my work in Finance Committee, I am now working directly on preparations for next year's federal budget, including the important work of pre-budget consultations. This work includes public discussions to hear from Canadians, businesses, not-for-profit organizations and other groups. In addition to this work, I will be hosting public consultations in our riding so that I can hear from you on what you'd like to see in the upcoming Budget.

## **Finance Committee: Housing Study**

The housing crisis in Canada is something that impacts all of us, and it's vital that the Government of Canada plays its part in resolving it, in close coordination with the provincial and local governments. That is why we are currently undertaking a housing study in Finance Committee, examining housing prices in Canada, their causes and what actions the Federal Government can take to address this important issue.

## **Celebrating BC Salmon**



Wild Pacific Salmon are iconic to BC for many reasons; it holds important significance to many Indigenous communities, provides jobs and local economic benefits, and is a critical food source for both animals and people. On October 3rd, I was proud to co-host the Salmon Forever reception alongside three amazing groups: the BC Wildlife Federation, the Pacific Salmon Foundation and, the Sport Fishing Institute of BC.

## **5 Years Since Cannabis Legalization**



October 17th, 2023 marked five years since Canada legalized recreational cannabis consumption. Since then we've seen the removal of unjust criminal records for simple possession charges and new business opportunities for Canada's economy. The cannabis industry alone contributed a \$43.5 billion boost to our national GDP, as it made significant headway in displacing the illicit market with a regulated supply.

I am proud to be the Co-chair of the All-Party Cannabis Caucus, and I marked the occasion by rising in the House to make a statement which you can watch above, as well as speaking on a panel for the Cannabis Council of Canada's Grass on the Hill event.

### **Tourism Meetings**





As Co-Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Tourism Caucus alongside Senator Karen Sorensen, we frequently meet with various representatives from the tourism industry. While this sector still has not fully rebounded to pre-pandemic levels, they remain one of the largest employers in the country, that operates from coast to coast to coast. I look forward to continuing to support and promote this critical industry, including through measures like the Federal Tourism Growth Strategy which we are currently implementing.

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## Israel– Hamas War

The current Israel-Hamas war has been top of mind for many of us. Thank you to everyone who has contacted my office on this matter; I always appreciate hearing how my constituents are feeling and what action they want our government to take.

The barbaric terrorist attack by Hamas on Israeli civilians on October 7th shocked the world, and I condemn these horrific actions. I mourn the at least 1400 lives lost on this day and Canada continues to call for the release of all hostages taken and still held by Hamas.

Canada has a proud history of being a voice for peace. We must continue to put the lives of civilians, justice, and long-lasting peace at the heart of our foreign policy. To that end, I signed a letter along with over 30 other MPs across political parties to join the growing international call for an immediate ceasefire. The letter also calls on Canada to do all it can to facilitate the opening of a humanitarian corridor so that critical supplies can enter Gaza. You can read the full statement [here](#).

At the time of writing, Gaza health authorities say that 8,525 people, including 3,542 children, have been killed by Israeli attacks since Oct. 7. Many more are injured, and UN officials say more than 1.4 million of Gaza's civilian population of about 2.3 million have been made homeless. The ongoing blockade of critical supplies of food, water, medical supplies and electricity is causing a humanitarian crisis in Gaza. International law requires states to take positive steps to protect civilians, including a requirement of proportionality and prevention of

the excessive use of force, and outlawing collective punishment of civilians. Having played a key role in the development of international law, it is important that Canada stand up for the protection of international legal obligations when it is being tested as it is today.

The federal government has announced \$60 million in funding for humanitarian assistance to address urgent needs stemming from the crisis in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, Israel and neighbouring areas, but more is needed, and we will be working to secure that aid.

All civilians deserve to live in peace and dignity. A ceasefire is what we need in the short-term, but we know that the long-term solution to this conflict is reaffirming our commitment to the legitimate aspirations of Palestinian statehood, living peacefully alongside an Israeli state. Canada must do all that it can to bring the relevant parties to the negotiating table to make this a reality. So long as the root causes of this conflict go ignored the cycle of violence will continue. We can and must do better to protect civilians and innocent lives.

Lastly, I am shocked to see the rise in antisemitism and islamophobia in Canada and around the world. Jewish-Canadian and Muslim-Canadian individuals, businesses and places of worship are not responsible for the actions of the terrorist organization of Hamas, nor the Government of Israel, and must never be subject to aggression, intimidation or discrimination. This is fundamentally un-Canadian, and I condemn in the strongest terms such actions we have seen take place in Canada and around the world.

---

**OFFICE OF MP PATRICK WEILER  
CONSTITUENCY OFFICE: 6367 BRUCE ST.  
VANCOUVER**

**OFFICE HOURS: WEEKDAYS**

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