

# North Vancouver Community Associations Network (NVCAN)

## Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Date: Wednesday May 19, 2021

Location: Zoom

Time: 7:00 – 8:45 pm

### Present:

John Miller (Chair)	Lower Capilano
Eric Andersen	Blueridge
Barry Fenton	Blueridge
Val Wilkins	Deep Cove/Strathcona
Corrie Kost	Edgemont Upper Capilano
Erik Skowronek	Edgemont Upper Capilano
Irene Davidson	Norgate Park
Barbara McKinley	Norwood/Queens
Herman Mah	Pemberton Heights
Peter Teevan	Seymour
Val Moller	Woodcroft
Babs Perowne	Woodcroft

### Regrets:

Katherine Fagerlund	Deep Cove/Strathcona
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1. **Approval of Agenda.** Agenda was approved.
2. **Approval of Minutes.** Minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting were approved. Corrie will provide amendments to the April 21, 2021 meeting. The April minutes will be presented for approval at the June 16 meeting.
3. **New Business**
  - a. **Discussion on OCP survey.** John opened the floor for discussion. Corrie said he had completed the survey adding additional comments in many sections and was then unable to print the survey for his records. He also commented on the lack of vision shown in the OCP update relating to changing technologies; that temporary street uses to supplement COVID expropriated public space for private purposes will become permanent; that insufficient new parks or big spaces are planned to accommodate denser residential high rise buildings. Corrie added that no costing of options was included and there was limited take-up by the general population. Val M. added that the form of the survey was not constructive in soliciting input. Irene commented that she had attended workshops and felt the survey was a done deal and questioned its purpose. Peter felt it offered no real choices and reflected a confirmation bias which misconstrued the results of the workshops. He added that the conflicting uses of walkways (people, e-bikes, dogs) did not balance enjoyment, transportation and environment issues. Barry added the survey channeled the direction of comments to a pre-determined view.
  - b. **Election of Board Members at June meeting.** John notified the meeting that three directors terms will be up at the June meeting. Terms of 3 directors expire June 2021: Eric Andersen, Corrie Kost, John Miller. Nominations will be taken between now and the June meeting when elections will be held. All three retiring directors indicated a willingness to run again. John added that he will be looking to someone else to chair meetings in the next term.

#### 4. Community Roundtable

- a. **Deep Cove.** Val W. reported traffic fallout relating to the temporary road for the storm sewer pipe replacement is expected to last until September. DNV will base final decisions on what the residents want in the fall. Lower Gallant will remain a flexible street with a one-way option. Possible funding from the federal government may be available. Public input via a survey is solicited by DNV on a separate page on their website. Peter commented that the number of trees removed was to facilitate Translink buses.
- b. **Woodcroft.** Val M reported the peripheral areas in Lions Gate, building of new townhomes continues, making the area denser and denser. Construction has started on the tower replacing the old Earl's restaurant.  
All 5 stratas in Woodcroft held their AGMs in April.  
Our Parkade Project is progressing. The latest is that the contractors are ahead of schedule with the underground restoration. However since removing the trees and shrubs from the center plaza in March, we are still waiting for the permit from DNV to remove the top soil and concrete in order to get to the membrane. Latest word is that permit should be issued next week – two months after application was submitted. Val questions why there have to be two separate permits (with a long wait between each one) for a parkade restoration project as this is not for a new development.
- c. **Norgate.** Irene reported one house is being demolished in Silverwood Crescent. It will be replaced. Several houses have been sold recently in the neighbourhood.  
The pilot for a new series called "Yellowjackets" will be filmed on Tatlow Avenue over the next three months.  
The Driver Testing Centre is now located on Marine Drive at Bridgman and Learner drivers are practising their driving skills in Norgate.  
Construction continues at the Wastewater Treatment Centre with traffic congestion at 1st Street and Welch Street at Pemberton Avenue, especially during evening rush hour.
- d. **EUCCA.** Eric S. reported the current big construction project in Edgemont Village at the corner of Connaught and Crescentview is continuing. The majority of the concrete pouring is complete and the wall are going up. The wall panels have been constructed off-site and it took approximately 1 week to erect the walls for the first floor of the project. This week the floor joists are being installed. The owner has now indicated a finish in February 2022. He will sell some of the units and rent some.  
The long awaited re-incarnation of a previous Mexican Restaurant is nearing completion. Last Friday, one of the owners indicated that they would be opening Wednesday or Thursday. That has proven to be in error but it should open fairly soon.  
Eric S. commented that a representative of neighbouring Community Association supported one of our local restaurants recently.
- e. **Norwood Queens.** Barb reported: Norwood Queens CA has entered into a partnership with a real estate agent who will pay for a newsletter mail drop and signs to publicize our community association and attract members. The CA is working with The Marketing Team, a club at Carson Graham, to design a logo for our association. And the Traffic subcommittee has been working with the DNV and two speed bumps will be installed on lower Norwood and investigations are ongoing for other areas that need traffic calming. From the Nextdoor app we have become aware of the need for recycling containers and bear proof garbage cans in Carisbrooke Park. This will be discussed this at the CA's June 9 meeting.
- f. **Pemberton Heights.** Herman reported the Butterfly Way Project was installed at Ashdown Park over two the first two weekends in May. This initiative was completed by the David Suzuki Foundation (volunteers from neighbourhood brought forward to Association). DNV provided 2

yards of soil and some mulch. The Butterfly Way Project is a volunteer-led movement that is growing habitat for bees and butterflies in neighbourhoods throughout Canada. Over 400 communities are involved. In addition, Ashdown Park Spring Clean-up and the annual garden clean-up (top of Zig Zag trail) were completed on May 8 with the help of about 12 volunteers. Herman also reported the CA arranged a community zoom call with the RCMP on May 4 as residents had expressed concern of auto break-ins and vandalism. The presenter was Corporal Abdulla Zaheer from the North Vancouver RCMP Community Policing Unit. The meeting provided a good exchange and some good tips. One person voiced concern about public "Injection Site" at the new supportive housing project at 1577 Lloyd Ave; however, to clarify, there is no "injection site". Instead, residents in the building will be able to use drugs in a safe and supervised room (part of a harm reduction strategy).

The Garage 529 program - event will be held at Corner Stone Bistro on Saturday May 29 from 10am – Noon. The 529 Garage is the world's largest and fastest-growing bicycle registration system, with now over a million searchable bikes (July 2019). The system is a cloud-based service offered to partners in the cycling industry, law enforcement and education markets to tackle bicycle theft. Over 70,000 bikes registered in lower mainland and growing 20% per year. 2,000 bikes are stolen per year in Vancouver alone.

Bowser Trail walk-thru on April 29) with John from Lower Cap CA, a Pemberton Heights resident and Councillor Muri to discuss safety issues and neighbours' concerns about cottonwood trees drooping over the trail. Further action to be determined.

Lastly the operator of the CornerStone received a permit from the District for increased outdoor seating... come on down!

- g. **Blueridge.** Eric A. reported BCA is now officially a registered society. The 2021 AGM is now planned for Tuesday, September 14.

Issues with an inordinate amount of visitors creating traffic and parking in Blueridge continue and are expected to get worse as the weather improves and more Lower Mainland residents will be going on vacation. To be proactive BCA co-hosted a town hall meeting with our MLA Susie Chant, and the Seymour Community Association about 'Accessing Mount Seymour Provincial Park'. We had 50 participants and not a single person supported the reintroduction of the day pass requirement for Mount Seymour Provincial Park. This has very negative impact on the nearby trails under e.g. Metro Vancouver and the DNV's jurisdiction. BCA will host a meeting on June 1 to deal with our local issues and we reached out to various departments at the DNV and the RCMP. Mayor and Council will also be invited to join us.

The new Volunteer Coordinator at BCA has been super-active and sends out volunteer opportunities on a regular basis. As a result, BCA hosted their first trail maintenance day on May 1, and also had volunteers to street cleanups on Earth Day in April.

Eric A is working on our June newsletter. In addition, BCA will host a Zoom meeting on June 22 to promote all the community activities and events that the BCA is hosting. All going well, BCA will also have brief videos about some of the activities to showcase e.g. our Blueridge Garden. The Blueridge Awards will be decided next week. This is the first time to present these awards and BCA hopes to build momentum with this.

Two UBC students spent time this spring analyzing our social media (FB, Instagram and Mailchimp) and presented a report with their findings and recommendations. This was most interesting, not least because it was prepared by outsiders, a younger generation and social media experts.

Barry reported that Windsor Secondary school will hold a drive-through for their grad ceremony to accommodate COVID restrictions.

- h. **Seymour.** Peter reported Seymour CA participated with Blueridge in the town hall meeting with MLA Susie Chant. He added that a manned security guard is stationed to prevent access to Quarry Rock. He also commented on a traffic safety issue at Mile 0 on the Mt Seymour Parkway at Indian River Drive.
  - i. **Lower Capilano.** John reported that the cleanup of trimmed tree branches on the embankment above the Bowser Trail needs to be completed. The concern relates to a forest fire hazard. Bike signage also needs to be improved. John commented that CAC's from Lions Gate Centre development should be applied to Bowser Trail as Lions Gate advertises the Trail as a local amenity.
5. **Other Business:** Corrie mentioned that Vancouver will bypass public hearings for social housing.
6. **Next Meeting:** **AGM/Regular meeting - June 16, 2021**
7. **Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm**