

North Vancouver Community Associations Network (NVCAN)

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Date: Wednesday March 12 2025

Location: Skyline Room, DNV Hall

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Present:

John Miller (Chair)	Lower Capilano
Eric Andersen	Blueridge
Corrie Kost	NVCAN Director Emeritus
Eric Skrownek	Edgemont
Lyle Craver	Lynn Valley
Gillian Konst	Lynn Valley (zoom)
Mike Pattenaude	Norgate Park (zoom)
Peter Teevan	Seymour
Karen Barnett	Seymour
Babs Perowne	Woodcroft

Public Attendee:

SK Lai	Resident of Delbrook
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1. Welcome: John welcomed everyone to the meeting at 7 pm.
2. Peter advised that AI had been set up to take the minutes.
3. The agenda was amended to include Municipal Spending and Newsclips under New Business.
4. The minutes of January 15, 2025 and February 19, 2025 were approved.
5. **Old Business:** John advised that he sent Council an email regarding NVCANs request for community bulletin boards using CAC funds and that Councillor Jordan Back replied within minutes stating that he thought it was an excellent idea and would follow-up with staff. However, there has been no further response from Councillor Back and he has not responded to multiple follow-up emails and phone message requests. John will contact the mayor regarding NVCANs request.
6. **New Business:**
 - a) *Dog Aggression* – Eric Andersen described a series of dog attacks on his dog Molly by the same aggressive dog owned by a neighbor. Despite multiple reports to the District and Metro Vancouver authorities, little action has been taken. The most recent incident resulted in Eric being bitten. All agreed that the issue of off-leash dogs is a widespread problem and that enforcement is necessary to ensure public safety.

Eric discussed issues with boundary borders between the District and Metro lands and the lack of Metro bylaws. He also mentioned the need for better jurisdictional signs in the forest and the lack of bylaw officers. Gillian agreed with Eric's points and suggested that they should follow up on the dog issue and consider going to Council for further action. Gillian suggested that evidence of an aggressive dog should be reported to the RCMP, while Mike shared his experience of dealing with a similar issue in his area. The idea was proposed of negotiating a co-management agreement between Metro Vancouver and the District to improve enforcement of animal bylaws. However, there were concerns about the effectiveness of such an agreement and the need for stronger legal frameworks. The conversation ended with a discussion on the need for better enforcement of bylaws and the importance of protecting citizens' rights.

b) *Municipal Spending* - Peter presented a spreadsheet tool he created using publicly available financial data from the British Columbia Municipal General and Financial Statistics website. The tool allows users to compare and graph expenditure data for different municipalities over time. Peter offered to help others use the tool and create additional schedules if needed. The group discusses concerns about the district's accounting practices, particularly regarding carryover amounts and accruals.

c) *Newsclips* – Corrie advised that he has included articles on the tariff issues in the newsclips on the NVCAN website. He also mentioned using AI tools like 'ChatGPT for data analysis and there was a brief discussion regarding utility bills.

7. Community Roundtable –

- a. **Edgemont** - Ed Skrownek discussed the closing of a grocery store in Edgemont and the subsequent relocation of the liquor store. He also mentioned issues within the community association, including resignations and a shift in focus from advocacy to events.
- b. **Lynn Valley** – Gillian advised that the directors had no further discussions regarding the community bulletin boards request.
- c. **Seymour** – Peter stated that there were rumors of the potential relocation of the Ron Andrews Recreation Centre from its current location in Seymour to Maplewood. He expressed concerns about the impact of this move on the Seymour community and the need for a new recreation center in the Maplewood town centre. Peter also mentioned the potential development of high-rise towers on Squamish Nation land and in the Tsleil-Waututh Seymour estates.
- d. **Norgate** - Mike reported that the Norgate has set up a website and discussed with the mayor various local issues, including sidewalks and speed concerns. The mayor discussed potential future plans for the District, including new rapid bus routes and possibly relocating the elementary school to Norgate Park and the park to the current school site. John informed Mike about three upcoming

development/rezoning options for the area that will be open for public comment soon, emphasizing the importance of community awareness and participation. The options include high-density towers in the village center or spreading development along Marine Drive and into parts of Norgate and Lower Capilano. The group discussed concerns about the lack of community engagement in these significant planning decisions and the need for better communication with residents.

- e. **Blueridge** – Eric advised that Blueridge has a newsletter coming out (which will be sent to NVCAN members when available) and a Good Neighbour Day event is planned for May 25th. BCA introduced a new fund for small community projects and an award for good neighbours.
- f. SK Lai, a member of the public attending the meeting, discussed the financial war between Canada and the US and suggested that all the community associations should take a stand on this issue by promoting Canadian products and services to support the Canadian economy on the community associations' Facebook pages and websites.

8. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm