

# AGENDA

## *COUNCIL WORKSHOP*

**Monday, December 7, 2015  
6:00 p.m.  
Committee Room, Municipal Hall  
355 West Queens Road,  
North Vancouver, BC**

**Council Members:**

Mayor Richard Walton  
Councillor Roger Bassam  
Councillor Mathew Bond  
Councillor Jim Hanson  
Councillor Robin Hicks  
Councillor Doug MacKay-Dunn  
Councillor Lisa Muri



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**6:00 p.m.**  
**Monday, December 7, 2015**  
**Committee Room, Municipal Hall,**  
**355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver**

### **AGENDA**

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**1.1. December 7, 2015 Council Workshop Agenda**

*Recommendation:*

THAT the agenda for the December 7, 2015 Council Workshop be adopted as circulated, including the addition of any items listed in the agenda addendum.

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**3. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OR STAFF**

**3.1. Developing a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the District of North Vancouver p. 7-11**  
File No. 13.6770

*Recommendation:*

THAT the November 27, 2015 joint report of the Section Manager – Environmental Sustainability, Section Manager – Public Safety and Climate Change Adaptation Assistant entitled Developing a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the District of North Vancouver be received for information.

**4. PUBLIC INPUT**

(maximum of ten minutes total)

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

*Recommendation:*

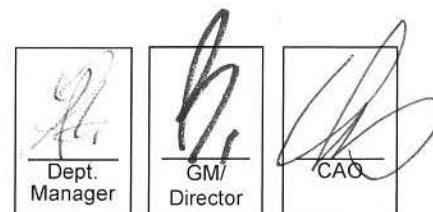
THAT the December 7, 2015 Council Workshop be adjourned.

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## REPORTS

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AGENDA INFORMATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee of the Whole	Date: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance & Audit	Date: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Advisory Oversight	Date: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Date: _____



## The District of North Vancouver REPORT TO COMMITTEE

November 27, 2015  
File: 13.6770

**AUTHORS:** Julie Pavey, Section Manager – Environmental Sustainability  
Fiona Dercole, Section Manager – Public Safety  
Sinead Murphy, Climate Change Adaptation Assistant

**SUBJECT:** Developing a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the District of North Vancouver

### RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the report of the Section Manager – Environmental Sustainability, Section Manager – Public Safety, and Climate Change Adaptation Assistant dated November 27, 2015, *Developing a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the District of North Vancouver*, be received for information.

### REASON FOR REPORT:

To provide Council with an update on the development of the District's first comprehensive Climate Change Adaptation Strategy which is part of implementing the Official Community Plan (OCP) and is in support of the new Corporate Plan.

### SUMMARY:

At the December, 7<sup>th</sup> 2015 Committee of the Whole meeting of Council, staff will present an overview of the inter-departmental, multi-year initiative to prepare a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (the "Strategy") consistent with the International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) framework (Figure 1) being adopted by many member municipalities in Metro Vancouver. This initiative is part of the efforts to implement the District's OCP goals and objectives and supports the new Corporate Plan. Council's awareness of and input on this initiative is being sought at this time.

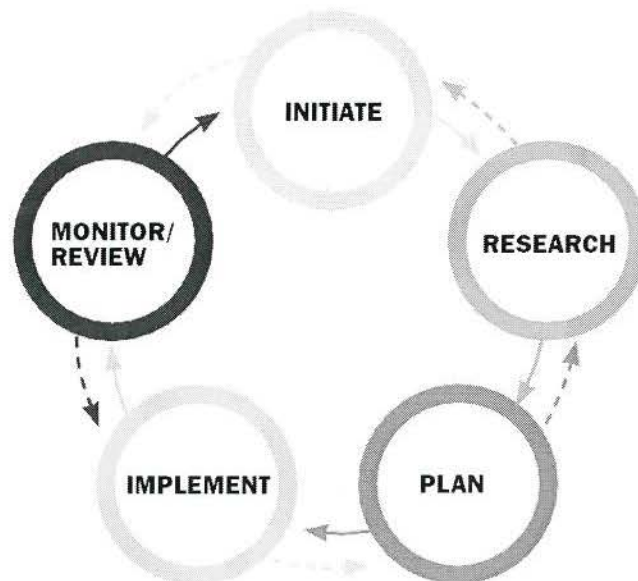
### BACKGROUND:

The District's geographic location, between the Pacific Ocean and the Coast Mountains and interspersed by many creeks and large forested areas, makes us physically vulnerable to climate change. Many of the developed areas of the District are exposed to natural hazards, anticipated to become more challenging to manage as climate change advances.

Recent local events such as windstorms, drought, poor air quality, and flooding highlight the need to be prepared for ongoing and future climate-related challenges. To become resilient

to climate change, two simultaneous approaches are needed – mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation focuses on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to prevent future climate change from happening. To reduce GHG emissions, District has set a 2030 target for a 33% reduction in the OCP. Additionally, a number of initiatives and GHG reduction measures for mitigation are being proposed or are underway including; green building strategy, renewable energy, waste diversion, transportation planning, and support for low carbon vehicles.

However, even with extensive mitigation efforts, some degree of climate change is inevitable. Therefore, the District must also proactively prepare through adaptation to reduce negative impacts on the community. While adaptation-related work at the District has been happening on a variety of fronts for years, this work would benefit from an overarching Climate Change Adaptation Strategy to integrate existing plans and policies, identify gaps and coordinate actions.



**Figure 1:** ICLEI framework used to develop the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.

**EXISTING POLICY:**

The need to prepare a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy was recognized during stakeholder and community engagement and technical planning as part of the OCP process and is also considered a corporate priority. The OCP states a commitment to develop a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and contains a number of existing policies which reference climate change including objectives to “adapt proactively to climate change” (OCP, Ch.10.4), “reduce and mitigate the risk associated with natural hazards” (OCP, Ch. 9.4), “protect development from hazardous conditions” (OCP, Schedule B), and “protect the natural environment, its ecosystems and biodiversity” (OCP, Schedule B).



**SUBJECT: Developing a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the District of North Vancouver**

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**ANALYSIS:**

The District has undertaken and been working on a number of initiatives that already address adaptation, such as a long-term asset management plan and numerous natural hazard risk assessments. An overarching Strategy will help to coordinate our actions, identify any gaps, and create new actions to fill those gaps. Integrating climate change adaptation into District programs, policies, and decision-making provides an opportunity to enhance community resilience and reduce the long-term impacts and costs of climate change.

The objective of the Strategy is to reduce risk where vulnerabilities exist and plan for anticipated challenges associated with a changing climate. As part of the ICLEI framework, the inter-departmental Climate Change Adaptation Team has completed comprehensive vulnerability and risk assessments to prioritize District-specific impacts and inform the upcoming action planning stage of the ICLEI framework (Figure 1).

**Timing/Approval Process:**

The work program to develop the Strategy began in 2014 as a multi-year initiative and was part of the 2014-2015 work program and budget for District staff that was approved by Council. The Strategy is anticipated to be completed in by mid-2016.

**Concurrence:**

The inter-departmental Climate Change Adaptation Team, as well as staff from a number of departments, have been consulted at various stages throughout the development of the Strategy and are supportive of undertaking this inter-departmental initiative to develop a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy following the ICLEI framework.

**Financial Impacts:**

Funding request was made as part of the 2014, 2015, and 2106 Financial Plans. The financial considerations for the development of the Strategy include existing staff time and temporary staff resources (0.3 FTE) to support the initiative. The 2014 budget request received the full request of \$35,230 in 2014 and again in 2015. The longer term costs associated with implementing the Strategy have not yet been quantified, but are likely to be significant.

**Liability/Risk:**

Proactive climate change adaptation planning will enhance the District's existing risk management by anticipating future risks based on best available science and provide measures to reduce the community impacts. Timely and strategic adaptation makes economic, social and environmental sense, and is expected to be far less costly than inaction and delay.

**Social Policy Implications:**

Climate change will affect different communities in different ways and adaptation planning is central to community resiliency. The District's poor and vulnerable populations may be particularly impacted by climate change and potential hazards due to lack of/or inadequate shelter, dry clothing and food; medical health related needs; mobility challenges and/or limited access to transportation.

**Environmental Impact:**

There is a growing body of scientific research indicating that climate change will have a profound effect on BC forests and ecosystems (Association of BC Forestry Professionals position statement, 2008). Climate change is identified as one of the main threats to biodiversity in BC as there are animal and plant species that may not be able to adapt fast enough to changing temperature and precipitation patterns. There is an additional threat that climate change will further impact the spread of invasive plants and animals which are proving to be more adept at survival than native species.

**Public Input:**

Working closely with the Communications team, staff developed an approach for stakeholder outreach at key stages during the development of the Strategy. Public engagement is currently being provided through our online web and social media presence. Staff anticipate further opportunities to discuss our Strategy development and receive input from stakeholder working groups through outreach to interest groups and community associations over the next few months.

**Conclusion:**

This inter-departmental, multi-year initiative to prepare a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy consistent with the International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) framework will provide a comprehensive and integrated Strategy to inform and support the implementation of the District's Official Community Plan (OCP) and prepare the District for the unavoidable challenges posed by climate change.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Julie Pavey  
Section Manager – Environmental Sustainability

  
Fiona Dercole  
Section Manager – Public Safety

  
Sinead Murphy  
Climate Change Adaptation Assistant

REVIEWED WITH:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Community Dev. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk's Office _____	External Agencies:
<input type="checkbox"/> Development Services _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Library Board _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Finance _____	<input type="checkbox"/> NS Health _____

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<input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Environment	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> ITS	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation Com.	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Solicitor	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum & Arch.	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Human resources	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	_____

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