



CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting – Wednesday, June 14, 2023
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm In-Person
District of North Vancouver Hall, Committee Room

Present: Ken Ashley, Eleanor Gill, Mariko Michasiw, Keegan Casidy, Oliver Ng, Mayor Mike Little, Councillor Jordan Back

Staff: Caroline Jackson, Director, Climate Action, Natural Systems and Biodiversity
Adam Wright, Sustainability Planner
Bo Ocampo, Sustainability Specialist
Brendan McEwan, Dunsky Energy + Climate (Consultant)

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Eleanor Gill called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

Territorial Acknowledgement

Eleanor Gill provided the territorial acknowledgement and noted that June is National Indigenous History Month.

Mayoral Opening Remarks

Mayor Little thanked the Committee for volunteering their time and expertise. He stated it was important for the District to have a dedicated space to discuss climate goals.

Adoption of the Agenda

Moved, seconded and resolved
To adopt the agenda.

Adoption of the Minutes

Moved, seconded and resolved
To adopt the May 16, 2023 minutes.

2. Opening Remarks: District Electric Vehicle Strategy

Adam Wright, Sustainability Planner, stated that increasing access to Electric Vehicle (EV) charging is a key strategy to help the District achieve its greenhouse gas reduction targets. He noted that an overarching Electric Vehicle Strategy is expected to help:

- define the municipality's role in supporting the transition to electric vehicles;
- engage with internal and external stakeholders to better understand challenges and opportunities; and
- identify the public and private charging infrastructure investment required to support the transition.

3. Ice Breaker

7:15

Brendan McEwen from Dunsky Energy + Climate led an ice breaker activity where Committee members introduced themselves and stated their personal experience with electric vehicles and what they were interested in learning at the workshop.

4. Presentation: Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging

7:25

Brendan McEwen from Dunsky Energy + Climate provided a presentation on EV key concepts and the role of municipalities in enabling EV adoption.

The key EV concepts he reviewed included charging categories, types of charging, the charging pyramid which shows that most charging takes place in residential settings, and an overview of best practices for supporting EV adoption. He then spoke to the draft results from an EV Charging Needs Assessment being undertaken by Metro Vancouver. The preliminary results show that over 90% of new vehicles sold in the District are anticipated to be electric by 2030. The presentation concluded with an overview of potential municipal policies to support EV growth and readiness which included supporting public charging on private property, investing in public charging infrastructure, and supporting EV ready multifamily residential buildings.

5. Q&A on Presentation

7:45

Committee members commented that it is important for the District to be thoughtful in the approach to supporting EV adoption and to ensure equitable access. It was noted the cost of EVs will continue to decrease as batteries become more affordable and more second-hand vehicles become available. There was also general discussion regarding educating local businesses and building owners on the economic benefits of installing electrical vehicle charging which contributes to future proofing their buildings. The presenter noted that while broader electrical demand is expected to increase with growing EV adoption, there will also be energy savings as we transition to higher efficiency vehicles.

6. Break

8:00

7. EV Workshop Breakout Group Discussions **8:10**

8. During the EV Workshop, a breakout session was held where CAAC members were asked to provide specific guidance related to the District’s upcoming Electric Vehicle Strategy. The Committee was asked how the District could catalyze investment in charging infrastructure on private property. Committee members noted that incentives could be used to catalyze investment along with education and outreach for the business community. Members discussed opportunities and challenges associated with the municipality investing in public charging. Committee members noted the importance of planning where charging stations are located, support for small businesses, and that municipalities could focus on infrastructure gaps that the private sector might not be able to fill.

9. Committee Member Updates **8:55**

Committee Members

Committee members provided the following updates:

- Councillor Back went to Federation of Canadian Municipalities annual conference in May. He attended a Climate Action session and noted the District’s significant progress on current and upcoming climate initiatives.
- The second annual Indigenous Knowledge & Sea Level Rise Symposium took place on June 3rd at Maplewood Flats and was well attended.
- This might be one of the driest summers in BC which could be amplified by El Niño.
- The Vancouver School Board hosted a session on emerging issues such as affordability and climate change, and wildfires.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 pm.