

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"

CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"

Date: 12/12/2019 7:30:43 AM

Subject: Motion: Support for the Vancouver Rowing Club and Coal Harbour as a Multiuse Waterway

Attachments: Motiong B4 Support for Vancouver Rowing Club and Coal Harbour_Sept 2019.pdf
2019-12-11 VFPA Response Ltr to CoV - RVYC PP 17-113.pdf

Greetings Mayor and Council,

On September 11, 2019 at the Standing Committee of Council on Policy and Strategic Priorities, Council approved the motion on "Support for the Vancouver Rowing Club and Coal Harbour as a Multiuse Waterway."

In accordance with the above motion, Mayor wrote to the Harbourmaster, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority and the Navigation Protection Program of Transport Canada advising them of Council's the support for the Vancouver Rowing Club and development of a multi-use strategy for Coal Harbour.

Please see attached motion B4 and the attached response from the VFPA to the Mayor, dated October 31, 2019.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,
Paul

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The City of Vancouver ocknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

MOTION ON NOTICE

4. **Support for the Vancouver Rowing Club and Coal Harbour as a Multiuse Waterway**

Submitted by: Councillor Fry

WHEREAS:

1. The Vancouver Rowing Club (VRC) was officially established in 1899, as an offshoot of the Vancouver Boating Club (1886) and is the oldest amateur sports organization in the city. With the exception of two World Wars, when all eligible members volunteered to fight for Canada, the history of VRC and rowing in Coal Harbour has been uninterrupted.
2. Since 1905 the VRC floating clubhouse has been located at Lot 14 Park Bridge (described as “in Stanley Park, just past the bridge, below the bear pit.”). Purpose built in 1911, the popular and picturesque Tudor-style floating clubhouse known today was granted heritage ‘A’ status by Vancouver City Council in 1990.
3. VRC promotes active and healthy participation, with a constitutional mandate to promote community building through amateur athletics. Membership is open to the public, with members ranging in age from 13 to 90 years old.
4. VRC provides inclusive opportunities, with a para-athlete program and facilities to enable wheelchair athletes to access the dock and row in Coal Harbour, and popular “Learn to Row” courses to encourage the development of rowing in Vancouver.
5. VRC has maintained a tradition of athletic excellence both locally and internationally, rowers have gone on compete and win medals for Canada's Olympic, Pan American and Commonwealth Games Teams.
6. The VRC location at 450 Stanley Park Drive is made viable by a City of Vancouver lease, with water access to Coal Harbour and the public right of way to Burrard Inlet.
7. In December 2018, the neighbouring Royal Vancouver Yacht Club (RVYC) submitted an application to expand its Coal Harbour Marina into the shared right of way. The permit application is currently under review by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, doing business as the Port of Vancouver.
8. The shared right of way channel currently used by the Vancouver Rowing Club and others including RVYC, Harbor Cruises, and local marinas is 91 meters at the narrowest point and already congested. The proposed RVYC expansion would result in a reduction of the channel width to only 71 meters. (<https://www.portvancouver.com/wp->

content/uploads/2018/12/Project-Permit-Application-Rowing-Technical-Memo-RVYC-Coal-Harbour-Marina-Expansion-1.pdf)

9. The proposed expansion of RVYC marina and subsequent narrowing of the Coal Harbour waterway may have a substantial impact on its rowing programs by increasing the number of large motorized boats and reducing sight lines.
10. The On Water, Vancouver's Non-motorized Watercraft Recreation Strategy was approved by the Park Board June 2019. The Strategy was created to "provide, preserve and advocate for parks and recreation to benefit all people, communities and the environment"; non-motorized water sport activities include canoeing, kite surfing, rowing, dragon boating, outrigger, windsurfing, kayaking, paddle boarding, and small craft sailing.
11. Section 3 (iv) of The Blueways Program adopted by the City of Vancouver in the 1990s mandates the City develop a water use plan to assist in the resolution of conflicts between water users; and advise on waterfront plans and development proposals.
12. VRC programming is consistent with Vancouver's Healthy City Strategy goal that: "All Vancouverites are engaged in active living and have incomparable access to nature."
13. VRC is a lease holder of the City of Vancouver and provides an important service to the rowing community in Vancouver at its historic location.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT Vancouver City Council affirms support for The Vancouver Rowing Club and the history and future of rowing in Vancouver by sending a letter to the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, doing business as the Port of Vancouver.
- B. THAT Council affirms support for the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, doing business as the Port of Vancouver to create a multi-use strategy for Coal Harbour to the benefit of the entire Harbour and safety of users.
- C. THAT the Mayor on behalf of City Council and in consultation with the Park Board write to the Harbourmaster, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, doing business as the Port of Vancouver, and the Navigation Protection Program of Transport Canada of the Port of Vancouver advising them of the above.

December 11, 2019

Mayor Kennedy Stewart and Council
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

Dear Mayor Kennedy Stewart and Council:

Re: Support for the Vancouver Rowing Club and Coal Harbour as a Multiuse Waterway

Thank you for your letter to Robin Silvester regarding the proposed Royal Vancouver Yacht Club (RVYC) Coal Harbour Marina Expansion project PER No. 17-113.

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (port authority) received a project permit application for this project in December 2018, which we are currently reviewing for completeness. The project will be reviewed through the port authority's [Project and Environmental Review](#) (PER) process to assess this project and fulfill our federal responsibilities under the *Canada Marine Act* and the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.

Our PER process is very rigorous, and involves an assessment of studies and other evidence to determine if there will be any impacts to the environment or the community and, if so, how those impacts may be mitigated. The port authority will carry out stakeholder engagement and Indigenous consultation, and the applicant will conduct public engagement. We expect that outreach to begin in early 2020. Upon completion of our review, and with full consideration for community feedback, the port authority will decide whether a project permit will be granted.

Thank you for advising of council's support for a multiuse strategy for Coal Harbour to be created by the port authority. It is too early to say how we will address the future use of Coal Harbour. As part of the PER review, we intend to hear more from the community before deciding on any next steps. We share your support for the Vancouver Park Board's recently-approved "On Water, Vancouver's Non-motorized Watercraft Recreation Strategy", as we participated in its development as a member of the regulatory working group. We expect it will be a valuable resource to our work, and we hope to be guided by further input from local government and the community through our review process.

As part of our role to enable Canada's trade, the port authority is responsible for maintaining the safe and efficient movement of marine traffic within our jurisdiction for all port users. It may interest you to know that throughout the

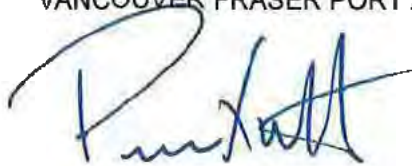
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year, we lead a variety of safe boating outreach initiatives and publish safety resources for mariners, including the [Safe Boating Guide](#) and the [Port Information Guide](#). The safety of all marine users will be considered as part of the review of RVYC's permit application.

Yours truly,

VANCOUVER FRASER PORT AUTHORITY

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Xotta', written over the printed name.

Peter Xotta
Vice-President, Planning and Operations

cc Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager, City of Vancouver
Greg Yeomans, Director, Planning and Development, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority
Naomi Horsford, Manager, Municipal and Stakeholder Relations, Vancouver Fraser Port Authority