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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 11/15/2021 6:31:26 PM
Subject: Update: barge and risk to Burrard Bridge

Good evening Mayor and Council,

Engineering and VEMA have been monitoring the situation and the barge has remained lodged at Sunset Beach during the afternoon and over a duration of a high tide.

Coast Guard is also monitoring the vessel every hour and will respond to any movement. We understand the owner of the vessel has a plan for tomorrow afternoon, once both weather and the tide are more favourable, to attempt to raise, remove and potentially re-anchor.

We are staying in touch with other marine agencies (VPD Marine Unit, Port, Coast Guard) regarding this situation. Due to winds predicted over night and a 3 am high tide, out of an abundance of caution, **we will be closing Burrard bridge overnight to traffic starting at 7pm.**

With cell and radio signals being impacted and the overnight hours, we are not confident we would be able to close the bridge quickly in an emergent situation. The bridge will remain closed for morning rush hour to give time for updated situational awareness, risk assessment and communication.

Boat and barge impacts are one of the most common causes of structural damage to bridge structures. Burrard bridge averages 55k vehicle trips per day.

The barge is empty and was used to transport woodchips so does not pose a large environmental concern.

We will be announcing the bridge closure shortly via social media and sending alerts to all traffic media. Lon LaClaire will be available for any media surrounding the closure tonight and in the morning. We will provide you with updates as the situation evolves.

Please do not hesitate contact Lon or Taryn if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Best,
Paul

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.