

From: ["van Dyk, Donny"](#)

To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)

Date: 12/10/2025 11:43:52 AM

Subject: Mayor & Council Invitation on behalf of BC Hydro - Media event (Friday Dec 12)

Dear Mayor and Council,

With apologies for the late notice, and on behalf of BC Hydro, we are pleased to invite you to a media event to celebrate the completion of BC Hydro's H-Frame replacement project. The event will take place on the morning of Friday, December 12, 2025, at 10:00 am in Gastown.

Date: Friday, December 12

Time: 9:45 am PST – guests arrive
10:00 am PST – media event and remarks

Location: 45 West Hastings Street
Please note the event will take place outside located behind Save on Meats in the alleyway. Easiest access is off Abbott Street between West Cordova and West Hastings streets.

Guests:

- Charlotte Mitha, President and CEO, BC Hydro
- Brian Knoke, Executive Vice-President of Operations, BC Hydro
- City of Vancouver representative (TBC)
- Other guests

Note to attendees: Security will be on site (including VPD). Event will take place rain or shine.

Onsite contact: Krystyna Domes, Communications Manager, Engineering ([604-379-9218](tel:604-379-9218))

Additional details and run of show will be provided ahead of the event.

To RSVP please email media@vancouver.ca.

Background information:

- BC Hydro has completed a landmark initiative to remove aging H-Frame electrical structures from Gastown, Chinatown, and the downtown core, replacing them with a modern underground system that enhances safety, reliability, and streetscape aesthetics in some of Vancouver's busiest and most historic neighbourhoods.
- Originally installed in the 1950s, the H-Frame structures became increasingly hazardous over time. As surrounding buildings grew taller and laneways filled with windows, fire escapes, and other urban features, the overhead equipment was left dangerously close to the public. The 80-year-old system no longer met contemporary safety standards, posing risks to residents, businesses, and electrical crews.
- Work on the H-Frame removal project began in 2008 and has since spanned 80 downtown blocks. In total, BC Hydro removed 355 H-Frames, 368 poles, and 346 overhead transformers.
- The new underground infrastructure is more reliable, less vulnerable to vandalism, and better suited to support Vancouver's long-term growth.
- We appreciate the patience of nearby residents and businesses throughout this extensive undertaking and thank BC Hydro for their continued partnership in building a more resilient Vancouver.

Thanks,
Donny

Donny van Dyk (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x̱m̱ ḵ y̱ m̱ (Musqueam), S̱ wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and s̱ ḻḻw̱ ṯa̱ (Tseil-Wautub) Nations.