



# QUAYSIDE COMMUNITY BOARD

25 October 2019

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Mayor Jonathan Coté  
New Westminster City Council  
Dean Gibson, Director Parks & Recreation  
City of New Westminster  
511 Royal Avenue  
New Westminster BC V3L 1H9

Dear Mayor Coté et al,

Re: Unfulfilled commitments on the Quay

As you are aware, in 1977 a joint municipal-provincial agency was formed called First Capital City Development Corp. It facilitated the conversion of the former industrial site on the waterfront into a vibrant residential/commercial community and was the beginning of the revitalization for downtown New Westminster. This original downtown vision designed and built predominately for adults, has now become a family/child friendly place catering to multi-generational families and many cultures.

Now 42 years later and with the addition of 2 new Bosa developments, the Quayside community will be home to over 3,400 households with a population of 10,000+ residents. We all appreciate the transformation of that original vision by the creation of a sustainable community that is pedestrian and cycle friendly. However, we can also appreciate that its core value of being a "liveable" residential community remains incomplete and in need of consideration to be realized.

The Quayside Community Board has identified a recreational centre in the Quayside riverside area as a critical element missing from this transformation, as envisioned in the original plan/commitment made by First Capital City Development Corp., the City and the Province. This multipurpose facility could host a spectrum of programs from children to seniors that enhances and fulfills the missing "livable" part of our community.

Looking around the Fraser River area it becomes clear that the development of Poplar Landing by the City of New Westminster in partnership with Metro Vancouver is the last opportunity to provide such a facility and services so desperately needed to complete our neighbourhood. The location of Poplar Landing will not only provide services to Quayside and its 10,000+ residents but also many more residents of the 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Brow of the Hill and (soon to become a major transit stop and now connected by a new overpass) 22<sup>nd</sup> Street station communities. It is also the last opportunity for residents of New Westminster to get water access to the Fraser River on the shores opposite Poplar Island as envisioned over the years by Parks and Recreation New Westminster.

The Quayside Community Board would welcome an opportunity (as has been offered by City Planning personnel over the years) to discuss the vision and planning of this exciting opportunity for the Quayside community and surrounding residential neighbourhoods.

We look forward to a creative discussion at your convenience.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vickie Turvey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Vickie Turvey  
QCB President

Cc: Jerry Dobrovolny, Chief Engineer, Engineering Services  
Metro Vancouver  
[cityengineer@vancouver.ca](mailto:cityengineer@vancouver.ca)