

## **COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE TO APRIL 9, 2020 (8:30 a.m.)**

### **Referred for Action**

- (1) P. Hundal, April 6, 2020, regarding “Dangerous traffic conditions for pedestrians created by engineering dept” (COVID-19) (Referred for consideration and response)**

### **Referred for Action from Other Governments and Government Agencies**

No items.

### **Received for Information**

- (2) 2 submissions March 25 and 26, 2020, regarding Proposed 2020 Budget**
- (3) 9 submissions, April 3-9, 2020, regarding COVID-19**
- (4) R. Richards, April 3, 2020, regarding “Environment and Fence” (Civic Site Safety Fencing)**
- (5) West Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, April 6, 2020, regarding “West Vancouver Business Community Survey”**

### **Received for Information from Other Governments and Government Agencies**

- (6) P. Weiler, M.P. (West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country), April 7, 2020, regarding “Greater Vancouver Board of Trade Webinar with Minister Ng” (April 8, 2020)**

### **Responses to Correspondence**

No items.

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**From:** Paul Hundal [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, April 6, 2020 1:32 PM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil; Bill Soprovich; Peter Lambur; Mary-Ann Booth; Marcus Wong; Sharon Thompson; Craig Cameron; Nora Gambioli  
**Subject:** Dangerous traffic conditions for pedestrians created by engineering dept

To Mayor and Council,

I would like to bring to your attention an ongoing concern about dangerous conditions for pedestrians created by the engineering department. My wife and I are daily walkers crossing 17th St and Marine Drive. It has a push button to trigger pedestrian crossing lights but the buttons have been covered up to block use as a COVID measure. The result is the pedestrian light never comes on and the cycle for crossing is too short for disabled or slow mobility pedestrians. My wife and I are fit and we barely make it across Marine Drive before the light changes. Added to that is we are regularly getting honked at by cars who see we are crossing without the walk light on. It is completely unacceptable to effectively block pedestrians from crossing Marine Drive. I appreciate that we pedestrians in Ambleside represent a small proportion of the commuting public but we do exist and it is wrong to set up the signals as if we do not exist at all.

I also appreciate that some may think your job does not include managing the traffic lights but I have made many complaints about the way the engineering department has created unsafe conditions for pedestrians in the past and they all get ignored. West Vancouver residents have the right to demand better from the engineering department and at this point the only way that can happen is if Council finally gets involved. The lights at 17th and Marine represent a substantial, unacceptable hazard to the walking public and it's a problem that can be easily corrected by competent traffic management at no cost. Simply set up the lights to provide pedestrian crossing at every cycle. I beg Council to intervene to have this corrected so that our seniors are not forced to walk against the light and end up in the middle of Marine Drive during a light change.

Respectfully submitted

Paul Hundal [Please do not redact my name]

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, BC, [REDACTED] s. 22(1)

March 25, 2020

Mayor & West Van Council

I am writing to

agree & endorse letter

sent to you by Heather

Murray, President

Ambleside & Dunderave

Residents Ass.

Sensible requests

for your consideration

"We are all in this

together"

s. 22(1)  
West Vancouver, BC  
s. 22(1)

0860-01

Economics must

be considered for us

all - Spending cuts

Necessary. When

life settles we could

look at extras again.

Very hard for Seniors

to consider these costs

now. Please think of

us all & cut extras

s. 22(1)

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 26, 2020 12:06 PM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil  
**Subject:** Saving the 0.5% Climate Emergency Tax

Dear Mayor and Council,

I've heard that ARDA is proposing the district of West Van cancel the climate emergency 0.5% tax in light of COVID 19. I implore you not to take this action. I could understand a tax deferral, but eliminating funding towards a crisis that will not just affect the present but the future, is completely unnecessary.

Climate change is a crisis that will likely worsen pandemics in the future. The World Health Organizations reports: "*The malaria modelling shows that small temperature increases can greatly affect transmission potential.*" Source: <https://www.who.int/globalchange/climate/summary/en/index5.html>

It's in evreyones best interest to safehold and expand measures to mitigate climate change at this time. This doesn't mean we shouldn't take other measures to ease the financial strain on small business, it just means at the same time we should work to protect their futures.

Sincerly,

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 3, 2020 10:06 AM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil  
**Subject:** SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 and urban density

Your Worship,

One of the advantages of our community's preponderance of single-family dwellings, compared to higher density living arrangements such as apartment buildings and multi-family townhome developments, is the ability to spatially separate the population in furtherance of reducing the rate spread and infectiousness of the epidemic. We can isolate more effectively in a single-family dwelling than we can in a high density apartment/multi-family residential units. And, when we desire fresh air and emerge from our dwellings, our single-family dwelling residential lots can more ably provide that amenity without putting at risk other individuals.

While your focus on the "missing middle" and higher density residential development may be laudable as a normal course solution to the so-called "housing crisis" in the Lower Mainland, at times of general epidemic that has a potential for affecting between 30 percent and 70 percent of the population (cf., Minister Hajdu's remarks) and leading to high mortality rates without "social distancing" measures, single-family dwelling units such as our community's preponderant form of housing will go a long distance to ensuring lower mortality rates and greater social resilience than higher density residential alternatives.

In an article published by the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (see URL below), one of the factors contributing to the spread of the pathogen are "Environmental factors includ[ing] population density... ."

[https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/6/20-0495\\_article](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/6/20-0495_article)

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, BC

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 3, 2020 10:40 AM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil; //parks@westvancouver.ca  
**Subject:** Wedding on the rocks - Lighthouse Park parking lot closure / Pilot House Road

Mayor and council,

I had contacted both the bilaw and parks departments on Wednesday afternoon expressing concern of the popularity of Caulfeild Rocks, possibly due to the parking lot closure of Lighthouse Park (I haven't heard back from either). At 4pm Pilot House Road was lined with cars from Dogwood Lane to the government dock. What we discovered an hour later was that this was due to the attendance of a wedding on the rocks. This was obviously alarming and difficult to explained to the kids, who have been hold up for weeks.

Don't get me wrong, I love the fact that people come to enjoy what I believe is the most beautiful spot in West Vancouver; however, the closure of the Lighthouse Park parking lot may create an issue as the lockdown continues and the weather improves.

Best regards,

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver [REDACTED] s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 3, 2020 12:21 PM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil  
**Subject:** FW: Seawall Walk and Covid

**Importance:** High

Further to this email. I meant to say in Item 1, "between 24<sup>th</sup> street and Dundarave Beach".

s. 22(1)

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** April 3, 2020 9:09 AM  
**To:** 'MayorandCouncil@westvancouver.ca'  
**Subject:** Seawall Walk and Covid  
**Importance:** High

Dear Mayor and Council:

Further to my previous email, I am writing with regard to the West Van sea wall walk, where the following issues reappear day after day.

1. The sea wall between 24<sup>th</sup> Street is too narrow to permit people to walk with the required two metres distance. If everyone walked in single file, it would be less of an issue but many do not.
2. The bridge crossing McDonald Creek is too narrow to keep the required two metres distance. Most people do wait for other to cross but as usual, a small and very annoying percentage just amble across with no regard for walkers on the bridge.
3. Runners: Again, there are some runners who ignore the two metre rule, breathing hard, perspiring and running between walkers who are keeping to the two metre rule
4. Yesterday, there were several groups of people on the wall, standing, chatting, ignoring the two metre rule, some of whom laughed when it was brought to their attention.

**Suggestion: Close the sea wall to runners between the hours of 8:00am and 8:00pm. PUT UP SOME SIGNS STRESSING THR TWO METRE RULE.**

PLEASE. Do something.

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, BC  
Canada, s. 22(1)  
s. 22(1)

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 3, 2020 4:01 PM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil  
**Subject:** Whytecliff Park access

Dear Mayor and Council,

Last Saturday, Whytecliff Park was crowded. Despite the parking lot closure, there were as many people in the park (particularly on the beach, and, on Whyte Island and causeway, as well as the rocks near the promontory) as on a typical Spring weekend. So crowded that we could observe people passing each other at close quarters in these areas. As soon as we gathered the extent of the crowds, we left the park. The reason the park was so crowded was because people parked illegally —lining Marine Drive just outside, next to the park, and along Cliff Road. A family member contacted Bylaws to ticket these vehicles. However, for these officers time is limited, and damage ad been done.

Is Council aware of this problem? Are there any solutions that are being considered to prevent people parking illegally in this way, to reduce this crowding in Whytecliff Park on the weekends? If this crisis extends into the summer months, weekdays also will be a concern. If such measures were deemed impractical, then park closure (at weekends presently, all week if crisis persists into summer) would seem like the only solution to prevent this kind of dangerous crowding.

Best Regards,

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
West Vancouver, B.C.  
[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 3, 2020 4:57 PM  
**To:** Canada Politics Parties Conservative, Liberal, Green, NDP; Office of the Premier; Mayor and Council  
**Subject:** CBC News : Vancouver should close some roads to allow more space for exercise, former city planner says

Vancouver should close some roads to allow more space for exercise, former city planner says

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/vancouver-coronavirus-covid-19-physical-distancing-close-roads-1.5519720>



“Be the reason someone believes in the goodness of people.” - Tamara Levitt

“The bad news is nothing lasts forever. The good news is nothing lasts forever.” - J. Cole

Sent from my iPhone.

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver

**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 5, 2020 6:39 PM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil  
**Subject:** 6 FEET? I don't think so

My wife and I live in West Vancouver, [REDACTED] s. 22(1) but my routine hasn't changed much.

I went for a lengthy walk from home to Lawson park and back...I am shocked by the casual attitude of so many walkers and even bike riders.

I wouldn't have thought, after how many times have we been told to keep our distance and I thought most took it seriously.

I guess not. I felt I would have to jump into the ditch to avoid oncoming people/pairs/groups who walk right down the middle of the sidewalk road, wherever.....they obviously don't give a damn.

I must have informed at least four people who are nearly brushing arms with me going by to get over....did this fall on deaf ears.

Mayor & Council.....you have a problem here in West Van.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, B.C.

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 7, 2020 4:39 PM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil  
**Subject:** Lighthouse park parking lot closure

With regards to my two previous emails regarding parking on water lane due to the lighthouse park parking lot closure, I wanted to express my appreciation for the quick action you have taken. The parking on the street has dramatically been reduced and for those who still insist on parking I have noticed bylaw officers in action. It is a great comfort to feel safe in our neighbourhood and again thank you for addressing what must be one of many concerns.

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 7, 2020 7:55 PM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil  
**Subject:** "West Van deploys park rangers for COVID-19 distancing"

Your Worship,

Today the North Shore News published an article [1] that informs the public that West Vancouver Parks staff will be patrolling West Vancouver parks and public walks armed with 2-metre long bamboo poles to ensure that the public maintains a 2-metre separation between persons.

The article's author, Mr. Brent Richter, states in the article that a 2-metre separation between persons while in public is a provincial order. There is no such order as of March 31st. Indeed, Dr. Bonnie Henry, has suggested a minimum 2-metre separation between persons when out of one's home, but has not issued an order as such. This is the contextual statement by the PHO:

"Promoting physical distancing of people from one another to prevent droplet and personal contact transmission is a key tactic to preventing infections with the virus. Physical distancing of 2 metres between people is recommended to reduce the risk of these modes of transmission." [2]

"There are no public health Orders addressed to the general public requiring them to maintain physical distancing outside their own homes, with the exception of inside food premises. The public has been provided with strong recommendations and guidance in this regard." [2]

Your 'Park Rangers', carrying bamboo poles reminiscent of various foreign moving picture films exhibited in theatres in Vancouver during the 1960s and 1970s showing soldiers and (in Japanese films) Samurai wielding bamboo canes for crowd control, sends a very unfortunate message as the North Shore News article's author intimates in the article in the following paragraph:

"The rangers, who are West Van parks and culture staff being reassigned for the pandemic, will wear high-visibility vests and carry two-metre long bamboo poles, which will be used to demonstrate the appropriate distance, not to whack people standing too close together (emphasis added)." [1]

All too often the best of intentions go astray. The Parks staff have no business enforcing an 'order' that the PHO has not issued. While the PHO's recommendation on "social distancing" is 'strong', it has no force or effect and cannot be "enforced".

Your "local emergency" declaration viz. COVID-19 was set aside by the province. Your bylaw officers are limited to monitoring compliance of certain business premises covered by PHO Orders. Your power to compel observance of PHO recommendations is empty and of no force or effect. This is as it should be.

We are not now and should not become a police state, however much certain persons may wish it. The PHO and the minister have struck the right tone and tempo. It would

be unfortunate in the extreme if local political actors were to let their propensity to command and control overcome their commitment to acting within the law.

A public statement correcting the misapprehension evident in Mr. Richter's article is urgently needed. The statement should be directed to the public and to the editors of the North Shore News. The editors should be requested to issue a correction, before Thursday. Further, notices placed in public areas explaining the role of the Parks staff ("Park Rangers") should be posted prominently in all parks and public areas where staff will be present. Additionally, the use of bamboo poles should be avoided for whatever purpose--their use promotes the wrong message, as noted above.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, BC

References:

[1] "West Van deploys park rangers for COVID-19 distancing"--Brent Richter / North Shore News, APRIL 7, 2020 04:16 PM.

<https://www.nsnews.com/news/west-van-deploys-park-rangers-for-covid-19-distancing-1.24114440>

[2] Compliance and Enforcement Guidance about Public Health Orders with respect to Physical Distancing -- March 31, 2020

[https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/compliance\\_and\\_enforcement\\_guidance\\_march\\_31\\_2020.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/compliance_and_enforcement_guidance_march_31_2020.pdf)

s. 22(1)

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 7:53 AM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil  
**Subject:** The sea wall walk

Mayor and Council,

In order to better enforce the 2 meter social distancing regulations, suggest that you make the Seawall "one way" and create a loop walk, say along Bellevue and the lower roads. This would be easy to implement with a few signs and arrows.

We are all going to be living with social distancing for many months, so might as well implement something sooner rather than later.

Regards, [REDACTED] s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

West Vancouver, BC

[REDACTED] s. 22(1)

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**From:** [REDACTED] s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, April 3, 2020 9:31 AM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil  
**Cc:** Mary-Ann Booth; Nora Gambioli; Craig Cameron; Peter Lambur; Bill Soprovich; Marcus Wong; Sharon Thompson; Nina Leemhuis  
**Subject:** Environment and Fence

Mayor and Council, District of West Vancouver: You recently declared an EMERGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS in West Vancouver. You recently approved spending over \$80,000 to build a fence at the Community Centre. A fence does nothing for the environment. A HEDGE of low growing shrubs similar to that at Richardson Park one block west would a) have served in place of a fence, b) take carbon from the air helping the environment, c) provided food and refuge for small birds, and d) be an attractive addition to the community centre. Furthermore, no valid case has been presented to show that a blockage across the lawn is needed and the justification for it should be published. There is a danger that someone will drown in the swimming pool. Do you intend to close the pool? Please cancel the fence. Plant a nice hedge if you must. Ray Richards, [REDACTED] s. 22(1). Please don't redact my name.

**From:** West Vancouver Chamber of Commerce <info@westvanchamber.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 6, 2020 6:00 AM  
**To:** MayorandCouncil  
**Subject:** West Vancouver Business Community Survey



West Vancouver Chamber of Commerce

[View this email in your browser](#)



## West Vancouver Business Community Survey

Working together, the West Vancouver Chamber of Commerce and the Ambleside Dundarave Business Improvement Association have created a survey to gather information on how we can best serve and help our local businesses during this pandemic. This includes

both FOR PROFIT and NOT FOR PROFIT businesses. We hope you take a few minutes to give us any valuable feedback you can at this time.

We are supported in this effort by the District of West Vancouver and look forward to sharing our findings with Council and staff.

Please click [HERE](#) to be re-directed to the survey.

If you have any questions or additional comments at this time, please contact us at [info@westvanchamber.com](mailto:info@westvanchamber.com).



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**From:** Weiler, Patrick - M.P. <Patrick.Weiler@parl.gc.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 7, 2020 1:15 PM  
**To:** Weiler, Patrick - M.P.  
**Subject:** Greater Vancouver Board of Trade Webinar with Minister Ng

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

I hope you are staying well and healthy.

I wanted to inform you of an event taking place tomorrow. The Honourable Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade, will be speaking with the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade about federal supports available to businesses. This is a free webinar for members and non-members alike and there will be an opportunity to ask the Minister questions – please feel free to share this with your network: <https://www.boardoftrade.com/events/individual-events/1787-6564>

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Patrick Weiler

Member of Parliament | Député

West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country

House of Commons/Chambre des communes

Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

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