



**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021**

- 1. LOCATION:** ZOOM Video Conference – 7:00PM

The VDLC acknowledges that this meeting is being held on the unceded traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, and other First Nations people.

- 2. CHAIRPERSON:** 2nd Vice President Bal Shandhu
- 3. NOTICE OF VDLC POLICY ON HARASSMENT:** Circulated prior to meeting

4. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA

M/S/C that the agenda of the April 20, 2021 Regular meeting be adopted.

5. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

M/S/C that the minutes of the March 16, 2021 Regular meeting be adopted.

6. CREDENTIALS:

BC Teachers Federation – Local 41

Sara Labrash
Shanee Prasad

VESTA Local 39-1

Karine Ng

CUPE Local 389

Kyle Knowles
Lisa McIvor
Emmanuel Shamatutu
Tony Volpe
Cameron Smith (Alt)

- 7. OBLIGATION OF NEW DELEGATES:** Pledge of New Delegates

8. GUEST SPEAKERS:

Andrew Misiak & John Grottenberg, Broadway Plan Stakeholder Engagement

Thanks for having us today. My name is Andrew Misiak and I'm a Stakeholder Engagement Lead for the Broadway Plan Stakeholder Engagement. I'm John Grottenberg and I'm the Lead Planner for the Broadway Planning program in the Special Projects office at the City of Vancouver.

Andrew: We work for the City of Vancouver and we're working on something else called the Broadway Plan. If you haven't heard of it before it's an area plan that the city is leading for three distinct neighbourhoods around Kitsilano, Fairview and Mount Pleasant. We've prepared a quick presentation to walk you through the main components. Our study area has some significant employment so it may be of interest to you, your co-workers and families.

The Broadway Plan will be a 30-year area plan (community plan) with policy for the following:

- Land use and Built form
- Urban Design
- Affordable Housing
- Jobs and Economy
- Streets and Transportation
- Parks and Public Spaces
- Heritage
- Arts and Culture
- Community Well-Being
- Sustainability and Resiliency
- Utilities and Services
- Public Benefits Strategy

The reason why we're doing this work is due to the province designing, constructing and procuring the future Broadway Subway. Which will be running underground from VCC Clark to Arbutus. They are the ones leading this work and we as the city are thinking about how the neighbourhoods around a future subway are going to be growing and changing when this takes place and is installed. Our role at the city is leading this area plan and the work of the province is leading the work of the subway.

Some quick facts about the study area. It has 85,000 jobs which is accounts for the second largest job concentration in the province. The vast majority, 59% are renters with more than 78,000 people living in these 4 distinct neighbourhoods; Kitsilano, Fairview, Mount Pleasant, and False Creek Flats. We want to ensure that we protect where people live and keep the areas as affordable as we can. We want to improve the housing situation for all Vancouverites and future generations and rental housing is a key component of that.

Key Goals for the Broadway Plan:

- Expand housing opportunities (market/below-market rental, social housing and supportive housing) close to transit while retaining and reinvesting in existing older rental housing and minimizing displacement of existing residents.
- Increase the amount of job space within Central Broadway to meet long term city, regional and provincial economic development objectives.
- Enhance commercial shopping streets and local business opportunities.
- Improve the transportation network, public spaces and gathering opportunities.
- Retain and enhance key heritage and cultural resources, and identify opportunities for public art.
- Secure additional public benefits and amenities to support new growth and improve liveability.

We've talked to many individuals with different interests. You are a significant group who we want to make sure we're informing and consulting with as we're doing this work. To date, we've spoken to about 12,000 people about this process. Prior to Covid we were speaking in

person at various venues; we did pop-ups at Vancouver General Hospital, spoken to students, attending workshops, festivals as well as doing outreach with small business by postcard. During Covid we spoken virtually. We launched this work in early 2019, but due to Covid we've had significant delays. We've just finished our phase 2 engagement and will soon be going into our phase 3 engagement.

Where we are now: As I mentioned we recently finished our 2-D phase of engagement; areas for growth and change, high level policy directions by topic: transportation, housing, jobs/economy, arts and culture, etc. and will soon be entering our 3-D phase in late spring/early summer to engage on specific heights, densities, building forms, affordable housing projections and details policies by topic.

John: Some of the big moves planned for the Broadway plan casted a wide net back in early 2019. Community needs became apparent that more office space was needed, park and plazas, walkable daily needs and more rental homes. Covid really amplified existing needs and challenges and exacerbated these as well. What has emerged through area engagement is the need for:

- Walkable complete neighbourhoods
- New and improved connections
- Vibrant second downtown
- New affordable housing while minimizing tenant displacement
- Increased and diverse job space
- Improved parks and public spaces
- New and renewed community amenities

If you're interested in learning more about the work we're doing I'll post our website. We'll also be using the website to post future plans as well for our phase 3. We have a highlights booklet that has all the key content that John and I detailed. It's very visual and is translated in Chinese, Spanish and Arabic if you know someone that English is not their first language. Updated information and other ways that you can be involved will be posted on the website; if you'd like to engage and talk with us one on one.

9. EDUCATIONAL: Nil

10. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Stephen von Sychowski reported on activities since the March 2021 meeting.

Political Action

On March 29 City of North Vancouver voted unanimously to become a living wage employer at their City Council meeting. I spoke in favour of the motion, as did Anastasia French of the Living Wage for Families campaign. The motion was brought forward by Angela Girard, who we endorsed in the 2018 election.

On April 5, the NPA announced Jordan Coupar as their mayoral candidate in 2022. While on April 14 a new party called "Make Vancouver Better" launched, and was clearly indicated to be the party with which Ken Sim, who ran for the NPA last election, would run for Mayor.

The same day, Mark Marrison announced that he would run with YES Vancouver. Of course, this appears to indicate at least three right-wing mayoral candidates and slates being in the running and in competition with one another for votes. However, we know from experience that the right tends to unify around one slate of candidates consistently. We cannot take too much comfort in the current apparent state of disunity and infighting on the right. Instead, we need to stay focused on our task of ensuring a strong progressive slate and minimal vote splitting.

Since the mayoral race has begun in earnest, we need to accelerate our already very proactive election campaign preparations. This will need to begin with the endorsement of a mayoral candidate and renewal of endorsement, where appropriate, for incumbents, sooner than in the past.

Strategic Planning

The Executive Board met on March 17 for a strategic planning session facilitated by CLC Representative Ron Stipp. A draft strategic plan is now in the works and will be brought forward to the next regular meeting for approval.

Labour Education

We have added a note taking course on May 5 at 3pm, which is nearly sold out already. We will likely schedule a second session very shortly due to high demand. Courses continue to register very well in general, but please continue to promote our program however you can.

May Day

For May Day this year we will run a digital campaign rather than an event. The campaign theme will be “Solidarity is” and will provide 5 examples of solidarity while asking people to participate by making their own sign stating what solidarity means to them and to post it to social media with the hashtags #solidarityis and #vancouverdlc. We will also ask people to sign a “solidarity pledge”. This will provide a low barrier way to mark May Day and encourage participation while also building our list.

Day of Mourning

The Day of Mourning is coming up on April 28, we will mark the date by participating in a virtual event co-sponsored with BCFED, WCB, and BCBC. It will be available at www.dayofmourning.bc.ca at 10:30am on the 28th.

DTES Joint Union Committee

Our DTES Joint Union Committee had a great two-hour meeting on March 30 with Minister Eby, Minister Mark, and representatives of BC Housing. This was an opportunity for a presentation on BC Housing/government plans in the DTES and beyond as well as for feedback to be provided by union representatives and their frontline members.

United Way

United Way will be running its Period Promise collection campaign in May. A survey was circulated to see how best to provide opportunities for participation given the pandemic. I responded to that and am waiting to hear more.

I have been continuing to participate on the Joint Board Integration Committee and work on raising labour concerns.

Labour – Climate Forum

On April 10 we co-sponsored a Labour-Climate Forum featuring a great array of presenters including Jane McAlevey, Indigenous activist and leader Sleydo Molly Wickham, and Toronto and York Region Labour Council President John Cartwright. There were also several workshops on a variety of topics, and a youth panel to conclude. Over 100 people attended.

Events Attended / Dates of Note

March 17 – Executive Board Strategic Planning Session
March 18 – Labour Education: Parliamentary Procedure
March 19 – Day of action in solidarity with IBEW 213
March 22 – May Day Planning Committee
March 22 – Worker Education and Labour Learning Society Directors meeting
March 23 – DTES Joint Union Committee
March 23 – United Way Joint Board Integration Committee
March 23 – Labour climate forum planning meeting
March 23 – BC Employment Standards Coalition
March 23 – Housing Action Team
March 24 – Labour Economic Series: The Future of Work
March 25 – BC Federation of Labour Executive Council
March 25 – United Way – Labour meeting re: integration
March 25 – YVR Joint Union Committee
March 26 – From Performative to Transformative: Indigenous Frameworks for Understanding Racism in the Workplace
March 29 – North Vancouver City Council (living wage motion)
March 30 – DTES Joint Union Committee w/ David Eby, Melanie Mark, BC Housing
March 30 – Labour Day planning meeting
March 30 – United Way – Labour meeting re: integration
March 30 – Labour climate forum planning meeting
March 30 – May Day Planning Committee
April 6 – Quarterly meeting with Mayor Stewart
April 6 – BCFED Community and Social Action Committee
April 6 – United Way Joint Board Integration Committee
April 6 – Labour climate forum planning meeting
April 7 – Labour Education: Bargaining Basics During COVID-19
April 7 – Meeting re: paid sick days campaign
April 7 – Labour Economics Series: Consumer Price Index
April 8 – YVR Joint Union Committee
April 8 – United Way of the Lower Mainland Board Info Session re: integration
April 8 – May Day Planning Committee
April 9-11 - Federal NDP Convention
April 10 – Labour Climate Forum
April 12 – Political Action Committee
April 12 – YVR Joint Union Committee meeting with Tamara Vrooman/Richard Beed
April 14 – Labour Economics Series: Climate and Jobs

April 15 – United Way Campaign Cabinet Labour Committee
April 15 – Executive Board
April 16 – United Way Community Investment Relations Committee
April 19 – BCFED Political Action Committee
April 20 – United Way Joint Board Integration Committee
April 20 – Regular Meeting

M/S/C to adopt President's report.

11. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Stefan Nielsen reported on financials since the March 2021 meeting.

M/S/C to adopt the Treasurer's Report.

12. CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS REPORT:

No CLC report for this month's meeting.

M/S/ to adopt the Canadian Labour Congress Report.

13. CORRESPONDENCE:

Circulated prior to the meeting.

M/S/C that the correspondence be received and filed for the information of the delegates.

14. EXECUTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:

a) *M/S/C that the following recommendation be adopted:*

Subject: CLC Convention Emergency Resolution on Anti-Racism

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL submit the following Emergency Resolution to the Canadian Labour Congress for its Convention this June;

BECAUSE racialized people in Canada have faced racist discrimination both historically and presently, including the genocide of Indigenous peoples, the enslavement of Black people and the colonial oppression suffered by all persons of colour; and

BECAUSE during the COVID-19 pandemic there has been an increase in racism against people of Asian descent including verbal and online abuse, scapegoating, and targeted violence; and

BECAUSE the labour movement is founded on principles of solidarity and social justice, and has spoken out, adopted policies, and developed education programmes against prejudice and discrimination; and

BECAUSE allowing hate to rise against any racialized group diminishes the labour movement, our communities, and the country,

THE CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS WILL actively oppose all forms of racism and call on all levels of government to redouble efforts to eliminate racism and hate crimes; and

THE CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS WILL FURTHER mount internal and community anti-racism programmes and mount a public anti-racism media and education campaign.

b) *M/S/C that the following recommendation be adopted:*

Subject: City of Richmond By-Election

BECAUSE the City of Richmond will vote in a by-election on May 29th to elect a City Councillor for the seat vacated by Kelly Greene, who was elected as a Member of the Legislative Assembly last Fall; and

BECAUSE Karina Reid is running as progressive candidate focused on addressing the inequities and gaps in services in the community which have been highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic and working together to build a stronger, safer, more prosperous city post-pandemic; and

BECAUSE Karina Reid describes herself as a passionate public education advocate, who successfully spearheaded an earthquake preparedness program in Richmond Public Schools and ran for School Board Trustee in 2018 as part of the Richmond Education Party,

THE VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL WILL endorse Karina Reid for City Council in the May 29th, 2021, by-election.

15. REPORT OF UNIONS: Nil

Submitted in writing in order to be included on meeting minutes.

M/S/ to adopt the report of unions.

16. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: Nil

OTHER REPORTS: Nil

M/S/C to adopt reports of committees

17. REPORTS OF LABOUR COUNCIL APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES:

M/S/C to adopt reports of labour council appointed representatives.

18. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nil

19. ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: Nil

20. NEW BUSINESS: Nil

21. NOTICE OF MOTION: Nil

22. GOOD AND WELFARE: Nil

23. MEETING ADJOURNED: *M/S/C to adjourn at 8:36 pm.*

24. NEXT MEETING: **TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021** at 7:00 pm
Zoom Video Conference.



Please visit website for event listings and more – www.vdlc.ca