

ELECTORAL AREA A Director's Update

From Jen McCutcheon, Director, Electoral Area A

May
2023

Director's Report

Hello UNA/UBC/UEL neighbours,

I trust that you are enjoying your summer. I feel like I wake up each morning grateful for our smoke-free sky – long may it last. My thoughts are with residents and emergency response crews in BC and other parts of Canada who are being affected by the numerous wildfires burning.

As you'll read below, I will be hosting a community engagement session on Emergency Management on July 26th in Wesbrook Community Centre. As you likely know, jurisdiction and official responsibility within the UEL and UBC neighbourhoods can be quite complicated. This is not only true for day-to-day matters, but also in emergency response. This session will be an opportunity for residents to learn more about how best to prepare for an emergency and how a response would be coordinated and managed within Electoral Area A (specifically in the UBC and UEL). I hope you can attend.

Many of the committees and boards on which I sit will be taking a break for August, and as a result, I will prepare my next newsletter in September.

As always, please reach out if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns that I may be able to assist with.

All the best,

Jen McCutcheon

Jen McCutcheon, Metro Vancouver Director for Electoral Area A (www.areaajen.ca or areaajen@gmail.com)



Jen and her family exploring London on a recent vacation

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Emergency Management and Preparedness Community Meeting – July 26th

Residents of the UNA and UEL are invited to come learn how emergency management works in our communities and how each of us can be better prepared.

Representatives from Metro Vancouver, UBC, UNA and UEL will explain the different roles each agency plays in emergency planning and management in our communities. Then we will focus on what residents should do to be prepared, including signing up for emergency notifications, making household emergency plans and kits, and actions to take when an emergency strikes.

Residents are strongly encouraged to attend in person but can also participate via Zoom.

Date: Wednesday, July 26

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Social Room – Wesbrook Community Centre, 3335 Webber Lane

Virtual options:

Zoom Link:

<https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/6044516562>

Call in: Dial: 1 778 907 2071 /

Meeting ID: 604 451 6562



*Emergency Management and Preparedness
Community Meeting on July 26th at Wesbrook
Community Centre. All are welcome.
Image source link.*

Forest Harmonies in Pacific Spirit Region Park

Musical nature notes and instrumental melodies can make a walk in the woods that much more delightful! I love the idea of this event and am hoping to be able to attend on the evening of July 22nd.

Stroll through the rainforest at dusk in [Pacific Spirit Regional Park](#) while listening to local musicians and nature's own forest harmonies. Explore stations to discover how the rainforest is filled with rhythmic beats and sounds – from the sweet jingle of a birdsong to the pulse of a spider sending vibrations through a log. Try your hand at a few simple instruments.



This will be a beautiful way to spend a summer evening – stroll in the park to enjoy nature and human made music!

Saturday, July 22, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Pacific Spirit Regional Park

Start at Park Centre on 16th Ave, 400 metres west of Blanca Street, Vancouver

All ages, free, drop-in

Delivered in partnership with the [Pacific Spirit Park Society](#)

You can see all upcoming nature programs across Metro Vancouver Regional Parks in the Summer 2023 Nature Program Guide.

[Summer Program Guide](#)

[Regional Parks Mailing List](#)

Other upcoming events in Pacific Spirit Regional Park:

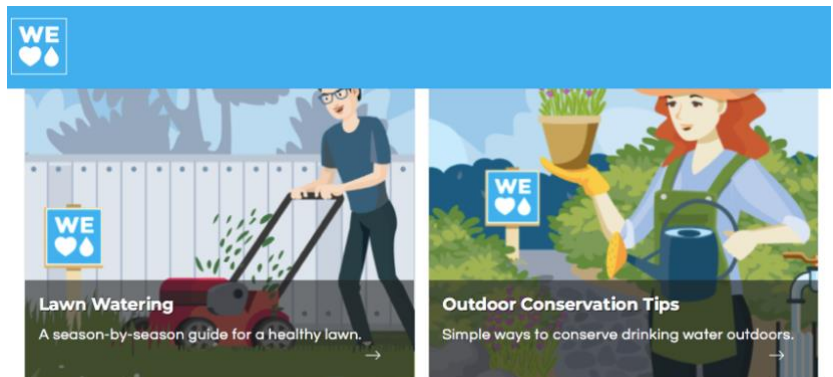
July 14: Art of Nature Journaling at Pacific Spirit Regional Park

<http://www.metrovanancouver.org/events/calendar/vancouver/2192/art-of-nature-journaling>

Water Conservation

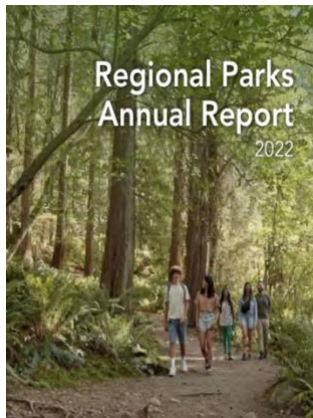
In the hot, dry summer months, our daily water use can increase by 50 per cent or more, mostly due to lawn watering and increased outdoor use. When it comes to water, use treated drinking water from your taps only for where it's needed most: cooking, cleaning, and drinking.

Find out more here: [We Love Water](#)





Regional Parks 2022 Annual Report



Big things happened at regional parks last year: visitation records were set at three parks and greenways as 14.3 million people connected with nature, and the network was expanded by 21.3 hectares to protect more regionally important natural areas.

Pacific Spirit continues to be the most popular park by far, with over 3.6 million visits in 2022.

(Currently available as part of the June 30 agenda: https://www.metrovancover.org/boards/GVRD/RD_2023-Jun-30-AGE.pdf#Page=17)

Did you know that Pacific Spirit Park had over 3.6 million visits in 2022!

Metro Vancouver at the PNE

Join Metro Vancouver this summer at the PNE! Visit our 6,000 sq ft exhibition to learn about the vital work we do and how you can get involved in the initiatives that are shaping our region. Find serenity in the regional parks pop-up park, get a selfie with the Pee and Poo mascots, and enjoy some free popcorn in our movie tent. Be amazed by larger-than-life infrastructure projects, test your green bin acumen, find out where water comes from, and get a chance to win a pair of e-bikes! Local performers and indigenous artists will take the Metro Stage to entertain audiences of all ages.

You can read more about the Metro Vancouver displays at the PNE here: <https://metrovancover.org/pne>





Jen's Current Board and Committee Appointments

- Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) Board of Directors
- TransLink Mayors' Council for Regional Transportation
- Chair of the Electoral Area Committee, MVRD
- Climate Action Committee, MVRD
- Mayors' Committee, MVRD
- Flood Resiliency Taskforce, MVRD
- Caucus of Committee Chairs, MVRD
- TransLink Planning & Priorities Committee
- Co-chair of TransLink's Indigenous Relations Working Group
- TransLink Small Communities Committee
- Board Member for Metro Vancouver Zero Emission Innovation Centre (ZEIC)
- ZEIC Governance Committee
- Fraser Valley Regional Library Board of Directors
- Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA) Third-Vice President
- Municipal Finance Authority of BC Alternate Director

Links & Connections

[Jen McCutcheon's Website](http://www.areaajen.ca)

www.areaajen.ca

[Jen McCutcheon's Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/AreaAJen)

www.facebook.com/AreaAJen

[Metro Vancouver](http://www.metrovancouver.org)

www.metrovancouver.org

[Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation](http://www.translink.ca)

www.translink.ca