

**AGENDA**  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY  
BOWEN COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM  
500 BOWEN ROAD (LOWER LEVEL)  
WEDNESDAY, 2015-JUL-08, COMMENCING AT 4:30 P.M.

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1. **CALL THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY TO ORDER:**

2. **INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:**

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

*(Motion required to adopt agenda.)*

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

Minutes of the regular Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability meeting held Wednesday, 2015-JUN-10, at 4:33 p.m., in the Bowen Complex Conference Room.

Pgs.  
4 - 7

*(Motion required to adopt minutes.)*

5. **PRESENTATIONS:**

(a) Wolves of Yellowstone – Kevin Brydges.

*(Motion required to receive presentation.)*

6. **CHAIR'S REPORT:**

(a) Review requirement for an ACES meeting in August.

7. **STAFF REPORTS:**

(a) **The Blue Dot Project & the Declaration on the Right to a Healthy Environment – Revised - R. Lawrance, Environmental Planner.**

Pgs.  
8 - 11

*Purpose: To provide Council with an update on the following:*

- *Assess the process of pertinent communities who have adopted the Blue Dot initiatives;*
- *Review existing City and community policies and initiatives and how they relate to the Blue Dot initiatives; and,*
- *Identify a process to address the Blue Dot initiative in the context of the City and community of Nanaimo's current and future policies and initiatives.*

Staff Recommendation: That the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability provide staff with input and recommend that Council endorse the declaration of "The Right To A Healthy Environment", as amended.

*(Motion required to adopt recommendation.)*

- (b) **Oil to Heat Pump Incentive Program – R. Lawrance, Environmental Planner.** Pgs. 12 - 13

*Purpose: To provide for information, an overview of an incentive program being developed through City Green.*

Staff Recommendation: That the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability receive this report for information.

*(Motion required to adopt recommendation.)*

- (c) **Canada Geese in Nanaimo - K. Brydges, Environmental Bylaw Enforcement Officer.** Pgs. 14 - 16

*Purpose: To inform the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability of the issues surrounding Canada geese in Nanaimo, the steps currently being taken to manage these issues, and the future directions of Canada goose management.*

Staff Recommendation: That the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability receive this report for Information.

*(Motion required to adopt recommendation.)*

- (d) **Information Only Items:**

- i. Environmental Services Monthly Report – June 2015. Pgs. 17 - 18
- ii. Invasive Plant Awareness Month – Rob Lawrance. Pgs. 19 - 20
- iii. Nanaimo-Parksville-Qualicum Knotweed Alert 2015 – Rob Lawrance. Pgs. 21 - 22
- iv. Beverage Container Recycling Coming to Downtown Areas and Parks – Charlotte Davis.
- v. Collection of Organics in Multi-Family Buildings – Charlotte Davis.

*(Motion required to receive information only items.)*

8. **CORRESPONDENCE:** *(Not related to a report to the Committee.)*

- (a) E-mail dated 2015-JUN-23 from Nanaimo CarShare Cooperative regarding Nanaimo CarShare Cooperative Adds Vehicle, Hub. Pgs. 23 - 24

*(Motion required to receive correspondence.)*

9. **NOTICE OF MOTION:**

10. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

- (a) Discussion on ACER (Awareness of Climate Change through Education and Research) delegation on the “Our Horizon” initiative *(background material attached)*. *(Note: Discussion on this item was deferred by motion at the 2015-MAY-13 and the 2015-JUN-10 ACES meetings.)* Pgs. 25 - 27
- (b) Keighly Creek Retaining Wall – Chair Adrienne. *(Note: This item was deferred by motion at the 2015-JUN-10 ACES meeting.)*
- (c) Green Nanaimo Awards – Confirming a deadline to receive nominations.

*(Motion required to review other business.)*

11. **DELEGATIONS:** (None.)

12. **QUESTION PERIOD:** *(Public – Related to agenda items only)*

13. **ADJOURNMENT:** *(Motion required to adjourn.)*

**MINUTES**  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY  
BOWEN COMPLEX CONFERENCE ROOM  
500 BOWEN ROAD  
WEDNESDAY, 2015-JUN-10, AT 4:30 P.M.

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PRESENT: Gail Adrienne, Chair

Members: Daniel Appell  
Councillor Diane Brennan (*arrived at 4:46 p.m.*)  
Colin Brown  
Richard Finnegan  
Glenda Hunter  
Calvin Tant (*arrived at 5:02 p.m.*)  
Wally Wells

Staff: Richard Harding, Director, Parks, Recreation and Environment  
Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner  
Kevin Brydges, Environmental Bylaw Enforcement Officer  
Robin Tweed, Recording Secretary

REGRETS: Emil Bock

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1. **CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:**

The regular meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m.

2. **INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:**

- Staff requested that a portion of Item 8.(c) "Plant Awareness Month" be deferred to the 2015-JUL-08 meeting.

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda as amended be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Regular Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability meeting held Wednesday, 2015-MAY-13 at 4:39 p.m. in the Bowen Complex Conference Room be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **PRESENTATIONS:**

- (a) Phil Stewart, Manager Engineering Projects – regarding an update of the Manual of Engineering Standards and Specifications Section 7 (Stormwater Management).

It was moved and seconded that the presentation be received. The motion carried unanimously.

- (b) Iona Kearns, Environmental Impact Assessment Student Biologist, Ministry of Environment, and, Kevin Brydges, Environmental Bylaw Enforcement Officer – regarding the Green Lake Water Quality Assessment Report.

It was moved and seconded that the presentation be received. The motion carried unanimously.

6. **CHAIR'S REPORT:**

- (a) Setting meeting time limits.

Discussion was held regarding setting a maximum time limit for ACES meetings. It was felt that there was no need to formalize this; however, members were requested to be mindful of the clock in order to ensure that all agenda items are addressed in a timely fashion.

A motion to the effect of setting a meeting time limit failed as it was not seconded.

7. **STAFF REPORTS:**

- (a) **The Blue Dot Project & The Declaration on the Right to a Healthy Environment - Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner**

It was moved and seconded that the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability recommend that Council endorse the declaration of "The Right To A Healthy Environment", as amended by Appendix A. The motion carried unanimously.

8. **STAFF REPORTS (Information Only):**

- (a) The 2015 Green Nanaimo Awards. Review of draft timeline, application, and confirmation of the awards ceremony date.
- (b) Announcement: Vancouver Island Sustainable Technology Expo. 2015-JUN-24, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Coast Bastion Inn, Nanaimo, B.C. Details at the following link:  
<http://pics.uvic.ca/events/vancouver-island-sustainable-technology-expo>

- (c) Bike to Work Week.
- (d) Environmental Services Monthly Report – May 2015.

It was moved and seconded that the Information Only reports be received. The motion carried unanimously.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- (a) E-mail dated 2015-MAY-22 from the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) Canada advising of the launch of the biodiversity handbook, "*BiodiverCITIES: A Handbook for Municipal Biodiversity Planning and Management*".

It was moved and seconded that the correspondence be received. The motion carried unanimously.

10. **NOTICE OF MOTION:**

11. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

- (a) Discussion on ACER (Awareness of Climate Change through Education and Research) delegation on the "Our Horizon" initiative (*background material attached*).

It was moved and seconded that Item 11.(a), the discussion on the 2015-MAY-13 ACER presentation, be deferred to the 2015-JUL-08 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

- (b) Keighly Creek Retaining Wall – Chair Adrienne.

It was moved and seconded that Item 11.(b), the matter regarding the Keighly Creek Retaining Wall, be deferred to the 2015-JUL-08 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

12. **DELEGATIONS NOT RELATED TO A REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE:** (None.)

13. **QUESTION PERIOD:** (*No questions.*)

14. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS:** (None.)

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

It was moved and seconded at 6:52 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED AS READ:



Gail Adrienne, Chair  
Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability

APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION:



Richard Harding, Director  
Parks, Recreation and Environment

CERTIFIED BY:

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Corporate Officer  
City of Nanaimo

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**City of Nanaimo**

**REPORT TO THE**  
**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

DATE OF MEETING: 2015-JUL-08

AUTHORED BY: ROB LAWRENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER  
PARKS RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT

RE: THE BLUE DOT PROJECT & THE DECLARATION ON THE RIGHT TO A HEALTHY  
ENVIRONMENT - REVISED

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STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability provide staff with input and recommend that Council endorse the declaration of "The Right To A Healthy Environment", as amended.

PURPOSE:

To provide Council with an update on the following:

- Assess the process of pertinent communities who have adopted the Blue Dot initiatives;
- Review existing City and community policies and initiatives and how they relate to the Blue Dot initiatives; and,
- Identify a process to address the Blue Dot initiative in the context of the City and community of Nanaimo's current and future policies and initiatives.

BACKGROUND:

On 2015-MAY-11, the Finance and Policy Committee of the Whole received a delegation from Paul Manly, and Trevor Greene, requesting that the City of Nanaimo pass a municipal declaration respecting people's right to live in a healthy environment. This declaration is based on The Suzuki Foundation's Blue Dot Project (<http://bluedot.ca/#the-plan/>) to have the right to a healthy environment added to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

After the delegation spoke, Council made the following motion:

*"..... that Council refer the "Right To A Healthy Environment Declaration" document to the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability as well as to Staff for comment and that ACES and Staff report back to Council within two months."*



At their meeting held on 2015-JUN-10, the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability passed the following motion:

*"It was moved and seconded that the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability recommend that Council endorse the declaration of "The Right To A Healthy Environment", as amended by Appendix A. The motion carried unanimously. "*

#### DISCUSSION:

As part of implementing Council's 2015-MAY-11 motion, staff was provided with drafts of the Declaration on the Right to a Healthy Environment for their input and recommendation. In addition, the City's solicitor was also given a copy and asked to review and add recommended changes from a legal perspective. The amended declaration (Appendix A) includes all recommended changes and is highlighted for convenience.

The legal review was completed by Young Anderson on 2015-JUN-26. While no significant legal objections were raised by adopting the declaration, some changes were made that include:

- rewording around the use of "shall" versus "will" to maintain consistency; and,
- rewording of the clause addressing the pre-cautionary principle to improve clarity.

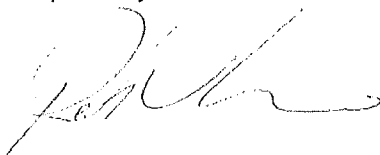
Staff and management from the Community Services Division also reviewed the declaration and recommended the following changes:

- include reference to the Regional Growth Strategy in order to include the intent to focus growth regionally within urban centres;
- avoid using the term "full cost accounting" and describe its meaning instead within the declaration; and,
- remove reference for infrastructure and development projects to follow a "no net loss" approach and instead return to the original language of the Blue Dot declaration template and replace "protect" with "minimize their impact".

#### STRATEGIC PLAN CONSIDERATIONS:

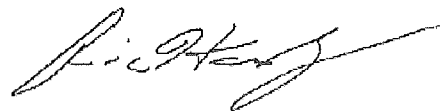
Taking Responsibility: Council's resolution to refer the "Right to a Healthy Environment" Declaration to the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability is supported by the Environmental Responsibility Pillar of the Strategic Plan.

Respectfully submitted,



Rob Lawrance  
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER  
PARKS, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT

Concurrence by:



Richard Harding  
DIRECTOR  
PARKS, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT

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## APPENDIX A

### DRAFT DECLARATION OF THE RIGHT TO A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR NANAIMO

WHEREAS the David Suzuki Foundation Blue Dot Movement has inspired many Canadians to request that the right to a healthy environment be enshrined in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms through support of the following motion;

AND WHEREAS the City of Nanaimo understands that people are part of the environment and that a healthy environment is inextricably linked to the well-being of our community;

AND WHEREAS the City's Strategic Plan of Council and Official Community Plan (planNanaimo) provides a strong policy foundation to pursue actions and initiatives that contribute toward a healthy environment;

AND WHEREAS the City of Nanaimo has the opportunity to show support for the application to include the Declaration of the Right to a Healthy Environment within the Federal Charter of Rights and Freedoms, joining other Canadian cities in reaffirming our commitment to social, environmental and economic sustainability;

AND WHEREAS the City of Nanaimo has the responsibility within its jurisdiction and capacity under the *Community Charter* to respect, protect and promote the rights that are the subject of this Resolution;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Nanaimo shows support by endorsing the following declaration:

That all people have the right to live in a healthy environment, including:

- The right to breathe clean air;
- The right to drink clean water;
- The right to consume safe food;
- The right to access nature;
- The right to know about pollutants and contaminants released into the local environment;
- The right to participate in decision-making that will affect the environment.

Where known threats of serious or irreversible damage to human health or the environment exist, The City will take reasonable and cost-effective measures to prevent degradation of the environment and protect the health of its citizens. Applying the precautionary principle, the City will not use the lack of full scientific certainty regarding such threats as justification for avoiding or foregoing mitigation measures.

The City of Nanaimo will weigh the economic, social and environmental implications; when evaluating reasonably foreseeable costs of proposed actions and alternatives, the City of Nanaimo will consider costs to human health and the environment.

By December 31, 2016, the City of Nanaimo will complete a Community Environmental Framework and assess its current environmental objectives, policies, programs, targets, timelines and actions within its jurisdiction and determine a community environmental vision for itself. This process will include a review of options to:

- Ensure equitable distribution of environmental benefits and burdens within the municipality;
- Ensure infrastructure and development projects minimize their impact on the environment, including air quality;
- Confirm the City addresses Climate Change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and implementing adaptation measures;
- Continue to follow the direction of the Regional Growth Strategy and Official Community Plan in encouraging density within urban centres and through a node and corridor approach;
- Prioritize walking, cycling and public transit as preferred modes of transportation;
- Ensure adequate infrastructure for the provision of safe and accessible drinking water;
- Promote the availability of local and safe foods, and ongoing food security and sustainability practices and programs;
- Further reduce solid waste and promote recycling and composting, with a goal toward reaching a universally accepted Zero Waste target;
- Establish and maintain accessible green spaces in all residential neighbourhoods;

The City of Nanaimo will review these objectives, targets, timelines and actions on a regular basis, and evaluate progress towards completing and maintaining the City's Community Environmental Framework.

The City of Nanaimo will work together with residents to further develop and promote this community as a "green community" that is a preferred visitor destination and location for new residents and businesses seeking such a community.

The City of Nanaimo will consult with residents as part of this process.

**City of Nanaimo**

**REPORT TO THE**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

DATE OF MEETING: 2015-JUL-08

AUTHORED BY: ROB LAWRENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER  
PARKS, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT

RE: OIL TO HEAT PUMP INCENTIVE PROGRAM

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STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability receive this report for information.

PURPOSE:

To provide for information, an overview of an incentive program being developed through City Green.

BACKGROUND:

In May 2010, new greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets were added to the Official Community Plan. This was done to fulfill provincial requirements to have emissions reduction targets in place in all OCPs, province wide. Currently the City targets are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 3% below 2007 levels by 2020, and 40% below 2007 levels by 2050.

The Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (ACES), along with a number of community stakeholders from local business, industry, neighbourhood associations, BC Hydro, and City staff began a process to determine what actions would be needed to help the City meet its emissions reduction targets in Nanaimo. These actions were laid out in the Community Sustainability Action Plan which was adopted by Council in December 2012.

The Action Plan recognized the role of the City in providing influence over how local stakeholders and residents participate in reducing their energy consumption, switching to less carbon intense fuels and reducing GHG emissions.

One way the City can exert some influence is through **financial incentives** to overcome financial barriers to take action where there is the greatest opportunity for an impact to lower emissions. The City can also provide **outreach and education** to ensure that people are aware of changes that are being implemented and the opportunities that these changes may present residents, and encourage desired behaviour and actions.

DISCUSSION:

The Oil to Heat Pump Incentive Program (the Program) is an initiative of the Province of British Columbia to accelerate the adoption of heat pumps as a means of replacing less efficient oil heating systems in order to achieve greenhouse gas reductions, reduce incidents of oil tank leaks, and improve home energy efficiency in British Columbia.

Plans are underway to launch the Program formally in late summer 2015 and will be in run until funding is exhausted (or renewed). The Program will be coordinated through City Green Solutions, a non-profit organization, based in Victoria British Columbia that focuses on home energy assessments and benchmarking (<http://www.citygreen.ca/>). Financial incentives will be available for homeowners interested in decommissioning an existing oil heating systems on their property and converting to less carbon intense heat pump systems. The heat pump conversion could be for either a mini-split heat pump or a ducted heat pump with electric backups. At this point, an additional incentive is being considered to provide a top up for working with accredited contractors and for completing a pre and post retrofit energy evaluation.

Although oil heated homes are currently not eligible for the HERO program, the HERO Program Partners have agreed to allow participants in the oil to heat pump program to access the HERO rebates, and to count the oil to heat pump upgrade as a \$750 Bonus Offer eligible measure (three qualifying upgrades are required to access the Bonus Offer). The 10,000 kWh per year minimum electricity requirement for participating in the HERO program will also be waived for qualifying oil heated homes. Rather than being integrated into the utility HERO program, the Oil to Heat Pump Incentive Program will most likely function as a complementary incentive program with information hosted on the Ministry of Energy and Mines' website. Further details will be provided closer to the start date of the Program.

The City of Nanaimo will be a participating partner in the Program and staff are currently looking into how the City can best enhance the Program for Nanaimo residents.

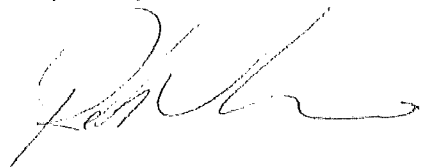
Oil heating system to air source heat pump system upgrades provide the following benefits:

- On average, the highest greenhouse gas emission reduction potential of any energy improvement for single family residential homes. Analysis of oil heating to heat pump upgrades on Vancouver Island identified the average GHG reductions of 7.88 tonnes per home/year for replacing an oil heating system with a heat pump.
- Significantly reduced homeowner energy costs.
- Eliminates potential of oil tank failures and the resulting negative impacts to the environment and financial impacts to property owners.

#### STRATEGIC PLAN CONSIDERATIONS:

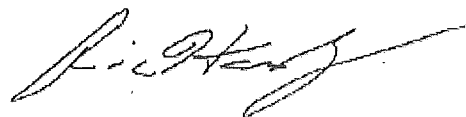
The Proposed Oil to Heat Pump Incentive Program builds on and supports Council's ongoing commitment to environmental responsibility and Community Building Partnerships as identified in the Strategic Plan.

Respectfully submitted,



Rob Lawrance  
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER  
PARKS, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT

Concurrence by:



Richard Harding  
DIRECTOR  
PARKS, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT

2015-JUL-03

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## City of Nanaimo

### REPORT TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

DATE OF MEETING: 2015-JUL-08

AUTHORED BY: KEVIN BRYDGES, R.P.BIO.  
ENVIRONMENTAL BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER  
PARKS, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT

RE: CANADA GEESE IN NANAIMO

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#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability receive this report as information.

#### PURPOSE:

To inform the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability of the issues surrounding Canada geese in Nanaimo, the steps currently being taken to manage these issues, and the future directions of Canada goose management.

#### BACKGROUND:

The Canada goose (*Branta canadensis*) has been considered a very majestic bird and a Canadian symbol. However, due to its significant population increase since its introduction to Vancouver Island in the 1970's, the Canada goose is now becoming a public concern. Canada geese have a significant impact environmentally, financially and aesthetically on the urban and rural lands throughout the southern east coast of Vancouver Island, and as well they present a prominent health concern. As such many communities and regions are now developing management plans to address the population of Canada geese and their associated impacts.

The City of Nanaimo, Parks, Recreation and Environment Department (PR&E) has been attempting to manage Canada geese populations and their impacts since the late 1990's. Due to the increase in geese population, PR&E began seeing an increased presence of geese on beaches, playing fields and in the cemetery resulting in a rising health concern from geese feces in these areas. As a response, PR&E implemented an egg addling program in 1999 to attempt to manage the population. In addition, attempts were made to harass and scare birds away to help keep them off the heavily used beaches and sports fields.

#### DISCUSSION:

The global population of Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*) and the smaller, closely related cackling geese (*Branta hutchinsii*) together comprise 12 subspecies of geese (Banks et al. 2004) hereafter collectively referred to as Canada geese. Prior to the 1960's, Canada geese were considered migrants and summer visitants in British Columbia (Campbell et al. 1990). However, the status of Canada geese changed dramatically in British Columbia during the 1960's and 70's. In these years, a Canada goose introduction program was initiated by the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS; Environment Canada), the provincial Fish and Wildlife Branch and conservation organizations. The goals of the program were to establish breeding

populations on Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland and other parts of BC where Canada geese were uncommon at the time, to improve wildlife viewing and sport-hunting opportunities. Goslings and breeding stock from different, large-bodied, taxonomic stocks of Canada geese that originated from elsewhere in British Columbia, Canada, and the United States were introduced to different areas of British Columbia, including the east coast of Vancouver Island (Campbell et al. 1990, Dawe and Stewart 2010, Simmons and Nightingale 2011).

Canada geese in western North America are naturally migratory. However, the transplanted young of the 1960's and 1970's had little opportunity to learn natural behaviour patterns from mature geese (i.e., imprint) and did not learn to seasonally migrate. These non-migratory geese and their offspring remained in the areas to which they were relocated. Importantly, the offspring are hybrids of the different stocks of geese that were introduced to the region decades ago. As such, these birds are a new population of non-migratory resident geese which are not native to the region.

At the time of the relocations, British Columbia began a rapid transformation toward a more urbanized and developed landscape that greatly restricted hunting. Consequently, increased habitat with fewer population controls assisted non-migratory resident Canada geese to increase exponentially in some areas of the province.

Today, non-migratory resident populations of Canada geese in urban and rural parts of southern British Columbia are largely perceived as problem wildlife, due to their abundance, territorial behaviour during breeding season, crop damage, potential risks to human health, fouling of grassy areas with droppings, risk of contribution to fecal coliform levels in public swimming areas and other waters, damage to lawns and green spaces, as well as other economic losses (Alderisio and DeLuca 1999, Smith et al. 2005, Meays et al. 2006).

Non-migratory resident Canada geese can be found on land governed by various jurisdictions including federal, provincial, municipal, and private properties such as playing fields, public beaches, golf courses, schools, and agricultural lands. Non-migratory resident Canada goose populations have increased in the Nanaimo region to the extent that they are a general public nuisance impacting parks, natural habitats, and recreational areas.

Unlike most familiar wildlife in British Columbia (e.g., deer and other mammals), which fall solely under jurisdiction of the provincial Wildlife Act, Canada geese and other waterfowl are also protected under the federal Migratory Birds Convention Act and pursuant Migratory Birds Regulations which provides the senior jurisdictional authority. Thus, any attempts to manage geese must abide by the federal Act as well as any provincial and municipal regulations that apply in their respective regions.

#### Impacts of Resident Canada Geese in Nanaimo:

Problems with resident Canada geese in Nanaimo began in the late 1990's when increasing goose populations started to impact the parks, playing fields, beaches and the cemetery. Negative impacts included:

- high density of fecal matter on beaches, water parks and grassed playing fields;
- territorial geese actively protecting their nest sites and young broods;
- families of geese crossing streets within parks creating traffic hazards;
- geese aggressively begging for food;
- concerns over fecal coliform originating from goose feces entering swimming water; and,
- conflict with presence of geese in parks and associated costs of mitigation.

Accordingly PR&E started managing the Canada goose population in 1999, when they instituted and an annual egg addling program. The addling program continues today with modest effectiveness.

PR&E also began other mitigation on an as-needed basis. The main mitigation tactic being used is hazing/scaring the geese. This technique temporarily scares the geese away from conflict areas and can be useful in parks and playing fields in peak use periods. PR&E have employed several different hazing/scare techniques including:

- use of dogs
- use of birds of prey
- use of remote controlled vehicles
- use of noise makers

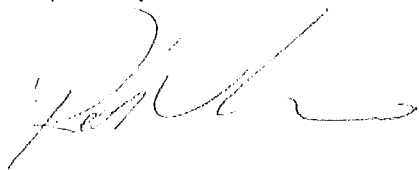
PR&E have also temporarily relocated geese from high conflict areas in the past; however, this mitigation strategy is temporary as the geese can return to the area and there are few areas to relocate the geese to.

Previous management strategies also included habitat modification. In urban and rural environments trees, hedges, or other barriers have been installed to prevent easy access to water from land.

#### Future Management:

At the present time PR&E is managing the Canada goose issue in an adhoc, as needed, prescriptive manner. In the future it is expected that a more regionally coordinated planned approach will be needed to be successful in reducing the Canada goose population and thus the conflicts in Nanaimo and the surrounding region. As an initial step, PR&E will be consulting with neighboring local governments and stakeholders to work toward the formation of a regional stakeholder committee with an objective of developing and implementing a regional goose management strategy.

Respectfully submitted,



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Rob Lawrance  
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER  
PARKS, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT

Concurrence by:



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Richard Harding  
DIRECTOR  
PARKS, RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT



**City of Nanaimo**

**REPORT TO THE**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

DATE OF MEETING: 2015-JUL-08

AUTHORED BY: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES SECTION

RE: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT – JUNE 2015

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ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:

- Reviewed proposals with Parks Operations and Environmental Services staff for removal of knotweed along the Millstone River in Bowen Park. Contractor to begin permit process.
- Met City solicitor and senior staff regarding Declaration on the Right to a Healthy Environment.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REVIEW & DEVELOPMENT REFERRALS:

- Received two development permit area and one subdivision application for review.
- Attended two follow up property site visits for ongoing development permit applications.

PROJECT / PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT:

- Real Estate Energy Efficiency Program – REEP Team held training session with local realtors in the Courtney-Comox area. Comox Valley Regional District staff attended.
- Knotweed Awareness Program – Participated in media interviews promoting the Knotweed Awareness Program. City of Nanaimo, Parksville, and Qualicum Beach are currently working with the Coastal Invasive Species Committee (<http://www.coastalisc.com/>) on the Program from June to November 2015.
- Invasive Plant Management Program – Worked with 23 Rotary Club international students to remove Himalayan Balsam from along Departure Creek within Woodstream Park.
- Vancouver Island Beggartick Plant Recovery Program – Met with Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) Staff to confirm where Section 9 notifications would be required for research plots.

EDUCATION / TRAINING:

- Attended web writing training course.
- Attended stream restoration workshop hosted by the City of North Vancouver.

ONGOING COMMITTEE WORK:

ITEM:	RECOMMENDATION	STATUS	STAFF
City of Nanaimo Declaration "The Right To A Healthy Environment" (Blue Dot Project)	At their 2015-MAY-11 meeting the Finance and Policy Committee of the Whole moved and seconded "that Council refer the "Right To A Healthy Environment Declaration" document to the Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability as well as to Staff for comment and that ACES and Staff report back to Council within two months."  The motion carried.	Report pending.	Environmental Services

2015-JUL-03  
File: A2-12 / A1-15  
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## NEWS RELEASE

Distributed June 22, 2015

### Community pulls together for Invasive Plants Month

#### Summary

Invasive Plants Month was held in Nanaimo during the month of May. The City worked with volunteers and members of the community to raise awareness of and remove invasive plants in Nanaimo. Four invasive plant work parties were held in Northfield Park, Oceanview Park, Bowen Park and at Nanaimo Ice Centre along with two free Drop Zones at Bowen Park where residents could drop off invasives they removed from their properties.

In total, 6 metric tonnes of invasive plants were removed from ecologically sensitive areas within the City's parkland and from the backyards of many dedicated residents throughout the Nanaimo. Volunteers continued to remove English ivy, that has been enveloping trees within our parks and Scotch Broom from many locations throughout Nanaimo. Once again, students from the Dover Bay Environmental Club helped maintain a site in Neck Point Park where research on controlling Periwinkle continues.

Just under 2 tonnes of mixed invasive plants were collected from homeowners and brought to the two Drop Zones. As always, we thank all our volunteers and community stewards for their dedication and support in helping the City maintain its ecological diversity for the future.

*Strategic Link:* Invasive Plant Management falls under the Environmental Responsibility Pillar.

#### Key Points

- A total of 9 Tonnes of invasive plants have been removed from our City parks so far this year.
- Maintaining the biological diversity within our natural ecosystems will depend on effective management of invasive plants.

#### Quotes

"Building upon last year, we continue to have success raising awareness with Invasive Plants Month in Nanaimo. The community really rallied together to help maintain and enhance the natural diversity of our parks and neighbourhoods. Great job, Nanaimo!"

Rob Lawrance  
Environmental Planner  
City of Nanaimo

#### Quick Facts

- The Province has designated June as Invasive Species Action Month. The focus for Vancouver Island this year is Knotweed Awareness and Control. For more information and events visit: [www.coastalisc.com](http://www.coastalisc.com)

-30-

Continued... Community pulls together for Invasive Plants Month

**Contact:**

Rob Lawrance  
Environmental Planner  
City of Nanaimo  
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250-755-7582



View the online edition for more information - <http://cnan.ca/1H97edg>



# Knotweed

## Invasive Species Alert

The spread of non-native invasive plants has serious ecological, economic and social/health impacts. The City of Nanaimo, City of Parksville, Town of Qualicum Beach and the Coastal Invasive Species Committee are working together and appreciate the cooperation of all residents to address knotweed infestations. Local professionals can assist with special treatment required to control this species.

### Why is knotweed a problem?

- One of the world's worst invasive species and a top-ten invasive species for eradication in BC.
- Dense stands eliminate all other vegetation and are extremely difficult to eradicate.
- Ecological impacts include damage to fish and wildlife habitat, reduced biodiversity, bank erosion and clogged waterways.
- Economic and infrastructure impacts include damage to hard surfaces such as pavement, roads, foundations, other structures and drainage systems.
- Extremely vigorous rhizomes; new outbreaks can occur from small fragments of rhizome or stems.

### What does it look like?

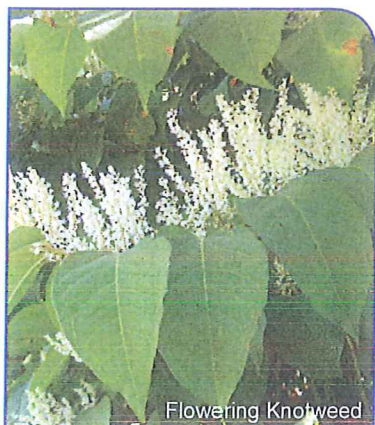
- Sometimes called ornamental bamboo; reddish/purple specked hollow stems, 1.5 to 6m tall. Of the 4 species, Himalayan is the smallest and Giant Knotweed the tallest.
- Leaves that are egg to heart-shaped with pointed tip (except Himalayan which is lance-shaped), alternate, stalked; approx. 8-10 cm wide/15 cm long (except Giant Knotweed which is twice the size).
- Flowers (August-September) small white/green clusters.

### Distribution

- Native to eastern Asia.
- Outbreaks in many regions in BC.

### Could be confused with

- Elderberry (*Sambucus* spp.) with lance-shaped, toothed leaves.
- Bamboo species.



Flowering Knotweed



Species comparisons



Flowering Knotweed



TOWN OF  
QUALICUM BEACH  
Incorporated 1942

### Knotweed species

- Japanese (*Fallopia japonica*)
- Bohemian (*F. x bohemica*)
- Giant Knotweed (*F. sachalinensis*)
- Himalayan (*Polygonum polystachum*)



Himalayan Knotweed



Nanaimo-Parksville-Qualicum

# Knotweed

## Invasive Species Alert



### Proper Disposal

It's best to have a professional remove this plant for you. Manual removal is very difficult and may spread the plant more.

**DO NOT COMPOST KNOTWEED!**

Home composting is likely to spread the problem.



### Habitat and biology

- Perennial shrub-like herb from rhizomes; Polygonaceae (buckwheat) family.
- Found especially in disturbed soil and open habitats; roadsides, watercourses, gardens and drainage systems.
- Reproduction primarily by rhizome and some seed production (especially Bohemian); reproduces also from stems fragments and buds in root crowns.
- Overwintering rhizomes spread rapidly, extending 15-20m laterally, to a depth of 3m; can remain dormant up to 20 years.
- Dispersal: primarily by rhizome and fragments of stem, through human activities and by water.

### What should you do?

*Please report any sightings of this species to the contacts below.*

- **Spread the word, not the weed:** don't purchase, grow or trade knotweed.
- **Contact:** There is a special treatment program for this species in the City of Nanaimo, City of Parksville and Qualicum Beach. Please contact the Coastal Invasive Species Committee (below) for assistance with treating and disposing of this species.
- **Avoid:** digging and cutting this species as this can cause further spread.
- **Wash:** plant parts and seeds from vehicles, equipment and personal gear before leaving infested sites.
- **Dispose:** of any knotweed parts and contaminated soils in the proper manner (see above).
- **Monitor:** knotweed sites to avoid spread and for ongoing treatment until eradicated.
- **Soil and gravel:** use soil and gravel that are not contaminated and follow safe procedures to treat or dispose of contaminated soils and gravel.
- **Pesticides:** depending on what jurisdiction you are in, a pesticide permit may be required for treatment.

Spread the *Word*  
Not the *Weed*

June 2015

Reporting & assistance Call 1-250-857-2472  
Provincial Report-a-Weed: [www.reportaweedbc.ca](http://www.reportaweedbc.ca)  
Local reporting: [info@coastalisc.com](mailto:info@coastalisc.com)



**From:** Nanaimo CarShare Cooperative [<mailto:nanaimocarshareinfo@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 23, 2015 8:35 AM  
**To:** Nanaimo CarShare Cooperative  
**Subject:** Nanaimo CarShare Cooperative Adds Vehicle, Hub

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**NANAIMO CARSHARE EXPANDS FLEET, ADDS HUB AT COUNTRY CLUB CENTRE**

Nanaimo, B.C. – 23 June 2015 – Nanaimo CarShare is growing. The Cooperative has added a third vehicle to its fleet and has opened a hub at Country Club Centre.

As more Nanaimo residents understand the cost and time saving advantages of carsharing, demand for Nanaimo CarShare's service is growing. To meet its members' needs and offer convenient service in more neighbourhoods, the member owned and managed Cooperative recently put to work a grant from Coastal Community Credit Union by investing in expansion.

The Co-op's new vehicle is a 2004 Toyota Echo sedan in excellent shape, bought from Nanaimo Toyota.

Country Club Centre is hosting Nanaimo CarShare's new hub.

"The Echo is the ideal addition to our fleet at this stage of the Co-op's development," says Nanaimo CarShare Board President John Peirce. "We're sure our members will find the Echo fun to drive, and the car's outstanding fuel efficiency helps us keep our rates low while affordably controlling our carbon footprint."

Nanaimo CarShare's new hub at Country Club Centre expands the Co-op's reach. Its two existing hubs are near Port Place Mall and the Prideaux Transit Exchange, serving the downtown area population, Gabriola and Protection Islanders, as well as residents and businesses city-wide via a short bus ride.

"In choosing a hub location, we look for high population density, excellent transit service, a mix of residences and businesses in the neighbourhood, and a supportive hub host and partner. Country Club Centre ticks all the boxes," Peirce explains.

According to Karen Boudreau, Country Club Marketing Director, "It is a win-win situation. Country Club is very pleased to be able to serve as a central hub within our community for Nanaimo CarShare. Nanaimo CarShare offers an alternative mode of transportation to a growing number of people. Many are existing customers or potential customers to the shopping centre."

Nanaimo CarShare launched service in April 2011 with a single vehicle. The Co-op added a second car and hub 15 months later, and continues to grow. Nanaimo CarShare members make easy, self-service bookings for trips as short as an hour or as long as five days. They pay usage fees based on the hours reserved and kilometres travelled. The Co-op pays for insurance, maintenance, repairs, roadside assistance, and gas.

"Our members are enjoying freedom from the hassles and huge fixed expense of car ownership—about \$10,000 annually on average—yet have easy access to a car when they want one," Peirce says. "And our members on Gabriola and the mainland avoid ferry line-ups and car fare when they use one of our vehicles instead of bringing their own on the ferry. Plus all of our members have access to over 300 shared vehicles in Vancouver, Victoria, and on the Sunshine Coast."

Over 80 drivers now share Nanaimo CarShare's fleet, including employees of Nanaimo, Gabriola, and Vancouver businesses. The nonprofit Cooperative is 100% volunteer run and managed.

For information on membership, go to [nanaimocarshare.ca](http://nanaimocarshare.ca) or phone 250-741-4141.

Contact: John Peirce, Nanaimo CarShare Cooperative Board Chair, 250-616-6914,  
[NanaimoCarShareInfo@gmail.com](mailto:NanaimoCarShareInfo@gmail.com)

###

share. save. simplify.

Nanaimo CarShare Cooperative  
e. [NanaimoCarShareInfo@GMail.com](mailto:NanaimoCarShareInfo@GMail.com)  
t. 1-250-741-4141  
w. [nanaimocarshare.ca](http://nanaimocarshare.ca)



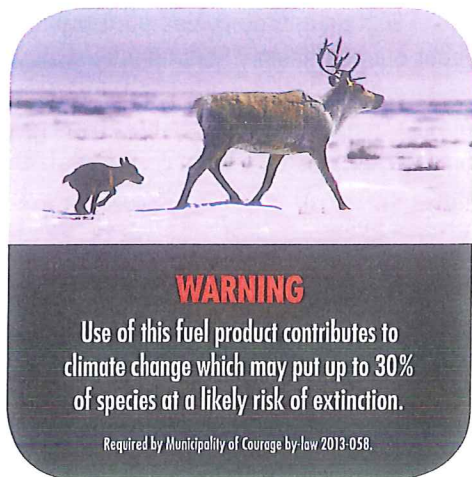




# CAN A SIMPLE STICKER HELP US ACT ON CLIMATE CHANGE?

CLIMATE CHANGE INFORMATION  
LABELS ON GAS PUMPS.

The first step in addressing any challenge is to honestly face it. That's why we're asking municipalities to require gasoline retailers to place climate change and air pollution information labels on gas pumps.



CLIMATE CHANGE  
IS THE GREATEST CHALLENGE  
OF OUR TIME.

**#FaceTheChange**

[www.ourhorizon.org](http://www.ourhorizon.org)

AS SEEN AT

**TED<sup>x</sup>** **UPWORTHY**

**BUSTERS**



THE  
HUFFINGTON  
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**THE GLOBE AND MAIL**

**TORONTO STAR**

-25-

**Municipal World**  
CANADA'S MUNICIPAL MAGAZINE



**THE NATION**



### WARNING

Use of this fuel product contributes to climate change which may cause drought and famine.

Required by Municipality of Courage by-law 2013-058.



### WARNING

Use of this fuel product contributes to ocean acidification which puts much marine life at risk of extinction.

Required by Municipality of Courage by-law 2013-058.



### WARNING

Use of this fuel product contributes to climate change which may cause anxiety and depression in children.

Required by Municipality of Courage by-law 2013-058.

**WE FIND OURSELVES** in an unprecedented moment in human history. Our burning of fossil fuels has changed the basic chemistry of our planet and we're running out of time to act. Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, has called climate change the greatest challenge of our generation.

The first step in addressing any problem is to honestly face it. We talk about climate change, tar sands and pipelines, but

we never question the simple act of pumping gas. There is a complete disconnect. The warning labels draw attention to this unexamined act. They disrupt the status quo and stimulate demand for alternatives. Businesses and governments will respond. It is a simple yet powerful way to shake us out of our sense of complacency and help move communities in a more sustainable direction. With warning labels already on cigarette packages all over the world, this idea has been primed to go global.



## TEDx

x = independently organized TED event

[www.ourhorizon.org/TEDx](http://www.ourhorizon.org/TEDx)

Please watch our TEDx talk and download our legal report to learn more about our campaign. Share our idea with your councillors to help pass it into law in your own community. Let us have the courage to honestly face what we're up against so we can begin to move forward in meaningful ways. Let us #FaceTheChange.

**"Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step."** – Martin Luther King Jr.



Our Horizon  
Centre for Social Innovation  
720 Bathurst Street  
Toronto, ON M5S 2R4

Think Global. Act Municipal.

Our Horizon is a non-profit organization.

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#FaceTheChange

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