

Circulation Package



Tex Lyon Trail near Storey's Beach (photo credit: Greg Fletcher)

July 2022

@GCnewsroom Tweet (INET POSTWEB publishes):

The Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations, BC and the #GC sign a memorandum of understanding that advances #reconciliation and treaty negotiations.

@BCGovNews @GCIndigenous

News Release

For Immediate Release

Canada, British Columbia and the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations advance to final stage of treaty negotiations

July 9, 2022 – Tsulquate Reserve, District of Port Hardy, British Columbia – Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations – Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

The governments of Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw, Canada and British Columbia have signed a new agreement that will further advance reconciliation and treaty negotiations.

Today, Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nation Leaders, Hereditary Chiefs; the Honourable Marc Miller, federal Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations; and Michele Babchuk, Member of the Legislative Assembly for North Island, on behalf of the Honourable Murray Rankin, provincial Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, signed the *Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations Transition to Stage 5 Memorandum of Understanding*.

The Memorandum of Understanding marks the next and final stage (Stage 5) of treaty negotiations. This will support the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations' right to self-determination and define a new relationship between Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations, Canada and British Columbia by enabling next steps in the BC Treaty Process.

The Memorandum of Understanding commits the parties to establish a new approach to their treaty negotiations, which will be guided and informed by the *Recognition and Reconciliation of Rights Policy for Treaty Negotiations in British Columbia*, which was collaboratively developed and released by the Government of Canada, the Province of British Columbia and the First Nations Summit in 2019. This new approach to negotiations ensures agreements align with the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and British Columbia's *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*. The approach will allow for the recognition and continuation of rights without those rights being modified, surrendered, or extinguished when a treaty is signed, and for the design of a treaty that is flexible and able to adapt to changing circumstances over time.

As the parties prepare to enter into Stage 5 of negotiations, they recognize that there remains much work to do and many decisions to be made before the treaty process is complete. Today's Memorandum of Understanding marks a significant step towards reconciliation and resolution and recognizes the hard work and dedication of those involved on behalf of Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw, Canada and British Columbia in reaching this significant milestone.

Quotes

"Our Nations worked hard because we lost so much after relocation away from our Homelands. We did not have much after we arrived, not even running water. For so many years, we struggled for basic needs to survive. We had to fight for a few houses, fight to get our kids back after the Ministry of Children and Family Development took them. Fight for our school. Our people were down.

The Treaty and work on this Memorandum of Understanding have helped us focus on rebuilding as strong nations once more, with a thriving culture, education, economic development, and better health and well-being of our peoples. On our path to self-determination together in the spirit of reconciliation,

working with the two levels of government, and greater flexibility of mandate, we will address and regain what was lost.”

Chief Terry Walkus
Gwa’sala-’Nakwaxda’xw Nations

“This Transition to Stage 5 Revitalization Agreement is the result of hard work and renewed understandings. Our Hereditary Chief, the late Tom Henderson Sr., after 25 years at the BCTC Negotiation Table stated, ‘This is us, the Gwa’sala and ‘Nakwaxda’xw Nations, this is how we lived, this is how a people live.’ The federal and provincial governments made their best effort to explain the processes they work under in an effort achieve a mandate to support a just and lasting agreement.

The MOU represents common hard-won understandings of the unique circumstances of our Gwa’sala-’Nakwaxda’xw Nations, who, in 1964, were forcibly relocated out of our homelands and onto another’s Douglas Treaty lands; and the challenge of BC and Canada to fully understand and agree on ways to address the tragic losses and history, while at the same time understand and support the strength of Gwa’sala-’Nakwaxda’xw Nations leadership to rebuild as self-determining Nations.

I acknowledge all the negotiators who got us through to this revitalization of negotiations agreement and to the next stage of negotiations, including the provincial and federal governments teams, the BC Treaty Commission and the Gwa’sala-’Nakwaxda’xw treaty team. Gilakas’la all.”

Colleen Hemphill, “Tsax – tsa – ghay - dzemgha”
Chief Negotiator, Gwa’sala-’Nakwaxda’xw Nations

“The signing of this Memorandum of Understanding provides the foundation to move ahead on a treaty with the Gwa’sala-’Nakwaxda’xw Nations based on their community priorities. By working together, we are developing new approaches towards reconciliation that will support the Gwa’sala-’Nakwaxda’xw Nations in building a better future for their community and implementing their vision of self-determination for this generation and many to come.”

The Honourable Marc Miller
Minister of Crown–Indigenous Relations

“Treaties are a critically important pathway to meaningful reconciliation. Through strong relationship building, the Gwa’sala-’Nakwaxda’xw Nations, Canada and the Province of BC are demonstrating how together, we can support strong, healthy and thriving Indigenous communities. This important MOU will benefit the Gwa’sala-’Nakwaxda’xw people today and for generations to come.”

Michele Babchuk
Member of the Legislative Assembly for North Island

Quick Facts

- The Gwa’sala-’Nakwaxda’xw Nations has approximately 1,057 members and 26 remote reserves.
- Gwa’sala-’Nakwaxda’xw, British Columbia and Canada entered treaty negotiations in 1997.

Associated Links

- [Gwa’sala-’Nakwaxda’xw Nations](#)
- [BC Treaty Commission](#)
- [Canada, British Columbia and the First Nations Summit welcome new BC-specific policy to support treaty negotiations in BC](#)
- [Recognition and Reconciliation of Rights Policy for Treaty negotiations in British Columbia](#)

For more information, media may contact:

Renelle Arsenault
Director of Communications
Office of the Honourable Marc Miller
Minister of Crown–Indigenous Relations
renelle.arsenault@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca
CIRNAC Media Relations:
Email: RCAANC.Media.CIRNAC@sac-isc.gc.ca
Phone: 819-934-2302

Gordon Black
Director of K'awatsi Consulting and Management Services
On behalf of Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations
Email: gordon.black@kawatsiconsulting.ca
Phone: 250-230-2919

Art Aronson
Province of British Columbia
Direct: 250-940-8661
Cell: 250-893-2028
Arthur.Aronson@gov.bc.ca

Stay connected

Join the conversation about Indigenous Peoples in Canada:

Twitter: [@GCIndigenous](https://twitter.com/GCIndigenous)
Facebook: [@GCIndigenous](https://www.facebook.com/GCIndigenous)
Instagram: [@gcindigenous](https://www.instagram.com/gcindigenous)

NOTE: If another set of social media handles (partner, stakeholder, Indigenous community etc) are to be included, please provide separately below:

- Twitter: HYPERLINK "<https://twitter.com/GNNTreaty>"
- Facebook: HYPERLINK "[@GNNTreaty](https://www.facebook.com/GNNTreaty)"
- Instagram:  HYPERLINK "<https://www.instagram.com/gnntreaty>"

You can subscribe to receive our news releases and speeches via RSS feeds. For more information or to subscribe, visit www.cirnac.gc.ca/RSS



OMBUDSPERSON
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. Greg Fletcher
Administrator
Regional District of Mount Waddington
2044 McNeill Rd
PO Box 729
PORT MCNEILL BC V0N 2R0

June 2022

Regional District Mt Waddington

JUL 07 2022

Dear Mr. Fletcher,

RE: Quarterly Reports: January 1 – March 31, 2022

This package of documents details the complaint files the Office of the Ombudsperson closed for **the Regional District of Mount Waddington** between January 1 and March 31, 2022. No action is required on your part, however we hope that you will find this information useful and share it within your organization.

These reports provide information about the complaint files we closed regarding your organization within the last quarter, including both files we investigated and files we closed without investigation. Files currently open with the office are not included in these reports.

Enclosed you will find detailed reports containing the following:

- A one-page report listing the number of files closed and the category under which they were closed. The categories we use to close files are based on the sections of the *Ombudsperson Act*, which gives the Ombudsperson the authority to investigate complaints from the public regarding authorities under our jurisdiction. A more detailed description of our closing categories is available on our website at: <https://bcombudsperson.ca/assets/media/QR-Glossary.pdf>.
- *If applicable:* Copies of closing summaries written about the complaint files we investigated. These summaries provide an overview of the complaint received, our investigation and the outcome. Our office produces closing summaries for *investigated* files only, and not for enquiries or those complaints we chose not to investigate.
- *If applicable:* A summary of the topics identified in the complaint files closed during the quarter. We track general complaint topics for all complaints we receive, and when applicable, we include authority-specific and/or sector-specific topics for your organization and/or sector. Our office tracks the topics of complaints we investigate and those we close without investigation, but not for enquiries. Because complaints to our office are confidential, we do not share complaint topic information if we received too few complaints to preserve the complainants' anonymity.

If your organization received too few complaints to produce a summary of complaint topics but you would like further information about the complaints our office received about your organization, our Public Authority Consultation and Training (PACT) Team can provide further details upon request.

Finally, we have been tracking complaints related to the COVID-19 pandemic under the general heading of "COVID-19." If you would like more detailed information about those complaints, please contact our PACT Team.

If you have questions about our quarterly reports, or if you would like to sign up for our mailing list to be notified of educational opportunities provided by our Public Authority Consultation and Training Team, please contact us at 250-508-2950 or consult@bcombudsperson.ca.

Yours sincerely,



Jay Chalke
Ombudsperson
Province of British Columbia

Enclosures



Type of complaint closure	# closed
Enquiries – Many people who contact us are not calling to make a complaint, but are seeking information or advice. These contacts are classified as <i>Enquiries</i> to distinguish them from <i>Complaints</i> , which are requests that our office conduct an investigation.	1
Complaints with No Investigation – Our office does not investigate every complaint it receives. First, we determine whether we have authority to investigate the complaint under the <i>Ombudsperson Act</i> . We also have discretion to decline to investigate for other reasons specified in the <i>Ombudsperson Act</i> .	0
Early Resolution Investigations – Early Resolution investigations provide an expedited process for dealing with complaints when it appears that an opportunity exists for the authority to take immediate action to resolve the issue. Typical issues that are addressed through Early Resolution include timeliness, communication, and opportunities for internal review.	0
Complaint Investigations – When we investigate a complaint we may conclude with a determination that a complaint is not substantiated, or with a negotiated settlement of the complaint, or with public findings and recommendations. We may also exercise discretion to cease investigation for a number of other reasons specified in the <i>Ombudsperson Act</i> .	Total: 0
<i>Reason for closing an Investigation:</i>	
Pre-empted by existing statutory right of appeal, objection or review.	0
Investigation ceased with no formal findings under the <i>Ombudsperson Act</i> .	
More than one year between event and complaint	0
Insufficient personal interest	0
Available remedy	0
Frivolous/vexatious/trivial matter	0
Can consider without further investigation	0
No benefit to complainant or person aggrieved	0
Complaint abandoned	0
Complaint withdrawn	0
Complaint settled in consultation with the authority - When an investigation leads us to conclude that action is required to resolve the complaint, we try to achieve that resolution by obtaining the voluntary agreement of the authority to settle the complaint. This allows matters to be resolved fairly for the complainant and authority without requiring a formal finding of maladministration.	0
Complaint substantiated with formal findings under the <i>Ombudsperson Act</i> .	0
Complaint not substantiated under the <i>Ombudsperson Act</i> .	0
Ombudsperson Initiated Investigations – The Ombudsperson has the authority to initiate investigations independently from our process for responding to complaints from the public. These investigations may be ceased at the discretion of the Ombudsperson or concluded with formal findings and recommendations.	0



The tables below summarize the complaint topics we are tracking for your sector and/or authority and the number of times this topic was identified in the files (investigated and non-investigated complaints) that were closed in the most recent quarter.

If you would like more information on the types of complaints we receive, please contact our Public Authority Consultation and Training Team: email us at consult@bcombudsperson.ca or call us at 250-508-2950.

Sector-Specific Complaint Topics - All Local Government

Bylaw Enforcement	53	29%
Council Member Conduct (incl. Conflict of Interest)	16	9%
Official Community Plan/Zoning/Development	39	22%
Fees/Charges (incl. Taxes)	11	6%
Open Meetings	6	3%
Procurement	4	2%
Services (incl. Garbage, Sewer, Water)	11	6%
Response to Damages Claim	1	1%
Other	39	22%

General Complaint Topics - All Local Government

COVID-19	1	0%
Disagreement with Decision or Outcome	64	25%
Accessibility	8	3%
Delay	13	5%
Administrative Error	9	4%
Treatment by Staff	23	9%
Communication	34	13%
Process or Procedure	92	36%
Review or Appeal Process	6	2%
Employment or Labour Relations	2	1%
Other	3	1%

To: Employers, unions and associations
From: Municipal Pension Board of Trustees
June 30, 2022



2021 valuation update: no contribution rate increase expected

The December 31, 2021, actuarial valuation of the Municipal Pension Plan is underway. We received a preliminary estimated projection in June 2022. Early indicators show there is a high probability no contribution rate increase will be required as a result of this valuation.

We are providing this early information to assist with your budget planning. The valuation will be completed later this year, and the board will announce the results on the plan website by early October. We will send you a letter with your contribution rates in October.

We review contribution rates every three years following the valuation. Your October rate letter will show your multi-year rate for 2023 through 2025. The employee and employer rates for each member group are not expected to change. (If you have employees in group 1 and group 2, you receive a blended contribution rate, and this rate will be adjusted based on the member salaries and groups you report from the preceding year.)

The valuation results will be discussed at the 2022 annual general meeting. All plan members, employers, unions and associations are invited to attend this online meeting.

Municipal Pension Plan 2022 Annual General Meeting

October 13, 2022
10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Registration will open soon on the plan website.

Municipal Pension Board of Trustees Pension Board Secretariat

PO Box 9460
Victoria, BC V8W 9V8
MPBT@pensionsbc.ca
Fax: 250 356-6245

mpp.pensionsbc.ca



June 23, 2022

Chair Barry Pages
North Coast Regional District
14, 342 3rd Avenue West
Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1L5
corporateofficer@rcrdbc.com

Dear Chair Pages,

At the June 22, 2022, regular Board of Directors meeting of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD), the Board received your letter dated June 16, 2022, inviting the ACRD join the North Coast Regional District and other Coastal Community Network members, to participate in the proposed joint-meeting at the 2022 UBCM Convention with Minister Osborne, Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship to discuss planning for our commercial fishing industry into the future.

We thank you for the invitation and would gladly participate in this opportunity to work together on this important issue.

Please contact the General Manager of Administrative Services, Wendy Thomson, (wthomson@acrd.bc.ca) with the details as they develop.

Sincerely,

John Jack, Chair
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
Board of Directors

cc: Regional District of Mount Waddington
Strathcona Regional District
City of Richmond

Quatsino Scrap Metal Haul Out



Photo credits: Cody Pawluk

Important contacts

To report a wildfire:

- Call **1 800 663-5555** toll-free or ***5555** on a cellphone.

When a person calls to report a wildfire, personal information is collected by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development under Section 26 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. If you have any questions about the collection of this information, please contact the supervisor of the Provincial Forest Fire Reporting Centre at 250 387-2225 or at 2957 Jutland Road, Victoria, BC, V8T 5J9.

Obtain fire-related information by phone:

- To listen to recorded information about campfires, open fire prohibitions, and area or travel restrictions, call toll-free: **1 888 3FOREST** (1 888 336-7378)

Obtain fire-related information online:

- www.BCWildfire.ca
- www.facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo
- www.twitter.com/bcgovfireinfo

Visit the BC Wildfire Service website for information about:

- open fire prohibitions or restrictions;
- area restrictions and travel restrictions;
- provincial maps indicating: fire danger rating, temperature, relative humidity, precipitation and wind speed; and
- detailed Fire Danger Class ratings for individual fire weather stations in B.C.

Ventilation index and weather conditions:

- The ventilation index (also known as the venting index) is updated daily at 7 a.m. and is available online at: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/epdpa/venting/venting.html>

Information about FireSmart activities in British Columbia:

- To learn more about FireSmart in B.C., visit www.firesmartbc.ca

RESPECT THE USE OF FIRE

BACKYARD & INDUSTRIAL BURNING



A Guide to Category 2 Open Fires

PLEASE NOTE:
The Coastal Fire Centre is looking to initiate Category 2 & 3 Open Burning Prohibitions on Thursday, July 14th



Category 2 open fires

In British Columbia, the *Wildfire Act* and the Wildfire Regulation specify your legal obligations when using fire in (or within one kilometre of) forest land or grassland.

Under the Wildfire Regulation, a Category 2 open fire is a fire that:

- burns material in one pile not exceeding two metres in height and three metres in width; or
- burns material concurrently in two piles, each not exceeding two metres high and three metres wide; or
- burns stubble or grass over an area that does not exceed 0.2 hectares (2,000 square metres); or
- is not a campfire.

People may light, fuel, or make use of a Category 2 open fire within one kilometre of forest land or grassland when:

- there are no prohibitions or other restrictions in place for doing so;
- it is safe to do so and will continue to be safe; and
- a fuel break—sometimes called a fire break—has been established around the burn area. (A fuel break is a change in fuel type or condition, typically a strip of land cleared down to the mineral soil to prevent fire spread.)

While the fire is burning and there is a potential risk of the fire escaping (i.e. spreading beyond its intended size), the person who lights or maintains the fire must:

- maintain the fuel break;
- have an adequate fire suppression system available at the burn site for fire control if the fire escapes;
- ensure that the fire is watched and patrolled by a person equipped with at least one firefighting hand tool to stop the fire escaping; and
- ensure that the fire does not exceed the capacity of the people, firefighting tools and heavy equipment on site to take timely action to stop the fire escaping.

In addition:

- The person who lights or maintains the fire must ensure that the fire is fully extinguished and the ashes are cold to the touch before leaving the area for any length of time.

- If the fire spreads beyond the burn area, the person responsible must carry out fire control activities and extinguish the fire if practicable.
- If the fire spreads beyond the burn area, the person responsible must report the escaped fire to the BC Wildfire Service at 1 800 663-5555 (or call 911 if the site falls within the jurisdiction of a local fire department).

Persons engaged in an “Industrial Activity” (as defined in the *Wildfire Act*) and carrying out fire control for a Category 2 open fire must make available to fight the fire at least the greater of:

- one piece of heavy equipment, one fire suppression system and six workers (each equipped with at least one firefighting hand tool); and
- all workers, fire suppression systems, heavy equipment and firefighting hand tools within 30 kilometres by road (if on Crown land) or all resources working on the land (if on land other than Crown land).

Anyone who lights, fuels or makes use of a Category 2 open fire must comply with the *Environmental Management Act* and the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation. Before lighting a Category 2 fire, please review “A Guide to the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation” (particularly the information about prohibited materials): <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/air/air-pollution/smoke-burning/regulations/openburningregulation>

The *Environmental Management Act* requires individuals to check local venting conditions prior to lighting a Category 2 open fire, to ensure that local conditions are suitable for burning. The venting index (sometimes called the ventilation index) is updated daily and is available at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/air/air-pollution/smoke-burning/venting-index>

A burn registration number is not required for a Category 2 open fire.

Safe burning is your Responsibility

Make responsible burning decisions:

The *Wildfire Act* puts the onus on you to use fire safely. Before lighting a fire, you are required to determine whether you can burn safely. Then you must take reasonable precautions to ensure that your fire does not escape.

- Check with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development for any current prohibitions on open burning. These restrictions are typically put in place when conditions are dry and wildfire risks increase. Check the BC Wildfire Service website at www.bcwildfire.ca or phone the fire information line at **1 888 336-7378**.
- Check current and forecasted wind conditions. If the wind is strong enough to carry sparks to other combustible materials, do not burn.

Be prepared to respond

Under provincial law, you must keep a watch on your fire to stop it escaping (i.e. spreading beyond its intended size). You are responsible for meeting legal requirements to control the fire and extinguish it if needed.

About the Wildfire Act

The *Wildfire Act* specifies your legal obligations when using fire for campfires, backyard burning, industrial/agricultural burning, and resource management purposes. It is the responsibility of the people using the fire to ensure that their activities do not cause wildfires.

A contravention of the *Wildfire Act* is an offence. A person who contravenes the *Wildfire Act* may be subject to an administrative penalty, a fine upon conviction, and/or firefighting, damage and rehabilitation costs as specified in the *Wildfire Act*.

If your fire escapes, try to stop it spreading further:

- First, try to extinguish the fire (if practicable).
- Second, report the escaped fire as soon as possible to: a fire emergency response telephone number (911 in organized areas, or **1 800 663-5555** toll-free or ***5555** on a cellphone if the fire is on Crown land); an official (as defined by the *Wildfire Act*) employed by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development; or a peace officer (e.g. RCMP or municipal police).
- Continue carrying out fire control activities (if it is safe to do so) until you're relieved by an official.

Extinguish your fire properly

You must fully extinguish your fire and the ashes must be cold to the touch before you leave the area for any length of time.

Open burning that's done carelessly or improperly can result in a wildfire that could cost millions of dollars to extinguish and could unnecessarily divert firefighting resources from naturally occurring wildfires.

Where the Wildfire Act applies

The *Wildfire Act* applies on both public (Crown) land and private land throughout B.C.

Before lighting any fire, always check with your local government or fire department to see if any local bylaws or fire use restrictions are in effect. If local bylaws or restrictions are in place, those agencies can provide further information.

High-risk activities

The *Wildfire Act* sets out additional obligations for people engaged in high-risk activities on or within 300 metres of forested land or grassland.

High-risk activities are listed in the Wildfire Regulation and include:

- mechanical brushing
- disk trenching
- preparation or use of explosives
- using fire-producing or spark-producing tools (including cutting tools)
- using or preparing fireworks or pyrotechnics
- grinding (including rail grinding)
- mechanical land clearing
- clearing and maintaining rights of way, including grass mowing
- any of the following activities carried out in a cutblock, excluding a road, landing, roadside work area or log sort area in the cutblock
 - operating a power saw
 - mechanical tree felling, woody debris piling or tree processing, including de-limbing
 - welding
 - portable wood chipping, milling, processing or manufacturing
 - skidding logs or log forwarding, unless it is improbable that the skidding or forwarding will result in the equipment contacting rock
 - yarding logs using cable systems

Anyone engaged in these activities must check the Fire Danger Class for the area where the work is being done, maintain a fire watch, and have the means available to report a fire.

Do you still have questions about how to conduct an open burn properly?

If you need help or advice to plan your burning activities, contact the BC Wildfire Service office nearest you:

Coastal Fire Centre

(Parksville) 250 951-4222

Kamloops Fire Centre

(Kamloops) 250 554-5500

Southeast Fire Centre

(Castlegar) 250 365-4040

Cariboo Fire Centre

(Williams Lake) 250 989-2600

Prince George Fire Centre

(Prince George) 250 561-4628

Northwest Fire Centre

(Smithers) 250 847-6600

This guide is intended for information purposes only. It is not legal advice. The *Wildfire Act* and Wildfire Regulation are available online.

Wildfire Act: http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/04031_01

Wildfire Regulation: http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/11_38_2005



RESPECT THE USE OF FIRE

Important contacts

To report a wildfire:

- Call 1 800 663-5555 toll-free or *5555 on a cellphone.

When a person calls to report a wildfire, personal information is collected by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development under Section 26 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. If you have any questions about the collection of this information, please contact the supervisor of the Provincial Forest Fire Reporting Centre at 250 387-2225 or at 2957 Jutland Road, Victoria, BC, V8T 5J9.

Burn registration line:

- 1 888 797-1717

Obtain fire-related information by phone:

- To listen to recorded information about campfires, open fire prohibitions, and area or travel restrictions, call toll-free: **1 888 3FOREST** (1 888 336-7378)

Obtain fire-related information online:

- www.BCWildfire.ca
- www.facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo
- www.twitter.com/bcgovfireinfo

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Ventilation index and weather conditions:

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Information about FireSmart activities in British Columbia:

- To learn more about FireSmart in B.C., visit www.firesmartbc.ca

RESPECT THE USE OF FIRE

INDUSTRIAL & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT BURNING



A Guide to Category 3 and Resource Management Open Fires



Category 3 open fires

In British Columbia, the *Wildfire Act* and the Wildfire Regulation specify your legal obligations when using fire in (or within one kilometre of) forest land or grassland.

Under the Wildfire Regulation, a Category 3 open fire is a fire that:

- burns material concurrently in three or more piles, each not exceeding two metres in height and three metres in width; or
- burns material in one or more piles, with each pile exceeding two metres in height or three metres in width; or
- burns one or more windrows; or
- burns stubble or grass over an area greater than 0.2 hectares (2,000 square metres).

People may light, fuel, or make use of a Category 3 open fire within one kilometre of forest land or grassland when:

- there are no prohibitions or other restrictions in place for doing so;
- it is safe to do so and will continue to be safe;
- the person obtains a burn registration number for the fire in advance, by calling 1 888 797-1717 toll-free;
- the person takes all necessary precautions to ensure that the fire is contained in the burn area; and
- a fuel break – sometimes called a fire break – has been established around the burn area, or around each debris pile or windrow. (A fuel break is a change in fuel type or condition, typically a strip of land cleared down to the mineral soil to prevent fire spread.)

While the fire is burning and there is a potential risk of the fire escaping (i.e. spreading beyond its intended size), the person who lights or maintains the fire must:

- maintain the fuel break;
- have an adequate fire suppression system available at the burn site for fire control if the fire escapes;
- ensure that the fire is watched and patrolled by a person equipped with at least one firefighting hand tool, to stop the fire escaping; and
- ensure that the fire does not exceed the capacity of the people, firefighting tools and heavy equipment on site to take timely action to stop the fire from escaping.

In addition:

- The person who lights or maintains the fire must ensure that the fire is fully extinguished and the ashes are cold to the touch by the date specified by the official or person who issued the burn registration number.
- If the fire spreads beyond the burn area or becomes out of control, the person responsible must carry out fire control activities and extinguish the fire if practicable.
- If the fire spreads beyond the burn area or becomes out of control, the person responsible must report the escaped fire to the BC Wildfire Service at 1 800 663-5555 (or call 911 if the site falls within the jurisdiction of a local fire department).

Persons engaged in an “Industrial Activity” (as defined in the *Wildfire Act*) and carrying out fire control for a Category 3 open fire must make available to fight the fire at least the greater of:

- two pieces of heavy equipment, two fire suppression systems and 11 workers (each equipped with at least one firefighting hand tool), and;
- all workers, fire suppression systems, heavy equipment and firefighting hand tools within 30 kilometres by road (if on Crown land) or all resources working on the land (if on land other than Crown land).

Anyone who lights, fuels or makes use of a Category 3 open fire must comply with the *Environmental Management Act* and the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation. Before lighting a Category 3 fire, please review “A Guide to the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation” (particularly the information about prohibited materials): <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/air/air-pollution/smoke-burning/regulations/openburningregulation>

The *Environmental Management Act* requires individuals to check local venting conditions prior to lighting a Category 3 open fire, to ensure that local conditions are suitable for burning.

The venting index (sometimes called the ventilation index) is updated daily and is available at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/air/air-pollution/smoke-burning/venting-index>

In British Columbia, the *Wildfire Act* and the Wildfire Regulation specify your legal obligations when using fire in (or within one kilometre of) forest land or grassland.

Under the Wildfire Regulation, a resource management open fire is a fire that is lit, fuelled or used for silviculture treatment, forest health management, wildlife habitat enhancement, fire hazard abatement, ecological restoration or range improvement, as well as:

- a fire that burns unpile slash over an area of any size; or
- a fire that is not a campfire, Category 2 open fire or Category 3 open fire.

A person may light, fuel or make use of a resource management open fire within one kilometre of forest land or grassland when:

- there are no prohibitions or other restrictions in place for doing so;
- it is safe to do so and will continue to be safe;
- the person submits a burn plan to an official (as defined by the *Wildfire Act*) and receives the official's approval of that plan in writing (details about burn plans can be found at www.BCWildfire.ca);
- the person obtains a burn registration number for the fire in advance by calling 1 888 797-1717 toll-free; and
- the person takes all necessary precautions to ensure that the fire is contained in the burn area.

Make responsible burning decisions

The *Wildfire Act* puts the onus on you to use fire safely. You are required to determine whether you can burn safely before lighting a fire, and then you must take reasonable precautions to ensure that your fire does not escape.

- Check with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development for any current prohibitions on open burning. These restrictions are typically put in place when conditions are dry and wildfire risks increase. Check the BC Wildfire Service website at www.bcwildfire.ca or phone the fire information line at 1 888 336-7378.
- Check current and forecasted wind conditions. If the wind is strong enough to carry sparks to other combustible materials, do not burn.
- When conducting a resource management burn, you must ensure that all obligations specified in the burn plan are met, including having the required resources in place at the time of ignition and available if your fire escapes.

Be prepared to respond

Under provincial law, you must keep a watch on your fire to stop it escaping (i.e. spreading beyond its intended size). You are responsible for meeting legal requirements to control the fire and extinguish it if needed.

If the fire gets out of control:

- First, try to extinguish the fire (if practicable).
- Second, report the escaped fire as soon as possible to: a fire emergency response telephone number (911 in organized areas, 1 800 663-5555 toll-free, or *5555 on a cellular phone); an official (as defined by the *Wildfire Act*) employed by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development; or a peace officer (e.g. RCMP or municipal police).
- Continue carrying out fire control activities (if it is safe to do so) until you're relieved by an official.

Extinguish your fire properly

A Category 3 or resource management open fire must be extinguished in accordance with the burn registration process. Your fire must be fully extinguished and the ashes must be cold to the touch by the date specified by the official or person who issued the burn registration number.

Do you still have questions about how to conduct an open burn properly?

If you need help or advice to plan your burning activities, contact the BC Wildfire Service office nearest you:

Coastal Fire Centre

(Parksville) 250 951-4222

Kamloops Fire Centre

(Kamloops) 250 554-5500

Southeast Fire Centre

(Castlegar) 250 365-4040

Cariboo Fire Centre

(Williams Lake) 250 989-2600

Prince George Fire Centre

(Prince George) 250 561-4628

Northwest Fire Centre

(Smithers) 250 847-6600

This guide is intended for information purposes only. It is not legal advice. The *Wildfire Act* and Wildfire Regulation are available online.

Wildfire Act: http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/04031_01

Wildfire Regulation: http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/11_38_2005

About the Wildfire Act

The *Wildfire Act* specifies your legal obligations when using fire for campfires, backyard burning, industrial/agricultural burning, and resource management purposes. It is the responsibility of the people using the fire to ensure that their activities do not cause wildfires.

A contravention of the *Wildfire Act* is an offence. A person who contravenes the *Wildfire Act* may be subject to an administrative penalty, a fine upon conviction, and/or firefighting, damage and rehabilitation costs as specified in the *Wildfire Act*.

Where the Wildfire Act applies

The *Wildfire Act* applies on both public (Crown) land and private land throughout B.C.

Before lighting any fire, always check with your local government or fire department to see if any local bylaws or fire use restrictions are in effect. If local bylaws or restrictions are in place, those agencies can provide further information.



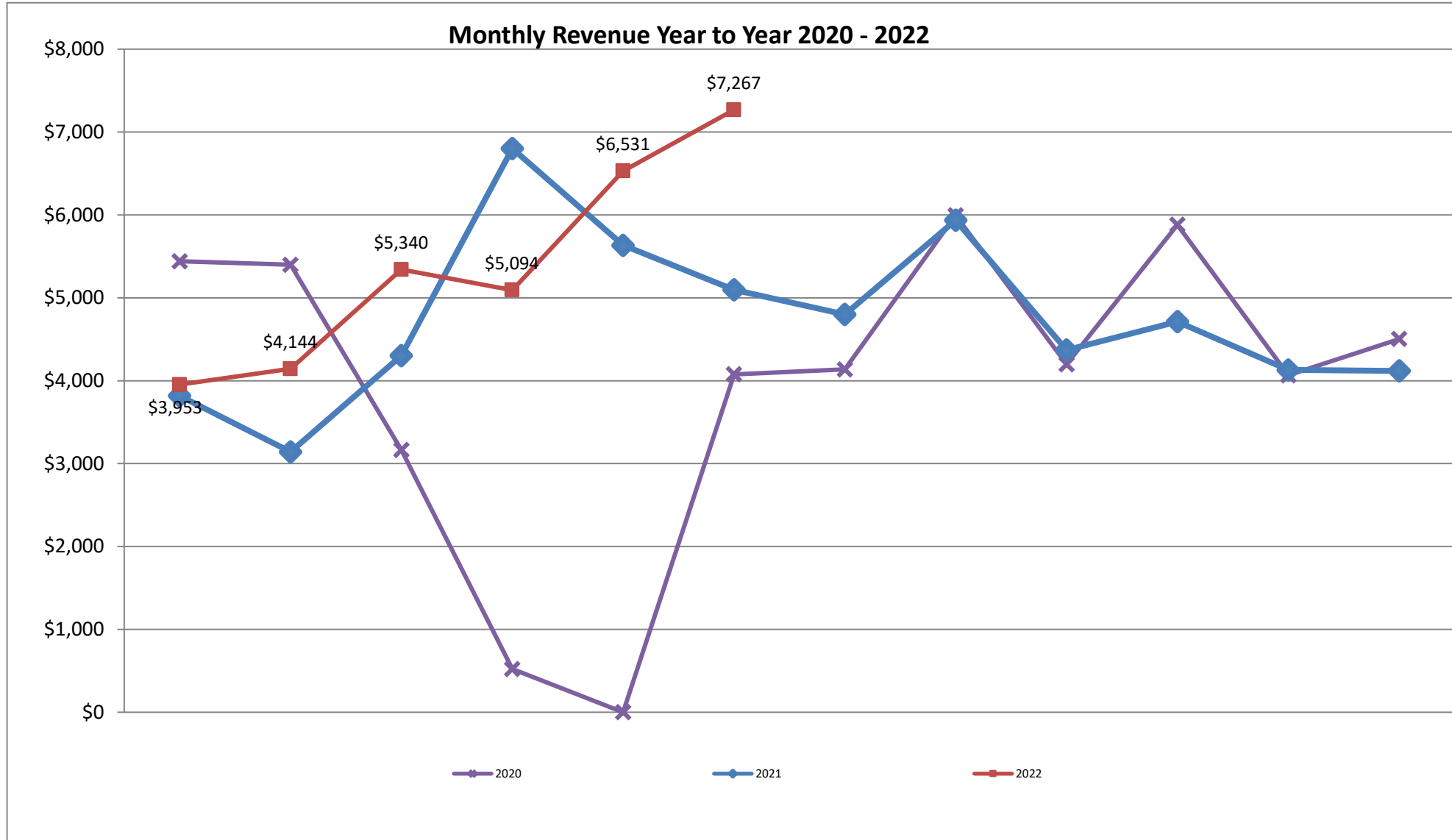
RESPECT THE USE OF FIRE

2022 Volunteer Transportation Network/HandyDart Trip Summary

Month	Total Trips	Total Clients	Lift Van	Community - Trips (T) /Clients (C)														Int w/ Transit	HandyDART				Int w/ VTN
				Port Hardy		Port McNeill		Alert Bay		Malcolm Island		Woss		Fort Rupert		Port Alice			Port Hardy		Port McNeill		
				T	C	T	C	T	C	T	C	T	C	T	C	T	C		AM	PM	AM	PM	
January	30	72	4	2	2	16	35	0	0	1	1	3	26	0	0	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	1
February	26	64	5	0	0	11	23	0	0	0	0	5	31	0	0	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
March	34	79	4	2	2	14	26	0	0	0	0	5	38	0	0	13	13	0	0	2	0	0	0
April	32	89	5	1	1	13	29	0	0	0	0	6	47	0	0	12	12	0	0	0	2	0	0
May	35	155	5	1	1	17	39	0	0	0	0	8	106	0	0	7	7	0	0	0	1	0	0
June	21	61	6	0	0	14	30	0	0	0	0	4	27	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	2	0	0
July	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
August	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
September	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
October	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	178	520	29	6	6	85	182	0	0	1	1	31	275	0	0	53	54	0	0	2	5	0	1
Riders/trip		2.9			1.0		2.1		0		1.0		8.9		0		1.0		0.0				
Projected	356	1040	58	12	12	170	364	0	0	2	2	62	550	0	0	106	108	0	0	4	10	0	2
Change	14%	43%	87%	-50%	-50%	23%	54%	-100%	-100%	-33%	-67%	-19%	40%	-100%	-100%	61%	64%	-100%	0	-20%	-41%	-100%	0

Average Monthly Revenue

	2020	2021	2022
June	\$4,077	\$5,095	\$7,267
Annual	\$47,386	\$56,853	\$64,659 <i>Projected</i>
Change	-29.0%	20.0%	13.7% <i>Projected</i>



Mount Waddington Transit Revenue Trends 2022

Revenue Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to Date	Projected
Farebox	\$1,767	\$1,566	\$2,127	\$1,615	\$2,110	\$2,512	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$11,697	\$23,394.70
Ticket Sales	\$126	\$63	\$788	\$872	\$1,313	\$2,258	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,418	\$10,836.00
Pass Sales	\$480	\$935	\$846	\$1,028	\$1,528	\$918	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,734	\$11,467.00
BC Bus Passes	\$1,580	\$1,580	\$1,580	\$1,580	\$1,580	\$1,580	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,481	\$18,961.12
Total	\$3,953	\$4,144	\$5,340	\$5,094	\$6,531	\$7,267	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$32,329	\$64,658.82

*estimate/average

Projected: 13.7%

2021

Revenue Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to Date
Farebox	\$1,934	\$1,386	\$1,706	\$2,276	\$1,838	\$2,235	\$2,542	\$2,366	\$2,201	\$2,237	\$1,934	\$2,063	\$24,718
Ticket Sales	-\$126	\$0	\$126	\$2,426	\$1,764	\$672	\$525	\$1,575	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,962
Pass Sales	\$886	\$731	\$1,283	\$887	\$846	\$975	\$465	\$809	\$694	\$1,001	\$929	\$788	\$10,290
BC Bus Passes	\$1,124	\$1,025	\$1,186	\$1,213	\$1,186	\$1,213	\$1,268	\$1,187	\$1,474	\$1,474	\$1,267	\$1,267	\$14,884
Total	\$3,818	\$3,142	\$4,301	\$6,801	\$5,634	\$5,095	\$4,800	\$5,936	\$4,369	\$4,712	\$4,129	\$4,117	\$56,853

*estimate/average

20.0%

2020

Revenue Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to Date
Farebox	\$2,681	\$2,372	\$1,296	\$281	\$0	\$2,169	\$2,426	\$1,734	\$1,725	\$1,940	\$1,648	\$1,678	\$19,951
Ticket Sales	\$1,008	\$819	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$84	\$0	\$2,184	\$0	\$1,418	\$0	\$903	\$6,416
Pass Sales	\$538	\$940	\$470	\$240	\$0	\$397	\$496	\$475	\$1,074	\$1,153	\$991	\$464	\$7,235
BC Bus Passes	\$1,216	\$1,268	\$1,399	\$0	\$0	\$1,427	\$1,216	\$1,603	\$1,399	\$1,372	\$1,426	\$1,459	\$13,785
Total	\$5,442	\$5,399	\$3,165	\$521	\$0	\$4,077	\$4,138	\$5,995	\$4,198	\$5,882	\$4,065	\$4,504	\$47,386

*estimate/average

Cash and passes were sold in March, but returned after cutoff date for March Reports

-29.0%

No collection of fares (COVID-19) from March 21 - May 31

2019

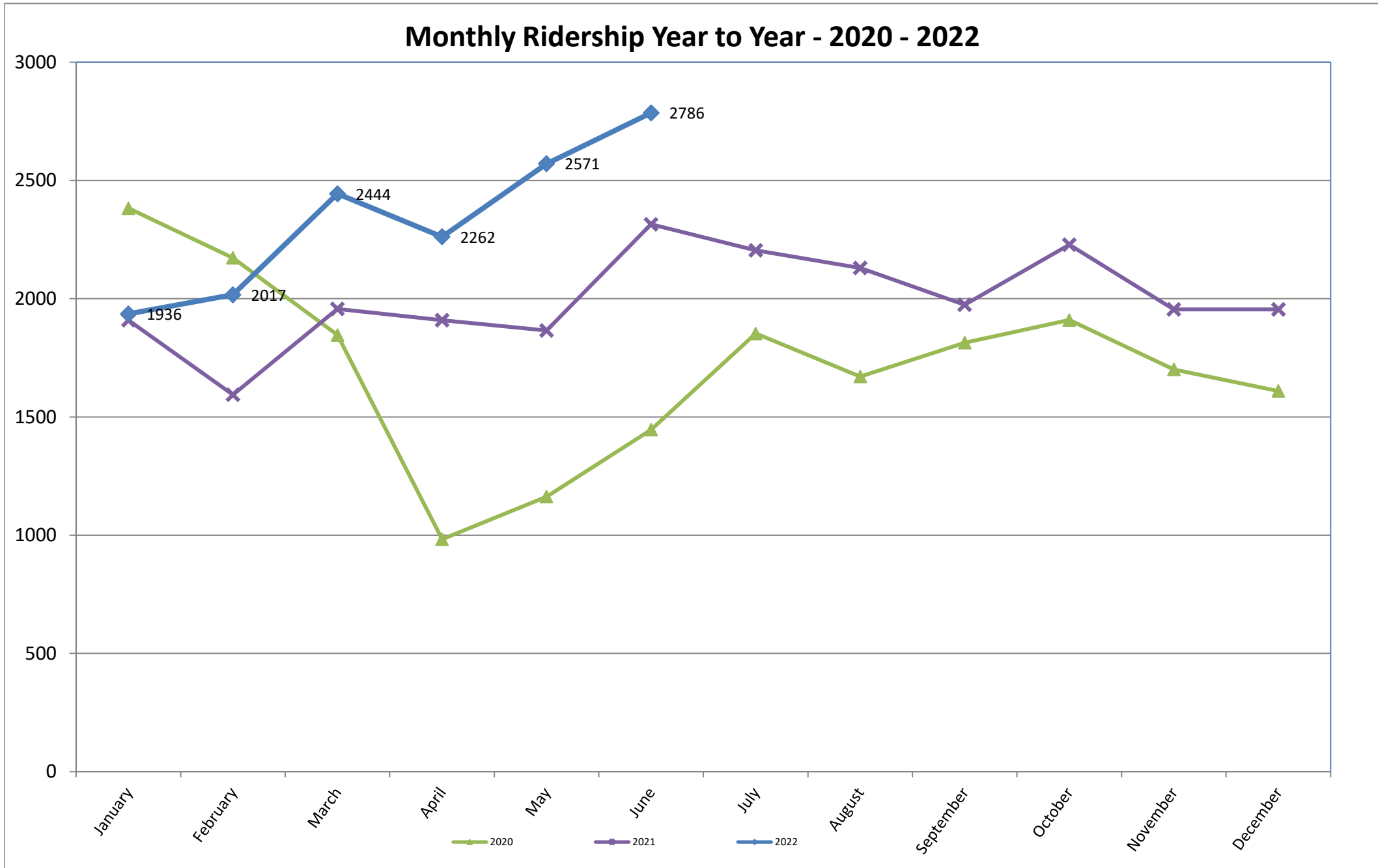
Revenue Source	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Farebox	\$3,017	\$2,814	\$2,922	\$3,154	\$3,115	\$2,841	\$3,385	\$3,027	\$2,456	\$2,866	\$2,827	\$2,577	\$35,002
Ticket Sales	\$32	\$1,780	\$84	\$432	\$2,879	\$189	\$262	\$52	\$53	\$63	\$126	\$568	\$6,518
Pass Sales	\$746	\$1,142	\$1,054	\$976	\$538	\$913	\$834	\$674	\$417	\$736	\$532	\$866	\$9,426
BC Bus Passes	\$1,083	\$1,186	\$1,265	\$1,265	\$1,369	\$1,370	\$1,344	\$1,345	\$1,345	\$1,397	\$1,448	\$1,424	\$15,840
Total	\$4,878	\$6,922	\$5,324	\$5,826	\$7,900	\$5,313	\$5,825	\$5,097	\$4,270	\$5,062	\$4,933	\$5,435	\$66,786

-6.0%

Average Passengers per Month:

	2020	2021	2022	
June	1446	2315	2786	
Annual	20554	23999	28032	<i>Projected</i>
Change	-26%	17%	17%	<i>Projected</i>

Monthly Ridership Year to Year - 2020 - 2022



Mount Waddington Transit Ridership Trends

2022	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	2022 Total	Projected 2022 Total
Route 1 to Port McNeill	375	384	497	441	487	550							2734	5468
Route 1 Saturdays	0	0	0	10	9	9							28	56
Route 2 to Port Hardy	500	515	587	578	663	634							3477	6954
Route 2 Saturdays	0	0	0	9	5	15							29	58
Route 4-Ft Rupert	350	342	439	401	485	526							2543	5086
Route 4-Airport Extension	3	11	11	12	17	20							74	148
Route 5-Coal Harbour/Quatsino	351	404	539	395	470	565							2724	5448
Route 5-Coal Harbour Saturdays	13	18	27	20	39	27							144	288
Route 6-Woss/Mount Cain	16	14	18	-	-	-							48	96
Route 11-PH Local	160	181	192	244	268	281							1326	2652
Route 12-PM Local	168	148	132	150	127	157							882	1764
HandyDART-PH	0	0	2	0	0	0							2	4
HandyDART-PM	0	0	0	2	1	2							5	10
2022 Monthly Total	1936	2017	2444	2262	2571	2786	0	0	0	0	0	0	14016	28032

2021	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	2021 Total
Route 1 to Port McNeill	364	326	418	416	344	432	425	380	375	470	386	400	4736
Route 1 Saturdays	0	0	0	7	2	20	17	1	8	12	12	0	79
Route 2 to Port Hardy	500	388	483	531	497	629	443	426	527	654	543	470	6091
Route 2 Saturdays	0	0	0	6	14	12	21	22	6	15	6	0	102
Route 4-Ft Rupert	245	252	301	327	316	440	418	401	298	312	354	342	4006
Route 4-Airport Extension	0	0	2	6	9	4	28	19	3	6	1	3	81
Route 5-Coal Harbour/Quatsino	408	267	346	291	367	442	508	563	436	429	310	392	4759
Route 5-Coal Harbour Saturdays	44	17	31	6	47	21	36	41	21	35	29	27	355
Route 6-Woss/Mount Cain	23	24	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	22	88
Route 11-PH Local	183	200	210	211	172	205	169	142	180	165	165	162	2164
Route 12-PM Local	139	117	144	108	98	110	139	133	115	127	146	133	1509
HandyDART-PH	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	7
HandyDART-PM	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	5	4	3	4	22
2021 Monthly Total	1909	1594	1957	1909	1866	2315	2205	2130	1975	2229	1955	1955	23999

2020	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	2020 Total
Route 1 to Port McNeill	486	421	400	171	212	273	305	296	365	385	301	287	3902
Route 1 Saturdays	0	0	0	7	8	17	8	20	10	13	7	0	90
Route 2 to Port Hardy	519	425	342	135	190	230	325	265	333	398	370	308	3840
Route 2 Saturdays	0	0	0	5	7	4	15	25	14	12	12	0	94
Route 4-Ft Rupert	368	361	299	218	253	310	400	323	284	295	252	267	3630
Route 4-Airport Extension	7	8	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	3	1	27
Route 5-Coal Harbour/Quatsino	515	484	440	244	261	386	488	446	444	462	402	425	4997
Route 5-Coal Harbour Saturdays	34	38	25	24	35	24	51	38	54	48	18	24	413
Route 6-Woss/Mount Cain	42	59	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	13	146
Route 11-PH Local	186	181	144	50	87	85	129	132	153	163	189	161	1660
Route 12-PM Local	211	178	151	129	106	117	132	122	155	134	147	123	1705
HandyDART-PH	4	10	6	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	26
HandyDART-PM	11	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	24
2020 Monthly Total	2383	2173	1847	983	1163	1446	1853	1671	1814	1910	1701	1610	20554

7-MILE LANDFILL MONTHLY TONNAGE SUMMARY FOR June 2022

MONTH	6	PROJECTIONS NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
MATERIALS MANAGED IN THE LANDFILL AREA - TONNES	June 1 to June 31 (2022)	2022 UP TO June 31, 2022	PRO-RATED ANNUAL PROJECTION	BUDGET ANNUAL PROJECTION	VARIANCE	% WASTE STREAM
LANDFILL	662.43	3912.55	7825	7000	11.8%	63%
GENERAL REFUSE FROM BELLA BELLA	29.42	234.70	469	464	1.2%	4%
GENERAL REFUSE FROM KLEMTU	12.45	51.52	103	136	-24.2%	1%
GENERAL REFUSE FROM WUIKINUXV	0.00	0.00	0			
OTHER MATERIAL LANDFILLED FROM OUTSIDE OF RDMW	0.00	0.00	0	100		0%
FEE EXEMPT PUBLIC CLEANUP (<i>NOT ACCOUNTED IN LANDFILL TONNAGE</i>)	<u>2.41</u>	8.01	<u>16.01</u>	100	-84.0%	0%
VOLUME BASED LOADS CONVERTED TO TONNES	0.00	0.00	0			
TOTAL AMOUNT SENT TO ACTIVE LANDFILL FACE	706.71	4206.78	8413.55	7800.00		
RECYCLABLES AND STEWARDSHIP MATERIALS DIVERTED AT LANDFILL FACE	0.00	0.00	0	50	-100.0%	0%
WOODWASTE DIVERTED AT LANDFILL FACE	1.21	11.34	23	200	-88.7%	0%
METAL DIVERTED AT LANDFILL FACE	1.09	9.77	20	50	-60.9%	0%
OTHER MATERIALS DIVERTED AT LANDFILL	<u>0.00</u>	0.00	<u>0</u>	<u>200</u>	-100.0%	0%
TOTAL AMOUNT OF MATERIAL DIVERTED AT THE ACTIVE LANDFILL FACE	2.30	21.11	42.22	500.00	-91.6%	
TOTAL AMOUNT ACTUALLY LANDFILLED	704.41	4185.67	8371.33	7300.00	14.7%	
MATERIALS DIVERTED FROM THE LANDFILL - TONNES						
TOTAL AMOUNT OF MATERIAL DIVERTED AT THE ACTIVE LANDFILL FACE	2.30	21.11	42	500	-91.6%	0%
OUTBOUND METAL	0.00	332.61	665	150	343.5%	5%
SALVAGED MATERIALS	11.55	29.57	59	5	1082.8%	0%
CREOSOTE LOGS	0.00	0.00	0	5	-100.0%	0%
PAPER/WAX CARDBOARD - COMPOSTABLE	0.00	0.00	0	250	-100.0%	0%
WOODWASTE FOR CHIPPING AT \$25/TONNE	108.86	540.43	1081	500	116.2%	9%
COMPOSTABLE MATERIALS	134.40	845.25	1691	1100	53.7%	14%
FINE GARDEN WASTE (NO CHARGE)	1.55	4.78	10	100	-90.4%	0%
RECYCLED MATERIALS	34.27	89.48	179	700	-74.4%	1%
ASPHALT SHINGLES	27.27	117.90	236	75	214.4%	2%
ASBESTOS TO ASBESTOS DISPOSAL AREA	0.00	4.46	9	100	-91.1%	0%
MMBC MATERIAL	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>300</u>	-100.0%	0%
TOTAL DIVERTED	292.93	1985.59	3971.18	3785.00	4.9%	32%
TOTAL TONNAGE MANAGED AT 7 MILE LANDFILL	997.34	6171.26	12342.51	11085.00	32.5%	
OTHER MATERIALS: ADDITIONAL TO LANDFILL - TONNES	June 1 to June 30 (2022)	2022 UP TO June 30, 2022	ANNUAL PROJECTION PRO-RATED FROM ACTUALS	BUDGET PROJECTION	VARIANCE	% WASTE STREAM
SOIL FOR REMEDIATION	0.00	0.00	0	100	-100.0%	
SOIL FOR DIRECT DEPOSIT	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>100</u>	-100.0%	
TOTAL IMPORTED FILL	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	-100.0%	