

**Memorandum of Understanding**  
between  
the Province of British Columbia (the "Province"),  
the Greater Vancouver Regional District ("Metro Vancouver")  
and Fraser Valley Regional District ("FVRD") for  
**"Experience the Fraser" Project**

**Whereas:**

- A. The Province, Metro Vancouver and the FVRD have a common vision for the project known as "Experience the Fraser": . . . "to invite the world to become part of the story of a dynamic and diverse river from Hope to the Salish Sea . . . to celebrate the spirit of the unique landscapes, communities and people who live, work and play along the river . . . to journey and explore the amazing Lower Fraser" (the "Project"); and
- B. The Province, Metro Vancouver and the FVRD share the goal of advancing the development of world-class recreation, heritage and cultural assets along the Lower Fraser River, which will be showcased as a tourist destination. To that end, the Project will focus on the following themes:
- Outdoor Recreation,
  - Environment and Nature,
  - First Nations; Heritage and Culture,
  - Industry and Transportation on the Fraser,
  - Agriculture,
  - Riverfront Communities, and
  - Celebration; and
- C. The Province has granted Metro Vancouver and FVRD a total of \$2,500,000 toward the Project (the "Funding").

**Now Therefore** the Province, Metro Vancouver, and the FVRD agree that:


1. The Funding is to develop two demonstration trail projects and a concept plan which will build a strong foundation for a multi-phased Project.
2. Metro Vancouver and the FVRD will lead an integrated interregional planning process to test feasibility and development plans for the programs and infrastructure proposed in the Project concept plan. The Province will collaborate with Metro Vancouver and the FVRD and identify opportunities for provincial staff to support the planning process and help advance the Project.
3. The parties will establish a Project Political Steering Committee for the Project. On behalf of the Province, the Premier will appoint a Member of the Legislative Assembly to serve on the Project Political Steering Committee. The Province will also appoint an Assistant Deputy Minister staff liaison to the Project, to provide a single point of contact with provincial ministries and agencies, and to facilitate cooperation where assistance is required to complete the Project concept plan and facilitate its implementation.
4. Metro Vancouver and FVRD, with support from the Province, may engage directly with First Nations to identify opportunities for collaboration with respect to the Project.
5. The Province will lead First Nations consultation where project proposals and components may impact First Nations' interests on Crown land.
6. Metro Vancouver and FVRD will lead the engagement of their member municipalities within the Project area.
7. The Province will assist Metro Vancouver and the FVRD with acquiring access to, tenure or transfer of provincial lands and improvements for the Project, including Crown lands, dykes, utility corridors and highways. The Province, Metro Vancouver and the FVRD acknowledge that this Memorandum of Understanding cannot fetter statutory decision-makers in the conduct of their duties.
8. The Province will assist Metro Vancouver and the FVRD in working with the Government of Canada to design and develop provincial/federal transportation infrastructure that accommodates recreational users such as pedestrians and cyclists.
9. The Province, Metro Vancouver and the FVRD will work together to leverage funds from other sources for the Project.
10. Metro Vancouver and the FVRD will consult with one another about their respective operating and maintenance needs for the Project and possible options to meet those needs. The Province may consider a request from Metro Vancouver and the FVRD for legislative changes that would facilitate their ability to finance operating and maintenance costs from sources other than the property tax levy.
11. The Province may consider requests from Metro Vancouver and the FVRD for additional funding. Any commitment by the Province to provide funding is subject to the availability of an appropriation in accordance with the Financial Administration Act.
12. Metro Vancouver and the FVRD will acknowledge the Province's assistance on published materials relating to the Project.

*Province of British Columbia by its authorized signatory*

Per:   
Honourable Christy Clark, Premier

April 9, 2012  
Date

*Greater Vancouver Regional District by its authorized signatory*

Per:   
Director Greg Moore, Chair

April 9, 2012  
Date

*Fraser Valley Regional District by its authorized signatory*

Per:   
Director Sharon Gaetz, Chair

April 9, 2012  
Date

