

False Creek South Neighbourhood Association
c/o False Creek Community Centre, 1318 Cartwright St
Vancouver, British Columbia, V6H 3R8



June 18, 2015

Dear Neighbour!

On March 16th we circulated a letter from Mayor Gregor Robertson in which he committed to engaging with the False Creek South Neighbourhood Association (FCSNA) in a collaborative planning process with our community. Last month he followed through on his promise by chairing a meeting that included Penny Ballem - City Manager, Brian Jackson - General Manager of Planning and Development Services, Mukhtar Latif, - Chief Housing Officer, Mike Magee - Mayor's Office Chief of Staff, Kevin Quinlan - Mayor's Office Deputy Chief of Staff, and several members of the FCSNA's Re*Plan Committee.

We are pleased to share with you the Mayor's follow-up letter in which he outlines the principles for a collaborative process, identifies Penny Ballem as chair of a steering committee of City department heads, and names Brian Jackson as our key staff contact. We feel encouraged by the process the Mayor has outlined and by his commitment of senior staff resources to work with us.

We attended the first in a series of scheduled meetings with Brian Jackson and other Planning staff on June 8. This meeting focused on how to secure the demographic data needed for future community visioning and policy planning work and the process of entering into negotiations for lease renewal. We also agreed to develop a work program within the term of the current council, to give high priority to the concerns of three co-ops that are nearing early lease-end dates, and to involve the FCSNA in proposed improvements to the seawall.

Re*Plan intends to continue our own independent research and community consultation in parallel with our meetings with the City. Our priorities are currently focused on lease valuation models to support future renewal negotiations, new land governance models to address our long term security of tenure, and opportunities to maintain and create affordable homes that meet the needs of existing and future residents while respecting the area's historic character.

Our community priorities are: amalgamating the FCSNA and the Re*Plan websites, meetings with co-op members, strata owners and the boards of non-profit housing societies, and providing information at such community events as the upcoming Grill and Chill on August 8th where Re*Plan will set up an "Information and Input" table. (To RSVP for the event, please go to: <http://www.false-creek-south.eventbrite.ca/>) We would like to hear your questions and concerns at the Grill and Chill, and at any time via email to: info@replanfcs.ca.

Thank you for your continued attention to the critical issues of lease renewal, land governance and community planning. We love where we live and want to have a strong voice in its future!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharon Yandle'.

Sharon Yandle, President
False Creek South Neighbourhood Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Evans'.

Richard Evans, Chair
Re*Plan Committee

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We watch over the land and sea and in turn they watch over us.

June 16, 2015

Ms. Sharon Yandle
Chair of the False Creek South Neighbourhood Association

Mr. Richard Evans
Chair of the FCSNA Re*Plan Committee

Dear Sharon and Richard,

Thank you very much for taking the time to meet with myself and our senior staff. I found our meeting with Re*Plan a productive and encouraging one, and while we acknowledge we have plenty of work ahead, and some complex issues to resolve, there is much we can get started on right away.

As promised, I would like to outline the principles by which the City can collaborate with Re*Plan in the development of a new community plan. In discussions with staff, we would like to have the collaboration structured along the following principles:

1. Re*Plan will meet regularly with City staff so that there is a formalized process for information sharing and collaboration. I understand you have already met with our Director of Planning and are determining an appropriate schedule. The City will also establish a Council liaison process for False Creek South.
2. There is to be consistency on who is involved on both sides, so that we can develop mutual accountability, responsibility, and trust. The City Manager will chair the Steering Committee of key General Managers to ensure a coherent approach, and your point of contact will be the Director of Planning, Brian Jackson.
3. The City recognizes that Re*Plan is uniquely positioned to help the City engage with the False Creek South community. Both the City and Re*Plan will ensure that they are each engaged at the front end on any research, public consultation, or materials to be circulated to the False Creek South neighbourhood.
4. From time to time there will be projects and research where the City will involve Re*Plan in the work to be done. Where appropriate, the City will provide resources for you to do so. The first such project will be to develop and collect more detailed housing information, focused on housing circumstances, demographics and other needs of local residents.



5. Both Re*Plan and the City recognize that resolving the process for which leases will be renewed is a priority, and is necessary in preparation for doing a new community plan. This is so that both the City, and local residents, have clarity and better certainty about what can be achieved in the neighbourhood.
6. While we will strive for consensus, both the City and Re*Plan recognize that in something as complex as a new Community Plan, this is not always possible. When consensus is not achieved, differing points of view will be documented by City staff in their work to be put before Council.
7. Re*Plan recognizes that while staff will collaborate closely with Re*Plan, there are other stakeholders the City will engage, just as we would in any other neighbourhood process, and that ultimately it is up to Council to make the best decision, with the best information it has, for a future plan. Our public and stakeholder engagement plan will be shared as soon as it is developed with Re*Plan for your comment, feedback, and information.

I believe these principles will guide an effective, inspiring collaboration that will help us develop a new neighbourhood vision that meets the needs of local residents while addressing important city-wide goals. In Re*Plan, the City is fortunate to have a group of neighbourhood volunteers who are dedicated to improving their community and are engaged in important public policy issues.

I look forward to hearing from you and getting down to work!

Sincerely,



Gregor Robertson
Mayor, City of Vancouver