



# **Vancouver Harbour Base | Public and Stakeholder Engagement Summary Report**

**May 2017**

## 1.0 Project Overview

Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC) is proposing a new on-water spill response base in Vancouver Harbour in the Port of Vancouver. The proposed base is located at 2800 Commissioner Street, Vancouver, within the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's jurisdiction. This proposed base is part of a larger expansion planned to meet enhanced response requirements associated with the Trans Mountain Expansion Project. This larger expansion would double WCMRC's capacity and cut mandated response times in half in South Coast waters. Construction of the new base is contingent on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project moving forward.

The proposed 24-hour facility would operate seven days a week and consist of new docks to moor vessels, as well as an office to accommodate response crews. Response barges would act as a breakwater for rapid response vessels, mobile skimmers and workboats. The base would also provide moorage for one of Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services' new fireboats.

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is currently reviewing the project permit application. Pending permit approval, construction is anticipated to begin in early 2017 and be completed in mid-2018.

## 2.0 Public and Stakeholder Engagement Summary

As a part of the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's permit process, WCMRC shared information with the public and stakeholders and provided an opportunity for these groups to provide comment on the proposed base.

### 2.1 Public and Stakeholder Notification Letters

Notification letters were sent to nearby residents, businesses, and government and key stakeholders on January 05, 2017. The public and stakeholders were asked to provide comment by February 03, 2017 (length of comment period exceeded the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's requirements). A copy of the letter is included in *Appendix 1*.

Notification letters were delivered by Canada Post to approximately 400 nearby residences or businesses in an area identified in tandem with the port authority (372 houses, 12 apartments and 18 businesses).

Letters were also sent directly to the following government and key stakeholders:

- MP Jenny Kwan
- MP Terry Beech
- MP Hedy Fry
- MP Pamela Goldsmith-Jones
- MP Joyce Murray
- MP Jonathan Wilkinson
- MLA Shane Simpson
- Councillor Melissa De Genova
- Councillor Raymond Louie
- Metro Vancouver
- Burrardview Community Association
- Canadian Pacific Rail
- Viterra Inc.
- Neptune Terminals

## 2.2 Notification Letter Follow-up and Meeting Requests

WCMRC followed up directly with MP Kwan, MLA Simpson, Councillor De Genova, and Councillor Louie via phone and email to see if they wanted to meet to discuss the project and ensure all their questions were answered.

## 2.3 Websites

Information on the proposed base was available on both WCMRC's website at [wcmrc.com](http://wcmrc.com) and on the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's website at [portvancouver.com/development-and-permits/status-of-applications](http://portvancouver.com/development-and-permits/status-of-applications).

## 2.4 Presentations and Meetings

### *East Vancouver Port Lands and Liaison (EVPL) Committee*

WCMRC introduced the proposed base to the EVPL Committee during an August 23, 2016 presentation. A follow-up presentation was made to the committee on April 11, 2017 to provide an update on progress and supply additional details about the base.

### *Local Government Meetings*

WCMRC met with the following local elected officials to introduce the proposed base:

- MP Jenny Kwan (meeting held on February 10, 2017)
- MLA Shane Simpson (meeting held on March 3, 2017)
- Councillor Raymond Louie (meeting held on March 2, 2017)

## 3.0 Feedback

MP Hedy Fry sent a letter to WCMRC acknowledging receipt of the notification letter (see *Appendix 2*). Besides this one response, no feedback was received during the comment period.

EVPL did not raise any specific concerns at the presentation; however, they did express a preference for minimal visual (lighting) and noise impacts to the nearby community.

All elected officials appreciated the opportunity to discuss the project and were generally supportive.

## 4.0 Next Steps

Public and stakeholder engagement activities will continue throughout the design and construction of the new base.

## **Appendix 1**

### **Public and Stakeholder Notification Letter**



January 05, 2017

Dear Neighbour:

### **New Spill Response Base Planned in Vancouver Harbour**

Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC) is proposing a new on-water spill response base in Vancouver Harbour in the Port of Vancouver. The proposed base is located at 2800 Commissioner Street, Vancouver, within the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's jurisdiction. This proposed base is part of a larger expansion planned to meet enhanced response requirements associated with the Trans Mountain Expansion Project. This larger expansion would double WCMRC's capacity and cut mandated response times in half in South Coast waters. Construction of the new base is contingent on the Trans Mountain Expansion Project moving forward.

The proposed 24-hour facility would operate seven days a week and consist of new docks to moor vessels, as well as an office to accommodate response crews. Response barges would act as a breakwater for rapid response vessels, mobile skimmers and workboats. The base would also provide moorage for one of Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services' new fireboats.

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is currently reviewing the project permit application. Pending permit approval, construction is anticipated to begin in early 2017 and be completed in mid-2018.

More project information is included in this package. WCMRC is collecting public comments until February 03, 2017. If you have any feedback, questions or would like more information, please send them to [comments@wcmrc.com](mailto:comments@wcmrc.com). We'll continue to keep you informed as this project moves forward.

For information regarding the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's review of this project, please visit <http://www.portvancouver.com/development-and-permits/status-of-applications/>.

If you have comments or questions regarding the port authority's review of this project, you can also contact Gord Tycho, Senior Planner, at [gord.tycho@portvancouver.com](mailto:gord.tycho@portvancouver.com) or 604-655-9561.

Sincerely,  
Michael Lowry  
Communications Manager

## Project Frequently Asked Questions

### Who is WCMRC?

Western Canada Marine Response Corporation (WCMRC) is a Transport Canada-certified organization that protects the coastal waters of British Columbia from oil and other marine spills. We have successfully responded to marine spills for 40 years. The organization began operations in Burrard Inlet in 1976 as an industry co-op and became Canada's first certified response organization under the amended *Canada Shipping Act* in 1995.

### What's happening?

WCMRC has a fleet of 17 vessels stationed at various docks within Vancouver Harbour. The proposed new base would bring the vessels and crews together in one central harbour location, streamlining operations and significantly reducing spill response times at the Port of Vancouver and throughout the south coast of B.C.

WCMRC is coming to talk to you now so that we can gather your feedback for consideration as part of the port authority's project permit application review process.



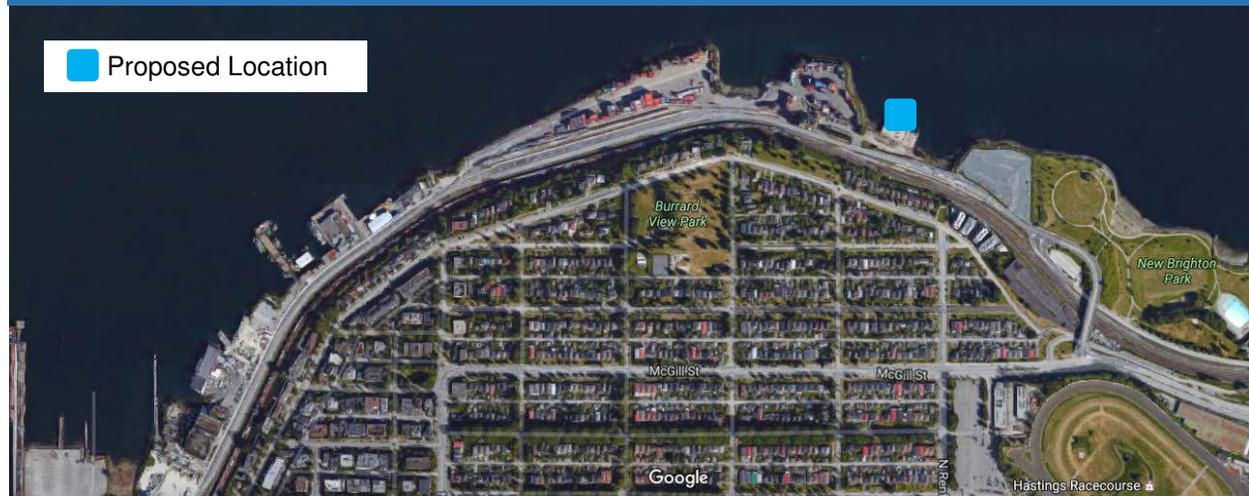
### What is WCMRC building?

The proposed new base would include two new docks to moor vessels, a ramp to support offloading equipment, offices to accommodate response crews (two single-storey modular office trailers), new lighting and additional parking lot space. The base would be able to handle three barges, five response vessels and a fireboat. Vessels would be fueled offsite.

### Where would the new base be located?

The proposed new base would be located in Burrard Inlet at 2800 Commissioner Street, Vancouver (between Columbia Containers and New Brighton Park) on the site of the old Prince Rupert Fishing Co-operative. The proposed base is located within federal lands and waters managed by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority.

## New Spill Response Base



### What would the new base look like?

The rendering below provides a south facing view of the proposed WCMRC base.





201 Kensington Avenue, Burnaby, B.C. V5B 4B2  
T 604-294-6001 | [www.wcmrc.com](http://www.wcmrc.com)

**What is involved in the construction?**

Construction of the proposed facility would involve the installation of new dock space for vessel moorage. The installation of 14 new piles would occur on weekdays using vibration technology. The process would not be audible over the existing ambient noise on site. Upland construction involves the resurfacing of the existing platform and parking lot. Some of this work may be dependent on tide cycles. Most lighting installed at the base would follow International Dark Sky Association Compliance guidelines to minimize light impacts at night.

## **Appendix 2**

**Copy of MP Hedy Fry Response Letter**

**Constituency Office**  
106-1030 Denman St.  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada  
V6G 2M6  
Tel: (604) 666 0135  
Fax: (604) 666 0114



House of Commons  
Chambres Des Communes  
Ottawa, Canada  
K1A 0A6

**Ottawa Office**  
820 Valour Street  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON, Canada  
K1A 0A6  
Tel: (613) 992 3213  
Fax: (613) 995 0058

**Hon. Hedy Fry, P.C., M.P.**  
Vancouver Centre

January 16, 2017

Michael Lowry  
Western Canada Marine Response Corporation  
201 Kensington Avenue  
Burnaby, BC  
V5B 4B2

Dear Mr. Lowry,

Thank you for sending me a copy of WCMRC *New Spill Response Base Planned in Vancouver Harbour*. I welcome hearing from constituents and organizations such as yours, as open dialogue is a vital part of my role as a Member of Parliament.

I reviewed your note with interest and commend you for the work that you do. I will be sure to keep this in mind when discussing with caucus, colleagues, and others. Thank you for keeping me apprised of your work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hedy Fry".

Hon. Dr. Hedy Fry, P.C., M.P.  
Vancouver Centre