Our journey towards a more sustainable port

We have defined a sustainable port as one that delivers economic prosperity through trade, maintains a healthy environment, and enables thriving communities through meaningful dialogue, shared aspirations and collective accountability.

Together with industry, government, communities and Aboriginal Peoples, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is continuing our journey towards a more sustainable future for the Port of Vancouver. With an envisioned future, a definition of a sustainable port and an aspirational vision to guide us, we are working to integrate sustainability throughout our business processes and culture.

About the Port of Vancouver

The Port of Vancouver is Canada’s largest port and the third largest in North America in terms of annual tonnes of cargo. It is home to 27 major marine cargo terminals, operating across five business sectors: automobiles, breakbulk, bulk, container and cruise. The port borders 16 municipalities and intersects the asserted and established territories and treaty lands of several Coast Salish First Nations on the southwest coast of British Columbia.

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Our mission is to enable Canada’s trade objectives, ensuring safety, environmental protection and consideration for local communities.

Our vision is to be the world’s most sustainable port.

Learn more about these highlights and our journey to a more sustainable port at portvancouver.com/sustainability

Sustainability highlights

2017

Our progress

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| Leadership | Benchmark best practices of global ports and other industries to better understand what it means to be a sustainability leader | Used findings from a scan of best practices among global ports to identify regional and international opportunities to be a sustainability leader | Move forward with work on select leadership opportunities, including underwater noise and liquified natural gas as a marine fuel |

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Design: Letterbox

Learn more at portvancouver.com/sustainability
Economic prosperity through trade

Focus areas:
- Competitive business
- Effective workforce
- Strategic investment and asset management

Overall cargo volume record of 142.1 million tonnes in 2017. A record year for both bulk grains and container sectors, representing a 5% increase in volume over 2016.

Supporting growing trade

Over 45 acres of strategic industrial land was acquired, helping to support future port growth, facilitate Canada’s trade and contribute to our local economy.

Healthy environment

Focus areas:
- Healthy ecosystems
- Climate action
- Responsible practices

Slowing down for whale research

More than 50 marine shipping industry organizations voluntarily participated in a vessel slowdown trial. The study, part of the port authority-led Enhancing Cetacean Habitat and Observation (ECHO) Program, measured how reducing vessel speed affects underwater noise and endangered southern resident killer whales.

Restoring fish habitat in Burrard Inlet

Together with the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, and the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations, we completed the New Brighton Park Shoreline Habitat Restoration Project. The project provides high-value habitat for wildlife and fish such as juvenile salmon, and increases public access to nature on a site that had been previously filled.

Increasing navigational safety

We introduced and designated a Traffic Control Zone in the First Narrows of Burrard Inlet, reviewing and strengthening specific navigational practices and procedures in this busy port area. We also launched a safe boating guide for recreational boaters navigating the Fraser River.

Thriving communities

Focus areas:
- Good neighbour
- Community connections
- Aboriginal relationships
- Safety and security

More than 1,5 million people attended two days of activities for Canada Day at Canada Place, coming together as a community to celebrate Canada’s 150th birthday.

Port of Vancouver-related activities annually support and contribute

In tax revenues to municipal governments: 115,000 jobs; $129 million; 1.5 million people; $750,000 invested through our community investment and local channel dredging programs, enhancing community connections and culture.

Planning for the future

Trade in containers between Asia and Canada is growing, and the West Coast will run out of capacity by the mid-2020s. Our proposed Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project would accommodate growing trade by creating 2.4 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) of container capacity. The project is currently undergoing a federal environmental assessment by an independent review panel.

Port of Vancouver-related activity per year generates:

$24.2 billion in economic output; $11.9 billion in GDP;

In 2017:

$713 million of investment was initiated by industry and port tenants, toward projects on port authority land that will increase capacity, efficiency and safety of goods movement at the Port of Vancouver.

759 vessel calls participated in our Ecolinker Program, which reduces air emissions from vessel calls to shipping lines for reducing emissions, underwater noise and environmental impacts—an increase of 198 vessel calls over last year.

The port authority received a 2017 North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA) award, recognizing its marine environment protection initiatives.

The port authority supported the Pulling Together Canoe Journey, a multi-day event that brought Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people together on a paddling journey on local waterways. The event provided participants with the opportunity to eliminate prejudice and stereotypes by working together towards a common goal.

More than 1.5 million people attended two days of activities for Canada Day at Canada Place, coming together as a community to celebrate Canada’s 150th birthday.

Reducing air emissions

2,126 tonnes of net greenhouse gas emissions (equivalent to emissions from 455 vehicles on the road) and

671 tonnes of fuel were saved as 58 cruise vessels connected to shore power, allowing ships to turn off their engines while in port.

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Design: Letterbox