



**Centerm Expansion Project  
Application Review Phase – Round 1**

February 20 – March 24, 2017

**Consultation Summary Report**

May 2017

*Prepared for the Centerm Expansion Project by*  
**Kirk & Co. Consulting Ltd.**

# Kirk&Co.

## **ABOUT KIRK & CO. CONSULTING LTD.**

Kirk & Co. is a recognized industry leader in designing and implementing comprehensive public and stakeholder consultation and engagement programs. Utilizing best practices, consultation and engagement programs are designed to maximize opportunities for input. Kirk & Co. independently analyzes and reports on public and stakeholder input.

The views represented in this summary report reflect the priorities and concerns of consultation participants. They may not be representative of the views of the public and other stakeholders because participants self-selected into the Centerm Expansion Project Application Review Phase – Round 1 Public Consultation, and therefore do not reflect a random sample.

# Centerm Expansion Project

## Application Review Phase – Round 1 Public Consultation

February 20 – March 24, 2017

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# 1. Background

Centerm is an existing container terminal operated by DP World Vancouver on the south shore of Vancouver's inner harbour, and located on federal lands and waters managed by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority. It is one of three primary container handling terminals in the Port of Vancouver and handles approximately one-fifth of the goods shipped in containers through the port.

The Centerm Expansion Project is a proposed series of improvements to Centerm container terminal and port roads. It includes improvements at Centerm container terminal to help meet anticipated near-term demand for containers to be shipped through Vancouver. Subject to regulatory approvals, the on-terminal improvements would increase the maximum container handling capacity at Centerm by two-thirds, from 900,000 twenty-foot equivalent unit containers (TEUs) to 1.5 million TEUs. The project would include an increase to the terminal footprint by approximately 15 percent and reconfiguration of the terminal to increase the container capacity of Centerm.

In addition, the application for a project permit includes the proposed South Shore Access Project to improve infrastructure that would benefit the entire south shore port area. The off-terminal improvements include a new Centennial Road overpass and an extension to Waterfront Road.

The proposed project is now in the application review phase of the port authority's Project and Environmental Review Process and, if approved, will proceed into detailed design and construction later this year.

## 1.1 ENGAGEMENT COMPLETED TO DATE

A preliminary comment period was held from January 18 to February 12, 2016 to gather feedback from the public and stakeholders regarding the scope of technical and environmental studies to be undertaken for the proposed Centerm Expansion Project, and on a potential community amenity for inclusion in the scope of the project.

In August 2016, the Centerm Expansion Project team hosted three drop-in events in the project area to provide an opportunity for members of the community to talk to the project team and learn more about the proposed project.

Input received during the preliminary comment period and summer 2016 drop-in meetings was considered in finalizing the scope of technical and environmental studies, and in further design development of the project.

## 2. Application Review Phase – Round 1 Public Consultation

### 2.1 CONSULTATION PURPOSE AND TOPICS

Application Review Phase – Round 1 Public Consultation was held from February 20 to March 24, 2017.

During the consultation, the Centerm Expansion Project team provided information regarding the proposed design of on-terminal and off-terminal works, results of technical and environmental studies, anticipated construction activities and a proposed community investment program. The team sought feedback to assist in refining proposed project mitigations, plans to minimize potential construction-related impacts and options for proposed community investments.

### 2.2 PARTICIPATION

There were a total of **190** participant interactions during the Centerm Expansion Project Application Review Phase – Round 1 Public Consultation:

- **90** people attended three open houses
- **19** people attended two small group meetings
- **38** completed feedback forms were received (29 online, nine hard copy)
- **43** submissions were received through email or mail, including four petitions with a total of 12,622 signatures

### 2.3 NOTIFICATION

Notification of opportunities to participate in the consultation process included:

- **Postcards:** Canada Post distributed approximately 11,300 postcards to residences and businesses in downtown Vancouver in advance of the consultation period. The postcards were provided to Canada Post for distribution on Tuesday, February 21, 2017.
- **Invitation Emails and Notification to Stakeholders:** 383 stakeholders who signed up to receive updates were notified by email on February 20, 2017 of the engagement and opportunities for participation. Additional emails were sent on March 6, 2017 and March 21, 2017, as reminders of the opportunity to provide input.
- **Newspaper advertisements:** Four newspaper advertisements ran in the following publications:

Publication	Date
Vancouver Sun	Friday, February 17, 2017
Vancouver Courier	Thursday, February 23, 2017
	Thursday, March 2, 2017
	Thursday, March 9, 2017

- **Social media:** the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority sent out social media posts about the Centerm Expansion Project and the opportunity to participate in the consultation process from its accounts:
  - > Nine tweets, starting on February 20, 2017 and throughout the consultation period, from @portvancouver (10,400 followers)
  - > Three Facebook posts, starting on February 20, 2017 and throughout the consultation period, through facebook.com/portofvancouver (33,900 likes)
- **Engagement Website:** A dedicated engagement website (porttalk.ca/centermexpansion) was available throughout the public consultation period and all materials, including a discussion guide and online feedback form, were available on the project website starting on February 20, 2017.
- **Posters:** posters outlining information about the project and how to provide feedback were posted in public locations near the project location in downtown Vancouver throughout the consultation period.

*A copy of the notification materials can be found in Appendix 1.*

## 2.4 ENGAGEMENT METHODS

### 2.4.1. Discussion Guide and Feedback Form

A discussion guide and feedback form provided information about the Centerm Expansion Project and sought feedback on the proposed design of on-terminal and off-terminal works, results of technical and environmental studies, anticipated construction activities and a proposed community investment program. These materials included a map illustrating the on-terminal and off-terminal works.

The discussion guide and feedback form was handed out at meetings and posted at porttalk.ca/centermexpansion.

*A copy of the discussion guide and feedback form can be found in Appendix 2.*

### 2.4.2. Display Boards

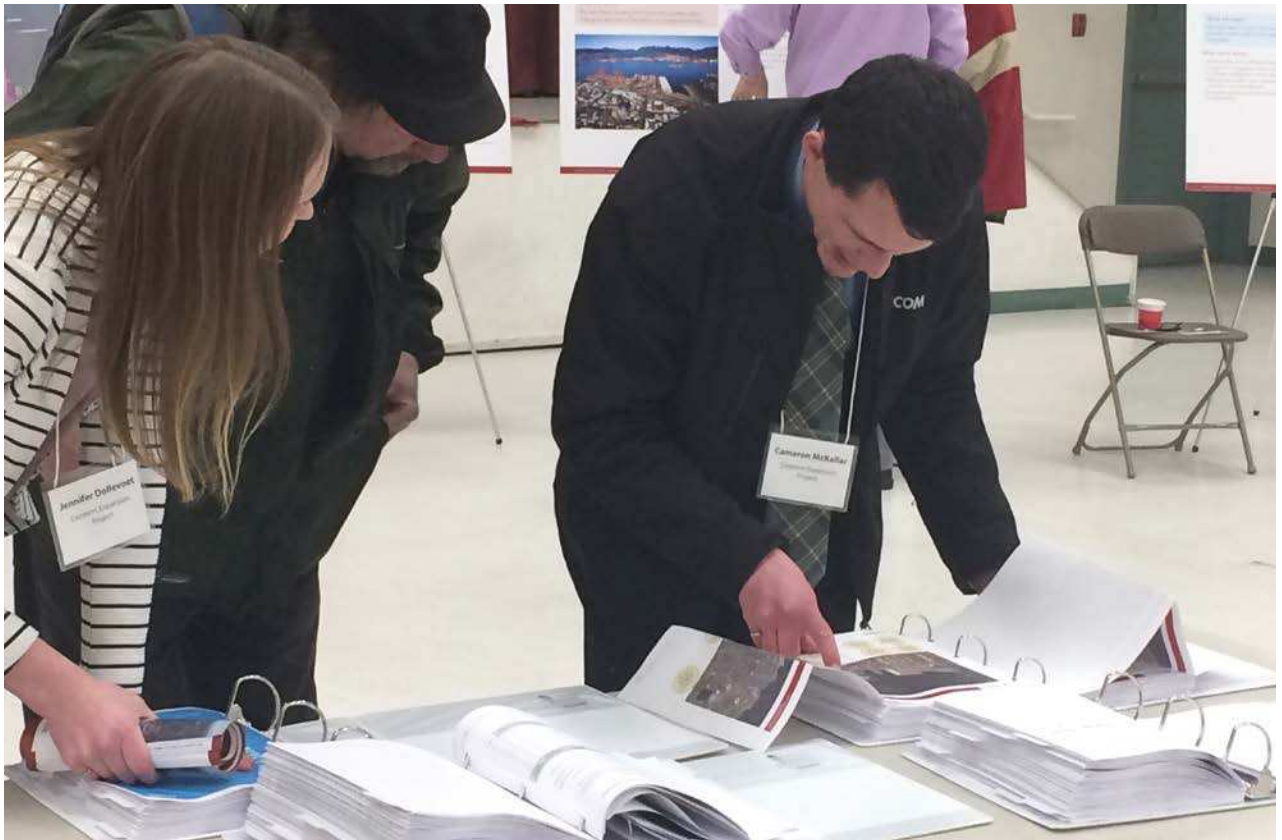
Display boards were used at meetings and described the Centerm Expansion Project, including the proposed design of on-terminal and off-terminal works, results of technical and environmental studies, anticipated construction activities and a proposed community investment program.

At the open houses, participants were asked to rank options for community investments from highest priority to lowest priority by placing stickers on a display board. Results from this activity have been incorporated into Section 3.2, Question 2a on page 8.

*A copy of the display boards can be found in Appendix 3.*

### 2.4.3. Online Engagement

Consultation materials were available at porttalk.ca/centermexpansion, including an electronic copy of the discussion guide and feedback form, and an online feedback form that could be submitted electronically. Of the 38 feedback forms received, 29 were received online.



#### 2.4.4. Open Houses

**Ninety** people attended three open houses in downtown Vancouver during the consultation period. Display boards were set up around the room, and participants had the opportunity to engage with the project team in one-on-one and small group discussions. The discussion guide and feedback form was also provided, and participants were encouraged to complete the feedback form in hard copy or online. In addition, copies of the project application for the port authority’s Project and Environmental Review Process were available for participants to review.

The open houses were held on the following dates:

Date	Time	Location
Thursday, March 2, 2017	4:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Japanese Language School, Japanese Hall, 487 Alexander Street, Vancouver
Saturday, March 4, 2017	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Goldcorp Centre for the Arts, Djavad Mowafaghian World Art Centre, 149 West Hastings Street, Vancouver
Tuesday, March 7, 2017	4:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Japanese Language School, Japanese Hall, 487 Alexander Street, Vancouver

During the open house on Thursday, March 2, 2017, approximately 32 people attended to express concerns regarding the project’s potential effects on the local community, specifically CRAB Park at Portside and those who use it. They presented four petitions to the Centerm Expansion Project team, which are summarized in Section 3.4.

### 2.4.5. Small Group Meetings

**Nineteen** people attended two small group meetings in downtown Vancouver during the consultation period. At each meeting, participants were provided with a copy of the discussion guide and feedback form. Centerm Expansion Project team members presented information about the project. Participants were encouraged to ask questions and provide feedback during the meetings.

Key themes from these meetings are summarized in Section 3.3.

Small group meetings were held on the following dates:

Date	Time	Location
Wednesday, March 8, 2017	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Strathcona Community Centre, Activity Room, 601 Keefer Street, Vancouver
Friday, March 10, 2017	1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Morris J Wosk Centre for Dialogue, Strategy Room 420, 580 West Hastings Street, Vancouver

## 3. Results

The following provides a summary of input received from written submissions, hard copy feedback forms, an online survey, and the small group meetings during the consultation period from February 20 to March 24, 2017.

Input received during this consultation along with financial and technical information, will be considered by the Centerm Expansion Project team in refining proposed mitigations, plans to minimize potential construction-related impacts and options for proposed community investments.

### 3.1 WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

**Forty-three** submissions were received through email, mail or in-person at consultation meetings. Submissions were received from:

- A package consisting of four petitions with a total of 12,622 signatures - see summary on page 11
- Jenny Kwan, Member of Parliament for Vancouver East
- Crab-Water for Life Society
- GCT Global Container Terminals Inc.
- San Juan County Council, Washington, USA
- 21 residents or stakeholders of San Juan County, Washington, USA
- Nine unidentified respondents
- Four residents of or stakeholders from downtown Vancouver



The following are the key themes from the submissions:

*Note: The number of mentions may exceed the total commenting, as respondents may have commented on more than one topic.*

Themes from 43 written submissions	Number of Mentions
Participants requested mitigation plans for environmental impacts including marine accidents and oil spills, and inclusion of increased scope of the spill prevention and emergency response plan, with some participants requesting funding for an emergency response tug in Haro Strait/ Boundary Pass, which is located along the international boundary between Canada and the United States.	19
Participants asked the project team to hold an open house or small group meeting in San Juan County, Washington, USA.	18
Participants requested expansion of the mitigation area/scope of studies beyond Burrard Inlet and Vancouver Harbour.	13
Participants requested mitigation measures to address impacts to marine mammals, specifically orca whales.	12
Participants expressed concerns regarding cumulative marine impacts from the size and volume of vessels in the Salish Sea.	11
Participants expressed general opposition to the Centerm Expansion Project	10
Participants expressed concerns regarding impacts to CRAB Park at Portside, including disruptions to the park’s tranquility and viewscape.	6
Participants expressed concerns regarding accountability and oversight of the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, and requested that profit data be presented publicly.	6
Participants expressed concerns regarding the scope of studies, and requested further information regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rail cargo handling</li> <li>• Land use plans</li> <li>• Impacts to truck wait times and fees</li> <li>• A comprehensive traffic management plan</li> <li>• Air quality monitoring program</li> </ul>	3
Participants expressed concerns regarding the notification and length of the public consultation period, and that input from consultation is not being taken into consideration.	3
Participants expressed concerns regarding noise and air quality impacts from the project, and expressed interest in promoting alternative/active transportation options.	2
Participants requested funding for CRAB Park at Portside and co-ops in the Downtown Eastside.	2
Participants provided suggestions for community investments, such as green space, renovations to the existing caretaker building located in the park, or a totem pole commemorating missing and murdered Indigenous women.	2
Participants expressed concerns regarding rail impacts, including noise, dust and soot.	2

### 3.2 FEEDBACK FORMS

A total of **38** feedback forms were submitted. Below are the questions contained in the feedback form and a summary of responses received. The summary of comments received through the feedback form is categorized according to frequency. This summary reflects the comments most frequently mentioned by respondents.

*Note: The number of mentions may exceed the total commenting, as respondents may have commented on more than one topic. Some totals may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.*

**1) Technical and environmental studies:**

- a. After reviewing the discussion guide and the technical and environmental studies for the proposed project at [porttalk.ca/centermexpansion](http://porttalk.ca/centermexpansion), please identify any additional considerations or questions that you have for the project team:

Themes from 25 responses	Number of Mentions
Participants expressed concerns regarding environmental impacts, including oil spills, greenhouse gas emissions and emergency response plans.	7
Participants expressed concerns regarding impacts to CRAB Park at Portside, including disruptions to the park’s viewscape and tranquility.	5
Participants expressed concerns regarding cumulative marine impacts from the size and volume of vessels in the Salish Sea.	5
Participants expressed concerns regarding increased port-related truck traffic, including noise and air quality effects.	4
Participants expressed concerns regarding rail impacts, including noise, dust and soot.	4
Participants expressed no additional concerns regarding the scope of technical and environmental studies.	3
Participants expressed general opposition to the Centerm Expansion Project.	2
Participants expressed concerns regarding the project renderings.	2

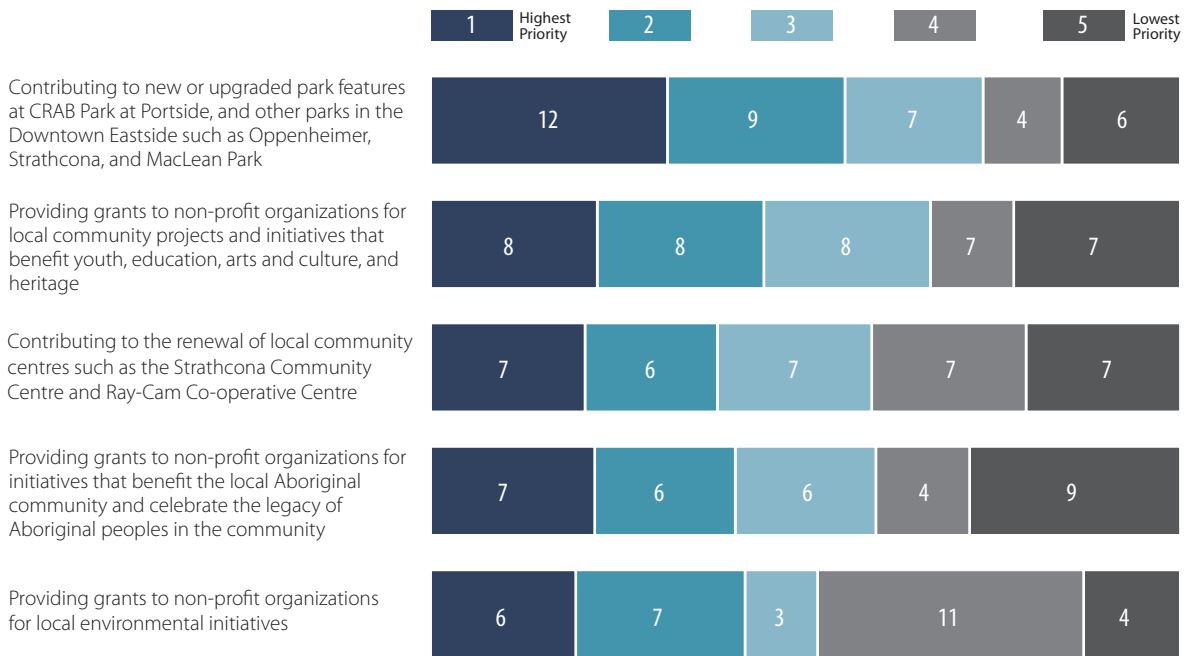
- b. Please provide any additional mitigation ideas that you want the project team to consider:

Themes from 22 responses	Number of Mentions
Participants expressed concerns regarding environmental impacts, including oil spills, greenhouse gas emissions and emergency response plans, and provided mitigation suggestions, such as an independent environmental impact assessment or bay flushing during construction.	4
Participants provided suggestions for community investments, such as public art and green walls.	3
Participants requested mitigation plans to reduce noise and truck traffic.	3
Participants expressed concerns regarding impacts to CRAB Park at Portside, including disruptions to the park’s viewscape and tranquility.	2
Participants requested the implementation of additional noise monitoring stations.	2
Participants expressed interest in the expansion of CRAB Park at Portside.	2
Participants expressed interest in the use of electrical vehicles on site, and increased parking for electric vehicles.	2

## 2) Community Investments:

The project’s proposed community investment program is intended to benefit the neighbourhoods adjacent to the project area, including Oppenheimer, Strathcona, Gastown, Chinatown, Railtown, Thornton Park, and Victory Square, as well as CRAB Park at Portside which is located on federal port lands.

- a. To help us further understand the interests and priorities of the community, please rank the following options for community investments from highest priority (1) to lowest priority (5):



- b. Please provide any additional ideas you have for the proposed community investment program:

Themes from 27 responses	Number of Mentions
Participants suggested improving access to CRAB Park at Portside by providing a pedestrian and bike overpass, or a new transit route.	8
Participants noted that the proposed community investments are inadequate compared to the potential impacts from the project.	6
Participants expressed interest in First Nations-related investments to acknowledge unceded territory and honour the memory of Downtown Eastside missing and murdered women.	4
Participants provided suggestions for community investments, such as green space, including green walls.	2
Participants expressed interest in the expansion of CRAB Park at Portside.	2
Participants suggested constructing a restaurant or information centre to attract tourists to the area.	2

### 3) Additional Comments

Please provide us with any additional comments about any aspect of the proposed project:

Themes from 28 responses	Number of Mentions
Participants expressed concerns regarding impacts to CRAB Park at Portside, including disruptions to the park’s tranquility and viewscape, and provided suggestions for park improvements.	4
Participants expressed general support for the project, with some participants noting the need for future Port of Vancouver growth.	4
Participants expressed general opposition to the Centerm Expansion Project.	4
Participants expressed concerns regarding increased port-related truck traffic, including noise and air quality effects.	4
Participants expressed concerns regarding rail impacts, including noise, dust and soot.	4
Participants expressed concerns regarding environmental impacts, including oil spills, greenhouse gas emissions and emergency response plans.	3
Participants expressed support for preserving the Rogers Sugar building and Ballantyne Pier.	2
Participants expressed interest in the expansion of CRAB Park at Portside.	2
Participants suggested that if the Centerm Expansion Project is approved, the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project is not needed.	2
Participants expressed concerns regarding the notification and length of the public consultation period.	2
Participants expressed concerns regarding accountability and oversight of the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority.	2



### 3.3 KEY THEMES – SMALL GROUP MEETINGS

Nineteen people attended two small group meetings in downtown Vancouver during the consultation period. The small group meetings were open to the public, and were advertised on the website and in newspapers as part of the notification outlined in Appendix 1.

The following are the key themes from the small group meetings.

Meeting	Key Themes
<p><b>Small Group Meeting 1</b></p> <p>Wednesday, March 8, 2017 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. 7 participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants expressed interest in the relationship between DP World and the port authority, as well as clarification of terminal and expansion ownership.</li> <li>• Participants expressed interest in road and rail traffic, and the proposed mitigation measures.</li> <li>• Participants expressed concern regarding any reduction to the view and green space at CRAB Park at Portside as a result of the project.</li> <li>• Participants suggested that the port authority work with proponents of other projects in the area to combine community investment funds and initiatives.</li> <li>• Participants expressed interest in community investment, such as access to and seasonal programming at CRAB Park at Portside or contributions to Strathcona Community Centre and Ray-Cam Co-op.</li> <li>• Participants expressed concern regarding the effectiveness of emergency response in the Downtown Eastside, citing the container incident at Centerm in 2015.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Small Group Meeting 2</b></p> <p>Friday, March 10, 2017 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. 12 participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants expressed concerns about increased rail traffic and noise as a result of additional container throughput.</li> <li>• Participants expressed concerns regarding rail noise from shunting and squealing next to their residences, noting that their concerns were not with noise on the terminal itself.</li> <li>• Participants enquired whether the expansion could occur to the east instead of to the west of the existing terminal.</li> <li>• Participants expressed interest in improving access to CRAB Park at Portside.</li> <li>• Some participants questioned the need for the project.</li> </ul>

### 3.4 PETITIONS – MARCH 2, 2017 OPEN HOUSE

At the March 2, 2017 open house, a package consisting of four petitions with a total of 12,622 signatures was presented to the Centerm Expansion Project team. The following summarizes the input and requests in the four petitions:

#### **Petition to the House of Commons (5,638 signatures)**

- Request that Parliament conduct a full review of the port authority, port activities and institute an independent environmental assessment process for all proposed projects
- Request that Parliament ensure that port activities respect indigenous rights
- Request that the Minister of Transport stop the westward expansion of Centerm container terminal
- Comments regarding the importance of CRAB Park at Portside, and preserving the community's only waterfront public green space
- Concerns about impacts to water quality, traffic, and access to the park
- Reference to the March 4, 2015 container incident at Centerm, and concerns regarding safety risks and effective emergency response associated with the proposed westward expansion of the terminal
- Concerns regarding the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's accountability and oversight with respect to port activities and project permitting

#### **Petition to the Port of Vancouver (4,599 signatures)**

- Request that the port authority stop the expansion of Centerm, stating that it would ruin CRAB Park at Portside
- Request that the port authority stand with the people of the Downtown Eastside and respect their struggle by protecting CRAB Park at Portside

#### **Petition to Save CRAB Park at Portside (2,356 signatures)**

- Demonstration of how important CRAB Park at Portside is to the community
- Request that the port authority's development plan be rethought

#### **Petition to Stand up for CRAB Park at Portside and the Downtown Eastside (29 signatures)**

- Request for signatories to stand up for CRAB Park at Portside and the Downtown Eastside
- Reference to the Centerm Expansion Project's planned infilling of seven acres
- Presented with an excerpt from a community update by Jenny Kwan, Member of Parliament for Vancouver East

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