

Definition of a Sustainable Vancouver Adopted by Council April 2002

“A sustainable Vancouver is a community that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

It is a place where people live, work, and prosper in a vibrant community of communities.

In such a community, sustainability is achieved through community participation and the reconciliation of short and long term economic, social, and ecological well-being”.

Vancouver Sustainability Principles Adopted by Council April 2002

“Sustainability is a direction rather than a destination. A sustainable city is one that protects and enhances the immediate and long-term well being of a city and its citizens, while providing the highest quality of life possible. Sustainability requires integrated decision-making that takes into account economic, ecological, and social impacts as a whole”.

A Sustainable Vancouver embraces the following principles:

- Today’s decisions must not compromise the choices of our children and future generations.
- We are all accountable for our individual and collective actions.
- Resources must be used fairly and efficiently without compromising the sustainability of one community for another.
- Using renewable resources is encouraged and supported, while the use of non-renewable resources should be minimized.
- Renewable resource consumption should not exceed the rate of regeneration.
- Strong collaboration and open communication between the public, the business sector, and all levels of government are important.
- We value cultural, economic, and environmental diversity.
- A community should provide a safe, healthy, and viable setting for human interaction, education, employment, recreation, and cultural development.
- A sustainable Vancouver contributes to, and provides leadership towards, regional, provincial, national, and global sustainability.
- The Vancouver economy should move from its dependence on non-renewable carbon-based fuels, particularly for transportation, which are likely to fluctuate dramatically in price and supply.