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## **HUB Delta Great Blue Heron Way Sub-committee**

<https://bikehub.ca/delta>

DRAFT Meeting Notes

August 13, 2019. 7:00 PM, Ladner Pioneer Library meeting room

### **1. Introductions & Welcome**

Blessing given by Elder Ruth.

### **2. List of Attendees:**

Roel Schootman (Chair), Elder Ruth Adams, Carol Vignale, Léon Lebrun, Sandra Jones, David Grigg, Ruth Grigg, Barbara Hinson, Hilary Cole, Phil Horan, John Wooliams. Guest Jeff Leigh, HUB Executive.

### **3. Updates**

- Vision document completed.

- Presentation created incorporating Leon's maps. (shown on screen). See Delta Wiki for supportive documents [here](#)

- June 13, Delta Community Liveability Advisory Committee (CLAC) discussed need for restoring crossing across railway at Deltaport. Motion made and endorsed, that council consider writing to the Port of Vancouver to request they restore access across rail lines.

- Elder Ruth was lead presenter of feature panel: Inclusive Active Transportation & Cities at the [BC Active Transportation Summit](#) June 17-18 in New Westminster. Very well received. GBHW presentation [here](#). Sandra travelled with and accompanied Ruth, both paid for by BC Cycling Coalition. A thank you letter has been sent to Richard Campbell. Extensive networking took place.

- Elder Ruth and Sandra presented at Delta CLAC. Motion made and endorsed, that CLAC supports the Great Blue Heron Way and refers the concept to staff for review.

### **4. Meeting Notes (David Grigg)**

Notes with added stats-mainly addressing the queries raised by Jeff.

1. Understanding of the project-. it is a north south 80km trail from the Canada/USA border at White Rock to the North Shore's Spirit trail via South Surrey, Tsawwassen/Delta, Richmond and Vancouver.
2. The GBHW aspires to unite the Semiahmoo, Tsawwassen, Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil Waututh First Nations along the route and looks outward to the larger community in a spirit of reconciliation
3. The GBHW is part of the Great Trail (Trans Canada) that starts in Victoria and ends in Newfoundland. The Great Trail will also, with their blessing, touch or pass through many First Nations lands.
4. The GBHW will provide a Triple A walking and riding experience with an objective of providing a safe environment for the broader 8 to 80 demographic spectrum. But more than that it will also incorporate experiential opportunities of the Fraser delta, the upland forests of Pacific Spirit Park and the seaside route along English Bay as an alternative to the more direct urban route along the Arbutus Greenway as an example.

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5. The GBHW has a huge potential for promoting cycle tourism and to become the favourite route for charity events for say the fight against Cancer or MS etc.-devoid of traffic.
6. The GBHW is over 60% complete as a Triple A or off road route. (Vancouver and Richmond are at 80%, Delta at 67% and South Surrey at 20% completion)

Groups **actively** supporting the project are HUB Delta and the Arbutus Greenway Improvements Society (AGIS). Non active support has been received from many municipal councillors and staff along the trail's route with the exception of South Surrey (we have not engaged with HUB Surrey or the municipality yet to my knowledge)

Potentially the existing **HUB Arbutus Greenway working group** could assist greatly in closing the gaps on the western Vancouver GBHW loop through Pacific Spirit Park via English Bay and the southern section along the Fraser. The **city** could also assist greatly in making the project's objectives clear to the MST First Nations and help in closing the gaps on the west side loop. Particularly the lack of even basic paths from the north western end of the Seaside route to Acadia Rd in the University Endowment Lands.(UEL), through Musqueam Park in the south west to the Fraser and connecting the Fraser River Park to the south east end of the Arbutus Greenway. Note that I have kept the MoTI, UEL and Metro Parks (including their advisory committees) abreast of the GBHW over the last half dozen years or so but find that input needs to be refreshed as staff and committee members change annually. I need to go back but support from HUB would be very welcome.

The **City of Vancouver Parks Board** have also been apprised of the GBHW and I last spoke to them in a sitting of the commissioners on the July 8th in regard to the West End Waterfront Parks Master Plan. The issue along Sunset Beach, for the GBHW, is the lack of a seaside cycle, route east of Denman to Burrard Bridge, that is of Triple A standard. (The ideal route would be along Beach to Pacific Blvd joining onto the already completed sections either side of the north end of Burrard Bridge.)

I would like to re-emphasise that we, as a group. are still very open to alternative solutions in closing the gaps in the route and welcome marrying in with other proposed routes. However we still aim for a barrier free uninterrupted Triple A standard and wish to avoid major roads and intersections that may be acceptable to young or middle aged adults but not to a parent accompanying an eight year old or a senior who may be a little nervous about getting on a bike after handing in their driving licence for good.

Upcoming opportunities:

1. RainForest Run at the end of the month where the event will be centred on wellness for indigenous athletes. A meeting is upcoming with Dr Doug Clement.
2. Capitalize on the unmet car parking supply for visitors to Centennial Beach on weekends. The solution was to encourage Delta to utilize available space for overflow parking in the South Delta Rec Centre and connect the car park with Beach Grove via 17a Ave thereby creating a Park And Ride facility. Of necessity, an electronic bill board would be required on 56th St by the Rec Centre alerting drivers to the fact that no parking was available at Centennial Park and to use the Park and Ride or 614 or 619 bus service. Our goal is to get the trail connection upgraded,

David

## 5. Next Steps

- August 15 meeting with Chief Ken Baird, TFN.

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- Develop signage, Elder Ruth to discuss with Karl Morgan when possible.

**Next GBHW Subcommittee Meeting:** To be confirmed between Elder Ruth and Roel.