

PORT MOODY

The Questions for Mayoral and City Council Candidates:

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams

Recognizing the importance of salmon to British Columbia, what will you do to reduce or prevent pollution in our local salmon-bearing streams?

2. Protecting our natural assets

How will you protect our natural assets including forests, streams, wetlands, wildlife habitat and other ecosystems in the face of development pressure?

3. Connecting our communities with nature

What steps have you taken, and what steps will you take as a mayor/councillor, to ensure that our communities maintain a strong connection to nature?

4. Climate action and resilience

What **three policies** will you support or introduce to proactively prevent and pay for climate-related disasters while also reducing greenhouse-gas emissions?

RESPONSES FROM PORT MOODY MAYORAL CANDIDATES:

LAHTI, Meghan

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams

The protection of our streams and water courses in Port Moody has been a longstanding priority for me as a City Councillor and now in my role as Mayor. There are a number of ways we can ensure that these water courses are protected and these include municipal bylaws, including our Stream Protection Bylaw, which establishes mandatory minimum setbacks and riparian protection and enhancement areas (SPEAs) and riparian transition zones to prevent soil disturbance and building near water courses, Tree Protection Bylaw which regulates cutting or damaging trees on public and private property, which helps stabilize banks, shade stream channels and maintain watershed health, Pesticide Use Control which restricts the use of specific weed killers and cosmetic pesticides on residential and municipal lands to prevent toxic runoff from entering into local watercourses. In addition to these bylaws we have mechanisms in our process such as the Erosion and Sediment Control Permits that need to be established to ensure proper management practices are undertaken to prevent sediment-laden runoff from reaching streams and storm drains.

There are other initiatives that the city has in place that help with the protection of these habitats, one that comes to mind is a partnership program that we have for community partners, such as youth

groups, to paint yellow fish on storm drains to help promote awareness around the fact that what goes into the storm drain feeds directly into fish habitat.

2. Protecting our natural assets

In addition to the above mentioned bylaws and policies, our zoning bylaw and the Stormwater Management Plan, establish policies and practices that affect habitat preservation, replacement and enhancement within the city in relation to development.

3. Connecting our communities with nature

By focussing on things like developing the trail network, enhancing and improving our parks and open spaces, encouraging active transportation within the city we are ensuring that our residents have opportunities to connect to nature.

4. Climate action and resilience

There are a number of policies that the city has adopted around this issue, but in my opinion, the top three that I support are:

- 1) Zero Emission Municipal Building Policy: Requires all new city-owned buildings, major additions, and renovations to be designed and operated for net-zero carbon emissions, meeting top tiers of BC's Energy Step Code and utilizing all electric heating and cooling.
- 2) The newly adopted Tree Protection Bylaw: Preserves and enhances the local urban forest by regulating tree removal, requiring replacement planting, and supporting long-term canopy cover targets to bolster local ecology and carbon absorption.
- 3) Anti-Idling Bylaw: Restricts unnecessary vehicle idling across the municipality to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.

LURBIEKI, Haven

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams

Port Moody is fortunate to have kilometres of streams, including salmon-bearing Noons Creek and Mossom Creek. Protecting these waterways needs to be built into how we manage stormwater, development and infrastructure.

Throughout my time on Council, I have consistently pushed for us to look at the full impacts of growth. I would bring that same approach as the Mayor.

My focus to address pollution in waterways would be: enforcing our existing bylaws, implementing our Integrated Stormwater Management Plans, protecting and restoring riparian areas, and increasing the use of green infrastructure such as rain gardens and permeable surfaces. Development decisions also need to consider cumulative impacts on our watersheds, rather than looking at each property in isolation. One key issue is increasing impermeable surfaces related to new development.

Port Moody has extraordinary community stewardship around our streams and salmon. The City should continue working with and supporting these organizations while making sure our policies and infrastructure do their part.

2. Protecting our natural assets

As a city councillor, I've been prepared to not support developments when I believe the impacts are too significant and community needs are not being met. I did not support the Coronation Park development, with the significant loss of mature trees among my many concerns.

As Mayor, I would bring that same approach to managing growth. We need to add housing while recognizing Port Moody's unique geography and avoiding unnecessary loss of mature trees, wildlife habitat and green space.

We already have important tools, including our Urban Forest Management Strategy, Natural Asset Management Strategy and Tree Protection Bylaw. I strongly supported the Urban Forest Management Strategy and strengthening our Tree Protection Bylaw. I also successfully moved to require staff to report back on whether those strengthened protections are actually reducing tree loss.

My focus as Mayor would be on implementing and enforcing these tools and measuring whether they are achieving the results we expect.

Ultimately, protecting nature is going to require an approach to development that fits Port Moody's unique size and geography. Overdevelopment is the greatest risk to our natural assets. I was the only vote on Port Moody council against a new Official Community Plan that would see Port Moody's population almost double.

3. Connecting our communities with nature

My work on expanding access to parks and nature began before I was elected.

As a volunteer member of the Parks and Recreation Commission, I was lead author of a report endorsed by Council that helped guide the development of Port Moody's Parkland Strategy.

As a Councillor, I continued that work by bringing forward a motion calling for significant westward expansion of Rocky Point Park without additional tower development. As Mayor, making that expansion a reality would be a top priority.

We also need enhanced neighbourhood parks and green spaces, a healthy urban forest, trails and greenways, and protected streams and natural corridors throughout our city.

This becomes even more important as we add density. With more people living in smaller spaces without yards, we should be proportionately expanding access to nature and green space as our population grows.

4. Climate action and resilience

Port Moody already has a Climate Action Plan. The next step is completing the planned refresh and making sure we can actually deliver it.

As Mayor, I would focus on three steps:

1. Complete the Climate Action Plan refresh.

Build on the work already underway and incorporate current risks and community input and what we've learned through implementation of the existing plan.

2. Make it realistic and achievable.

Set clear priorities, timelines and costs, focusing on actions the City can actually deliver and afford, and integrate climate objectives with our financial planning.

3. Implement it and measure our progress.

Turn the refreshed plan into action and regularly report on what has been completed, what is working and where we need to do better.

For me, each of the areas of focus above is about results.

That's one reason I'm running for Mayor with a Port Moody Voice team (portmoodyvoice.ca). Having a Council majority that shares a commitment to truly responsible growth, environmental protection and making sure our infrastructure keeps pace will allow for these changes to happen.

RESPONSES FROM PORT MOODY COUNCIL CANDIDATES:

AGTARAP, Samantha

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams

Port Moody has numerous requirements to protect watercourses, including salmon-bearing streams, including watercourse setbacks, erosion and sediment controls, environmentally sensitive area designations, green infrastructure, tree protection bylaw, and urban forest management strategy. These are important components of a healthy ecosystem. Setbacks and sediment control are key elements in reducing and preventing pollution. Public education is also a key component, so continuing to support the local hatcheries at Noons and Mossom Creeks is critical. The inclusion of questions like EN 11 in the Sustainability Report Card ("Is the project seeking third party environmental certifications (e.g., Salmon Safe BC certification)?") is an important criterion that informs the applicant of its importance. It also informs staff and Council whether the development has considered salmon-bearing streams (where applicable).

To protect its salmon-bearing streams, the City of Port Moody has established stringent municipal protections that expand beyond standard provincial rules by implementing a two-tiered streamside setback system. Codified under Zoning Bylaw No. 2937, these regulations mandate up to a 25-metre buffer from the top of a stream bank to preserve crucial riparian zones. In Port Moody, a specialized 30-metre streamside buffer is explicitly mandated for the city's two most critical, highly sensitive salmon-bearing systems under Development Permit Area 4 (DPA 4) guidelines. Those two streams are Mossom Creek and Noons Creek.

Additionally, the new boardwalk allows viewing of salmon-bearing streams and saltwater marshes while keeping people and pets out of sensitive ecosystems, especially when salmon are spawning. This boardwalk allows the natural ebb and flow of ocean water into the saltwater marsh, where a productive ecosystem breaks down dead plant material into nutrient-rich materials that feed small invertebrates, which in turn become food for larger fish.

Port Moody has invited BCIT students to study estuarine habitats along the shoreline trail, and the study found that invasive plants harm fish-bearing streams by degrading water quality, destroying spawning habitats, and disrupting the aquatic food web. Whether they grow directly in the water or along the banks, these non-native species fundamentally alter the stream dynamics that salmon, trout, and other native fish depend on to survive.

Council recently voted to support an Invasive Species Master Plan, and this will serve as a guiding document for future actions to further protect our fish-bearing streams. I will continue to support these important bylaws, policies and projects. If I am re-elected, I will bring forward a motion to begin the process of creating bioswales. Rain washes these toxic rubber crumbs off highways directly into local storm drains and streams. Bioswales intercept vehicle tire crumbs and are a critical intervention in modern stormwater management, preventing extremely toxic chemicals from causing mass die-offs of aquatic wildlife.

2. Protecting our natural assets

This term, we adopted the Natural Asset Management Strategy (NAMS), which took stock of the city's ecosystems and natural resources we rely on, that provide benefits to the community, and provide critical services integrated with engineered infrastructure. Natural resources and ecosystems are key to a resilient city, and the strategy integrates multiple existing initiatives into established financial processes, enabling the city "to make informed decisions regarding the protection, maintenance, and enhancement of its natural assets." Collectively, the city's natural assets are valued at approximately \$377 million. The valuation and strategy will bring natural assets into financial decisions, allowing for a more complete evaluation of service, cost and risk, and highlighting the importance of natural assets in our city - not only for service provision but also for biodiversity and human health.

In addition, many of existing Port Moody's policies and bylaws demonstrate our commitment to increasing habitat for salmon, bears, and other key species. This includes stream daylighting, urban forest management, tree protection, and reducing invasive species. We also require every development to complete a sustainability report card. This includes environmental sustainability, specifically asking

questions about how the project protects and enhances the environment at multiple points, such as Salmon-Safe certification.

In 2024, Port Moody achieved Bear Smart Community designation and implemented strict, proactive public safety and wildlife conservation measures. These measures are designed to secure attractants, reshape urban development and promote safe human-bear coexistence.

The city was also the first municipality in BC to develop a Beaver Management Plan to promote co-existence with this important keystone species. The city is also an Important Bird Area and is an important stop along the Pacific Flyway. And in 2023, the City was certified Bat Friendly, a designation that protects habitat through education, outreach and public participation.

I will continue to uphold and support these existing policies and explore opportunities for continuous improvements.

3. Connecting our communities with nature

I strongly support the 3-30-300 rule: see three trees from your window, 30% tree canopy in your neighbourhood, and 300 m to a park or trail. This is currently embedded in numerous strategies (300 m to a park or trail is 400 m in the Parkland Strategy).

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan serves as a framework guiding the development, acquisition and preservation of open spaces. The city engages residents through interpretive programming with local environmental stewards to introduce residents to local flora and fauna. The city is expanding these programs, and I will continue to support this programming and other opportunities for resident involvement and education as they arise.

Improving resident connection to our parks and trails, along with expanding free education programs, is important for maintaining strong connections to nature. I envision a future Port Moody where green spaces connect every part of our city, support wildlife movement, and encourage residents to get outside.

4. Climate action and resilience

What three policies will you support or introduce to proactively prevent and pay for climate-related disasters while also reducing greenhouse-gas emissions? This term, I supported Port Moody joining the Sue Big Oil Campaign to recover the cost of climate impacts from oil companies, supported the adoption of a Zero Emission Municipal Building policy and Zero Carbon Step Code, the UBCM motion for Recovery of Climate-related Costs, and projects supporting the Climate Action Plan.

Prior to being elected to Port Moody City Council, I was part of the consulting team that wrote the Climate Action Plan (July 2020). I also served as a committee member on the first Climate Action Committee. As a member of my strata council, I helped create the bylaw to permit heat pumps, and assisted my neighbours in navigating strata rules, the city application, and incentive programs. Currently, I sit on the national board of For Our Kids, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting parent-led climate action, education and outreach.

Looking forward, I will continue to support projects that advance our climate action goals, including active transportation projects aimed at reducing vehicle use, investigating the feasibility of including building-integrated photovoltaic panels in new buildings (and including points in the Sustainability Report Card) and carbon sequestration through the restoration of saltwater wetlands.

CHAN, Alexandra

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams

We need to face the impact of microplastics and how, as a rainy climate, we are at particular risk for this in our waterways. I want to spearhead bylaws which actively encourage property owners and caretakers to address the waste left behind. While we have bylaws against littering, this becomes limited in areas where constant monitoring is not available and identifying those who litter take up valuable resources. I would like to take a more active stance to push owners and caretakers to address trash left behind. Clean cities psychologically reduce the impetus to let trash items fall and remain in places. This helps not only clean up and keep streets clean, but keeps rain from carrying small and microwaste into our sensitive streams.

2. Protecting our natural assets

We live in such a delicate and fragile environment. Development historically here and over the world has shown how much impact they have on the environment, and we need to ensure this is never forgotten. One thing I'm passionate about is ensuring that any development over streams and culverts protects the waterways and resurfaces them. Streambeds allow flora and small fauna to thrive and trickle out to support other animals that depend on the life around these beautiful spaces. Ensuring they are allowed and encouraged to thrive, and not buried under development, is one of the approaches I want to take.

3. Connecting our communities with nature

In the past, I've volunteered to remove invasive species in parks and restore paths. This is something I want to continue, to facilitate pedestrians' ability to wander among trees and by streams where they can listen to the birds, insects, and wind as they wander our city. We have the shoreline path, but I want to spread the off-road greenery where possible and create green environments for residents to enjoy.

4. Climate action and resilience

1. Green roofs. Particularly for any flat roofs, I want to explore methods to make Port Moody a city that's green from satellite, even in the city-centre. This helps cool our cities, clean our air, and also provide microenvironments for insects to find shelter.

2. Similarly, vertical meadows. On non-housing/building walls (such as by the CPR), I want to work on establishing self-sustaining vertical gardens of native species.

3. I believe there is a viable way to raise funds to help take care of our parks by having a tiered system addressing invasive species and litter coverage; based on extent of trash or spread of invasive flora, we can look at the possibility of adding fees for neglect, and earmark these collected funds for park improvement, expansion, and other climate efforts. This is something I want to investigate for feasibility, and implement if possible.

KNOWLES, KYLA

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams

Port Moody has robust bylaws prohibiting the pollution of our salmon-bearing streams and watersheds, with strict penalties for non-compliance. In addition, we need to ensure that we are incorporating best practices into municipal and Metro Vancouver stormwater treatment and ensure riparian area setbacks are adequate for stream protection. We are fortunate to have two excellent hatcheries in Port Moody doing great work on this front – supporting them is key.

2. Protecting our natural assets

In February of 2024, Councillor Lubik and I jointly brought forward a resolution requesting the province integrate canopy protection, expansion and climate resilience into Bill 44 and 47. We were concerned that municipalities were losing our ability and authority to protect trees and implement our existing climate plans. If re-elected, I will continue to fight to ensure that our natural assets are not affected by residential encroachment onto natural lands.

3. Connecting our communities with nature

In the last four years, our Council passed a number of Climate Change resilience policies and initiatives, including leading in Step Code requirements for new developments and banning natural gas in new development builds.

We are materially increasing the number of trees in Moody Centre with every new development application with required tree plantings.

I have been a vocal champion and volunteer for invasive species removal, as they can be incredibly damaging to native tree species.

This year, our Council passed one of the strongest Tree Protection bylaws in the province.

4. Climate action and resilience

Port Moody is already doing a lot to protect and grow our urban forest with our Urban Forest Management Plan, tree plantings, and updated policies and legislation. On this front, it was disappointing that the Province chose to end its climate readiness funding to cities, so this needs to be a major priority of our Council:

i. advocating for its reinstatement or finding new funding sources to complete this work.

If I'm fortunate enough to be re-elected, I really want to do some focused work on protection of our urban forest with regards to wildfires.

ii. Develop a joint Council committee with our neighbours to review and evaluate wildfire prevention measures, collaborate on initiatives and coordinated response.

iii. Create a distinct plan for mitigation of forest floor fuel to prevent rapid spread of forest fires in our community (see Whistler work on this front).

LAMBERT, Paul

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams

This is actually the #1 environmental issue I want to advocate for in this election. In the past 10 years we have had 2 particularly harsh winters in the Lower Mainland. The first was 2016/2017 and the second was 2022/2023. These harsh winters led municipalities across the Lower Mainland to update their protocols for salting of roads, sidewalks and parking lots during winter season. As a result, the past 10 years have seen a much higher level of salt used in our local environment than we had seen previously. One of the consequences of this is, real harm is being done to our salmon-bearing streams and in turn, real harm being done to our salmon population overall.

Obviously salmon live most of their lives in salt water but their eggs and fry develop in fresh water, and they are not able to handle large spikes in salinity. Unfortunately, Lower Mainland weather can be a "perfect storm" to harm salmon eggs and fry. When the winter season begins and municipalities start salting roads, sidewalks and parking lots, it is November and December. This is precisely when many Pacific salmon species are spawning. But as we all know in the Lower Mainland, a cold day that causes municipalities to salt roads is often followed by a rainy day and all of that salt is washed into our streams and rivers, harming all of the salmon eggs and fry.

One important point is that municipalities using salt "brine" instead of hard forms of salt is somewhat better, as salinity is lower. However, we need to do more than that. I propose re-evaluating our salting protocols to ensure we are only salting our roads when there is real risk of ice forming. We need to respect safety and liability on our roads, sidewalks and parking lots at a high level, however we also need to balance the environmental impact of salt and I believe we can strike a better balance than we are currently, and make sure we are negatively impacting our salmon-bearing streams as little as possible. As an added bonus, this will also save our city money on the cost of salt and trucks etc.

2. Protecting our natural assets

How will you protect our natural assets—including forests, streams, wetlands, wildlife habitat and other ecosystems—in the face of development pressure?

I am not an anti-development candidate, however I do believe Port Moody's current growth trajectory is too high and we need to slow down to get back into balance. If elected, I will work to restore balance in our community and that will directly ease the pressure on our natural assets.

As far as protecting our natural assets in general, I believe it's all about the mindset and priorities of the Mayor and Council we elect. I care deeply about the environment and I will always consider the environmental impact in any decision being made at City Hall.

I believe new development needs to fit the character of our city and that includes the amazing natural character of Port Moody. Our natural environment is one of the things that makes Port Moody a truly special place and if elected I will always work to be a good steward of our local environment and protect our natural assets when making any decision about new development.

A final point is that it is important that in municipal planning that we view our natural assets and "green infrastructure" as genuine "assets" in the same way we would view any other valuable asset in the city.

3. Connecting our communities with nature

What steps have you taken, and what steps will you take as a councillor, to ensure that our communities maintain a strong connection to nature?

I was fortunate that my parents raised me spending tons of time in nature. The best way to keep our community connected to nature is to ensure our residents spend as much time in nature as possible. For me this comes down to 3 key things:

1. Planning and building nature into our communities. Think of how well used all of our trails are in Port Moody. We need to ensure that we continue to add to our trail network and when new development happens that we include access to nature as a core goal of the development planning process.
2. We need to make sure that access to nature is not just available, but also convenient for residents. We want as few barriers as possible to residents getting outside and enjoying our amazing natural environment.
3. We also need to support our local environmental groups and stakeholders, like the Port Moody Ecological Society and the Mossom Creek Hatchery. The work and events these groups provide for our community is so valuable. They engage residents in nature, in an environment-focused manner, and provide opportunities for residents to get out and connect to, and learn about, our local natural environment.

4. Climate action and resilience

What three policies will you support or introduce to proactively prevent and pay for climate-related disasters while also reducing greenhouse-gas emissions?

1. I support building out our electric car charging infrastructure more. This is crucial as more and more drivers switch to electric vehicles. Not only does this reduce greenhouse-gas emissions, in the long run it could also be revenue generating for the city.
2. Strengthening our Urban Tree Canopy. This is crucial for stormwater management, carbon sequestration and heat mitigation.
 - a. Forest Fire Management - We saw how real the risk of a forest fire in Port Moody is this summer with the forest fire that started in Anmore. Thankfully the fire was contained but we have to take forest fire risk very seriously from now on. There are 3 key aspects to this:

Raise awareness and educate residents that we need to be careful in our local forests, this isn't just a risk in the interior of the province.
 - b. Remove fuel from our forests. "Fuel" in this context means dead trees and underbrush that accumulate over time.
 - c. Have strategic breaks in our local forest so that if a fire did occur, it would not spread through our entire community.

LONGLEY, JEANINE

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams

There are always the basics; ensuring salmon-bearing streams are designated as ESA and have a stream buffer, ensuring we have a bylaw prohibiting any kind of discharge of pollutants into our drainage system, and similar. We also have to think about how severe weather events will introduce new challenges to the protection of our streams - with an increase in flooding paired with longer drought seasons we could see pollutants travelling farther than previously anticipated and reaching our stream systems. We can realistically anticipate more sediments being introduced into our waterways if our watersheds are destabilized through land clearing. With Port Moody having established a good baseline for stream protection, we have to look ahead in our changing climate and consider "pollution" in both the traditional sense and in the simple sense of polluting what is needed for salmon success (even if "natural" pollutants are being discussed such as sediment). I will focus on the big picture - reducing our carbon emissions as a community to help shift these larger issues while not forgetting the local details - considering how we need to change our understanding of what is suitable to protect our natural environments in a changing environment.

2. Protecting our natural assets

This is where discussions need to be nuanced and density needs to be thoughtfully considered. Building up gentle density throughout our existing building stock will reduce costs to serve new homes while naturally protecting all of the natural assets that we love. Introducing high density development where it

is appropriate will ensure we can serve our growing community at the lowest cost to the city, the lowest risk to our natural assets, and it will ensure we can offer a range of housing options for residents.

We can also partner with developers (as has been done near Moody Centre) to daylight creeks in our urban areas to ensure we are not only protecting what is currently deemed worth protection but also increasing our access to streams and improving access for animals to our natural environment within our urban core.

3. Connecting our communities with nature

Personally my connection to nature is always reinforced by time in nature - so I spend as much time as I can hiking, camping, kayaking, gardening, and getting outdoors. Within my role as councillor I will advocate for more community parks and community gardens. This will increase community connection and connection to nature. I will push for us to retain the significant green spaces we are so lucky to have in our city by advocating for gentle density infill throughout our city and for high density growth near transit (rather than new greenfield development into wild spaces).

4. Climate action and resilience

Introduce a stormwater user fee based on impervious surfaces (similar to Kitchener, Mississauga, Saskatoon, St. Albert, Victoria, Newmarket) which can help us pay for flooding related damages.

Join the Sue Big Oil movement and collaborate with other local governments to file a class action lawsuit to recover a fair share of our climate costs.

Advocate that Metro Vancouver revisit the conversation around (and adopt) a regional Building Emissions Performance Standard.

LUBIK, AMY

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams

I will always be interested in learning new ways of protecting salmon-bearing streams and enhancing our efforts. Leading up to my first term, I learned about Salmon-safe certification for new developments and introduced that to council for integration into our sustainability report card. As much as possible, I will support the daylighting and restoration of creeks that may be able to bear salmon and those that may provide nutrients into those streams.

Port Moody has also recently updated our erosion and sediment control bylaw, mandating erosion and sediment control permits before clearing, excavating, or grading land, enforcing mandatory buffer zones and setbacks to keep heavy development away from sensitive watercourses and fish habitats. The city also has an integrated stormwater management plan to manage runoff and protect watersheds.

We also use salt alternatives when clearing snow and de-icing roads and sidewalks to limit impact on streams.

The city mandates third party independent real-time monitoring of run-off from developments greater than 2000 square metres, which must be functioning before any discharge. No water is allowed to bypass monitoring.

2. Protecting our natural assets

There was a great forum last year on affordable housing and tree preservation, how we need to make sure we are very thoughtful about both providing the housing options that our community needs while protecting our tree canopy and ecosystems. I think this is a very important message – often it is treated as either/or.

Staff are empowered to work with applicants to protect trees and natural areas, and our sustainability report card looks at many environmental policies and recommendations, from having salmon-safe certification for buildings near salmon-bearing streams, restoring or enhancing or compensating for disturbed ecology, to enhancing biodiversity, to urban heat island mitigation. I have contributed to some of this guidance and am happy to continue learning and suggesting integration of innovative environmental policy.

Port Moody has the benefit of densifying around Skytrain where we are aiming for large unit sizes, affordable housing, market rentals and non-market rentals, while requiring those developments to include green roofs and a large park (Inlet Centre) and Moody Centre where daylighting of a creek is required, as well as green roofs and gardens and pocket parks. Around transit most developments are moving from low percent tree canopy (almost none in around Moody Centre and at the bottom of Moray) to up to 33%. Some developments around Port Moody have come with habitat and stream restoration and wildlife tree creation.

I would also like to become a Bird-Friendly City which means ensuring habit provision and protection for birds. The answer to question 4 part 2 provides additional actions.

3. Connecting our communities with nature

This is critical for our communities – you only care about what you know about, and of course, connections to nature are critical for our physical and mental health. I supported the creation of our plans for park expansion and enhancements, updates to our trails strategy, and the renewal and upgrades to our shoreline trail and boardwalk, to physically connect our neighbours to our natural environment. I have also connected staff with the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment to integrate nature bathing and nature prescribing into programming and suggested that as a next step from the Mayor's Youth Summit which focused on mental well-being. I will look for opportunities to expand these programs, as well as programs to help residents connect to nature by tackling invasive species (we now have an invasive species strategy).

I have initiated projects to get more community gardens, including our boulevard garden program – I have heard some communities use this as an opportunity for intergenerational bonding, and I would like to investigate how that could work for our community.

I will also continue to support the library when they request funding for natural-based learning resources, from books to bat-packs (these are a minuscule part of our budget but so valuable).

I will also continue to support events that celebrate nature, including Indigenous Plant walks, Tree Tours, and Fingerling Festival, as well as our efforts as a bat, bear, and beaver-friendly city, for proactive communication about cohabitation and protection of our furred and finned neighbours (engaging with nature while respecting and promoting the well-being of these creatures). I would also like to become a bird-friendly city, which includes enhancing our current efforts for citizen science, habitat protection, and education.

4. Climate action and resilience

1) Port Moody already does a lot of Fire Smart programming to prevent and mitigate wildfire damages; however, I would support expansion and promotion of the program where possible. This lowers the risk of wildfires damaging homes through small grants for community members, may save our residents a lot on insurance, and may also bring valuable peace of mind. Suppression of wildfire could be said to prevent GHG and particulate matter emissions by keeping carbon in the trees, not the air.

2) While not a discrete policy, I would continue to champion policies and strategies to become a sponge city (an urban area designed using nature-based solutions to absorb, store, and slowly release rainwater rather than rushing it away through artificial pipes and concrete). This includes continuing to support the work Port Moody is currently doing to expand, encourage, or mandate permeable surfaces and minimum planting areas in new developments and site improvements. It also means ensuring we are valuing and protecting our natural assets such as wetlands and waterways and daylighting creeks, and encouraging and mandating rain gardens on public and private land wherever possible, which is aligned with the Green Infrastructure Strategy we are developing. This includes development requirements for on and off-site green infrastructure features such as rain gardens, bioswales, green roofs, absorbent landscaping.

These policies can offer cooling to neighbourhoods in heatwaves, which also saves money for our residents on cooling. They also save us money by protecting built infrastructure and prolonging its useful life. It also helps prevent flooding and destruction during atmospheric rivers. These assets lower emissions through being carbon sinks.

3) I will advocate for bylaws to mandate cooling in older rental buildings as well, following on New Westminster's example which works with landlords on solutions (there are low cost programs that can be accessed by either renters or landlords) if needed and does not directly prescribe how units are kept at the safe temperature of 26 degrees, just that it is necessary for health of residents. During the heat dome people died in their homes overheating and from worsening of existing conditions. Port Moody did not see deaths at that time, but we did experience acute health impacts that impact residents and the first responders that need to attend. This policy would help alleviate climate-related heat illness, which may save our health system money through avoided costs. It may not directly always decrease

GHG emissions; however, when we can find ways to access rebates for heat pumps this may be a benefit, as well as saving costs on power.

MACK, Reece

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams

We are lucky in Port Moody to have an abundance of streams including salmon-bearing waterways. Protecting them is essential, especially as we continue to grow and develop. Implementing stormwater management, protecting riparian areas, and building rain gardens and similar green infrastructure are just some of the ways that I would protect our waterways and reduce pollutants in our salmon-bearing streams.

2. Protecting our natural assets

We need to manage growth and ensure that as we grow we're not losing mature trees and homes for wild critters, like we have seen with the Coronation Park development. We need to protect our nature and ensure that any development is fitting Port Moody's unique geography and respecting our proximity to nature.

3. Connecting our communities with nature

We need to continue to improve our neighbourhood parks and green spaces, promote a healthy urban forest and respect our protected waterways and natural corridors. This becomes increasingly more important as we grow as a city, especially if the focus of that growth is upwards in towers.

4. Climate action and resilience

I understand that our City has a Climate Action Plan. And that there is the need to refresh it. Beyond that, it is essential that we're not just creating an action plan but that we're delivering it.

We need to take the lessons from the existing plan, what has worked and what hasn't and make reasonable steps to ensuring that we're implementing changes that are actionable and scalable for our city's future.

We need to ensure that any plan is built into the financial planning. Afterall, experiencing a climate-related emergency is far more expensive than it is to improve our climate resilience ahead of time.

We then need to report on the completion status as well as what we learned along the way in a way that is accessible and understandable for Port Moody residents.

MOON, Sebastian

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams

This issue is important to me on a personal level as I have been involved in volunteer efforts at fish hatcheries and clean-up events of the shoreline, where people collect trash like cigarette butts that find their way into the inlet. I know for a fact that a large portion of this pollution could be prevented. As a city councillor, I would work toward stricter regulations related to construction and stormwater drainage in the proximity of our streams, which is where most of the real destruction occurs, not only littering but also silt and other pollutants entering the salmon spawning ground from the construction sites. Another aspect would be the promotion of public education and volunteer clean-up events, since many people do not know which streams in Port Moody host salmon spawning until you show them.

2. Protecting our natural assets

And as I have said several times before, I believe it is absolutely unacceptable to have excessive development in our shoreline area and construction of skyscrapers which interfere in bird migration and occupy existing wildlife corridors. Mature trees of Port Moody and current ecosystems constitute one of the unique qualities of this beautiful city and when they go away, they do not come back again. Thus, my position on the matter is that, as a councillor, I would try to include more natural assets protection in our development policies since, in their current form, natural assets are just a bargaining chip for any project.

3. Connecting our communities with nature

As someone who grew up in this city, the idea that nature is separate from day-to-day life is just wrong for me; it was the creeks, the inlet, the paths, all there. This is why I've invested time in programs such as hatchery volunteering and shoreline clean-ups, so that this connection can remain rather than being an idea only. In fact, as councillor, my approach will be one that ensures protection and expansion of access to parks and natural areas amid our growth, rather than allowing density to force nature out of the way. This is tied to some of my other policy priorities, including green and park space in consideration of places such as part of Flavell.

4. Climate action and resilience

Three things I would advocate for:

- * Controlling excessive development of shorelines and tall buildings which affect the drainage system, migration of birds and overall ecology of the inlet.
- * Preservation of mature trees and ecosystems in the city to help control storm water runoff and heat reduction in the actual sense and not just aesthetically.

* Smart planning for future growth in terms of preserving areas for recreation and industrial purposes, rather than building more residential skyscrapers. This would also provide taxpayers' relief from paying for future responses to flooding and heat waves.

SCHAEFFER, Tracey

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams

Our local streams and creeks are community assets and responsibility. I think that we can work together to protect their health. Some of the issues that we see around these waters-ways are caused by erosion due to development and pollution because of the use of chemicals that our residents use everyday.

As a community, we have to make good choices but as a city also we have to make it possible for us to act on these choices. Education is good, but if we don't have the means to apply it then it won't work. I would like the city to explore ways to create practical solutions for our residents.

If common cleansers and household chemicals from home, car or power washes are draining into our waterways, then we need to act. Maybe we need to create more public spaces to wash our cars that have the proper filters in place? Or maybe we need to look at how rain and water run-off reaches our streams? Can we create more natural rain gardens that capture and filter that run-off? Can we examine our long term sewer up-keep plans to find economic ways to keep it contained? I think we can choose to work together to solve this problem.

2. Protecting our natural assets

How will you protect our natural assets—including forests, streams, wetlands, wildlife habitat and other ecosystems—in the face of development pressure?

We live in nature but as our lives become complicated in an urban setting, it's easy to forget. I think that a big thing that we can do as we grow is to bring nature to our neighbourhoods. The city already has plans to create parks within walking distances from every resident, we could create many of these parks around the theme of nature. Let's think about what we can do to restore these areas as the city purchases the land? How can we incorporate nature into every neighbourhood and let it be a part of everyday life.

Another thing that we can do to protect these areas as we grow is to reward companies and developers that take solid steps towards revitalizing these essential areas of our city. Choosing to day-light streams to allow them to revert to their natural states then maintaining these areas as natural reserve park areas are good places to start. The city can choose to work with these types of companies. This is the direction that I'd like to see.

3. Connecting our communities with nature

What steps have you taken, and what steps will you take as a councillor, to ensure that our communities maintain a strong connection to nature?

Up to now, my focus has been on creating equity and inclusivity in education and community. Defending nature is an important cause and as a mother, it has recently become a focus for me. I want to bring this work to the forefront as the city moves forward.

Education must be a part of creating community buy-in, but it can't be the only thing.

Port Moody does a lot to protect our streams, but I would like to see more. As residents, we are told that dumping, or certain landscaping activities or designs can harm our waterways, but many people in our community might not know how much damage this can really do.

A stronger level of public engagement might help us see what we must do to protect our streams. This engagement could be as simple as including more volunteer aspects to community walks: maybe draw more from knowledgeable community residents to act as ambassadors. Maybe offer more volunteer invasive-plant removal opportunities that can cater to families as a whole. Make the community more a part of the solution.

4. Climate action and resilience

What **three policies** will you support or introduce to proactively prevent and pay for climate-related disasters while also reducing greenhouse-gas emissions?

As we move forward, I think that creating parks as natural rain-gardens throughout the city should be policy. I would support any action in that direction.

I also believe that we should work towards being a Sponge City and integrate permeable surfaces into the structures of our walkways and parking structures to trap water and use it to naturally cool our city. This would not only work to protect our waterways but would also help us move towards our sustainability goals.

My interest is also in finding ways to improve public transit and enhance our community's access to it. Again, the city staff is working on this issue, but I would like to see a traffic-easing policy that focuses on buses more.

One solution that we can work towards is providing buses a priority light during busy traffic periods. Sometimes a five second head start is all a bus needs to be able to weave through traffic effectively, making it an easier choice for those who are able to use it.

Many cities already do this. It has been effective in getting buses through traffic so they are able to stick to schedules and be more efficient. Each bus can move around 70 people, Imagine if only 20 of those people chose the bus instead of their car that day, it could ease traffic with each trip, while helping the city meet its climate targets.

SOU CY, Laura

1. Protecting salmon-bearing streams:

As a councillor, I would carefully evaluate any future development proposals for any impacts that could occur. I would prioritize collaborating with any developer on a viable option to ensure no pollution occurs in the salmon bearing streams of our city.

Ensuring we continue to enforce our existing bylaws and improve upon them will continue to provide environmental protections.

The City of Port Moody is truly fortunate and protecting the water ways need to be a priority as we grow. We want to ensure our future generations can continue to benefit from our surroundings, which include the many streams and waterways.

Supporting organizations who prioritize the protection of these natural resources in addition to having the policy in place to support the desired outcomes.

2. Protecting our natural assets:

Protecting our nature, which Port Moody is fortunate to have an abundance of needs to be a priority. The pressure of development puts our wildlife and surrounding nature at risk unless we ensure that the protection of surrounding nature works around those needs.

Port Moody has had a high volume of development, in comparison to prior years. Although growth and development is needed, as a councillor I would not support any development that does not include protection of the natural assets within Port Moody.

Development needs to consider the impacts of any wildlife in the area. This may include establishing protected areas.

Utilizing the recently adopted Tree Protection Bylaw, which provides the guidelines and procedures will now help up protect these natural assets. Any development needs to incorporate the Tree Protection Bylaw and work with it.

3. Connecting our communities with nature:

As a councillor, one of my priorities will be the expansion of Rocky Point Park to the west. I will not support any tower development in this area and believe we have the responsibility to ensure this land is used as parkland expansion, not only for current city residents, but for future residents as well. We have a unique opportunity to develop this area into a regional gem and attraction that can be used for generations to come.

I would advocate for including green space in all future developments and adding more throughout the city. As families and individuals live in more towers and smaller spaces, community greenspaces and the addition of will be more important. Greenspace has been shown to promote positive mental health and connectivity, while reducing levels of stress, anxiety, and cortisol levels.

4. Climate action and resilience

The City of Port Moody has a Climate Action Plan in place. Any current plan should be considered a living document which should be continually re-evaluated and expanded upon while examining the results being achieved.