



**Homebuilders
Association
Vancouver**

Government Relations Team: Working for You!

Research, Education, and Advocacy Focus:
Working as a Trusted Advisor to Municipal Governments

November 2023 - October 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

20+

HAVAN MEMBERS LOBBIED MVRD TO ADVOCATE FOR A MEASURED APPROACH TO DCCs

4,000

SUBSCRIBERS TO WEEKLY GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE NEWSLETTER



2023 NOVEMBER MUNICIPAL DINNER

With guest speaker Vancouver Mayor Ken Sim and over 200 guests in attendance, including 25 elected officials.



2024 LEGENDS OF HOUSING

Featuring exceptional panelists Michael Audain, Charan Sethi, David Podmore, and Eric Carlson, moderated by Kirk LaPointe.

PARTICIPATED IN

Day at the Hill & Day at the Legislature

IN OTTAWA AND VICTORIA

Released our latest report on DCCs as an exclusive with Post Media.

Scan here to access HAVAN's Advocacy page and for more reports and studies:



✓ Municipal Government Engagement

- Participated in development liaison committee meetings, workshops and forums across all 21 Metro Vancouver municipalities, providing guidance to local governments on policy development, development application processing, financial fees and charges, and other relevant issues.
- Appointed as a member of the [City of Burnaby's Mayor's Task Force on Zero-Emission Building Retrofit](#), guiding the development of a significant retro-fit program across all building forms in the municipality.
- Attended local government conferences including the [Lower Mainland Local Government Association \(LMLGA\)](#) in May and the [Union of BC Municipalities \(UBCM\)](#) in September.
- Over 20 HAVAN members lobbied [Metro Vancouver Regional District](#), via correspondence and [sixteen in-person delegations to the Board](#), to advocate for a measured approach to [extraordinary new and increased Development Cost Charges](#). Awaiting decision of the Board of Directors in November.

✓ Local Government Fees and Charges

- Advocated for a more equitable approach to DCCs, CACs and other fees and charges at the local, regional and provincial government levels.
- Appointed as a member of the provincial Development Finance Review Committee (DFRC) providing guidance on the development of new housing legislation, specifically [Bill 46 Development Financing](#), representing industry perspectives and sharing potential impacts on advancing affordable housing supply.
- Appointed as a member of the DFRC sub-committee advising on the development of implementation guidelines for Bill 46 Development Financing with new DCC and ACC financial tools for local governments.
- Published a new report analyzing DCCs, CACs and ACCs across Metro Vancouver: [Development Finance: New Legislation, New Charges and the Cost of Delivery Crisis](#), as an exclusive with [Post Media](#) (October), also picked up by numerous mainstream media outlets.

✓ Provincial Government Engagement

Working collaboratively with our colleagues at CHBA BC:

- Participated in BC Hydro engagement workshops focused on policy updates to distribution extensions, terms and conditions of residential rate design and their solar and battery program.
- Engaged with the provincial government on informing on the development of the 2024 BC Building Code amendments on Adaptable Dwelling Units and Seismic Measures, successfully advocating for a one-year delay in implementation.
- Participated on many regional and provincial panels including the [Annual Housing Summit](#) and the Richmond Housing Summit, liaising with provincial and federal elected officials, including Minister Ravi Kahlon.
- Engaged with the CEO and senior executives of [Accessibility Standards Canada](#) to discuss proposed changes to the BC Building Code and the National Building Code.
- Honourable Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Housing and Government House Leader, participated as a guest speaker on HAVAN's podcast, [Measure Twice Cut Once](#).

✓ BC Energy Step Code/Zero Carbon Step Code

- Appointed as a member of the BC Energy Step Code Council with HAVAN CEO co-chairing the Part 9 Sub-Committee, examining and advising on impacts on buildings that are 3-storeys or less.
- Released an updated [BC Energy Step Code Implementation Across the Region](#) report focused on the diverse and inconsistent approach to BC Energy Step Code and the new BC Zero Carbon Step Code (February).

✓ City of Vancouver Engagement

- Participated on the City's Development Process Redesign External Group, examining ongoing streamlining of the development application process.
- Met quarterly with the General Manager, Development, Building and Licensing and her team to discuss timely issues affecting our members and relevant recommendations that will be going to City Council.
- Worked with a City staff working group on the development of new Electrical Process Guidelines for their Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing (SSMUH) program.
- Engaged with City staff on the issue of advancing electrification in new housing builds and reversal of previous ban on the use of gas for water and space heating.

✓ Government Relations Signature Events

- Hosted the [CONNECT Municipal Dinner](#) to create connections between members and elected officials, including 25 elected officials from across Metro Vancouver in attendance and an interview with Vancouver Mayor Ken Sim, moderated by Harold Munro, Editor-in-Chief, PostMedia (November 2023).
- Hosted the [Legends of Housing Dinner](#) with an exemplary showing of industry legends Michael Audain, Polygon Homes; Charan Sethi, Tien Sher Group of Companies; David Podmore, Concert Properties and Eric Carlson, Anthem Properties. Moderated by Kirk LaPointe, Publisher and Editor in Chief at Business in Vancouver Media Group and VP of Editorial for Glacier Media (January 2024).
- Hosted a Municipal edition of the [Builders Breakfast Series](#) with a panel of senior local government staff from Burnaby, Surrey and Vancouver highlighting new approaches to development in their communities (September 2024).
- Announced the November 2024 CONNECT Municipal Dinner will be held in Coquitlam with Mayor Richard Stewart as speaker.

✓ Day at the Hill and Day at the Legislature

- Participated with the [Greater Vancouver Realtors](#), on the Day at the Legislature in Victoria, meeting with MLAs to advocate on key issues (May).
- Participated with CHBA BC Board of Directors on the [Day at the Legislature in Victoria](#), meeting with MLAs to advocate for our members on key issues and to thank the government for implementation of previous recommendations (November).
- Participated with CHBA National on the [Day at the Hill in Ottawa](#), meeting with MPs to advocate on key issues (February).

✓ Communications to Members

- The CEO's Monday Morning Briefing (MMB), sent to over 4,000 subscribers, is a must read of what is going on across the region, province and nationally in our sector, both internally and externally.
- The Government Relations Update (GRU), also sent to over 4,000 subscribers, appears every Saturday morning as curated content examining what is happening in city halls and the building sector, and what mainstream and social media are reporting on.

✓ Some Media Highlights

- **Journal of Commerce:** [HAVAN concludes more than 73,000 homes unbuilt in Metro Vancouver due to DCCs](#)
- **Stores:** [How DCC Rates Compare Across Metro Vancouver Municipalities](#)
- **Daily Hive Urbanized:** [New housing projects in Metro Vancouver face rising tide of steep fees](#)
- **Delta Optimist:** [Delta's new DCCs still lower than most](#)



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Proudly affiliated with:



HAVAN, through its government relations department team, works with Metro Vancouver local governments on important public policy issues. Non-partisan policy analysis and strategic consultation is provided in a collaborative approach to efficiently deliver an affordable supply of housing across the region.

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