



Planning, Urban Design & Sustainability
City-wide and Regional Planning
BIA Program

June 26, 2023

Property Owner or Business Tenant

Dear Sir/Madame:

RE: Renewal of Strathcona Business Improvement Area (BIA)

You are receiving this letter because you are an owner or business tenant in the Strathcona BIA, which is now commencing the process to renew their mandate and funding.

The BIA movement in the City of Vancouver has a very long history starting with the first associations being formed in Gastown and Mt. Pleasant in 1989. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contribution that your BIA and the many other BIAs located across Vancouver have made to the continued success and sustainability of our City and its business districts. And now, BIAs are there to help businesses recover and prosper after the impacts of COVID-19.

The BIA board will be coming to you, the stakeholders, for approval to renew the BIA mandate, including continuance of an annual BIA levy collected by the City and granted back to the BIA. The levy – calculated on the basis of property value - appears on the tax bill of each commercial property owner. For business tenants, the levy is generally included in your lease payments. This levy, currently representing approximately 5.39% of the property taxes, generates the funds needed to deliver promotional, enhancement and other activities undertaken by the Strathcona Business Improvement Association. The funds are managed by the Board of Directors made up of elected business and property owners within your BIA.

I encourage you to involve yourself in the process of renewal. You can do this by reading the enclosed materials about the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and BIA renewal, and by attending the Strathcona BIA AGM. All property owners and business tenants are eligible for voting membership. The AGM is the first step toward BIA renewal: If the membership votes to pursue a renewed mandate, the BIA will apply to the City of Vancouver, which then delivers formal notices to all commercial property owners and business tenants, with instructions on registering objections.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Paul Siggers, BIA Program Lead with the City of Vancouver at 604-829-9805 or Vincent Kwan, Executive Director, Strathcona BIA at 604- 258-2727.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Siggers".

Paul Siggers, RPP MCIP
Lead BIA Program

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