

# PUBLIC CONSULTATION SUMMARY REPORT

Riverview Lands Vision Process

Open House #1

February 27, 2014 and March 1, 2014

**Prepared by:** Brook Pooni Associates Inc.

March 10, 2014





## INTRODUCTION

In 2013 the Provincial Government asked BC Housing to begin the Vision Process for the future of the Riverview Lands. A planning vision for Riverview would create a long-range guide and consensus to inform the City of Coquitlam's neighbourhood plan for future use of the site and would be followed by more detailed policies. It was determined that in the case of Riverview, a Vision would ideally balance the social, economic and environmental objectives of the Province, the City and the community.

Riverview holds importance to many individuals and groups. Consulting with the public and seeking input and ideas are integral parts of a Vision Process. BC Housing has committed to a one-year public engagement process for the Vision, consulting with the public, stakeholders and advisory groups on multiple occasions.

Prior to engaging the public through Open Houses, BC Housing met with City of Coquitlam council, staff and the Riverview Lands Advisory Committee to discuss the Vision Process and public engagement strategy. Their advice helped inform the approach for the initial open houses.

Two initial public Open Houses were held on Thursday, February 27, 2014 and Saturday, March 1, 2014 (identical material was presented at both events). The purpose of the events was to introduce BC Housing and the project team, provide an overview of the history and natural features of Riverview, provide a summary of previous reports and consultation and introduce the vision process and guiding principles. The events also allowed attendees to ask questions of the project team and encouraged them to provide their comments and feedback.

Feedback was collected in the form of a comment sheet submitted at the open houses, comments received via email and comments submitted online through the Renewing Riverview website. Comments received via email and through the website would be included in this report if received by March 15, 2014. This report provides separate summaries for these three forms of feedback.

This report provides the following summary of the Public Open House and includes:

- Event details including a description and format of the Open House and information presented;
- An overview of the feedback received through comment forms;
- Transcription of comment forms; and
- Copies of notification materials.

As the Vision and public consultation unfold over the next year, the project team is committed to providing comprehensive information about Riverview and the Vision Process. With that in mind, this report also includes recommendations for future open houses, based on feedback and comments received at the initial events held February 27th and March 1st. This includes providing improved information about the recently completed Facility Condition Index (FCI), assessing buildings on the site. FCI is the standard measure for assessing the condition of buildings, used by all levels of government across North America. It is a baseline measurement that gives an overview of a building's condition and potential renewal or replacement costs. However, the summary and tables provided at the first open houses proved difficult for the average attendee to understand. Future materials will include a more qualitative approach on the subject.

## EVENT DETAILS

**Date:** Thursday, February 27, 2014 and March 1, 2014

**Time:** 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM (drop in)

**Location:** Burquest Jewish Community Centre, 860 Dewdney Trunk Road, Coquitlam

**Date:** Saturday, March 1, 2014

**Time:** 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM (drop in)

**Location:** Centennial Pavilion, Centennial Room, 620 Poirier Street, Coquitlam

### **Notification:**

#### Flyer Invite

18,260 invitations were distributed to neighbouring areas and businesses via Canada Post unaddressed mail. The notification area is found in Appendix B and a copy of the flyer invite is found in Appendix A.

#### Letters:

Letters and Open House invitations were sent to elected officials, local municipalities and stakeholders.

#### Radio:

A number of radio stations mentioned the pending Open House events.

#### Media Advertisement

The Public Open House was advertised in the following print publications:

- North Shore News
- Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Times
- Tri Cities Now
- Tri City News
- Delta Optimist
- Burnaby Now
- New Westminster Record
- Surrey Now
- Vancouver Courier
- Langley Advance
- Richmond News
- 24 Hour Magazine
- Metro Magazine
- Sing Tao Newspapers
- Ming Pao Newspaper
- Canada Express Korea

The Public Open House was advertised in the following digital publications:

- The Vancouver Sun
- The Province
- Van City Buzz
- Vancouver Is Awesome
- Tai Yang Bao

A copy of the advertisements is found in Appendix C and D.

**Attendees:**

**February 27, 2014: 163** (141 signed in with their name and/or information)

**March 1, 2014: 390** (282 signed in with their name and/or information)

**Comment forms received: 247 (2 double submissions)** (44% of attendees)

**Email Comments: 15** (by March 15, 2014)

**Website (Placespeak) Unique Views: 1000** (by March 15, 2014)

**Online Comments: 186 comments submitted by 111 different people** (by March 15, 2014)

**Note:** Online comments could be submitted anonymously and therefore verifying if the respondent also submitted either an email or open house comment form was not always possible. Three online respondents were identified as also having submitted an email or written comment form.

**Project Team in Attendance:**

**BC Housing:** Shayne Ramsay, Michael Flanigan, Armin Amrolia, Michael Pistrin, Martin Austin, Ron Hansen, Donna Freeman, Elaine McKay, Laura Gallant, Vincent Chou, Roberta Randall, Jennifer Sanguinetti

**Shared Services BC:** Brenda Rattenbury, Dom Lepri

**Heritage Conservation Plan:** Denise Cook

**Brook Pooni Associates:** Gary Pooni, Blaire Chisholm, Sophie Perndl, Alicia Smith, Imogen Thompson

**Open House Format:**

A sign-in table was located at the main entrance of the open house venue. Comment forms were distributed to attendees as they signed-in. Attendees were then invited to review the display boards, ask questions, and complete a comment form. The project team was available to answer questions and receive feedback during the event. Attendees were encouraged to complete a comment form before leaving the event.

**Presentation Material:**

The presentation material provided was in the form of display boards and included the following topics:

- Project team and site overview
- Riverview history and area context
- Kwikwetlem First Nation history and connection to Riverview
- Riverview natural elements
- Summary of Building Assessment Reports
- Overview of previous reports and consultation
- Overview of the vision process
- Summary of BC Housing's considerations
- Consultation timeline

Please see Appendix I for a copy of Public Open House display boards.

**FEEDBACK SUMMARY**

Respondents had the opportunity to submit a comment form at the Open Houses, submit their comments via email or comment through the Renewing Riverview website.

**The intention of the initial open houses was to introduce the Vision Process and gather ideas for the future of Riverview. Based on conversations with attendees and on feedback received there were a number of misconceptions related to the self-sustaining model and BC Housing's role in the process that shaped many of the responses. This resulted in many questions related to:**

- 1. Why health care uses would require funding through development**
- 2. Would there be housing development on the lands**

**FEEDBACK - OPEN HOUSES**

247 comment forms were submitted at the Open Houses, representing 44% of attendees.

Please see Appendix E for a copy of the comment form and Appendix F for a full transcription of the comment forms received at both events.

**Question 1** asked respondents how they heard about the open house. The majority of respondents had seen advertisements in the local newspaper. The second most frequent response was having received the flyer in the mail. Many were also informed through their personal or professional networks or through the news/radio. Very few had seen online ads or ads in commuter papers.

**Question 2** asked respondents if they had been involved in previous consultation about the Riverview lands. Out of those that responded 70% have not participated in past consultations and 30% have.

**Question 3** asked respondents how they would like to be consulted moving forward. Out of those that responded approximately 40% requested email updates or invitations, 21% requested interactive sessions including Q&A, 20% prefer Open Houses, 13% would like to receive updates and invitations by mail or phone and 6% would like to find out about updates in local newspapers.

**Question 4** asked respondents if they feel that any important part of Riverview's history was not represented at the Open Houses. Approximately half of respondents either did not answer the question or answered "no". The most frequently mentioned aspects that respondents wanted to have better represented was mental health care (20 mentions) and the site's natural elements (21 mentions). Other references included: the patients' stories, wildlife, the buildings on the site and their deterioration, the first nations history and current uses and revenues on the site.

**Question 5** asked respondents to comment on BC Housing's considerations of a balanced Vision, a self-sustaining economic model and retention of open space and provide their thoughts on the future of Riverview. Many respondents referenced more than one priority. The following are priorities listed in order of frequency of mentions:

1. Mental Health Care (87)
2. Park (36)
3. Trees (24)
4. Preserve / Restore Buildings (21)
5. No Housing (20)
6. Open Space (19)
7. Health Care / Hospital (18)
8. Keep lands in public ownership (15)
9. Housing for Homeless; Education / University (13)
10. Seniors Care / Facility (12)
11. Non-medical services / Offices (11)
12. Seniors housing; Heritage preservation (10)
13. No high-rise; Film industry for profits; Development to pay for care/services (8)
14. No condos; No development; Non-profit housing; Wildlife Habitat; Coquitlam Riverview Task Force Principles (7)
15. Some (clustered) development; Development of a complete community around health services; Teaching Hospital; Arts Uses; Museum (6)
16. Streams; Transportation Considerations; Uses compatible with health care; Agricultural Uses; Shops (3)
17. Heritage Conservation Plan Principles (2)

## **FEEDBACK - VIA EMAIL**

15 emails were received by March 15, 2014.

Please see Appendix G for a full transcription of the email comments.

While some comments referenced past uses of the Riverview lands, all addressed what respondents want for the future of the property. The following are the priorities mentioned most frequently:

1. Mental Health Care (13)
2. Trees (7)
3. Park (6)
4. Senior Care (5)
5. Education; Housing for patients (3)
6. No development; keep the film industry; keep the lands in public ownership (2)

## **FEEDBACK - ONLINE**

The Renewing Riverview Placespeak page received 1000 unique views and 186 comments were posted by 111 different people by March 15, 2014.

Note that individuals could comment anonymously and therefore it was not possible to verify how many of those that commented online also provided their comments via email or written comment form. Individuals were also able to comment on comments and post multiple times. In addition, many comments/answers provided did not necessarily respond to the questions although respondents were encouraged to answer the same questions as were on the written comment form available at the open houses. The following summary includes all comments submitted.

Please see Appendix H for a full copy of the comments received online.

**Question 1** asked respondents if they had been involved in previous consultation about the Riverview lands. Few respondents answered the question. Of those that answered approximately 50% had been involved previously.

**Question 2** asked respondents how they would like to be consulted moving forward. While most individuals who commented did answer the question many chose more than one consultation method. The preferred options were in order of number of mentions:

1. Email (11)
2. Q&A/Forum; Online/webinar (5)
3. Newspaper (3)
4. Vote (2)
5. Open House; Survey (1)



**Question 3** asked respondents if they feel that any important part of Riverview’s history was not represented at the Open Houses. While some respondents did not answer the question many provided more than one aspect they feel could have been better represented. The most frequently mentioned aspects that respondents wanted to see better represented were the patients’ stories (4 mentions) and a better description of the current users and community groups on the property (4 mentions). Other aspects that were referenced include: Building heritage values, trees, mental health expert input, wildlife, heritage value of the site, mental health care, complete building assessment, and cost comparisons for new construction.

**Question 4** asked respondents to comment on BC Housing’s considerations of a balanced Vision, a self-sustaining economic model and retention of open space and provide their thoughts on the future of Riverview. Many respondents referenced more than one priority and provided their feedback under other question topics. The following are priorities listed in order of frequency of mentions:

1. Mental Health Care (34)
2. Trees (15)
3. Residential Treatment (12)
4. Park (10)
5. Preserve / Restore Buildings (9)
6. Museum (8)
7. Education / University; Social Housing (7)
8. Health Care / Hospital; No housing; Addiction Care (6)
9. Some development; Vocational training / Life skills training; keep lands in public ownership (5)
10. Open Space; Film Industry for profits (4)
11. Development; Seniors Care; Common amenities (3)
12. Heritage Designation; Protection of streams; Seniors housing; Shops; Memorial; Protection of environmental heritage; new buildings in the style of the old (2)

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on feedback collected at the Open Houses and through the online consultation, subsequent consultation events could address the following topics raised by respondents:

- A comprehensive explanation of the Vision Process including visual representation of what factors inform the Vision: provincial interests, BC Housing’s mandate and guiding principles, public consultation, advisory groups, the City of Coquitlam
- A better and more complete overview of the Building Condition Assessment Reports, easy to read and understand by the average person.
- Clarity on the commitment to green space on the property
- Clarity on the commitment to health care and mental health care
- More information about BC Housing, the mandate and guiding principles
- Prioritization of needs
- Next Steps / What BC Housing will work on

## APPENDIX A: FLYER INVITATION

# RENEWING RIVERVIEW

IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES

## Please Join Us at Our First Open House for the Riverview Lands Vision Process.

The Riverview Lands have over 100 years of significance in the province of British Columbia and the region. We would like to hear from you as we explore the possibilities for the future of the lands through a Vision Process.

Two Open Houses have been scheduled to serve as an introduction to BC Housing, the project team and the Vision Process.

We look forward to your feedback.

For more information, please visit our website [www.renewingriverview.com](http://www.renewingriverview.com) or contact:  
t: 604.439.8577 | e: [questions@renewingriverview.com](mailto:questions@renewingriverview.com)

# Please Join Us

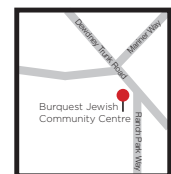
## Riverview Lands Open House

Identical information will be available on both dates.

Date: **Thursday, February 27, 2014**

Time: 4:30pm - 7:30pm (Drop-In)

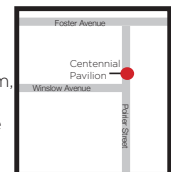
Place: Burquest Jewish Community Centre  
2860 Dewdney Trunk Road,  
Coquitlam



Date: **Saturday, March 1, 2014**

Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm (Drop-In)

Place: Centennial Pavilion, Centennial Room,  
620 Poirier Street, Coquitlam  
(Beside Dogwood Pavilion, entrance  
off Winslow Avenue)

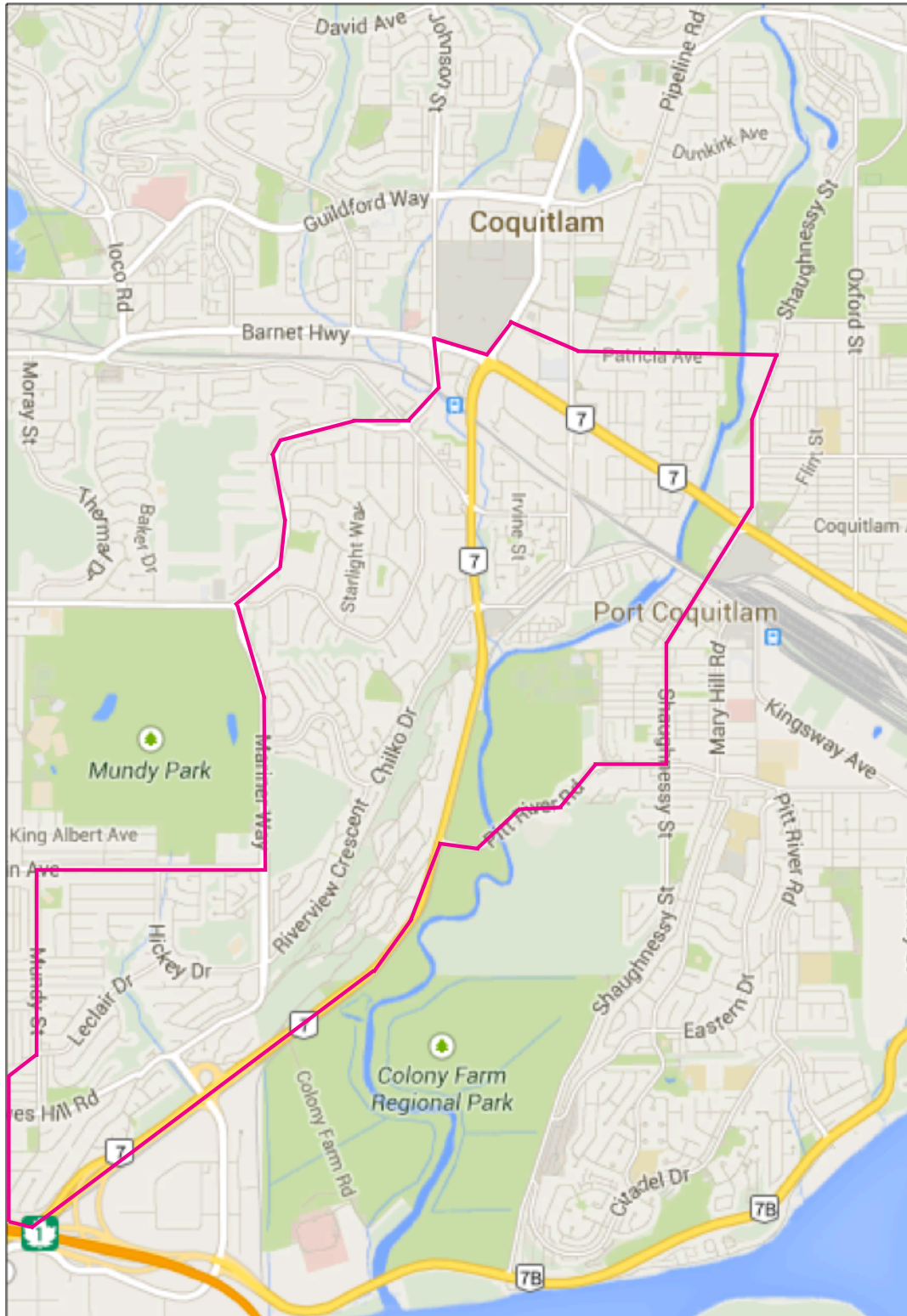


### Virtual Open House

If you cannot attend the open house in person, we invite you to visit our website: [www.renewingriverview.com](http://www.renewingriverview.com) and participate in the online Open House. The Open House material will be displayed on this website starting February 28, 2014 and you will have the opportunity to submit your feedback.

## APPENDIX B: FLYER DISTRIBUTION MAP

18,260 flyers were delivered to the area outlined in red.



## APPENDIX C: NEWSPAPER AD

# RENEWING RIVERVIEW

IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES

### **Please Join Us at Our First Open House for the Riverview Lands Vision Process.**

Identical information will be available on both dates.

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Date: **Thursday, February 27, 2014**

Time: 4:30pm - 7:30pm (drop-in only)

Place: Burquest Jewish Community Centre  
2860 Dewdney Trunk Road, Coquitlam

Date: **Saturday, March 1, 2014**

Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm (Drop-In)

Place: Centennial Pavilion, Centennial Room  
620 Poirier Street, Coquitlam  
(Beside Dogwood Pavilion, entrance  
off Winslow Avenue)

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If you cannot attend the open house in person, please visit our website, **[www.renewingriverview.com](http://www.renewingriverview.com)**, where the open house material will be displayed starting **February 28, 2014**.

You can also contact us at:

t: 604.439.8577 | e: [questions@renewingriverview.com](mailto:questions@renewingriverview.com)

## APPENDIX D: ONLINE AD



**RENEWING  
RIVERVIEW**  
IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES

**Please join us at our first Open House for the  
Riverview Lands on  
February 27, and March 1, 2014.**

Two Open Houses have been scheduled to serve as an introduction to BC Housing, the project team and the Vision Process.

**[www.renewingriverview.com/OpenHouse](http://www.renewingriverview.com/OpenHouse)**

## APPENDIX E: COMMENT FORM



### RIVERVIEW LANDS OPEN HOUSE February 27, 2014

The Riverview Lands have over 100 years of significance in the province of British Columbia and the region. Your comments and feedback are important as we explore the possibilities for the future of the lands.

Please complete this comment form before you leave.

Please select all options that apply to you:

☐

I live in the area

☐

I work in the area

☐

Neither

Please tell us about yourself:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be contacted for future updates? YES ☐ NO ☐

1. How did you hear about this Open House?


2. The future of the Riverview lands has been a discussion for many years. Have you at any point been involved in consultation about the future of the lands prior to this Vision Process? If yes, tell us how.


BC Housing is collecting your personal information on this form to obtain your feedback about the Vision Process and the future of the Riverview Lands. Your personal information is collected in accordance with section 26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have questions about your privacy, please call 604-433-1711 and ask to speak to BC Housing's Privacy Officer or write to 4555 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC, V5H 4V8.

3. The Vision Process for the Riverview Lands includes outreach to the public to gather ideas and feedback. How would you like to be consulted?


4. The Riverview Lands have an extensive history in the province of British Columbia and the region. Based on what you have seen today, is there any other part of the lands' history that you did not see represented and consider important?


5. The Vision Process is looking to balance economic, social, environmental and provincial considerations for the future of the Riverview Lands. BC Housing is also considering a self-sustaining economic model that would retain the same amount of open space as is currently found on the lands. What other thoughts do you have on the future of Riverview?


**For more information or to submit your comments through our website please contact:**  
p: 604.439.8577 | e: [questions@renewingriverview.com](mailto:questions@renewingriverview.com) | w: [www.renewingriverview.com](http://www.renewingriverview.com)

## APPENDIX F: COMMENT FORM TRANSCRIPTION – OPEN HOUSES

February 27, 2014

*NOTE: The following responses were transcribed directly from the original comment forms collected at the Open House; however, minor grammatical errors have been corrected to ensure legibility.*

*NOTE: “n/a” denotes a comment form response that was not answered.*

### Question 1: How did you hear about the open house?

1. Media – radio, local papers, Globe and Mail. Long time resident
2. A mail flyer
3. Tri-Cities newspaper
4. Local newspaper
5. The tri-cities newspapers, Vancouver sun, newscast
6. Newspaper article
7. Word of mouth; email
8. My grandmother is a concerned citizen, and she informed me about what could potentially happen
9. From Councilman Craig Hodge
10. Flyer in mail
11. Advised of open house during visit of Finney Garden, brochure in mail
12. Newspaper promotions, stories, ads, etc
13. I am a director of the Riverview Horticultural centre society
14. From community newspaper – tri city herald
15. Paper
16. Email from friends
17. Flyer in mail
18. Newspaper, mail, email
19. Newspaper
20. Local paper
21. Local paper
22. Tri city news
23. Flyer
24. flyer in mail box, personal communication worker
25. we have followed discussions re: the use of Riverview lands for many years
26. newspaper
27. brochure/newspaper
28. 24 newspaper
29. via Burke Mt Naturalists
30. local newspaper and friends
31. friend
32. from an relative
33. what is needed ASAP is an online discussion forum on the Riverview site – NOT on the PlaceSpeak site that is next to impossible to find. (more later) thx
34. newspaper/flyer
35. tri city news
36. newspaper
37. via my wife, through the University Women Club



38. Tri City Homelessness and Affordable Housing Task Group, selina, tri city news, etc
39. I heard about the open house through the local papers and from a number of people
40. Newspaper ad/parents
41. Flyer in the mail (and at work)
42. Flyer
43. Brochure and newspaper
44. Newspaper
45. Riverview Horticultural Centre Society whose mission is to PRESERVE AND PROTECT the lands and trees at Riverview
46. NW local paper
47. Flyer, newspaper
48. Friend
49. Globe and Mail Article

Question 2: The future of the Riverview lands has been a discussion for many years. Have you at any point been involved in consultation about the future of the lands prior to this Vision Process? If yes, tell us how.

1. Read Riverview Report. Will participate in discussions as member of TriCities Homelessness committee
2. No will follow on the internet
3. No
4. n/a
5. no
6. yes, City of Coquitlam staff members, retired
7. yes, previous public meetings held with record to visioning
8. n/a
9. no
10. no
11. not so far
12. no, but I really would like to be
13. my organization has been advocating for preservation of the entire site for the past 20 years. I have been in active participant for the full 20 years and am very much concerned and active in the preservation need for this site today
14. no
15. no
16. yes – heritage conservation process
17. Yes, I submitted a position/option on an online Questionnaire about 1 year ago
18. No
19. No
20. n/a
21. I have given written and verbal input at previous open house meetings for future directions of Riverview site
22. n/a
23. no
24. I was the geotechnical engineer (cook, Pickering's and Doyle) reporting on the area – now Riverview Heights housing development
25. No
26. No

27. n/a
28. no
29. Yes, previous consultation events, petitions, bringing school field trips on site
30. No
31. No
32. No
33. n/a
34. no, but would have liked to have been!
35. No
36. I have submitted my thoughts online in the past
37. No
38. n/a
39. yes – by signing petitions and participating in treefest
40. possible monument/acknowledgement for the history of residents in the form of either community art, memorial structure etc. Something extra than just preserving and restoring the building. Something for the people.
41. No
42. No
43. n/a
44. Keep it as it was intended it will be cheaper in the long. Closing Riverview was the start of the homeless. We have an obligation to care for people who cannot care for themselves.
45. No
46. n/a
47. n/a
48. Yes, through NDP mayor Gregor, Mayor of Coquitlam, Liberal Government (social dev.) writing letters past 4 years in support of keeping land for mental health patients/sufferers, not give to developers! Peoples' lives and the community are much more than about profits or numbers and real estate. "State of the art facility" – largest in Canada/N. America. Something to be proud of – leave a legacy.
49. I was a patient at Riverview for 13 months around 1998-9 and always had a strong vision for the grounds and now that I have recovered, I would like to see aspects of that vision implemented.

Question 3: The Vision Process for the Riverview Lands include outreach to the public to gather ideas and feedback. How would you like to be consulted?

1. n/a
2. n/a
3. by phone
4. n/a
5. emails
6. public meetings, news releases
7. email
8. if interest is brought upon my idea, I would love to be consulted
9. open forum/email, meetings etc
10. by email

11. through participating in open houses
12. open and transparent discussion with direct public involvement. Open houses are a good start but I'd like to be more involved at round table discussions in the planning and development stages which follow the initial vision process
13. I stand behind my organizations mandate which is to protect and preserve the entire site for the original designation of the site, to ensure it remain a sanctuary for mental health
14. I would like you folks set up a Direct Public Forum format in coming Spring or early Summer, between 10<sup>th</sup> May to 26 June for 3 to 4 major Forum event in Lougheed Mall, Coquitlam Centre or Port Moody Library area
15. This is a good start. Open forum discussion for participating. Well designed survey question to seek more detailed information from public
16. I would like a sit down presentation and be able to ask questions to people who know the answers
17. Yes
18. Much bigger open forums – with break out rooms where we can actually convey our thoughts to BC Housing who can record and evaluate everyone's input
19. n/a
20. n/a

I would like to be contacted and involved in this phase. Email [REDACTED] (personal information has been removed)

21. or public meeting. Involved with Tri City Homeless and Housing Task Group will have some input
22. These are not the appropriate questions! Open the debate town hall meetings
23. Phone, leave message & email
24. By being appreciated with proposals of the Riverview Horricultural Society. By having the opportunity to express opinions of public meetings. i.e. ability to speak to a public gathering
25. By email
26. Mail or phone
27. n/a
28. by phone
29. the natural history valued, arboretum/salmon stream/garden. Value of heritage
30. community meeting; survey via mail to representative sample of the local population
31. email
32. email
33. n/a
34. by phone, email, as part of discussion groups
35. email, phone are both fine
36. The provincial health ministry is promoting "healthy aging". Fraser Health has switched to the IHN (integrated health network). Ideally we should have a building that houses home health, public health environmental health, dr's offices, lab, physio, pharmacy, OT, dietician, as well as AL + residential care. A serene environment is healing – we have that at Riverview. The history there is amazing. Save and use these grounds for all these reasons – NOT housing. Local newspaper seems to work well, email.
37. Small focus group meetings, idea townhall type meetings
38. n/a
39. I would like to keep up with the latest information by email and in the local papers. Email: [REDACTED] (personal information has been removed)
40. n/a
41. via email

42. phone
43. n/a
44. n/a
45. public meetings, facebook
46. more open houses that encourage question and answer session. Listening is NB BC Housing already being chosen to lead this project is wrong
47. n/a
48. Update on website re: progress and direction every month. I would like to see more open houses – better organized where people get really talked to and heard – not just told “go fill out that form.” Don’t talk to each other, but rather talk to us (on website put live comments section make public). (Not public speak.com)
49. By phone

Question 4: The Riverview Lands have an extensive history in the province of British Columbia and the region. Based on what you have seen today, is there any other part of the lands’ history that you did not see represented and consider important?

1. Area context and site context do not show that land was taken from Riverland years ago and used for market housing. I think showing this land clearly on the info boards would be informative and factured.
2. n/a
3. no
4. n/a
5. it was well covered in my opinion
6. the sites internal infrastructure, district heating system, major regional utility corridors, transportation
7. I do not feel the wildlife survey of species found on the site are complete. There is no mention of any bat species; chimney swift have been known to nest. The building brick chimneys – green corridor is critically important. This land is owned by the province and MUST REMAIN IN PUBLIC HANDS. Did not like the slant towards “public housing:
8. Mainly the wildlife portion what animals are going to be effected by this process. If there are endangered species, the thought of construction should be greatly reconsidered.
9. Riverview should be a mental/health care facility. Help people heal and be a place families can rely on to care for their children and soon their elderly “Alzheimer” inflicted parents. The lands of Riverview provide tranquil healing sight for people dealing with mental health issues.
10. n/a
11. not represented = future use in the mental health system
12. I was appalled at the lack of representation from the Riverview Heritage Society. I was disappointed that none of the work they have done to improve what they can was minimized or attributed to other organizations not be heard as an outer bodily supporter. I think what was on display here was well done (many typos within the materials, however) and tried to fairly represent as many sides/view as possible. Three cheeks to the city of Coquitlam’s plans! Curious however, why is BC Housing in the business of providing housing – leading on initiative where market housing is such as volatile issue?
13. Today we are kept with a living testament of the legacy our ancestors have left behind for us to experience, to cherish, to be nurtured by – the dedication of masters of their craft, be the designers of gardens, building, or foundation of caring that has evolved into a priceless master piece of history. A place which we must all insist be preserved to ensure the legacy of Riverview is never lost or “allowed” to be forgotten. Riverview is a journey of endless reward and

discovery, which needs to be shared. A tranquil bouquet of life ever evolving. A beacon of revitalization for the soul and a rapidly expanding metropolis. This I did not get from your display.

14. There should not be more than 5% condo development within the Riverview endowment land. If there are any potential high density residential development should only considered after this public review processed completed.
15. I see the history represented well. Priority: centre of excellence for mental wellness centre, step down unit from hospital committed to build skills and confidence before going home. Maintain beauty of trees and land. BC Housing is spending lots of money on the way to get where we are going.. lets not spend too much that could be spent in mental health.
16. Green spaces connections to colony farm/mundy park value to ongoing mental health care streams and habitat values. Some buildings not around – eg. Valley view – why not? Trail connections are very important - it is like a park with magnificent buildings – one should be a museum
17. n/a
18. no – what a huge comment section for a minor question
19. n/a
20. n/a
21. this is not covered as well as past presentations held few years ago. Looks incomplete. Positive care of people living there and gardens etc. the history of the trees
22. Riverview was designed and should e maintained as a health facility. The acreage has room for a teaching hospital and health spa. Other field in social and behaviour sciences related to mental health can be provided. Teaming in with existing educational centres as SFU, UBC, etc could cover come expenses.
23. How much involvement First Nations will be involved. As it is aboriginal land, how will the Kwikwetlem FN be involved in housing for band members? Also, what about having for mental health clients in Tricity and Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows? Will MH clients get housing and with supports in place for emergency services. RCMP will be too overwhelmed and with calls from residents if the important medical part is addressed. More about colony farm, what was on the lane prior to hospital, more recognition for FN people.
24. The original terms of the land acquisition. Any restrictions on the use of the lands in the recent past, residences for groups of people in needs have been built. Can this type of use be extended? What is the need for doing term care for people not able to function independently?
25. The Horticultural aspects of this land: what will happen to the trees? Amount of the grounds will be turned into parking lots? Turned into roadway? What is the percent to land usage? Removal of old buildings versus creation of new buildings.
26. I am concerned that it will not be preserved
27. n/a
28. mentally ill patient needs
29. more on the uses of the land over time and the benefits over time to generation of patients
30. greater emphasis on its use as a mental health facility
31. I did not see where the community based mental healthcare was relocated to. Please show me how many beds were opened and where. I did not see any indication of the types of housing what would be built – towers? I hope not. I do not support any plan to sell parts off for residential housing – too much as gone already/
32. Mental health and addiction housing support service. The community appears to be supportive of continuing the use of the lands to support mental health as opposed to selling it all off for residential/commercial development. There does not seem to be a big \_\_\_\_ from the community. A facility where mental health/addictions patients can transition from full care to assisted care and counselling housing, dietician, medial and life skill supports to help educate and support

them through wellness and recovery. A large portion of the homeless has mental health and addiction issues so this facility would benefit them too.

- 33. n/a
- 34. while there is much talk about the history of Riverview as a mental patient facility, I see very little literature about actively pursuing input from the former patients themselves. It's easy to contact groups/societies, but are they really representing the people who had the greatest stake in Riverview – the people who lived there, whose home it was. During the open house, I talked to many people, but not one person who was a patient there. Did BC Housing make an effort to contact them?
- 35. Date of construction of buildings? More detail on “critical” vs “poor”. More detail on what updates are specifically required – seismic, electrical, etc. which buildings contain hazards like lead or asbestos that make them unrepairable. The value if the building compared to cost of repairs. i.e if east lawn is 170,000 square feet at \$100 per foot to build today, it would cost 17,000,000 to build or more.
- 36. I grew up in Coq and as a child took swimming lessons at the indoor pool on the Riverview grounds. As a student nurse, I lived in the nurses residences for psych training at Riverview. At present I work at the TC Home Health office (unit 6) on the Riverview grounds as a long term care case manager. My father in law was hospitalized for 10 months at Valley view to stabilize his aggressive, violent behaviour before he could be admitted to a residential care facility. In my work, I deal with people, mostly seniors who struggle to manage at home. I see people with mental health issues that need help that is not provided by home health or the mental health unit, they are very vulnerable. People with a history of mental health issues who at their age now also have physical disabilities. It is very difficult to support these people as home health is limited in what help they can provide. Many people have acute mental health issues that require emergency and long term (3 – 12 months) treatment and stabilization. The hospitals do not have the room or staff to do this, and home does not work. So many people fall between the cracks. We need stabilization units, assisted living for MH and residential care for MH. These people do not fit in with the general residential care population. We need dementia care units and day programs (at Hawthorn day program for older adults the wait can be 6 months to get a spot). Geriatrics assessments (the specialized seniors clinic in NW has a 6 month wait list). Alcohol and drug abuse treatments. Seniors housing. Riverview grounds are perfect for all these facilities.
- 37. n/a
- 38. n/a
- 39. I didn't see any information on the old orchard, or on the numerous streams that cross the property. I also didn't see any information on how some of our most historic buildings were allowed to fall into such bad shape. I didn't see any information on the relationship between colony farm and Riverview.
- 40. n/a
- 41. not that I am aware of
- 42. the failure side of institutions, some of the sad history of these building ex. Abuse, outdated practice, torture, labour camp. Isolation of challenged people, number of people who died from poor practices in mental health. It costs too much money to restore the building and they are not attractive and had a sad purpose.
- 43. n/a
- 44. n/a
- 45. your mental health poster is old – 7 years already! Only 3 years before that plan was obsolete. What then? The goal was to improve their lives, not diminish it,
- 46. the history of mental health care at Riverview in my opinion needs to be seen as important. This could be done by Minister of Health, physicians, patients and families being heard.
- 47. n/a

48. No just not enough focus on it being for health – intended for a new health centre, not 70 beds but 700 strong<sup>1</sup> There are far, far too many homeless and they are disabled. A lot of mental people cannot make it out there and need program housing, schooling, counselling, medicine all in one great new place to call home. It's too hard, I know and I am very high functioning – I barely make it and have a ton of support. Can't find housing with only \$375/month? Live on \$5 – 10,000/year – can you? Focus on Riverview Hospital/Health Centre with new name. Keep space for these people that would live there and call it home – keep landscape open with trees. Build a “community” there.
49. Grounds should include a museum and education centre focused on showcasing the history of it and artifacts. Area should be scoured with mental detection. Students should go on field trips there. Model of Riverview at its height should be made (complete with post office etc). Guided tours.

Question 5: The Vision Process is looking to balance economic, social, environmental and provincial considerations for the future of the Riverview Lands. BC Housing is also considering a self-sustaining economic model that would retain the same amount of open space as is currently found on the lands. What other thoughts do you have on the future Riverview?

1. I look forward to learning how self sustaining economic model will be realized. At this time, I see it as an attempt to justify sale of land and development of high density costly housing.
2. n/a
3. Community within a community with facilities for the cost of mental health patients. Centered around this amoralties for shopping and hair-dressing etc such as a small bakery. Part of buildings for drug and alcohol centre opportunities for patients to be involved in gardening and vegetable growing. I would like to see a memorial to the hockey mum who died in surrey so her death is not in vein.
4. Riverview should stay the same, no housing projects, buildings for mental patients
5. Riverview lands should remain untouched. Return Riverview to its original purpose and function that is support and help for mental health, in addition we could provide more support for homeless folks by returning the lands to these folks, getting them involved in self sufficiency i.e. making this facility self sustaining. Providing the mental health support medication etc. In other words, what the founders of the original Riverview had envisioned for these that need the help! P.S. the province, etc and colony farm are the “Stanley Park” of the tri cities. Protect this precious land and call that if sustains im on it!
6. Other space should be added to adjacent region or municipal parks and places under the administration of regional or legal government. Other potential land uses should be considered, perhaps relocation of other provincial offices or facilities from more valuable land on the lower mainland. Maybe moving children hospital from Vancouver to Riverview may generate more revenue than putting market housing in Riverview.
7. Arboretum entrance; expand the botanical garden, non-profit to operate. Major tourism or study interest. Complete process of approval of Heritage site – tourism revenue. Consider renewing interiors of buildings, leaving extensions intact – cost is not only factor here. Mental health – emphasis on open space. Homeless housing – seems to SRO housing now being developed in Vancouver. Womens shelters, movie productions – pay for facilities. Rent buildings for conference, on to university groups. This form is too short for proper feedback!
8. I had a thought that riverview could be turned into a homeless shelter; in each building there could be different group. For example, in the largest, have general homeless people in smaller buildings, have maybe battered women and young teens/kids. It could be remodelled with around \$250,000 and could be self run by the homeless. For any questions about the idea, please call [REDACTED] (personal information has been removed)

9. Mental health facilities be maintained, increased, improved as there is no evidence that mental health in our communities is improving
10. Mental health facility museum or art gallery at one of the big heritage buildings
11. None of the project team or BC Housing brochure shown plans for mental health patients
12. Return Riverview to its roots – develop a self sustaining multi-use property built around a centre of excellence for mental health. A teaching hospital for other teaching hospitals in the region. Market-housing is not self sustaining 244 acre wildlife habitat and – money comes in only from the sale of the home/property – no additional money comes in aside from property taxes. Great ideas are to be had, not just from the advisory groups – involve everyone at every step and be transparent!
13. A 244 acre wildlife habitat and wildlife corridor running from Burrard Inlet to the Fraser River “left undisturbed” through Riverview. The original cemetery of patients buried on the Riverview lands – enhanced! Heritage buildings from a flavour of time long past “preserves” the entire natural woodlot “left undisturbed” habitat for the wildlife having this home. The old and valuable orchard “restored”. The Riverview site must be preserved in its entirety to maintain the integrity of all of its value to the people who live here.
14. There should be 10% land mass be set aside for low cost social housing development. Set the height limited six storey house. There should also be 6% land mass dedicated to culture and historical preserve Park or social gathering venue that reflects the area distinct culture.
15. I was surprised to see the “guiding principles” the goal is realistic, sustainable, and met the guiding principle. One of the goals is to have “no market housing”. Who will pay for this housing if there is no market housing? It is realistic to build this with new market housing?
16. The Riverview Lands should remain intact and owned by the province, i.e. held in trust for all people in BC. The tree collection must be protected and enhanced. The site should remain for the most part, as a centre for health care excellence. This could include assisted living for the elderly, hospitals (not just mental health care) and related wellness therapy. It is an ideal place for a college campus so could also become a teaching research centre. The best value of the land is to keep it as a whole and slowly develop a sustainable use for the future which continues which continues to include mental health. The heritage building should not be lost and best possible uses found. What about government offices?
17. Would love to see a world class wellness center which is developed in the most eco friendly to highest standard for sustainability. Build up – do not remove trees or green space.
18. This is a must remain a site for facilities to take care of BC residents that have mental health issues and can not safely live on the streets. This is the only priority – the gardens and environment are key to this priority. Any sale of any portion to pay must only go to building a new Riverview facility. The Gov’t current program for dealing with mental health is a complete failure and this based on personal knowledge of the system and the 6 o’clock news of Hastings Street.
19. Retain as a home and treatment centre for the mentally ill and as part of the treatment involve all in the maintenance of the grounds. keep the grounds as a public garden
20. Devote a good portion of land to supportive special populations fostering mental health care. Restore and maintain natural habitat. Consider gardens/horticultural enhance education of same. Land should be key in Public Trust – managed as a single unit – perhaps a Provincial Heritage Site. It is a shame that the BC Gov’t has allowed the building to become in such dismay. Perhaps by doing so the gov’t has rationale to take down most of the buildings
21. I would like to see several modern facilities to offer mental health care specialized focus on types of care i.e. teen psychoses, schizophrenia along with mental health assessment – inpatient outpatient services, social work etc. University medical school students could get training experience if onsite. To develop a safe housing environment for



people with Alzheimer and often dementia diseases. We need to have housing for these people. Next meeting, bigger room, better parking, and more space for feedback – thanks

22. The hospital promised for the primers riding is not require to be self-sustainable
23. Transportation from lands to other parts of Coquitlam, or within community. Mental Health Service for clients displaced and now living a psychosocial model of rehabilitation. Small business: laundry, grocery store, community centre, garden space, lots of green pathways. If lots of trees – how much will be open to protect the future residents. As community housing supports all walks of life, (past criminal actions) spaces need to be well lit and possibilities of community involvement for policing for sale community and building trusting environment.
24. A lot of open space can be retained, even through intensive residential building. I do not support high-rises or dense housing, which would destroy the character of the site. I would like an open competitive scenario with well-diversified consultants building forward their concepts for which they would be paid. Winning schemes to be open to public
25. Would like to see a diagram of this model? Does this include “retail” space?
26. I am troubled that Ministry of Health is not involved. We need intensive care unit for acutely mentally ill, some will always need care. Could be research centre for Alzheimer’s – innovative care. The trees are healing, reduce depression, increase memory. KEEP IT FOR the mentally ill and other brain disorders
27. No market housing. Green space maintenance/trees maintained. Buildings restored, mental health facility – residents also teaching facility. Money directed to ensure people with mental health issues are looked after by the province, not the streets.
28. Please preserve the trees and other vegetation that is sometimes found nowhere else in the world. It is a very important part of history and everything that can be preserved, should be preserved. There still needs to be a central location, which Riverview was ideal for, and is, to specifically meet eh needs of mentally ill people by staff that have the expertise to meet those needs in a positive way.
29. Outstanding arboretum with world class tree species collection, exceptional architecture and history, green spaces, think path roads, lawns – a Stanley Park. Needed to address the mental health crisis, possible expansion for donation. Acknowledgment of the power of nature to heal, steams areas – wildlife corridors and habitat. It is OUR land, find uses for the older buildings – college, museums, art and art therapy spaces, market space. Tourist value of buildings and arboretum should be developed.
30. That it be retained for educational and mental health treatment purposes
31. I am most-interested in providing mental health care facilities for all ages and level of care. Current provincial facilities are lacking and inadequate for the population. (Shamefully inadequate!) Involve the local community college health care students. Encourage designation by keeping activities the general public will be attracted to – dog park, tree tours, community garden. Protect the trees and gardens, they are priceless. There should be more transitional support for both the mentally ill and homeless. Help people copy with their ongoing mental health care in a seamless, cohesive way that includes prevention of future crisis.
32. I am interested in the property’s open space and historical gardens being maintained/protected. Perhaps the addition of community gardens. This would allow for mental health patients to integrate with the community and vice versa. An open space dog park would be a space that would bring the community together. There is much literature to support the therapy benefits of dogs and mental health/elderly people. A space for Alzheimer’s people to hold day programs would be another use I’d like to be available for the community. Involve Douglas College in providing education programs on site to support mental health. A senior’s drop in units for the community to support folks who are on their own.
33. n/a

34. It makes me wonder how (and why necessarily?? The Province pretends to make it a “money-maker” when it seems to have money to spend on less important things elsewhere. And why does it have to be a money-maker? I really liked the model the original gov’t had, Riverview became a self-sufficient model by having the patients actively involved in the running of the place. It seems that Riverview should be a natural extension of the Colony Farm GVRD Park. Would prefer to see it returned to a place of medicine and healing. Rather than turfing patients out into society (many of them have not done so well), let the patients have their place back, and society can come mingle with them on their own turf.
35. Retention of valued and exotic trees, retention/conversion of architecturally/historically significant buildings. Lower density housing to maintain trails/open spaces. Large scale medical facility could house home care, dialysis, youth crisis, outpatient therapy, rehab and other services on one site.
36. n/a
37. BC Housing and the province in general have an opportunity to provide for those in need, homelessness, often associated with mental illness and substance abuse is growing social problem. BC Housing has to provide social housing, but the NINBY usually kicks in. here we have the space and facility, and community willing to accept it. Mental health care, together with substance abuse, transition housing all on one site?
38. n/a
39. my personal preference is that the lands remain in the public hands. The site has immense historical mental health, natural area and arboretum values. No commercial housing! If any development were to take place it would need to be on existing foot prints and be of a health nature. A teaching hospital – an educational health facility. Do sell or develop the lands for short term gain. The lands have been in the public trust should continue to be so. In protecting the Riverview land we protect a green corridor from mountains to the Fraser river.
40. n/a
41. Planning for transportation must be considered based on proposed uses. Public Transportation, cars, pedestrians proper allowances to plan for future needs. Lougheed needs room to improve dangerous areas have to be improved. Density needs to consider surrounding services. Keep open useable spaces. Parks should include spaces for activities. Soccer fields, play spaces, etc.
42. Sell parts to private for condo style homes. Mixed with park area for people who live there and all people to enjoy. This creates revenue and allows for nature space too. Allows some trees to be enjoyed, no restoration. Part native land return, part private housing, part park areas.
43. The heritage buildings keep up. No real estate housing. Keep it as a mental place for the people who need the help – not on the streets. Put money into housing for them. Keep it as a park especially the trees!
44. n/a
45. no skyscrapers, help the mentally ill. Keep the parklands, work with RHCS, not against them. Clearly, you will develop it but do the right thing. People first, environment second, and third – be responsible.
46. The vision process seems to be from the top with people and tax payers being told what the future is going to look like. Has BC Housing already benefited from the changes at the Riverview by working on hotels in Vancouver’s Eastside?
47. n/a
48. The thoughts I have are: sell off some (or build casino). There on part of land (30 acres) and this used to fund a nice health centre for mental. It was given to mental 100 years ago and this should be honoured just like the Indians are being honoured (a lot of addictions there) – they need this hospital too! So economic it will save in social housing (social), save healthcare costs, the homeless cost us in hospital, free that up for others. Environmentally leave a lot of it undeveloped and park like for residents there – park, gardens, bike trails, We all need the hospital back – people are losing their lives out there fending for themselves. Think community. (This includes disabled.)

49. Centre for Mental Excellence (complete with Oasis style fountain in outside foyer. Refractory hospital – state of the art, world class research facility. Work in conjunction with new brain centre at UBC and proposed research facility at RCH new hospital (psych). Tram transit operations in new community (always needed better bus service).

## March 1, 2014

*NOTE: The following responses were transcribed directly from the original comment forms collected at the Open House; however, minor grammatical errors have been corrected to ensure legibility.*

*NOTE: “n/a” denotes a comment form response that was not answered.*

### Question 1: How did you hear about this Open House?

1. Paper (community only)
2. Paper (local)
3. By mail
4. Mailbox notification
5. Other professionals
6. Newspaper
7. Riverview Horticultural Society email was forwarded to me by a friend
8. Local papers and friends
9. n/a
10. Happened to listen to CBC Radio
11. By the local newspaper and CBC AM when the CEO of BC Housing was interviewed
12. n/a
13. local newspaper and mail information sent
14. newspaper ad
15. from a friend
16. newspaper advertisement
17. my wife and the news
18. email from Riverview Society
19. word of mouth and local media
20. local paper
21. I belong to Burke Mountain Naturalist and these meetings were announced at our latest meeting, Feb. 11, 2014. And announcements were also printed in the local newspaper
22. Local paper and CBC AM interview with BC Housing CEO
23. Online, friends, colleagues
24. Local newspaper, facebook
25. Newspaper
26. Local paper
27. CBC News
28. The blackboard sign attached to the fence on Riverview and Canim
29. Riverview Horticultural Society
30. Community papers
31. News

32. Through the Tri-City News
33. Local newspaper
34. Advertisement in Burnaby Now
35. Newspaper – tri city news
36. Flyer in the mail
37. Doug Hodge, local paper
38. Local paper
39. Local newspaper
40. TriCity Newspaper Ad, why did I not get a flyer w/ 18,000 others?
41. Mail
42. Tri city news ad
43. Invited
44. Councillor Craig Hodge came to my door to say it was happening
45. City Councillor/paper
46. Door-to-door notifications
47. Local paper
48. Newspaper
49. Media
50. Tri-city news
51. 1130 new website and 15 minutes of trying to find out where the open houses were located. DID NOT find it on the BC Housing Site. Should have been prominent location
52. newspaper
53. media
54. email from Riverview Horticultural Society
55. local newspaper
56. local newspapers and door visit
57. local paper
58. paper
59. facebook pages at Riverview Lands
60. friend
61. pamphlet VIA mail
62. local newspaper and mail in info
63. mail-in and newspaper
64. newspaper
65. from local media and through Coq Heritage Society
66. from a friend
67. newspaper
68. my wife told me about it
69. signs on the site
70. Coquitlam Heritage Society
71. Media
72. On the paper and friends
73. TV News
74. Nature Vancouver
75. Radio and local papers
76. Councillor brought info to the foot, newspaper and radio

77. CBC Radio
78. Newspaper
79. From Coquitlam Councillor
80. Signs on Riverview property
81. Through a friend
82. Informed by the City of Coquitlam – but would like to say that the small but “standing out well” ads in the local papers were excellent – well done!
83. Newspaper
84. The news
85. Newspaper
86. n/a
87. mail
88. flyer
89. advertisement
90. saw it on local paper
91. was emailed by a friend
92. by the local paper and a flyer in the mail
93. from POCO city council
94. saw it in local paper
95. newspaper
96. local paper
97. Tri-City newspaper
98. Card in mail
99. From my husband and newspaper
100. Flyer delivered to our house. Also heard CBC spot
101. Newspaper and mail-out
102. Newspaper, neighbours
103. Attended several “treefests” on the site and on email and newsletter mailing list
104. Email and local newspaper
105. Through the Burke Mountain Naturalists
106. Facebook/newsletter (Riverview Horticultural Society)
107. Coquitlam Now, Global News, friends email
108. Local newspaper
109. Local newspaper
110. Paper
111. Newspaper and concerned citizen. Used to live here, know Riverview Lands well
112. Newspaper
113. Media
114. Newspaper
115. Postcard notice in mail, newspaper ads, CBC Morning Show, Colony Farms Park Association
116. Friends
117. Friend
118. “the now”
119. newspaper and radio talk show
120. local newspaper
121. article in Vancouver Sun

122. From email and people involved in the Committee
123. This process is a fucking sham, the people know that this government was built on lies and only has a fascist corporate agenda that sees local people as a nuisance to what should have been condo development. There are many residents that have put lots of time and effort into the site that are upset about what could have been. There are people dying in the streets of Vancouver and this greedy province I hope you all ROT IN HELL.
124. Local newspaper
125. Flyer in the mail
126. n/a
127. local newspaper, flyer
128. I read about it in the Tri City Newspaper in Elaine Golds article, Friday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>
129. Twitter – Notice
130. Riverview Lands Horticultural Society RLHS
131. Word of mouth
132. Newspaper
133. Mail
134. Craig Hodge brought an info circular to our house
135. Local paper
136. RCHS email
137. Local paper
138. Northshore news
139. Local paper, door mailing
140. Flyers in mail
141. Burke Mountain Naturalists and Riverview Horticultural Society newsletter
142. BMNS
143. Newspaper, flyer in the mail
144. Flyer
145. Local newspaper and through a local council in maple ridge
146. Local newspaper
147. Local newspaper
148. Notice in the mail, city councillor info
149. Note at door
150. Tri City
151. Coquitlam City Council, family members, notifications mail-outs
152. Card from city, city councillor
153. Newspaper
154. The newspaper, tv, news
155. Mail – one pager
156. Pamphlet in mail (postal service)
157. n/a
158. paper
159. Tri City News
160. Newspaper, talking to people
161. Article in local paper
162. Posters – local/regional papers
163. Local newspaper

164. Local newspaper
165. Newspaper ad
166. Reading the announcements
167. News
168. In the local paper
169. Globe and Mail reporter
170. Newspaper
171. Local newspaper
172. Local newspaper
173. Local newspaper
174. Local paper
175. Paper
176. Tv news and mail
177. Received notification in mail
178. Flyer
179. Flyer
180. Email from City of Coquitlam
181. Tri City News
182. Newspaper article
183. Newspaper
184. Friend
185. Local newspaper
186. In the local paper
187. Local newspaper
188. From newspaper
189. Newspaper
190. Newspaper
191. The news
192. Mail
193. Through last cottages staff
194. n/a
195. n/a
196. n/a
197. n/a
198. Friends, Tri City News, The Now, Other papers

Question 2: The future of the Riverview lands has been a discussion for many years. Have you at any point been involved in consultation about the future of the lands prior to this Vision Process? If yes, tell us how.

1. n/a
2. Yes, I was the GCRD Parks Representative for the Vegetation Study of the site. I was also the planner for the adjacent "Colony Farm Regional Park Sustainability Plan"
3. No
4. No
5. Yes, At the other design charette for the tri cities
6. No

7. I use to live in Coquitlam (1994 – 2001) and have enjoyed walking in and around the area. I support preservation of the natural, historic healing. However, this is the first time I have attended an information session
8. I have attended a couple of open houses and tours
9. Questions for you: 1. From my discussion with most people at this open house today, 99% were opposed to do anything. Other than keeping it for mental health. What will you do if this is the major feedback? Other thoughts: 1. Your building assessment, It would be a good idea to have an index. Assessment, not by BC Housing. Also, these building are in need of repair only because the Province has allowed this to happen! Many of these buildings are well worth restoring. I much prefer my tax dollars going here than to some other area I won't mention. 2. This discussion should be with the Ministry of Health and I cant understand why they are not the main driver of this process along with the people of BC. 3. We do not need more housing for the public – we DO need to address mental health and have a state-of-the-art facility to address this issue Riverview needs to be that facility.
10. No, but I have always followed the discussions over the years, hoping some good would come of it! I do hope that these “open houses” are not a sham! (i.e. already have a plan for development such as housing...)
11. Yes, a similar drop-in PoCo about 1 ½ - 2 years ago. They weren't really interested in our impact, especially on the topic of relief for mental health
12. n/a
13. n/a
14. have not been involved until now
15. I have attended City of Coquitlam council meetings and Riverview events – Treefest, etc
16. No
17. No- but now I will give my full attention as by this format setup gives the intention of the Government, BC Housing that they have decided they will proceed with a vision which will go ahead without a provincial public vote: people all over the province have health issues that could be taken care of in Riverview. Hastings, Eastside is full of people that need health care because of mental conditions. I was told the government can override any district council reports.
18. No
19. No, not until now
20. No but
21. Yes, through the Burke Mountain Naturalists club
22. Yes, 1 ½ - 2 years ago – similar drop-in and no interest in Mental Health development
23. I have attended community meetings and filled out the online form for the future of Riverview
24. No
25. Yes, my husband and I have attended the last consultations – last year – perhaps 2 years
26. I have attended open houses like this in previous years
27. No
28. Because I live in the area, I am on the grounds regularly I see postings and talk to people. Mental health needs to be protected, just like Riverview Lands
29. Yes, through Riverview News
30. n/a
31. no
32. over a series of years, the future of the Riverview Lands have come up for review. I have followed this and have signed petitions to keep the lands free of market housing and open to the public
33. no



34. I think that it is important to preserve spaces such as the gardens. Not only does it have special meaning to staff and patients but shows forgiveness and moving on, is an important message/value for the entire community
35. No
36. n/a
37. no
38. no
39. Previously filled in a Riverview Process Questionnaire.. attending previous Riverview Open House, walked the Riverview grounds many times to observe the buildings, trees, Finnie's Garden, back gravel road to access. For myself, I am a Coquitlam Taxpayer
40. n/a
41. no
42. no
43. no
44. no
45. no
46. no
47. no, not involved in Vision process
48. Ms. Hodge addressed Uni Women's Club, Burke Mountain Naturalists
49. YES, why are you asking?
50. No
51. Was not aware of consultations available. Seems to have been planned behind the scenes
52. Have visited the lands but have not been part of official consultation
53. No but no housing
54. I have not formally been consulted but I have expressed concerns to both provincial and municipal officials for many years now – and will continue to do so
55. Establishment of Colony Farm as a regional park
56. No
57. No I have not been involved
58. No
59. I have been to Treefest and am on the Board of the Canadian Sound Therapy Arts Society
60. n/a
61. yes, took part in a petition to save Riverview Hospital
62. attended initial meeting
63. attended initial meeting at City Hall and have been involved with friends of Riverview
64. no
65. no
66. yes – attended Heritage meetings
67. many years of discussion with Coquitlam residents and others
68. contact with the mayor of Coquitlam. My father-in-law Fr. Windsor Mahabi R. was director of clinic and advocated for Riverview to remain forever as a place of healing for the mentally challenged
69. no
70. I have attended previous open houses and information sessions over many years
71. No, but considering it was my great—uncle John, I feel honoured to be related to the wonderful work he had done for the province and hopefully his work is maintained
72. No

73. Yes – form on computer few years ago
74. Just what's on the news
75. No
76. Yes – counsellor at door
77. No
78. No
79. No
80. No
81. I attended an open house here about a year ago. In the meantime, I have attended several walks at Riverview to learn about the history and the site
82. I have been involved in consultation from the beginning and found my involvement with the Stewardship Group very rewarding. I hope that some of the work that we did around the Big table will benefit the hands. I found it a great learning experience.
83. No
84. No
85. I believe some of the 100 year old buildings should be saved (one or two) the cottages should be saved. A new hospital should be built for some of our downtown Eastside ex mental patients, the hospital should accommodate dementia, Alzheimer's . There should be some green space. There should be Condo towers built on the lands for multi income individuals and family low cost should be considered \$50,000.
86. n/a
87. n/a
88. no
89. No, but I have visited the site often and really feel this to be a jewel in the Tower Mainland
90. No
91. n/a
92. no
93. no
94. no
95. RCHS and RPS
96. No
97. No
98. No
99. No
100. Yes – through visioning exercise at the City of Coquitlam held under pervious Mayor – Maxine Wilson – can't recall the year
101. No, not until today
102. No, just about traffic on Riverview Crescent (the land was formerly part of Riverview Hospital)
103. Have attended various previous information presentations and open houses such as today March 1, 2014
104. As a Councillor from Maple Ridge, very hopeful that it will become a center of excellence for mental health care
105. No
106. Have signed petition against the demolition, member of Riverview Horticultural Society, come to the meetings
107. n/a
108. I was at an event similar to this probably in 2012
109. No

110. n/a
111. no. Riverview has already given up 200+ care for housing, look at the aerial photos. Also, move Royal Columbian Hospital over there!
112. Many visits to the site, spring tours, some surveys
113. Membership in Riverview Heritage Society. Am in an accord with any views as the society and I have written to Government retaining lands for public use and no real estate. Housing for challenged people that is what it was always for
114. No
115. City of Coquitlam Heritage Advisory Committee, early heritage studies (heritage specialist), Colony Farm Park Association
116. Other open houses, enough already!!
117. Yes, other open houses. How many times do people have to tell you to save it!! Preserve it!!
118. No
119. n/a
120. no
121. have been a member of Riverview Horticultural Society in the past
122. I have attended previous open houses
123. n/a
124. n/a
125. only followed the story through the news
126. n/a
127. unfortunately, no
128. if I have kept myself up to date by reading articles and information about “the lands” and buildings on the site
129. no
130. RLHS tree walks, Treefest, talking to residents of Coquitlam, Nature Vancouver (our founder was John Davidson). I am interested in protecting the trees and open spaces. This site is so prefect for treatment and rehabilitation of people with addictions and mental illnesses.
131. No never!
132. No
133. No
134. No
135. Previous open houses
136. Yes, RHCS and went to Heritage Assessment open houses
137. Amongst ourselves
138. n/a
139. meetings for Vision input - 2 years ago
140. no
141. only in discussions, not formally
142. no
143. How dare you think of tearing up anything and building “new staff”. How dare you think tearing down trees. How dare you think of putting steams in pipes. Where are the animals to go? We need them. We need the fresh air, we need the plants, steam, we need a “park” just like Stanley park – belongs to Vancouver. We need a place for the people to enjoy and strengthen their minds, body, and souls. More green, more trees, more streams, more plants, more animals –wild.
144. How dare you take the healing path of mental ill away from them

145. No other than what is in the media
146. I have been active in a group to save Riverview Hospital and its Lands, inclusive
147. As a Coquitlam resident and family member of a patient residing at Riverview Hospital from around 1980 to around 2006, I was keenly interested in the 2003 Coquitlam Mayor's Review Task Force and wrote letters to show my support for their vision of keeping Riverview to serve the needs of our province's mentally ill citizens, and not to be used for market housing
148. No, not prior to today
149. I want to ensure the guided principles of 2003 Mayor's report are followed
150. Tree festival at Riverview
151. Only casual conversations with various members of the community
152. No
153. No
154. No
155. Attended previous open house
156. No
157. n/a
158. no
159. no
160. informally
161. not actively involved but have been reading a lot
162. no
163. no
164. n/a
165. I wrote to the premier about 2 years ago about preserving the Riverview Lands and to keep them as a sanctuary for the mentally ill
166. no, but I will attend any future info sessions
167. no
168. No, however, I would like to be involved in the discussions publicity held as open houses
169. I attended a meeting in 2002 I think. The results where inconclusive, I recommend some of the old buildings be made into tourist residences and some into private room mental health housing. Wards leave one vulnerable to theft and lack of privacy (curtains are insufficient)
170. No
171. No
172. No
173. Participated in the tree walks in the grounds
174. No
175. Yes – hotel
176. n/a
177. n/a
178. n/a
179. n/a
180. I have been involved in all the public consultation procedures for the last 20 years. In these consultations, thousand of citizens told the provincial government what they want for Riverview. Why is it necessary for still more?
181. No
182. Haven't been previously involved

183. I have a close member (relative) with mental illness. I am endeavouring to take an active role to save our best and only mental hospital (Riverview) in our province of BC. It is critical and imperative to do so!
184. No
185. No
186. No
187. No
188. No
189. n/a
190. no, not yet
191. n/a
192. no
193. I think they should keep RVH available. I heard from another person that people would go homeless if RVH wasn't there.
194. n/a
195. n/a
196. n/a
197. n/a
198. n/a

**Question 3: The Vision Process for the Riverview Lands includes outreach to the public to gather ideas and feedback. How would like to be consulted?**

1. In as many ways as possible so our entire community can see what is happening
2. Actual public discussion; workshops; possibly advertising communities for important facets
3. By emails or phone
4. Future open houses or meetings or other input (mail or online)
5. Any...for now
6. Email: [REDACTED] (personal information has been removed)
7. Send information regarding future meetings
8. n/a
9. n/a
10. First you actually need to reach the public, which include all of BC as Riverview is owned by the public and all people in the province need to have their say. "Consultation" is meaningless when most people think you already have a plan!
11. Advisory group
12. n/a
13. mail
14. email
15. email; would attend meetings
16. use the media to process ideas and feedback, and perform consultation publicly
17. yes, again you are saying this vision is happening not consulting 1<sup>st</sup> if the people wan it to happen. The government can't wait to sell off to private stake holders. Where were the mental health authorities - not available at this vision process
18. email, we will try to attend future open houses
19. I would like to be able to have representatives from all stakeholders present in person to discuss ideas, plans and proposals with

20. Email, read every article in the paper on Riverview
21. A meeting open to the public such as this one is good, or a venue where questions and answers could be heard by all attending.
22. Letters to my residence with information of progress from the input of local residents
23. I would like to hear via email as well as news stories about how community voices are HEARD – to get the word out to people who also may not yet be in the conversation
24. More open houses, public meetings with Q + A. guided tours of grounds
25. I would like to know by email if and when the government of the process changes again. E.i. from BC Health to BC Housing
26. Via phone
27. n/a
28. email, flyers, in local/provincial newspapers
29. be email
30. email
31. email, phone, in person
32. inform me of further opportunities for public input into this issue
33. notification of planning meetings as time goes by
34. n/a
35. Tri City News, email, City of Coquitlam, Radio
36. Open house meetings, email
37. Public input through forums such as these. But public input should be valued and not be just for show
38. Emails; mail outs; meetings
39. More info on what BC Housing, Prov Govt are doing (and are not doing) regarding Riverview. More newspaper articles for the general public to be aware. More information on computer sites to the general public. Info on City of Coquitlam website, Coquitlam Library Website, etc
40. Email; open houses; create a "sign-in" blog or forum to collect the conversations among interested parties
41. Public meetings and emails
42. n/a
43. open house forums and website
44. I would like to be consulted by email
45. Invited to forums – asked for feedback
46. Asked for feedback – invited to open houses, etc
47. Phone, email
48. Email
49. The lands belongs to the people, consultants who are not from here should get out of the way and be facilitators
50. Email
51. Listen to the public and not just a few private interests who plan on making a lot of money and destroying the character of this piece of land
52. I agree with the mayor's task force of 2003 and their vision for the lands
53. Phone
54. By being kept up to date with other opportunities to comment on development plans to change in status quo
55. Email, local newspaper
56. Local papers, everyone should read and support local business

57. Group meetings/ town hall meetings
58. Town hall meetings
59. Email, visioning sessions, mail
60. n/a
61. meetings where interested parties can present and discuss issues for and against keeping Riverview Lands from treating the mentally ill
62. yes
63. through local newspapers and email
64. n/a
65. via email and through the local media
66. I would like to attend a presentation to learn more/ poster boards are frustrating. I think workshops should be held to get feedback from people in the community
67. Open house format
68. I fully support the mayor's Riverview task force vision. No development for public housing
69. The open house concept seems appropriate
70. Phone call or media
71. n/a
72. yes, by phone [REDACTED] (personal information has been removed)
73. mail
74. email and open houses
75. letter or phone
76. email
77. open houses. Committees, through email
78. mail or phone
79. meetings should be held
80. open house is good, email updates and responses/questionnaire
81. I would like the opportunity to voice my opinion, perhaps in a focus group. I don't believe BC Housing was the right choice for the consultation process because it appears their main agenda is market housing and development
82. I think a real workshop where questions could be asked
83. Via email
84. Email
85. n/a
86. n/a
87. email
88. mail
89. n/a
90. n/a
91. ?
92. public forum at a Coquitlam City Council meeting. Open to the public and allowing public speakers to talk and ask questions
93. email and public notes
94. I like your process of open houses, and a chance to fill in information forms. An open meeting with questions and answers is good to help us all see the bigger picture. A chance to give input in writing or on-line is also convenient.
95. n/a

96. by information printed in the Tri City Newspaper, or other media
97. written info either in newspaper or brochures, you have my husband's email so that will work
98. open houses or local paper
99. telephone or email
100. all ways: very interested in maintaining contact with the process. Email me, send me flyers, listen to me at open houses and other meetings. I'll be there
101. n/a
102. I want the government to be up front regarding what they are going to do to the property. Where are the mentally ill going to be kept (instead of near main street and not been looked after)
103. Via email, [REDACTED] (personal information has been removed)
104. Email
105. Via email
106. Meeting, newsletter
107. Let the public know of plans prior to making deals. This government only 1 vision – self-indulged greed
108. By email
109. Email of events, updates on the process, public consultation
110. N/a
111. Email
112. Invitation to planning meetings
113. Mail please
114. n/a
115. via more open to transparent consultation, meetings, emails and regular public updates
116. email and a "forum"
117. we did this already!
118. Email and open house
119. Email
120. Through continuous open houses and forums
121. Via email and at open houses
122. It would be nice if opinions about the public would actually be listened to
123. n/a
124. n/a
125. direct access to decision makers such as at this open house
126. n/a
127. a real and open public discussion needs to be facilitated. Public hearing and to ensure that opinions can be collected and most of all, are valued.
128. To share stories about the needs of the people. Any way that will ensure voices of the people can be heard. Telephone, email, and open public consultation discussions work well.
129. Updates via email, or open houses or other forum
130. Through open houses
131. Public inquiry, mandatory published assessments in print and newspaper
132. The decisions have already been made. The public does not want market housing. Preserve any buildings you can (independent evaluation) and leave the rest alone!
133. By email
134. Through open forum, website
135. By email or open houses



136. Listen to our idea, think creatively. I am a BC taxpayer and I want the lands used well (mental health, green space, community) not sold for development
137. Local newspaper
138. Mail/email
139. How – this is good (weekend timing good) Why? I am truly hoping that the input of tax paying citizens is really considered. Thanks!
140. Not contacted
141. Open house participation. Inclusion of stakeholder groups in actual decision-making. (Burke Mountain Naturalists and Riverview Horticultural Society)
142. Yes, open house
143. You have not told us your views at all. You just reworded each sign you are not telling us anything
144. n/a
145. VIA local media or email @ [REDACTED] (personal information has been removed)
146. By mail
147. By email and I would welcome an opportunity for discussion with provincial and municipal decision makers
148. Either by email or notices in the mail
149. Email
150. Email
151. Welcome all opportunities, phone is least convenient
152. Email/,meetings
153. n/a
154. more open houses on every aspect of the development. I do not want this to be just lip-service on the past of the BC government or BC Housing
155. yes – does not seem plan articulated at this open house includes any significant community involvement but rather focuses on “advisory” groups
156. email
157. n/a
158. local paper
159. n/a
160. more consultation is required. The current proposal is leaning to demolition so I am worried that this is a done deal already benefiting land developers – we need transparency
161. open house is a good idea, email also works well as some event we can not attend
162. postal service
163. mail, if market housing becomes an option then referendum
164. n/a
165. email: [REDACTED] (personal information has been removed)
166. open forums – this is such an important issue for this area and so many people and most have an opinion
167. yes
168. by any means like: emails, phones, or any open house held
169. phone [REDACTED] (personal information has been removed) – invite to meeting
170. n/a
171. website for discussion, input
172. emails, papers
173. not
174. email or meetings

175. more open houses, consultations
176. mail
177. email
178. by open house
179. by open house
180. at a public sit-down meeting where members of the appropriate ministry would be asked questions
181. by phone
182. by email
183. n/a
184. n/a
185. online forum for feedback, and/or an email contact to write to. Up to date information published in local newspapers
186. yes, by email address provided
187. what about a referendum in November 2014?
188. n/a
189. n/a
190. n/a
191. n/a
192. telephone – mail
193. n/a
194. n/a
195. n/a
196. n/a
197. n/a
198. By mail (I have no email)

Question 4: The Riverview Lands have an extensive history in the province of British Columbia and the region. Based on what you have seen today, is there any other part of the lands' history that you did not see represented and consider important?

1. Your coverage did not include any stories about the thousands of patients that passed through the doors of Riverview. As a member of a dance troupe we entertained these patients every Christmas for many years in many wards and buildings. We had our swimming lessons in the pool there. Riverview was a part of our community and so were the patients housed there.
2. Parkland and need for more in Lower Mainland Riverview Site is a potential regional park resource when combined with Regional and local Government lands. The use of therapeutic gardens, skill development and mental health rehabilitation is totally lacking here. Eliminating the sites innovative historic ideas and practices for mental health (abuses accepted) would be a future mistake. Keep health related needs and options open to allow for future thinking
3. n/a
4. the Colony Farm Lands were used in the past to supply produce for the institutions residents. There is a community garden on part of the lands today. Perhaps some of the GVRD park could be used to expand the community garden, or part of the Riverview Land used for this purpose
5. TBD
6. No
7. Conserve the 100 year old arboretum. Preserve open space, maintain the character of Riverview
8. n/a

9. n/a
10. There are my issues – your questions are irrelevant. 1. What is BC Housing giving the mandate for the future of the Riverview Lands?? What does that tell you? Where is the Ministry of Health?? 2. Riverview should remain public lands 3. Out of the 1,000 initial acres only 244 acres remains. Most of the land has already been used, some for housing (market housing). 4. Riverview should remain a local point for the treatment of mental illness (which I understand the mayor of Coq has long embraced). 5. There are no mental health people on your advisory groups (and if so, they should be people well-versed in this area) 6. This “visioning” process needs to include all the province 7. I recommend a large public forum with all the stakeholders present to give their opinions, ask/answer questions 8. The remaining 244 acres should be under 1 for the parcel. 9. I am in total agreement with the vision and guiding principles
11. 2003 mayors Riverview task force for the future of Riverview
12. n/a
13. building a central mental health facility. Building for doctor offices, research, etc
14. nothing that I am aware of
15. n/a
16. no
17. Yes, I think that these lands were designated to take care of all citizens with mental health issues. Amazingly we had no representatives from mental health medical departments available for us to get opinions from. Seems to me these forums had no questions and answer periods and this vision is not one that we have a yes or no ballot to see if the government should be allowed, never mind BC Housing what has it got to do with them. Government and private stakeholders will have the most impact on what will happen here its not if but when this land will be developed
18. I would like to see Finnie’s Garden and the arboretum GUARANTEED saved, maybe under the umbrella of UBC botanical, in the way the Bloedel conservatory was saved by Van Dusen. We need it GUARANTEED forever untouchable and with enough funds to maintain it
19. I would like to have seen some reference to the monetary contribution to Riverview Lands by the film industry. From the point of view of sustainability – this, I would imagine, is a key player
20. Who is using various buildings and the impact of closures? A little care of the buildings would have paid dividends. Rusted of many public buildings are left to rot
21. The natural, wild areas of the grounds should be left as they are – not developed. We do not need any more housing developments in that part of Coquitlam. They great space is needed for a green corridor – all the way from the mountains to the Fraser River – a continuation of natural forest for wildlife. Why can’t the guiding principles of the 2003 statement of Riverview by John Kingsbany be followed? They seemed like they are appropriate for today and forever.
22. What about the 5 streams that cross these lands? Most of the building was not assessed! The easel referring the mental health was almost non-existent
23. Today I see a lot of poster boards of info. I DO NOT SEE enough support of mental health care, mental health history, reference of the buildings (EASTM WESTM CENTRE LAWN). WE DO NOT NEED MARKET HOUSING – THIS SHOULD NOT BE ABOUT PROFIT – THIS SHOULD BE ABOUT CONTINUED CARE AND KEEPING GREEN SPACE FOR MENTAL HEALTH 2.0
24. Not that I’m aware of
25. The delta-rich farm lands have been used in the past as prime agricultural land, as teaching area for gardening for psychiatric patients and currently as community gardens for growing produce. The last item is very important to us and those who also benefit from the production i.e. food bank
26. The things that I consider important (some of which were mentioned today) are all the beautiful trees, the rural aspect at the north end, the “original historical” buildings, the wide lawns and green spaces, the

walking trails. I feel that Riverview should remain for use only for health and wellness. It should not be developed on any part of it for market housing. Too much of Riverview land has been lost for housing on the north.

27. n/a
28. the residents/patients of Riverview could work on the lands as therapy to make them feel like worthwhile citizens as in the past. E.i. Finnie's Garden. Have Riverview Lands as part of UBC Horticultural studies. Many have heard that Dr. Esson left the lands in perpetuity for mental health. Why is this not being exposed and investigated?
29. Finnie's Garden, Trees, Natural beauty
30. n/a
31. I strongly disagree with the framing of this process. The mental health aspect is shown in the historic context, as if there is no future need to continue or expand the role of mental health care on this site. The framing also implies that the move to independent living has been a success, when in fact it has been a disaster. Instead of a safe community for the mentally disadvantaged, we now leave them to fend for themselves amongst the predators. Shame!!!
32. More focus should have been given on the foreword approach and real benefits the patients at Riverview Hospital received – sanctuary, healing, beautiful surroundings, gardening, work opportunities and training through agricultural etc. The history was biased particularly about the state of the building "critical" does not mean about to collapse
33. n/a
34. n/a
35. what exactly is being considered?
36. n/a
37. what "damage" has been done previously? Photos of what the area looked like 30 or 50 years ago. Photos of how much land has already been taken from RVH grounds.
38. You haven't mentioned this (almost) deliberate policy of successive provincial governments to let the buildings deteriorate to this point where the only future for the land would be residential development a la Riverview Heights. I favour parks over developing that were not directly mental health/medical related.
39. The natural gravel road at the back (north) side of Riverview. A wonderful walk for enjoying nature. Have a teaching nurse school here. Mental health issues are NOT going away. Riverview closed = now more homeless people. Keep all of Riverview Lands and buildings as public lands. We are the taxpayers and the property tax payers. People can rent out office space from the re modeled interiors of buildings. Groups can rent out remodelled buildings. Organizations can rent out spaces from fixed up Riverview buildings. Once they are gone we have lost our local heritage. Gone will be the character of some of our local history. We are going to have more baby boomer dementia and Alzheimer people then ever before = re open Valleyview for seniors instead of every 2 years. Moving patients around further away from family members to visit.
40. Are there any buildings of architecture significance, which should be saved for retrofit? Never saw the word "architecture" in the list of heritage conservation
41. The positive impacts that the Riverview Hospital have on the local community, in other words, what outcomes have the lands been able to produce for the local community (i.e. improvement in mental health of the community, economic development assorted). Another point is transportation, which is not important local issue
42. You've done a good job incorporating all the elements in this project. But you must ensure that these elements receive consideration only equal to their involvement and not the expense of others

43. I would like to better understand the heritage value of all buildings beyond condition and regional cost. I would like a better understanding of the current uses on site and their resident history and future. I would like a better understanding of the natural and man-made features of the site.
44. n/a
45. n/a
46. n/a
47. I think the entire land and buildings should be preserved for mental health. Everyone I've talked to has agreed the buildings should be restored, and help the mentally ill and addicted (adult, youth). They could also be used for Alzheimer care, dementia, etc. not with the old ways of treatment, but more community-minded. Riverview could also use the land to farm, dairy as in the past to help with cost of running. Also the collection of 1800 species should be preserved.
48. Enough land has been lost. What happened to the original 1,000 acres? I do not want more housing – Coquitlam growing too fast already – lacks infrastructure. Restore mental health service. Make land part of parks BC or GVRD
49. The development by neglect strategy has been visible by all, it's very disappointing
50. No
51. The unique variety of trees have been noted but will be lost if the land is developed with housing. Wildlife use this land as a corridor between Mundy and Colony Farms and this will be destroyed
52. No
53. No
54. I have not seen an indication of how residential development will impact the migrating birds that frequent the Colony Farm water yard
55. n/a
56. no the coverage is excellent
57. they didn't mention the old orchard that are there. It is also a wildlife route that connects to other parks near by
58. did not mention the old orchards that are there. It is a wildlife route that connects to other parks near by
59. n/a
60. n/a
61. there was little mention of Riverview as a psychiatric institute and a current provider of mental health in terms of housing for the mentally ill and a place where mental health research is being done. Also, the important value as a wildlife refuge connection to colony farm
62. I would like a copy of the information on the conditions of the building deemed critical and how these results were made
63. I think it was fairly well covered
64. n/a
65. The Riverview Historical Society's collection of artifacts is important in terms of the history of mental health in BC. As well, the agricultural history is not represented. Also, there is little mention of the museums currently based on the Riverview lands
66. The poster boards only contained a little information – there are lots more. I didn't see anything about the historical significance of the buildings – where else is there such a collect – what is their historical worth?
67. n/a
68. the 250 acres should be kept as they are – resurrect the buildings. Include hospital and teaching. Long term for the mentally ill. The university contact includes the general public access for teaching students etc.

69. this process could move efficient if a list of considerations for the site could be presented and then attendees could prioritize them and add any they think are missing. As I have done below!
70. The Riverview museum collection which is currently in storage
71. n/a
72. n/a
73. n/a
74. I've walked through this open house and I still have no idea what's going to happen except that these lands will be gone as I know it. Waiting for the actual details about space, humanity and integration with the plans
75. The fact that the hospital was self sufficient and had a large dairy herd that won ribbons both with Holsteins (COW) and Clydesdale they were enter in PNE every year. I'm sure there's many people that found out where milk came from. Not just the store. I realize some of these things were mentioned in passing but that's all
76. n/a
77. All of Riverview is important: the lands need to totally preserve as a point in history. Mental hospital's are desperately needed, at present, the mentally ill are plugging up emergency wards and taking up policing time
78. The patients participated in landscaping and food production as a therapeutic activity. I know a man who began his interest in landscaping as a young patient and went on to complete a career in garden maintenance with only two or three short hospitalizations over the past 50 years. Patient participating was ended by unions
79. The fact that a considerable area has already been developed – so I wonder if the plan should have a minimum amount of housing. The development was showing but no plan therefore limits future housing.
80. Mental health is a provincial concern. The provincial government needs to be more financially supportive of this project. Putting very ill mentally compromised people in the community without adequate support has been a bad idea. An institution would provide protection and consistent treatment for the mentally ill and protection.
81. We have an opportunity here to make something spectacular out of this site. A balance must be found that will preserve our history for future generations. Once the site is gone a lot of heritage will vanish with it. We cannot let short sightedness play a part of the decision making
82. I SAW VERY LITTLE ON HISTORY OR HERITAGE. I can't remember seeing or reading anything on some of our early Giants – such as Henry Esson Young! He had a building named after him and we haven't even looked after that really. Apparently in a BC Housing report – various area indicate water ingress and the Superstructure requires repair. The roof (on the highrise section is needing replacement. The facility condition index (FCI) 28% with the overall condition of the foundation as good – can't we get on with making necessary repairs? OUR LITTLE HOUSE WAS BUILT THE SAME YEAR AND we are warm/safe and dry. These kind of things bother me. What has happened to respect?
83. I think that the ongoing maintenance on the grounds should be improved and not left in an abandoned state. The purpose of one or two of the buildings should be restored to its original purpose. The size should accommodate the need for metro Vancouver not the province. This would dilate the size of the building required. There should be a long term fixed plan of restoration
84. I think a major focus of the new Riverview Vision needs to focus on Aboriginal mental health. As well as youth mental health
85. I feel before BC Housing, the buildings were managed poorly at disservice to the taxpayer and all stakeholders
86. n/a

87. save this land from development
88. all is important to preserve without too much change
89. the need for mental health facilities is very great and here is this beautiful area, that was once established for this purpose, excused and neglected for years!! Will the arboretum be undisturbed? It is vital in my view to leave this space alone!
90. Not at this point
91. Not at this point
92. There was no mention of the use of property for movie productions. These lands have a rich history and I would hate to see in the hands of developers. Like the rest of Coquitlam, keep/renovate existing building and use for treatment and housing of mentally ill people so they are not roaming our streets, drug addicted, a danger to the public and police, filling emergency rooms at hospitals which is far more expensive and more dangerous for all. We need to preserve the unique environment of trees, rivers and animal life. Once the environment is going it is gone forever. Some of the ideas described here seem positive.
93. No
94. No – think you did a good job in touching on a good selection of uses and interests. I guess you did not mention all the filming that goes on there. I personally use the area A LOT for walking, for a place to bring my dog and enjoy the peace and beauty. I LOVE Finnie's Garden and when time allows would love to help out gardening there.
95. To ensure that the new care model is balanced. Respect RVH's original purposes and heritage and build on existing values that is MH addiction care, and senior centre. This would include a teaching hospital for doctors and nurses in psychiatry. All levels of care and residential facilities that range from 24hrs care to independent living. Keep the hospital open so the police will not have to spend a large portion of their time attending to mental health patients. Closing the hospital was not worked.
96. Use for filming, traffic control
97. We have noticed when driving by that there is a lot of filming happening especially by Crease Clinic. Will that continue to happen if and when the lands are redeveloped. It is a source of revenue!
98. n/a
99. I would have liked to see a map with the current buildings number and a numbered list corresponding to the map. Why isn't one here?
100. Its connection with the food producing Colony Farm was not really highlighted. You note the cemetery but say it's just people that no-one cared about – I do care – those people must be respected. What about the loss of land to residential developments so far? It is mentioned but what is left to consider now is but a portion of the original. I grew up nearby and still live nearby. So I remember what it was through the last several decades.
101. Yes there is an extensive history but most of the buildings are not worth repairing and maintaining. They do not generate revenue or good public use. The land has historically been mental health so why not keep it as public health. If the ministry of health has already said they will not financially contribute then there is no other options left
102. I consider it disgusting the way the property is looked after. I live off of Riverview Crescent and was not afraid to walk there or talking to patients. Not so now. 1. Want to see more mentally ill facilities there open and people being looked after. 2. Teaching facilities there 3. Gardens kept up 4. No housing except for patients, mentally ill and substance abuse cases. 5. No roads up from property to Riverview Crescent, enough traffic already. 6. Look after property instead of running it so Christy Clark (ugh) to her policies can see land off.

103. Preservation of on-site cemetery. Of that is not practical, a permanent notice be placed at the present site describing exactly where the new location is
104. "Riverview 1958 – Today" Chart. No mention of the lodges built between 2000 and 2009. "Building Assessment Charts" discuss 43 of 75 buildings, but do not mention all the buildings that are in good to great condition
105. more detail about the arboretum would have been appreciated. I heard the doctor who had originally established it had believed that mentally ill people needed a beautiful place to become well. I wonder what the doctor who sought out John Davidson's help to create the arboretum would think of how nowadays our most vulnerable end up on the streets
106. Riverview had been a wonderful sanctuary for mental health care. Protected the tree collection and Riverview's heritage. A haven for care of the mentally ill and a heritage site with important examples of architecture constructed throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Significant natural areas and stream, and land is kept in public trust. Continue Riverview's role in providing mental health care; expansion into related health care, suffering from dementia, assisted living facilities
107. n/a
108. I didn't see anything mentioning about the dramatic increase in homelessness, which was unheard of prior to the closing of Riverview. I think it is appalling that there is no mental hospital for the entire province of BC – WE ARE NOT A THIRD WORLD COUNTRY. Psychiatric units of general hospitals can't begin to deal with the numbers. With the increase in homelessness of mentally ill people is also an increase in crime, theft and drug abuse – for those who can't cope on their own. The money saved in policing and other areas will help balance things out a lot
109. n/a
110. it is past time to tear down these relics to a past. When we had the Victorian Insane Asylum mentality, most of the buildings are far beyond restoration – ugly, outdated, with a terrible past. This is a huge area in the middle of a metropolis that we cannot afford! Yes, save most of the beautiful landscape – but invest in new public facilities for health care of many forms. Our current approach to mental health care is right and worldwide, you can never accommodate all the problems.
111. A community with mental health facility is a large part of it. Do we need another Mary Hill? Enough already, do something better and leave it as a hospital
112. This area could include a botanical garden, educational possibilities for Coquitlam students, needs a more thorough history of mental health care on the site. Finney's Garden, Radio Museum, current medical facilities i.e. home visit nurses
113. No more stress put to explaining the purpose of Riverview as a hospital must be expressed and not forgotten
114. n/a
115. what the Provincial Government plans for the Riverview Lands: open and transparent statement of their portion; not the consultation process. What the Kwikwaka'wakw First Nation expects, wants for Crown Assets, heritage studies throughout the world over time demonstrates the value of heritage.
116. It is all important. Keep for "all" citizens of Canada and use for mental health needs. Buildings only on footprints of others, but renovation would be favoured. I don't care if it costs a "little" more, we need to keep our old architecture, old is not bad.
117. All important
118. The human story
119. Not sure on the heritage buildings, there are some working buildings on site
120. n/a



121. as someone who works in mental health, I don't think the services that Riverview offered for refractory mental illness/mental psych services was strongly enough emphasized. Connally/Cottonwood/Cypress don't really meet their needs of this core community, nor does Hillside in Kamloops offer the same value of expertise that was gathered at Riverview at on point in time. This was a service that the province does need to reproduce and it's best done on a side of provincial excellence. Riverview remains a good place to have this service.
122. When Essendale was in its youth it used cutting edge technology to treat ill people, I believe this history has been ignored
123. n/a
124. n/a
125. the value of the arboretum was not represented well at all. This is a major aspect of the lands that deserves more than one sentence
126. n/a
127. n/a
128. in the healthy minds and healthy people goal there is an abundance of material written to prove the benefits of arboretums for people to be situated within in order to be mentally and physically healthy. In particular the book our minds on nature speaks of the Riverview lands as necessary for people to visit. As a special education teacher, there are many families that would benefit from the existing buildings, donning alley, and grounds at Riverview now. Too many young adults have been excluded from schools and society. Give them a place at Riverview and show this goal on the site, the goals you show are not specific.
129. Emergency services including: Coquitlam Amateur Radio Emergency Services (CARESS) backup emergency radio communications for City of Coquitlam. No listing Ambulance Services on site and its important location, doesn't note all the volunteer groups including Rotary Club. Didn't indicate museums and doesn't indicated hospital services for general public
130. The trees planted by John Davidson Renton and various head gardeners need to be saved, this is the world class Arboretum, the whole open space. Seeds and seedlings went to start the UBC Botanical Garden. The Heritage is right here on the Riverview Lands. The oaks, beeches, elms are a priceless heritage. These large trees are under attack in the City and Parks. The usual excuse for cutting them down is " they have finished there useful life". This display to day plays down John Davidsons Essondale Lands Arboretum and implies it has been replaced at UBC Heritage Botanical Gardens.
131. Very short write up on the tree species. No map marking on building assessments, ex c3 not shown on map. Staff not knowledgeable, direct to website
132. There is still a need for more treatment centres for the mentally ill. Riverview should have more houses for small groups of patients
133. The animals that live there
134. I don't think I saw much on the economic effects that Riverview/Essondale had. It was a major employer in the region with the staffing levels. When I worked at VVH in the early '80s there were a number of employees (female) who worked there because the families lived in the area for the husband's forestry jobs. Colony farm also subsidized food costs for the population. Riverview also had student nurses, etc doing psychiatric placements
135. n/a
136. a potential site for community networking (non-profits having space) or post-secondary institutions to have study/research space i.e. Kwantlen for Colony Farm incubator farm
137. n/a
138. n/a

139. Please put considerable emphasis on past and future environment and Riverview
140. n/a
141. More about the community that thrived at Essondale/Riverview when it was fully operational mental health facility. This community was basically safe, a refuge for those who needed a less complex community than the world at large. Such a “removed” community, with all the open space and beauty, can be achieved again
142. More heritage required. This was a fully functioning community. This would be a benefit in studying the future that in my view should encompass the same safe refuge for our mentally disabled citizens
143. This beautiful land belongs to the people. We need to give all strength mental health needs to get back in there. Being on the streets or sleeping on a couch is nowhere to heal. Their families can’t afford it. It would be cheaper for the government to let the building back to mental health. You need the youth who are troubled to have a place to heal.
144. You skirted around all questions, posters just reworded everything. You did not tell us what you are really planning. How dare you try and push something on us and not tell us what you are doing with this land. You did not tell us how Riverview patients healed when they were living there. Bring back the patients and heal them.
145. There is no info on what was heard from past staff and patients. There is not any info on the consultation with first nations. I only hope the stakeholders consider the best use of the site by the residents of the area.
146. That the hospital along with the lands were designed to serve the mentally ill in the province of BC in perpetuity. This was, and I hope will continue to our “Vision” well into the future
147. n/a
148. the presentation was very well done
149. n/a
150. not enough stats. How many people need mental services in BC. Not enough legal info. Federal heritage recognition? Would that help or hinder its rescue. Are any university interested in investing?
151. Future history – I have seen several communities squander their land reserves as they grow. It is very difficult to plan strategically for the future when reserves become available for development. City planning is seldom up to the task in such cases, but when the city is outside the loop, the on us developers should be total transparency, and the community should have the say; not the province alone!
152. I see information but there seems to be an undercurrent to move these lands along to market housing. I DO NOT support this – that’s public assets for private profits. These lands must stay in public ownership. I see the term “sustainable” here used as a substitute for “money making”. By definition the lands are sustainable – they will continue to be lands connected in forest growth unless we do something that destroys this.
153. n/a
154. n/a
155. consider the history to be represented, but am concerned that history as reflected is not adequately managed through an agency such as BC Housing
156. in the presentation, it would helpful to add who lives in the 2 lodges, and in the cottages and other “occupied” buildings. The focus of this presentation today did NOT reflect the need for mental health/sacred land. Also, please define “critical” status of buildings. I work in Unit 6 (home health) which is classed as critical. The great green area and spiritual sense of Riverview is what makes people like it – no commercial buildings, stores, etc
157. n/a

158. no keep out the housing developers
159. very little on mental health of residents/patients in need but live downtown in troublesome situations. Some sort of mental health care facility that recognizes many of these ex-residents need to be cared for on a 24 hours basis. We need a facility that addresses mentally challenged people in a more caring, educated manner – no mention of their need. Include ex-residents of families in the process
160. I do not know the history enough even until my extensive reading to say that something has been missed or not represented. It is in the manner that this process is being handled that I am concerned. Not everything in life is to generate money. Think about it!
161. The coverage of the history us quite good. The assessment of repair and condition of the buildings is somewhat helpful but aside form the historic value of the buildings, a figure that is missing is the cost to build those assets today. This is very relevant as, they was the figures are presented there is a cost to the facilities but no value. If there is use for facilities and there should be a comparison between cost to renew and cost to replace there assets
162. None
163. No
164. Very pleased with the commitment to green space and hopefully the tranquility of the site. Environment is a huge component of the healing process
165. The gardens – trees – arboretum – park and many buildings are sustainable. Some still in use for the patients. This is a beautiful peaceful location ideal for what it was designed for a sanctuary for the mentally ill. Please keep it this way.
166. No the coverage was excellent but the first word I saw when I walked in was “BC Housing” and that concerns me – it’s not a word I want to use when discussing the Riverview Lands – so little trust that the will of the people will be heard. This piece of property is unique and the Arboretum is beauty in this “ME” society.
167. n/a
168. no
169. I’m too tired to read everything. The trees and the left over resources like fire hall, gas station, ambulance and halls need consideration. Brookside was not mentioned, it has private rooms. Bus service is pitiful.
170. n/a
171. n/a
172. n/a
173. It has not been imperative to BC to have Riverview Lands be cost effective in the past. If you restore a Hospital and Mental Health facility you would have many workers as well as patients. Most of whom have visitors, donors would appear, etc. I am shocked that the first info poster is nothing but housing. If you see off the lands – you sell your heritage. Building housing if you must but rent it off.
174. The uniqueness of the site. The possibility to truly embrace the total site for the community and province. A cohesive – integrated vision. Not clear on the money meaning – used to provide a lot of employment for the region. Perhaps some truly innovative ways of developing the site.
175. PROTECT WORLD CLASS ARBORETUM. IT WOULD BE VERY STUPID NOT TO.
176. n/a
177. no
178. no
179. no
180. the natural areas, streams, wildlife areas and the connections to near by parks was part over. The significance of the architecture constructed through he 20<sup>th</sup> century was missing. The exceptional

arboretum with a world-class collection of trees thought the general should be emphasized. There was no mention of past public meetings or the results/conclusions of those meetings

- 181. n/a
- 182. n/a
- 183. n/a
- 184. n/a
- 185. the lands history seemed well represented, but the presentation of the site's future was completely vague. Most of the posters on display spoke of "vision" but made no reference to what is actually going to happen with the land. Will buildings be demolished? Why is the city/province unwilling to put money into the preservation of this historic land? Why must all revenue put into the project come from the land? Will the site continue to be mental health facility, or will it be converted into housing? I learned nothing from this open-house, but am grateful for this feedback form.
- 186. n/a
- 187. the history of the Riverview Lands is huge. It's the future I am concerned!
- 188. n/a
- 189. n/a
- 190. the gardens, green space and streams
- 191. n/a
- 192. n/a
- 193. I think everything is well expressed
- 194. n/a
- 195. n/a
- 196. n/a
- 197. n/a
- 198. 1) Music Therapies, Art Therapies, choir 2) To retain all the remaining Riverview Lands (244 acres) as public lands in perpetuity for the use of people with mental illness and addictions. 3) New model from institutional to new therapeutic model including a teaching hospital, long term residential treatment facilities ancillary services in a village environment for people with mental illness to prepare them with skills and recovery to be able to cope independently. 4) Balanced new model – hospital and community care, good professional care, various therapies for those people with serious mental illness and addictions who need 24 hour care to those who are moving towards independent living. 5) Expanding health care facilities and therapies for seniors suffering from dementia and facilities for assisted living.

Question 5: The Vision Process is looking to balance economic, social, environmental and provincial considerations for the future of the Riverview Lands, BC Housing is also considering a self-sustaining economic model that would retain the same amount of open space as is currently found on the lands. What other thoughts do you have on the future of Riverview?

- 1. I have always felt that a safe & secure place for people with mental health problems should be maintained. The closure of Riverview has been a disaster for many former patients who are now living on the streets – many in the downtown East Side. Hospital psych wards do not have the space and often send folks home before they are ready. Riverview should be updated and reopened as a caring place for folks with mental illness. I do not wish to see these lands turned into a housing development.

2. Creation of valuable habitat should be a priority, also innovative health and community benefits such as therapeutic gardening and garden plots could be considered. Housing where it is provided should be concentrated and dense without overpowering the landscape by excessive height. Thanks for an opportunity to consult.
3. This obviously means towers: unaffordable to the average person. Please is everything always about money? Couldn't we have Riverview designated as a "healing" place, where we could nurture the land and people who need help: mental facilities as it was.
4. Given the surrounding amenities, I'm not sure exactly what "self-sustaining" means or why this is considered necessary. I would not like to see this element pushed if it means making the area market driven in terms of development. I favour the City's vision of considering heritage, parkland, mental health & wellness facilities, and community access facilities.
5. A student-centric development would be nice!
6. I'd like to see a park developed here with no residential units being built.
7. No 20-30 storey buildings! No single detached or town homes. We need better transit if housing density is increased. Playgrounds, community gardens, dog space.
8. In order to consider what structures are to be kept and upgraded, there has to be some effort made to determine possible & practical uses – and these costed and put to the public for consideration. I do recognize that it is not reasonable to expect that all 40 odd buildings be preserved. Based upon what appear to be errors in the chart, I don't have much faith or see much value in the work that was paid for. E.g. Crease Clinic Area (and years built). There should be provision for mental/social facilities.
9. n/a
10. n/a
11. Heritage conservation plan
12. Get a hole of TSC Schizophrenic Society and BC Mental Health.
13. When 408 say self sustaining that is "new speak" for housing development. None of the lands should be sold – they belong to the people of BC.
14. Increase density enough to pay for Riverview to be able to house and treat as many people as required according to mental health professionals.
15. More mental health facilities (or in existing facilities). Seniors facilities for aging and for medical assistance (ex. Alzheimers). Agricultural use. Transition for colony Farm Forensic clients – with strong support. Maintain trees. Burnaby Mountain Naturalists suggestions.
16. The property should be consolidated with the regional park property to the south, and designated as the same classification of parkland. There is no other property in the vicinity of Riverview to fill this crucial role in a community that is quickly being maxed out in terms of residential densification.
17. Keep this facility open for what it was intended for. (Mental Health). You could bring all mental health care to this facility and probably all or most of East Hastings, the biggest slum and eye sore of the world. Bring these people's health and mental disorders to a place where they can be helped. People would pay a tax for this provincially even many of the governments dreamed up taxes that keep us as one of the highest or the highest taxed provinces in Canada.
18. I would have no problems with housing on some of these lands as long as it includes no mansions, is affordable for young people, includes parking transit, schools, day care, playgrounds, seniors facilities and dog park, and saves at least a few of the buildings for some of the aforementioned uses. Eg. Seniors centre.
19. I would like to see the Riverview lands remain undeveloped – by which I mean have no encroachment by townhouse, condo, highrise development. I would also like to see this process remain absolutely transparent from beginning to end. The land should be allowed to sustain the same trees that have been

grounding here since the property was initially developed in the early days of its formative history. How do you define a “self-sustaining economic model?”

20. The open space on these lands are the last available for future generations. It is a crime that 141 acres were ever sold. Never sell the public lands for short term profit. The wife had cancer and we went to Riverview to get post treatment and not have to drive to UBC Hospital.
21. The buildings should be renovated and used as a hospital and housing for the care of the mentally ill. It is cruel to have them to fend for themselves or to spend time in prison. Also, if some buildings are not needed for mentally ill care they could be rented out to art institutes, colleges etc. but not commercial business. Please please preserve all of the Riverview property. It is a very special and beautiful area, valued by all the citizens of the Tri-City Why spoil such a beautiful and rare treasure that would be impossible to replace?
22. 1) Create a university/college level training centre on-site. 2) Open units for care of mental patients of ALL levels: people taken off the streets needing help, prisoners who should never be in prison where NO mental health care exists, elderly suffering various levels of mental problem, young people needing mental treatment.
23. Putting mental health care as the #1 priority can still translate into a self-sustaining economic model! I encourage you to be creative and really listen. Be a leader in mental health care. The three existing sites do not provide enough beds and care. And we do not need more market housing.
24. 1) It is a shame that these facilities have fallen into such disrepair. 2) Money should be invested in facilities to provide more support for mental health, recreation, seniors support, celebration of cultural heritage – not development of more housing, whereby developers become rich and communities become more impoverished.
25. The demand for psychiatric treatment centres (beds) and training for the same is greater than the space currently available. Please: no more mental health patients assigned to our prisons and jails. The combination of mentally ill with criminals is a bad mix. Riverview could resume its role as a training hospital to meet the demand for treatment and restoration rather than psychotic citizens on our streets.
26. This worries me when it includes a self-sustaining economic model as health facilities are never self-sustaining financially. Roads and bridges etc are not self-sustaining economically. We pay taxes for services for the public and we don't expect them to be self-sustaining. Also, I don't trust the Provincial Government to make decisions that consider health and wellness to be not as important as the “bottom line.” WHO will make the final decision re: Riverview lands.
27. I do not want to see the lands sold off to developers to fill the coffers of the provincial government. Since the phased closure of Riverview, there are far too many mentally ill patients left to fend for themselves in the community. If anything, their lives have become worse. I would like to see the buildings upgraded. What guarantees do we have that the BC housing will protect the lands?? I want my children to grow up with these beautiful green spaces and know the history of these lands.
28. This statement does not mention mental health!! These lands are for the thousands of residents past and present of BC that need to be taken care of. You cannot always put dollars before humans. Give all residents a chance for a life and dollars will follow. Take a serious look at all the empty condos etc. and say we need more. More housing etc costs money in the long run. The initial funds is all you think about. What about – what about increased policing, fire, garbage etc.
29. Non-profit housing and services.
30. n/a
31. Elected-appointed-hired public servants are charged to represent the best interests of the public, not corporations. Corporations are charter granted by the public. It is criminal for corporations to use capital to steal public assets. The process happens with public/private revolving door. Your duty is to

resist private interests and defend the public interest. P3s are criminal. No partnerships, Bring in mental health stakeholders and get rid of the corporate framers.

32. Why financially self-sustaining? Why not keep it for the people who have mental health issues? Why not consider really using this site for the community arts, film industry, nurse training etc., Under no circumstances market or social housing.
33. I do not want to see any part of the Riverview grounds sold off for market housing. If buildings need to be demolished in order to build up-to-date facilities for mental health care, so be it – rather than renovating old buildings. I would like to see some of the heritage buildings retained – also the gardens, trees etc. There is a need for low cost housing in the area.
34. n/a
35. Ideal for mental health and addiction treatment, as in the past. Great place to house community groups and offer office space. No need to develop housing here – there are lots of places for residential housing.
36. No housing developments – remain as a mental facility. No high rise buildings. Community based mental health schemes do not appear to be working. Take a look at the downtown east side area of Vancouver. Site to be maintained as a single entity for mental health.
37. How can we trust BC Housing? If the buildings had been maintained they would not be in a clinical state. Put the money in now and save the buildings. Any new building should blend with existing buildings.
38. If that balancing process means an acceptance of revenue generating malls, businesses, rental housing, high rises, multi family etc etc then I am against it. I walk often there. Think it should be redeveloped as it was originally developed with scattered buildings and huge open areas. DO not, please, let social housing hijack the site.
39. Why did BC Government – BC Housing do the assessment review and report of the Riverview buildings? This is not acceptable. We need an “independent,” unbiased competent professional firm to conduct a real assessment review report. = We the tax payer. The estimates you gave in today’s open house and the dangerous materials removal. Lets get the work started now. We need local employment. All we have in the lower mainland is part-time jobs. I will take on a job working a real job at Riverview. I want work. Others I know here want work. Lets get the dangerous materials job in the various Riverview buildings. Started now. Lets teach young and other Coquitlam residents construction jobs, restoring historical buildings etc. I want the job and others here and British Columbians want this work. Also, remodel the interiors of the buildings for various stage mental health and homeless people.
40. One caretaker for all Riverview. Keep the name Riverview for the area. How will you “ensure” same amount of open space? And what if self-sustaining is not possible? Open space – does that term mean parking lots or treed areas?
41. To also consider the transportation impact to the city of Coquitlam; will this project improve transportation (eg. Reduce gridlock) of the region? With such vast area of lands, it can also contribute to the improvement of transportation in the region.
42. Self-sustaining is a pipe dream!!! Yes! Retain the open space! This project must focus on serving the mentally ill in our community no matter what the cost!! Money will be saved by the reduction of crime due to helping those who turn to crime to survive.
43. The same of the 141 acres of land for the development of only 250 single family homes, seems short sighted. Hopefully this will not happen again.
44. I definitely want the amount of open space retained as is currently found on the lands. In fact, I would like to see it made into a park area in whole. It is a unique area that is a joy to walk through and explore and see all of the wildlife and special trees and vegetation. At a time where urbanization is occurring at

a rapid pace all around us, I believe that the Riverview lands need to be preserved as a park area for all of the lower mainland to enjoy. We need to realize what a special ecosystem this area is. I am a businessman in Port Coquitlam. I do not usually have such strong “green” beliefs. However, as stated above, I am committed to seeing this area remain pristine. Areas like this are what make the lower Mainland special. BC Housing on their presentation boards talks about a balanced vision for the Riverview lands. Balanced does not mean it’s the right vision. Everyone can enjoy it as a park. That is the balance I want to see.

45. The buildings should be removed safely and the entire area preserved as a natural park. With the constant urbanization and densification of many “town centres” it would be prudent to have a “park” similar to what downtown Vancouver enjoys in Stanley Park. Let there be an area for enjoyment that we don’t have to drive to which also adds to the degradation of the environment. If mental health care is still required on the land then rebuild some of the buildings to allow that care for those that need it.
46. I would like to see the land kept as a park. Whether or not the buildings are taken down or renovated and used for mental healthcare again. In today’s world, we are rapidly growing and wide spread urbanization is happening so fast. With the Evergreen line coming into Coquitlam, we are going to face a lot more density. With this said, we need to focus on preserving parks and historical land. Parks and open green spaces are slowly getting more space and we keep pushing wildlife further and further away. Ultimately I would like to see the land kept in its current form for the preservation of the wildlife, vegetation and historic values.
47. Many of us visit other countries to see their antiquities and it would be a shame to alter or destroy any of the beautiful, old beautiful. BC could add buildings in the same style, and re-do the interiors. Yes, it costs a lot but so does helping the mentally ill downtown on the east side. BC needs to address the travesty that is growing in our beautiful city. I am strongly opposed to any market housing (condos, private houses, high-rises) etc on this provincial property.
48. Restore and preserve the buildings! It is priceless.
49. We need a mental health community space that is run by the people, not administrators who are not necessarily active on the grounds. Every day mental health is not addressed in our communities, will have a long term economic effects on the social system.
50. Population density – no social/market housing. Tourist destination. Movie site. Resurrected and maintained as a historic site.
51. The above statement is not logical. Same open space and development on the site does not balance.
52. I agree with the vision of Mayor’s Task Force of 2003 (Kingsbury, Donnelley). I believe their points were well thought out and are best use of lands. I’m not interested in market housing!!
53. Keep the Provincial Government out of the process.
54. I am partial to the 2005 Guiding Principles. Absolutely opposed to commercial real estate development. Enhanced mental health/drug treatment facilities essentials. Presentation of heritage including Coquitlam museum.
55. The closing of mental health services at Riverview has left many patients without needed assistance. Restoring these services by refurbishing existing facilities would correct this, and get these people off the streets. Riverview’s green spaces are a valuable asset for all local residents. They, like other parks, preserve sanity for us all – which is more vital today than ever, when our society is being consumed by insanity in the form of material greed.
56. Very limited if not “none” in regard to housing for revenue.
57. My understanding that these lands were to be used for mental health. I feel they should remain that way. There is a huge demand for this place to be re-opened for the mental health – rehabilitation. Keep the spirit of the heritage value.



58. These lands were designed for the rehabilitation of the mental health and I would like to see it stay and used for that purpose. Housing for the elderly (dementia/Alzheimers). It is a very therapeutic place and is perfect for this use. Heritage value should be valued. Keep the spirit of it.
59. No condos. This is about people, not about money.
60. Facilities are needed for the mentally ill.
61. A temporary place to house the homeless. A centre of ? for mental health research. More housing for the mentally ill. A centre for ? similar to what Pennington Hall has provided. A small research hospital.
62. Build more housing for the people suffering from mental conditions.
63. Would like to see treatment centres and other medical services.
64. Majority should be used to address mental health issues and possibly consideration for senior housing. Buildings should be saved if at all possible.
65. It would be a biological site for a museum to capture the history of the city and the history of province's mental health. As well the 2005 guiding principles should be adhered to. Finally, if there has to be some form of housing low rise, not high rise.
66. The land must be kept by the province and should remain for mental health care. We really need more beds for mental health and also places where dementia patients can be cared for. Mental wellness should be a theme for the site. Work with Colony Farms to provide training in growing food for patients who are being rehabilitated. Riverview would also be suitable for assisted living facilities for the elderly – it is a beautiful site for retired older people to live. If we need a new hospital in Coquitlam, it should be built here!
67. I do not wish to ever see any more housing on these lands. Health patients in many different ways, including prevention.
68. No public housing. Retain the unique garden. Refurbish the buildings. Get people off the streets and into a safe environment. Develop the grounds for sustainable agriculture.
69. I would like to see a balanced approach with the following elements in priority order: 1) re-establishment of mental health care. 2) Preservation of some buildings which can be used for #1. 3) Preservation of green space and existing trees. 4) Market housing to help finance the project – including seniors oriented housing.
70. Riverview's heritage and history should be celebrated. A museum on the grounds would be wonderful.
71. n/a
72. I would like it left as is with some repairs, maintenance done. Leave it for generations to come. It is a great treasure. I love to see the crokes in the spring. Love the trees Use for homeless. Create jobs for the jobless, love the trees, who could build the same buildings good as a park.
73. I would like to see a modern mental health hospital (s) established again. They need care of professional staff and peaceful settings. RCMP and others are not trained to deal with the ones that are mentally ill. The movie industry will be your self-sustaining economics. Also, many baby boomers! Need housing for dementia.
74. n/a
75. The property that held the Alzheimers patients could be sold and re developed which would bring some cash to the local economy.
76. n/a
77. No to housing: or selling of property. Return buildings for the mentally ill. Rest of lands should be parks and a place of beauty. Leave Riverview as is!
78. This is scary and does not take into consideration the value of land as a sanctuary and residential treatment facility for the mentally ill. Some things are worth more than money. Closing Riverview was good for some, bad for others. Some people struggling with mental illness are able to manage in the

community most of the time but many need more intensive care at times of acute illness. Some people will always need supervised care and some will always need secure care. I look at what is not working. It is sad to see how the mentally ill are treated – shot and killed by police or released from one hospital, stole a truck rammed five police cars and flooded another hospital. Then there was the case of a hospital calling the police who tasered an elderly man with dementia. Waiting in emergency is hard for everyone, but imagine how difficult it must be for someone who is hallucinating or hearing voices. Many ill people are incarcerated. Many have been abused, many have mental illness and addiction. The justice system does not rehabilitate or treat. The mentally ill need the care of the health system. Ideas for consideration: 1) Intensive care unit for acutely mentally ill with critical needs of specialized professionals and care givers on duty at all times. 2) Integrated training for police, first responders and health care workers. 3) Housing and care for chronically mentally ill who don't get adequate support in the community. 4) Innovative care for Alzheimers, dementia, autism and other brain and neurological conditions. 5) Research for #4. 6) Rehabilitation and life skills training. 7) Treatment of addiction. 8) Retain the forested area to continue its important work of producing oxygen and water for future generations. ... The Riverview lands are centrally located to Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley. ... Trees are healing. Research has proven the value of nature – increases memory 20%, relieves depression. ... Some of the buildings can be used although not identified at the open house. ... The lands are provincially owned. It would cost a lot more to acquire new land and none would be so suitable. ... It makes practical and economic sense to use this site as a specialized centre for innovative care and research for people with mental illness, Alzheimers, and other dementias, and brain and neurological conditions. Where else is there a site so well suited with the benefit of healing trees.

79. There has been no mention of the fact that most of the buildings are contaminated with asbestos; therefore restoration and repair costs might be prohibitive.
80. 1) Need to return the lands and facility for mental health care. Too many potentially ill people are being abandoned on the streets of our cities, falling through cracks. 2) Maintain at least the heritage facades of the buildings East Centre, and West Lawn. 3) Maintain the parklike aspect aspect of the lands. 4) Not opposed to housing on the undeveloped land south end of Riverview. Help pay for restoration. No highrises. Senior and assisted living. Housing would be a fine addition with beautiful outdoor land, gardens to stroll.
81. I believe Riverview should be turned into a world renewed healthy care facility. Where we could earn revenue by being accessible by people from all over the world. We need a place for people with mental issues to go. Could we not make a facility that assists these people and at the same time have a drug rehabilitation facility accessed by people who could afford to pay people would pay big money to attend. Such a beautiful, restorative site. I believe that we could make this work and preserve a lot of our heritage in the process.
82. These 244 acres must remain as crown land. I would love to see us working with UBC Botanical Gardens – we could have a satellite here – perhaps (I think they are running out of room). What about our own “providence far,” like the one outside of Duncan on Vancouver Island – clients could live in the Community or here on the grounds. A research centre of excellence. West Lawn renovated and maybe becoming a Heritage Centre or Museum and our trees would form a living museum all around it. Jill Cook with the Coquitlam heritage group wrote about this in 2012.
83. If there is a monetary concern then a strip of land can be sold off as individual lots along the N-West fence line. Not to a land developer. I know the Government is broke so they say.
84. See above. Also, a balance between acute and community mental health is needed to adequately address the issue.

85. If condos (towers) can't be built, then private research companies or pharma companies offered reduce Taxes for five years. Hopefully companies that are doing research in Dementia and Alzheimers.
86. Help make the art concept fly. Condos won't fly with the community.
87. Open to homeless and revamp hospital. Government should keep out of trying to develop for money! As a born here Canadian, it's so bad to see this Government sell off our assets.
88. Do not allow "developers" to destroy this heritage area. Buildings need to be restored where possible. Trees and grounds must be considered sacred. Whole site needs to remain public.
89. This area should become a first class mental health facility and trading centre. Through these activities the area would become self-sustaining.
90. To create and maintain a workable solution for the mentally ill. An acute hospital should be erected so people may be treated in a safe setting.
91. Would like to see it remain as close as possible to the original. Use and appearance to be used for the public – maybe housing for the ill seniors.
92. The information given here is fairly vague. I am not in favour of public housing, highrises, condos going upon this land, at the rate green space is disappearing in Coquitlam and the increased traffic and pollution coming from residents of dozens of highrises. Being built with no end in sight – is making this city un-liveable. It has to stop!
93. Self-sustaining mental health facility. As well as homeless centre and substance abuse and victim care facility.
94. So glad to hear you want to maintain the openness of the lands and preserve the trees, gardens and natural areas. I care greatly about the people with mental illnesses who live there and want to preserve their peace and privacy. I want their homes to be warm and comfortable. I would love to see the education of professionals who work with mental illness be closely linked – a "teaching hospital" type of thing. Also, facilities and people who help equip people to move back into society and "halfway houses."
95. Retain all of the remaining RVH (244 acres) as public lands in perpetuity for the use of people, half of mental and addictions. To replace the institutional stigma half a new therapeutic community model. This model would include a teaching hospital; long term residential treatment facilities and ancillary services in a village environment for people & M.I. to prepare them and the recovery and skills to be able to cope independently. To ensure that the new care model is balanced, that it contains elements of both hospital and community care, facilities, housing and good professional care and various therapies for those people. Half seniors, M.L. addictions who need 24 hr care to those moving towards independent living yet are still unable to cope in busy city life.
96. Continue with some mental health facilities. Consider housing for the homeless. Maintain a park like setting in whatever is developed.
97. I would like the Crease Clinic to stay and be upgraded. Could low-cost housing be made available by renovating some of the old buildings and making them into condos for mentally ill and low income people. Preserve the plants, landscape for us to enjoy. More health care buildings, Columbian Hospital is overcrowded \*Concern about increased traffic on a busy congested Lougheed Highway if much housing happens.
98. Streams must be preserved. Site should be used for use for mental health including those with Dementia and Alzheimers.
99. What do you mean by economics? I hope this does not mean another mall. I would like to see a place for the mentally ill to stay and recover with ample green space, so that these people can connect with their environment in a peaceful way. I do see some housing on the peripheral areas but this should be for hospital patients and seniors living. Please do not give us highrises!!

100. What are the provincial considerations?? As Government – they are really tasked with representing the views of the citizens so there should be the considerations: citizen considerations. I might support a mix of park, hospital. We need both mental and physical care facilities as well as geriatrics and some commercial restaurants – doctors offices etc. but want to see preservation of heritage buildings and green space – mixed. Not just grass – greenspace.
101. Would like the lands to be kept and maintained by the government as a health care/mental health facility. Unfortunately these are not self-sustaining. In order self-sustain parts of the grounds would have to be sold or used commercially. Since when is any health care facility been self-sustaining? We have the perfect opportunities as the grounds are already owned by the government to use them in a way to benefit the public.
102. Why self-sustaining? Health care costs should not be self-sustaining. Look after people, not cash grab tactics. Love walking there, but no longer feel comfortable. Don't even see security vehicles anymore. Look after the grounds. No public housing – use buildings, rent out (ie. Fraser/Health) for Mental Health services. Smarten up Christie Clark and get lost. We don't need your money grabbing tactics.
103. My main concern is the possible future loss of any more “green” spaces to more buildings such as apts./condos/etc.
104. There is overwhelming need, and public support, for a new hospital for Mental Health care on the Riverview Grounds. Please consider the great example of what was done in Ontario, in a very comparable situation in building the Ontario Shores facility.
105. I would like the land to remain in public trust and be used in providing health care – mental health care, assisted living, doing rehabilitation, a facility for those with Dementia. I would like to see the natural habitat of Riverview preserved and enhanced. If the footprint of Riverview changes somewhat, I hope that habitat replacement doesn't result in taking away habitat from other animals. More of an enhanced link with Riverview Forest Park and Colony Farm would be a good role. I'd like to see the arbore.
106. Save the buildings!! Continue Riverview's role in/providing mental health care!! Developers the full participants of the arboretum. Fireserve and enhance natural habitat areas and streams. No market housing developments!! No housing development period.
107. Do not make Riverview another Burke Mountain housing development. It's disgraceful what is planned. We have a vast number of BC Citizens with seniors mental health issues and nowhere but the streets to “have” them. Rebuilt this area for our mentally ill and a re-transition back to society. We the taxpayers pay dearly for individuals who commit crimes etc due to a lack of resources and facilities. People before greed!
108. I was at an events similar to this probably in 2012.
109. Question it is not clear what is “self sustaining economic market” means? I am a little concerned that it means selling or commercial enterprises which I question what I have a problem with.
110. This is an enormous piece of unused land. Some private use could be tucked away in certain areas and hardly noticed but would be a valued investment. Yes, the trees are beautiful and should be kept – yet how many people go to see them – for every single person that goes to enjoy these grounds (per day) 100 people walk around. Como Wake Park!! Ask ourselves why? The answer is obvious: Ray Thompson.
111. What about mental health?? What about just leaving it as a hospital, Its cheaper to chase a potential in a nice setting with follow up support. More Gardens, Orchards. A community!!
112. Expand areas for mental health care. As above, plan for an arboretum or botanical garden. Tourism possibilities. Expand movie shoot possibilities.
113. n/a
114. n/a

115. Retain Riverview as Parkland to support mental health issues as before. No market housing. No distribution of crown assets to Private Sector. Retain Riverview Lands for future generations. "Think of London, England's greenspaces if they had all gone to market housing." Think tourism in the years to come. Save it as is, Como Park and mental health or community oriented. (Hospital, outreach etc.). Do not sale to private.
116. All the vision statements by Coquitlam Riverview advisory committee!! Are good especially would like to see small complimentary coffee shops, art committees, small café/restaurant. Museum community, public market. No market housing! No large buildings!
117. All the visions laid out by the Coquitlam Riverview Advisory committee. Coffee stop/bakery, public market, artisans.
118. n/a
119. Maintain: buildings that have beautiful benefits, gardens and trees, public use of any facilities, no commercial development.
120. Riverview Lands need to be preserved for their beauty. Riverview needs to be a centre which focuses on mental health and addiction issues.
121. 1) No housing, housing is not comparable with the new collection. 2) Preserve and build on the tree collection. 3) Preservation of the larger heritage buildings is desirable (the Lawn as opposed to the more industrial buildings at bottom.) 4) Movie making is a compatible use. 5) This area needs open space. ... Hay building continues to be a useful building for committee use.
122. I believe a new, up to date hospital should be built for emotionally ill patients, that the Hay building should be renovated and used as a teaching with emphasis on public education on mental illness. I also do not believe we need more condos, etc. none are public properties required to be of "neutral" benefits.
123. n/a
124. No private development. Keep site and rebuild mental institution.
125. Keeping the lands for mental health uses should be the number 1 priority. As well as preserving the park – like setting and the valuable arboretum. I'm against the lands being turned into market housing.
126. n/a
127. I'd like to emphasize on the social and environmental ? for the future. I prefer focussing on mental health, research, environmental and passive recreational use of the lands. I highly doubt will be beneficial in this process. In fact, I believe this could be detrimental for the implementation of all other values I oppose the view of the site needing to be self-sustaining economically.
128. Create a healthy community for people with special needs to live and work at Riverview. There are many possible ways to sustain jobs and livelihoods for all people on the land. Promise that it will happen. Look to the experts and scientific research about the people who the place was originally created for and bring it back in a way that ensures inclusion, sustained economic needs for everyone!! Call me for ideas and presentations please.
129. Make grounds for those with mental illness and including those that need to fall – time care and support those not in a custodial mode. Expand space available to emergency services and those volunteer groups supporting emergency services, the city, etc. Have volunteer museums. Improve buildings for ambulance operations and add volunteer/Fire Hall and RCMP community station. Need to protect existing trees and open spaces for general public, first responders and patients.
130. Could be a world class centre for research and rehabilitation and treatment for people to recover from addictions. Do not want market housing. Important parkland with the environment of trees streams, green space for bears to move from one area to the next, game corridor. Colony Farm could be used for farmland.
131. That self-sustaining objective is misguided and that the transfer to BC Housing is wrong!

132. Should not have to pay for maintenance. Another review is not necessary. The lands have been allowed to deteriorate so it will seem necessary to demolish some buildings and replace them with income-producing projects. This is not what the people want!
133. I would like to see a mental health and higher education site funded partially by the province and revenue from the students and the patients.
134. I appreciate the need to make the property self-supporting. Please don't increase the hard structure footprint-use existing sites for any structures and retain as many of the buildings as possible. Transit infrastructure is already in existence so use for students, and limited transportation funds would be appropriate.
135. Would like to see a new Royal Columbian Hospital. Built on the lands, there is better access to Highways, not as much traffic and ability to put in a medevac heliport. Would also like to see Riverview mental hospital rebuilt as well as an Alzheimers unit built.
136. Don't lose this important public and green space. You destroy or develop it then it's gone for all time!
137. There should be no public housing on grounds, 144 acres have already been taken for housing. The site ran as a psychiatric facility for over 100 years – this vision is still viable. Mental illness has not been cured. The property is comparable to Stanley Park in Van. A dormat touch zone. The RV grounds are viewed as the same, an oasis. Also, the full majestic trees act as a filter system to the highway congestion pollution. An Eco system to itself. Wildlife and streams. Deer, racoons, coyotes, bobcat, bears, cougars, beaver, birds etc.
138. My sister was one of the last patients to leave Riverview Hospital she was transferred to UBC which is in the stark contrast to the Riverview facility. Over the many years my sister was in and out of Riverview, the one constant was the serenity and reality in which she was surrounded. The surroundings have a lot to do with getting better! This was not the case with the UBC facility which is on a busy urban street. I remember a comment from one of the nurses just before Riverview closed, he said: "This is a place where people with mental illness can be themselves, it is a sanctuary for them." I could not have agreed with him more.
139. Is a self-sustaining money model really, totally necessary if it means the huge alteration of the land? Development is always destructive no matter how carefully planned or completed. Listen to the people – having the ministry of housing here is discouraging. Some mix of small inprint housing – seniors, mental health patients with supporting services on site will provide both social and long term economic benefits – you already have the stats about comprehensive support for fragile citizens.
140. No BC Housing in this area. This area should not be used for BC Housing. It is absolutely no place in this area. The future of Riverview Lands should be used and developed for mental health or the citizens. Where they can go and be treated and monitored properly. With increase in population and drug use – more and larger facilities will be needed. We need some foresight from elected personal hire.
141. I would like to see: 1) Designation as a Provincial Heritage site. 2) Expansion of mental health care facilities. 3) Develop arboretum as a major tourist attraction and educational centre. Keep land in public trust and managed as a single unit, used for the benefit of society, not developers.
142. Must be declared a Provincial Heritage Site. Lands must be kept in Public Trust and managed as a single unit not price – needed for developing or to raise money for public offers. Develop a arboretum as a tourist attraction as well as expand into a larger garden facility ? of the ideal growing conditions could be another Winter Gardens.
143. We need a park just like Stanley Park. We need mental health to let their patients back in. We need a place for troubled teens to go to heal. We need gardens take up by by communities or Government agencies. No more buildings, fix the ones we have mental health patients always did better when they

had something to do. They healed when doing gardening or planting trees. Vancouver Parks board had 3 trees planted and that means they see the whole area as a park, a useful park for all people.

144. No housing. We need our own Park for the people and patients. No more building. Fix what we have.
145. 1) Firstly restore the site. 2) bring back some of the medical services needed to get the old patients off the streets of all communities affected by the closure. 3) Use the tourist attraction of the site. 4) Make it a park that can be used by all. 5) Keep the fucking developers out of the site. 6) Use it to educate people about mental health issues. 7) Use it to educate people about first nations. 8) use all the environment areas of the site.
146. The plight of the mentally ill has reached a “very critical” state. The smaller facilities and hospitals such as UBC, St. Paul’s, Vancouver General are far from adequate and can be harmful to those that fall through the cracks; in my opinion. These are short term story and band aid solutions and these kind of hospitals cannot cope or compare to Riverview Hospital in fulfilling the needs of our society and it’s vulnerable members. Please continue your good work to preserve Riverview Hospital grounds. Thank you.
147. 1) Absolute priority given to using the Riverview lands and preserving this site to serve the needs for treatment and housing for persons struggling with mental illness. 2) Any consideration - housing on the Riverview lands should be part of a larger discussion. Strategies significantly increasing the full continuum of affordable housing options in Coquitlam for lower income seniors, families and young adults – our own Coquitlam residents who cannot afford to purchase “market housing.”
148. I do not want to see any housing development unless it is for use of community. The vision I saw expressed by the Heritage Conservation Plan that was created in 2012 seems excellent. Obviously a lot of thought and planning by the Mayor’s Riverview Task Force came up with an excellent solution. They have my vote on what to do.
149. We should ensure the original purpose of these lands are maintained. We do not have adequate facilities today for special needs.
150. No commercial Housing Developments. Rebuild it for healing and teaching.
151. The real balances have already tipped and any effort to restore balance should scrutinize any development with some suspicion.
152. No need for this to be part of the “balance”. Lets embrace the city of Coquitlam’s vision for the lands and we’re done. ... This simply mean lets sell this stuff off and we’ll realize a one time profit to pad one year’s provincial budget. I do not not agree. These lands must remain whole and public and be used for the public good, not private developers profits!
153. As an emergency nurse at RCH, over the past 25 years I have seen an increase in health care needs in our community, and a reduction in health care facilities. St. Mary’s Hospital has never been replaced. Riverview was abandoned and ERH is not a fully functioning acute care hospital. Thus RCH is always running over capacity, as our population is growing rapidly; including our population of elderly and medically fragile as well as mentally ill people. I suggest making ERH and/or RCH facilities for extended care, rehab, elective surgeries. Build a new facility on the Riverview grounds for acute care, and mental health. Build facilities that will get the homeless off the streets and doing and creating food, gardens, vegetables, clothes etc that give to our community. The property has so much room for a community itself. Also, restore a few of the historical buildings to maintain some heritage value.
154. The Riverview lands should only be for mental health. I work in a mutual in a mental health facility and we received many of the remaining pts. from Riverview when it closed. They have done well but at a cost to the public. As a stand alone facility every time one of our patients has to go to a specialists appointment (ortho, cardiac) we have to send them to the hospital for the x-rays or to the doctor’s office for the appointment. We have to send a staff person and we have the cost of transportation. This is not

saving money for the citizens of BC. The area they have to get outside for a walk or to enjoy nature is the size of a postage stamp.

155. One poster represented the views of the City of Coquitlam. I think these views largely reflect my thinking. After seeing the full poster presentation I do not get the feeling that BC Housing shares the views of the City of Coquitlam based on the stated current process of BC Housing.
156. I would like a new Home Health/Public Health/mental Health office building, all under one roof/campus. ... It is imperative to keep Riverview health and spiritual focussed! Our culture is "poor" with lack of sacred places.
157. Repair buildings. House the handicapped. Maintain property. Do not destroy.
158. Do not let BC Housing develop any housing on this property. Let them go someplace else. We can create our own sustaining programs.
159. Yes – to a facility and residence of some sort. Involve nurses and medical personnel in the new process. No to housing (ex. Condos etc.)
160. What does "self-sustaining" mean? What does "revenue generating" mean? At the expense of "another group"? ... It needs a total review and consultation so that we can treat mental health issues which still exist and we as a society has to deal with. I was exposed to communities in Belgium where people in mental health issues have a place where people they call home and coexist without other people. Government agencies are available and supported this including pharmaceutical companies. Why can it not be done here!
161. I think that there are many opportunities for Riverview however the term "Self sustaining" economic model needs clarification. It means that BC Housing would receive revenue from other departments of Government such as health (perhaps to assist in treatment and care of some of the mentally ill that we keep hearing about) fine, it precludes that, then I am afraid the future rests in commercial development as a foregone conclusion. I hope this is not the case.
162. No social or market housing.
163. The Riverview Lands should be open to the community and citizens of BC to use and enjoy, but not for market housing.
164. Creating a centre for excellence in Mental Health from training of doctors and nurses, to research facilities. All ages would be included and the models of care would encompass caring, respectful treatment in a safe environment. ... Look at developing the film industry to include proper power supply, perhaps on site catering that would also serve the mental health community.
165. If self- sustaining I would not like to see these lands opened up to developers and the soul of Riverview Lands put in jeopardy for easy money.
166. "Self-sustaining economic model" – what does that even mean? I realize that money has to be found and I know it does grow on to Riverview Trees but I think we have reached a point in our society when we must go out on a limb (sorry, excuses) and dare to provide a new/hospital and grounds for the challenged. People in our society - the closure didn't work! No housing.
167. Self-sustaining – very frightening thought. No other medical facility is "self-sustaining." Much crime attributed ultimately to mental health make Riverview local/provincial centre of excellence for treatment and research. Keep film industry involvement in lands for money generation.
168. All above are good. Hospital being in this area in my opinion is very necessary. All the others are either small or crowded.
169. Private rooms are important to mental patients and so is the freedom to come and go. So is bus service. Available housing is important and could involve buildings on Riverview grounds like Cottonwodd Lodge, Colony Lodge and...? The third building.



170. These lands should only be for mental health and parkland. Why should the people of BC have to have commercial development of these lands, hospitals and parks in BC don't have to be self sustaining.
171. The move to localized mental health facilities, in retrospect appears to have been misguided. We now have numerous people who have been left with no resources for mental health care and life management. Establishment of a 21<sup>st</sup> century mental health facility on the land would be most welcomed – funding from health services budget, supplemented by modest scale industries/education research park.
172. I really don't want to see Riverview as a commercial business but as a park for all people to enjoy. I see the point for revenue to be brought-in a would be open for a discussion. Mental health is a basic concern and should be a part of the redevelopment. What about moving RCH and build enough beds for the area.
173. It appears to be a major concern that some mental health vision needs to be reconsidered. The need is there. The place was dedicated for that purpose.
174. Need to be more forthcoming re: economic dimensions (see above). Impact on immediate neighbourhoods- transportation, community facilities etc.
175. Only subsidized housing for mentally ill. No developers allowed to make big profits when people are suffering. Use should be mental health care facility!!
176. Should be limited to what it has been meant for: mental health care.
177. Keep it as a mental hospital.
178. To precurse the statement of significance. Building a place for senior housing and mental institutions, hospital school, park for people to enjoy nature. Conserve all trees.
179. To precurse the statement of significance. Building a place for senior housing and mental institutions, hospital school, park for people to enjoy nature. Conserve all trees.
180. Pre conditions are unacceptably BC Housing is the manager of the property, not the owner. All the lands must be kept in the public trust and used for their original or compatible purposes. Create a centre of excellence for health care. Protect and enhance the tree collection in perpetuity as agreed at the RV Stewardship Advisory Group with SSBC. Preserve and enhance natural habitat areas and streams. No market housing on the RV grounds.
181. Keep and put it back as a safe place for mental health clients. The province, particularly lower mainland needs to re-establish Riverview as a mental health facility. I work (and formerly worked at Riverview) and can tell you there is no where for these former clients to go – many are now homeless and addicted – victims in some cases to criminals or/plus a danger to others, regardless it is costing the tax payer much more money in the long run.
182. Too much focus on self-sustaining. The Government needs to acknowledge that money spent on mental health care ? . Focus should be on creating a world class centre of excellence for mental health and addiction.
183. n/a
184. Save the people, the street people and mentally ill are being shovelled here and there. They need a place with supervision and care. Save the trees. Housing and central education facilities for staff and street people and mentally ill.
185. I don't want to see Riverview converted into a park-like condo living society. Rebuilding existing buildings to once again house and treat the mentally disabled would be a good plan. Or perhaps a hospital could be opened on the grounds to take pressure off the overburdened Royal Columbian Hospital. I walk at Riverview at least once a week (even in the winter) and it is such a beautiful , quiet place. It would be such a shame to change it. If it's not going to be preserved, perhaps it should just be left alone.
186. n/a

187. The first concern should be about social and health considerations rather than economic and provincial. More palliative care, more geriatric care, more facilities are needed for the mentally challenged.
188. n/a
189. n/a
190. Dog park
191. Mental health.
192. I have lived adjacent to Riverview Lands for the last 55 years and I know it would be a shame to have a commercial or totally residential take over this beautiful property.
193. None
194. There are three main considerations with regards to the future of the Riverview lands. Preserving the heritage buildings. They are great cultural value and should be maintained for use as mental health facilities, hospices, senior care facilities or non-profit arts and cultural uses. Safeguarding the arboretum. This is significant and unique collection of trees that must be protected for all citizens to enjoy....Allowing ratio of green space to buildings to remain as it is. There should absolutely be no market housing or residential development of this property. The uniqueness of these lands adds value to our city that is treasured by many and should be allowed to remain for future generations to use and enjoy. I am aware that the provincial government has attempted to hamstring the preservation of this land by requiring that all future maintenance/upgrades of the property be paid from revenue derived from the site and I strongly oppose that policy. Since when do hospitals and green spaces need to generate their own revenue in order to be considered "worth having.?" ... I hope that BC Housing will listen to the voices of the citizens of Coquitlam, who far and away are in favour of preserving Riverview with it's original purpose in mind – to protect vulnerable members of the community, to provide a sanctuary of green space in an increasingly urban area and to give all citizens a unique space unlike any other in our province.
195. There are three main considerations with regards to the future of the Riverview lands. Preserving the heritage buildings. They are great cultural value and should be maintained for use as mental health facilities, hospices, senior care facilities or non-profit arts and cultural uses. Safeguarding the arboretum. This is significant and unique collection of trees that must be protected for all citizens to enjoy....Allowing ratio of green space to buildings to remain as it is. There should absolutely be no market housing or residential development of this property. The uniqueness of these lands adds value to our city that is treasured by many and should be allowed to remain for future generations to use and enjoy. I am aware that the provincial government has attempted to hamstring the preservation of this land by requiring that all future maintenance/upgrades of the property be paid from revenue derived from the site and I strongly oppose that policy. Since when do hospitals and green spaces need to generate their own revenue in order to be considered "worth having.?" ... I hope that BC Housing will listen to the voices of the citizens of Coquitlam, who far and away are in favour of preserving Riverview with it's original purpose in mind – to protect vulnerable members of the community, to provide a sanctuary of green space in an increasingly urban area and to give all citizens a unique space unlike any other in our province.
196. A self-sustaining economic model is a worthwhile goal, but funding for mental health services, including mental health housing on Riverview Lands, should be guaranteed through public funding. ... Former residents of Riverview who wish to return to Riverview should be prioritized... Awareness, acknowledgement, and apology made to those disadvantaged by the closing of Riverview. ... A mental health housing and treatment approach that respects the dignity, human rights and freedom of persons with mental illness; a model which is non-authoritarian and involves the residents directly in the decision – making process.

197. Market gardening – which could be carried on outside interests, could be coupled with habitants working for wages on the plots; also there could be plots available to the general public, to grow a variety of fruits and vegetables, etc. You'll be surprised how dealing with plants and herbs can have soothing effects upon people nerves! This coupled with "Addiction Centre" to advise and observe and treat patients' addicted to self abusive drugs etc. new drugs come on the market quite quickly and we are snapped up by suppliers and addicts alike. There is enough room on the property to handle a variety of dreams and visions, and I hope that some of the ideas I have brought forward, will have some credence in the rebirth of this beautiful, storied and promising property. I remain yours truly, Fred Scott. P.s. I am really interested in this and would appreciate being kept informed!!... I could have written more, and more things come to mind – Low-cost assisted living and housing. Participation by interested business associations in the renewal of this area and its needs, coupled with the history and the related beauty of the area could well be looked at. I feel myself, it is better to be a small part of the solution, than a bigger part of the problem.
198. Develop formal links with Riverview Forest Park and Colony Farm Regional Park for public use and wildlife movement. Develop a horticulture school. To promote wellness recovery and skills patients should have access to this school. Consider a floral shop, flowers could be grown in the greenhouses on site. Consider facilities that would add skills training and employment for people with mental illness as they prepare to integrate into society – ex. Coffee shop, thrift store, gardening or growing food for the facility. Protect and continue the use of the cemetery for people with mental illness. Honour Kwikwetlem First Nation in some way. Because Riverview Lands are public Lands in a Hospital zoning, the minister Health Costs, will be minimized.

## APPENDIX G: COMMENT FORM TRANSCRIPTION – EMAIL

*NOTE: The following responses were transcribed directly from emails received after the open houses.*

*NOTE: “n/a” denotes a comment form response that was not answered.*

1. I was fortunate to have worked at Riverview in the late 1980's/early 1990's as a site engineer for the environmental tank removal and soil clean up. While there I was shown and I was so impressed with the facility. It operated as a mini village, own buss stop, store and Colony farms, the site was full of mature and well planned parks, the key part was that it included almost every type of tree that could be grown, representing trees from all of Canada. I know of no other place which has this many trees from so many regions like this anywhere in Canada.

I think the facility should be kept intact and future use should include accommodations for people who need support (see past patients), parks and a community health centre.

Also I think institutes of higher learning can co-use the areas. I can suggest tow. One is Urban Planning (this is a village withing a city) the other a School of Dendrology (this is a very special tree place).

I think the Riverview and Colon Farms should both stay as pubic use and ownership.

2. Riverview Hospital is a perfect mental hospital in entire Canada, and thus it started in 1903 and served for a hundred years. It has wide buildings, well developed green spaces, and even natural forest, perfect to create highly serene environment for mental ill people. I used to be a volunteer for five years in early 1990s as a volunteer to take care of patients, and saw many patients improve their health condition. Even I saw many patients discharged from hospital returned in a few month to receive a better care in this hospital.

I believe this has the well designed environment to treat mentally ill patient, and should be renovated properly and re-activate to serve many patients who suffer from poor, urban facilities. It should be done without altering the landscape, including the infamous arboretum, which is another highly valuable space not only for the hospital but to reserve worldwide, some rare trees. I sincerely hope no commercial facilities to be built there but just maintain the site, and improve facilities to modernize as soon as possible.

3. It is a great opportunity do develop a new 21st century plan to deal with people who have mental problems. The existing buildings could become research centres and a main building for a completely new project containing training facilities for various trades like carpenter, electrician, hair dresser, barber, medical and others.

The empty ground mentioned in the news would be ideal to build small homes similar to lane housing. A village should be planned housing patients with shops like barber shops, hair dressers, grocery stores perhaps a hardware store for supplies and others that would suit a small village aspect. This village would house patients in the homes. There would be call buttons for nurses 24/7. a staff for cleaning and teaching that trade, cooking training if needed and housekeeping. The training would include having the patient reach a point where they could work outside the village in their trade. Eventually the aim would be to have the patient eventually able to obtain work and live outside of the pilot village and into various communities in Greater Vancouver. Perhaps not cured but able to cope.

The above could be said to be the germ of an idea funded by the government through Department of health. A proper plan for such a pilot plan would need to be developed by trained professionals an possibly input from universities and trade schools. While expensive at the beginning should reduce cost of repeated residency in hospitals. Police costs would be reduced with the resulting persons with new horizons for their future - health should improve another reduction in cost.

Harebrained? Maybe, but still worth a trial. Professors and those with degrees in related work would need to be consulted as well as trained nurses in that field. Perhaps the universities with related studies could polish the idea into a pilot project of a smaller size - a Riverview Pilot Project.

I am a WW II veteran to be 92 next month. That war interrupted my education. Thanks to my mothers intervening my joining up in 1939 was help up 'till I obtained grade 12 education. I have considered myself a social activist since the war. The news about Riverview on CBC triggered my thoughts.

4. My name is Hien Vu. My friend Edmond Alyer White (Cree) currently lives in one of Riverview cottage. I knew Edmond before he began his treatment at the Colony Farm. I learn that for these reasons:
- chronic homelessness, rough environments, friends (addictions) he had been exposed to.
  - it is justify to say that Edmond made so many mistakes but since then he has gone back to Surrey to visit an elderly friend with treats and doing the breads run every second Sundays.

He has been going to the Hyde Creek salmon hatchery in Port Coquitlam on Saturdays and still go whenever he can. To me he is an example of people who loves lives to have a chance to call home for a very first time for others like him also. (the remaining people belong in the cells because they have no considerations for others and that the languages they speak).

Now the River View developments need social housings to meet the challenge that Edmond White encountered to support the marginalized in our society. There are needs to improve the Mental Health system in dealing with each individual for Edmond he feels productive and accepted. There are also lessons to learn from the past the hospital settings were over utilized of resources and lack one incentive to growth as a community and society less may be better.

Other activities such as agriculture, horticulture, environment, social networking, non profit groups: Christian, lands revivals: garden and trees to trails and park.

Edmond personally thinks that the transportation could improve again to support the needs.

We wish that you make the right decisions to offer more integrated usages of facilities preserve past histories that made up Colony Farm Regional Park. I personally support cooperation, contractors rather than few small businesses, residential that accommodate high traffic of Lougheed Highway.

5. I found out about the open house by mail out card
- 2) I have not been involved in any consultation prior to this Vision Process.
- 3) I would like to be consulted via e-mail and public forum.
- 4) I am not informed enough regarding the complete Riverview history so I could not comment on this item.
- 5) Future of Riverview:

#### **Overview**

- Riverview has been and should be retained as the excellent mental health, addiction / rehab, psychiatric facility, and dementia care facility that it has been known for with capacity for expansion for existing and future needs.
- The facility should have consideration as a stand alone community, complete with fire hall, convenience store, retail store, restaurant / coffee shop, works yard, on-site nursing / Dr. residence, bank and any other service buildings to supports the community.
- Trees plants and green space provide the tranquil setting required for mental heath recovery and good being and should / must be retained as much as possible.

#### **Buildings**

- Buildings new or existing should maintain their height and demolished buildings that are replaced should be constructed as close as possible to the heritage design to retain the original appearance.

- BC Housing has completed a Building Assessment on 43 of the existing 75 buildings. This study is quite thorough but lacking in the most important issues.
  - a) The study does not include or estimate critical cost items such as Removal of Hazardous materials, Lead Paint removal, Seismic upgrades, Hazmat abatement, Environmental decontamination, sprinkler installation nor building code upgrades. Without these estimated costs it is impossible to best establish whether buildings should be refurbished or demolished. I would assume this cost analysis would not be hard to budget based on the number of Schools and Government buildings that have gone through upgrades in the past. From my past experience of work I had done on school remediation it would have been more cost effective to have demolished the buildings and build new. The problem the school districts had was they needed the buildings to be able to operate with minimum disturbance. The luxury the Riverview site has, is that there is room to be able to work on a number of buildings while not disturbing / or temporarily relocating anyone then once the new facility is completed then relocate the residences.
  - b) Buildings range from 1850 to 1959 which have long outlasted their life span and if refurbished and upgraded they would still require more upkeep than a new building.
  - c) New buildings can be built to the original design features but can have added benefits besides the obvious, such as: Riverview has a wonderful slope so parking can be underground and integrated into the mountain side so as the buildings can maintain there existing height but have an added benefit of more parking / storage. Could the savings of underground parking add to the overall building footprint without encroaching on park land?

#### **Sustainability revenue streams**

- a) Lease out the cemetery to a funeral home facility to add memorial walls and any other beneficial cemetery land usage.
- b) The building assessment has 43 buildings listed, assuming these are all required for Riverview mental health then again assuming the remaining 32 buildings could be revenue streams such as buildings constructed with underground parkades, ground level retail space, residential above. Ideally this could be in a concentrated area such as the film studio location creating a walking living community feel. Newport Village style.
- c) Possible over highway foot bridge to the Colony Farm walking paths, this could be built and paid for, for advertising signage.
- d) Museum. This is important to showcase the importance of the First Nations and Riverviews history together.
- e) Develop lands West of Colony Farm road, North of (Holly Dr.) Cape Horn Dr. and south of Mariner Way. This area is currently not being used as part of the Riverview Parks and could become residential without impacting the parks area.
- f) Movie studio / filming designated areas
- g) SFU / UBC training facilities.
- h) Seniors housing

#### **Conclusion**

- Riverview is critically important not only as a heritage site it is also important for the botanical gardens and tranquil park settings which should and must be retained.
  - Land and building usage should have consideration for multi use.
  - Buildings should not exceed exciting building height. No high rises.
6. I attended the "Riverview Lands Open House" on March 1, 2014. I prefer to provide my comments by e-mail instead of using the form provided at your open house. I would like the Riverview Lands to continue to be used for the same purpose that they have for more than a hundred years: the treatment of the mentally ill. I also wish all of the green space and beautiful trees and shrubs at Riverview to be preserved for the enjoyment and benefit of the patients and the general public.

I am strongly opposed to the concept of Riverview that you describe as a "self-sustaining economic model". We don't expect hospitals for physical, as opposed to mental, illnesses, to be self-sustaining in the sense that they must generate sufficient revenue on site to meet their expenses. We understand that proper treatment of physical illness will have economic benefits and cost savings throughout the economy. So why would you wish to apply this narrow, artificial, and unrealistic notion in the area of treatment of mental illness. Currently in British Columbia we don't have adequate resources to support persons suffering from mental illness. The result of this problem are increased social and economic costs of crime and homelessness. This in turn causes increased costs of policing, courts, and incarceration, as well as the increased costs of dealing with the poor physical health that often results when mental illness is not properly treated. If you take into account all the cost savings that will benefit society if Riverview is returned to its original purpose, then it will pay for itself many times over.

7. I have no political or economic interest in the Riverview Lands --- or the ongoing process. I am interested that we restore and enhance what we have neglected for over approximately forty years. Mental Health issues are increasingly impacting our community and society at large. The prevailing philosophy and theories of the day in the late sixties and early seventies put a lot of mentally challenged people on the street on the theory that they will integrate effectively into society. For a small few this was a reality and for the vast majority a dismal failure. Yes, there were horror stories emanating from Riverview and other such institutional facilities. These failures, as always, rest with management and people in charge and at the government level who are not paying attention to the needs of the people they serve. We have a tremendous opportunity to not only right some of the wrongs of our past but also help those that have the least ability to help themselves.

From the Project Overview:

In 2013, the Province announced a new visioning process on the future use of the Riverview lands would commence in early 2014. The objective is to identify potential future uses for the site and inform the City of Coquitlam as it develops neighborhood planning. The process is informed by a set of guiding principles and aims to balance community values, government requirements and economic sustainability.

In my view this nomenclature, and the guiding principal outlined, are typical political speak disguised to foster the real intent to foster residential real estate development for Riverview. As a businessman, and certainly pro development, I understand from the city's and province's perspective redevelopment will enhance their revenue based. However, upgrading and enhancing the facility for solely medical purposes to help the mentally challenged in our society will not only help them but also the unintended consequences of currently escalating social and medical costs properly managed will be reduced. What we have experience over the last forty years plus ---- just does not work. It will take politicians with foresight and the guts to move forward. Business as usual is not working.

8. I am away from my home in Coquitlam and have only intermittent internet access, so have chosen this method to submit my comments for inclusion in the Renewing Riverview Project, rather than the preferable methods of attending an Open House or participating online.

I am a long-time resident of Coquitlam and feel that we, as a community, are very fortunate to have the Riverview Hospital campus within our boundaries. Not only is it a beautiful arboretum amid the increasing density of the city, but I believe that it is an ideal setting for the care and treatment of our less mentally robust citizens.

I understand that both the scientific and medical communities predict greatly increased cases of dementia and Alzheimer's to come as our population ages. I would like to encourage the Province to use the Riverview Hospital grounds for a campus dedicated to housing and caring for people with those medical conditions. British Columbia could be at the forefront of both the study and compassionate treatment of these illnesses if it devoted a centralized campus to that purpose. The growing group of people suffering from dementia and Alzheimers disease are perhaps one of the few groups that both benefit and require a secure setting in which to live; a campus that combined small-group housing (such as the newest buildings at Riverview, built in the last decade or so), with facilities on campus for

assessment, treatment, recreation, and training for care workers and medical staff, seems to me to be a progressive and proactive step for the Province to take. The pastoral setting of the Riverview grounds, in itself, would provide for graduated care opportunities and an overall peaceful environment.

As you will undoubtedly hear from many other sources, I believe that the advantage that Riverivew Hospital predated its surrounding residential areas cannot be stressed enough. No matter how far afield, or in how small a community, the consideration of a new medical campus for these kinds of groups will present challenges for acceptance by local residents.

No doubt the medical community will have valuable input to this project. I truly hope that the Province gives all input serious and sincere consideration in its process.

9. I was on the board of the CMHA Fraser Valley chapter for several years. Here is what I would suggestions:

I strongly believe the Riverview should still remain as Mental Health facilities and be used for Mental Health programs.

While on CHMA I found that all the mental health organizations in the greater Vancouver area and Fraser Valley were duplicating programs (wasted effort and money). I think that BC Housing should create a one stop shop with all the organizations participating and creating programs to be run out of Riverview. Now the caveat is that left on their own they would duplicate effort and programs again and not get anything accomplished. My solution for this would be a director (working director) to oversee operations and programs.

I also know that Fraser Health is working with the RCMP on a program to help RCMP deal more effectively with the issues they are experiencing in the field. I'm not sure what that entails whether it is getting the police additional counselling or helping them to assess the situations and apply some appropriate techniques. However with that said Fraser Health could use a portion of Riverview to setup programs for the police around the lower mainland.

In addition, the Universities around the lower mainland could get involved because they have intern programs for Counselling and Psychology. When CMHA had a fundraiser we had students volunteering to help with the mental health assessment process.

Organizations working with mental health and have grants for mental health:

Programs for mental health:

- United way
- Salvation army
- CMHA – (North Vancouver chapter has free Counsellors for mental health issues)
- PHSA
- Fraser Health

Give money for grants and donations for mental health:

- Bell
- Telus
- Gaming grants
- United way
- Salvation army
- RCMP



All of the above could be involved in some way under the same umbrella and they could collaborate their efforts. These ideas are only at a very high level at this point.

10. I wish to comment, but am forwarding this to the "questions" email as there seems to be no other alternative (I do not wish to have online "discussion". I am sick at heart to understand B.C. Housing is involved. This means that this jewel of a site will be developed into high density housing. "Vision process" is no doubt a fancy name for "What colour should this development be?"

The mentally ill have been short changed ever since the province began closing residential mental health facilities. Hospitals and health care do not generate money so they will get sacrificed every time - especially mental health as the associated stigma makes it in general (and patients individually) easier to exploit.

We deserve first class mental health facilities and we do not have them. This is probably our last chance to have a superior mental health facility. The beautiful grounds and heritage trees should remain as they are important components to recovery not to mention irreplaceable assets for all.

PLEASE DO NOT DEVELOP THIS SITE for anything other than mental health facilities.

There are countless horrors in our society that could have been prevented if adequate residential mental health facilities were available. Too many fall through the cracks. If the beds are built they will be utilized.

A world class mental health hospital is needed -IN CANADA. Let B.C. be a leader in this ever expanding area. Let us be as leader in mental health employment, education and research.

11. Please add my name in support of retaining Riverview as a mental health facility and do NOT develop for anything other than this purpose.
12. Future land use at Riverview Hospital should include the restoration of excellence in mental health care to this site. Such progressive concepts have been advanced by several Mayors within Metro Vancouver and were passed in the form of a resolution by the Union of BC Municipalities annual conference last September. Other uses which are compatible with mental health care could also be considered. This might include providing assisted living care for the elderly or other forms of health care.

This was, of course, the goal the original planners had for Riverview when it was established back at the turn of the last century. For many years, in fact, Riverview fulfilled this role magnificently. With its graciously-designed grounds intended to provide a peaceful and healing environment plus its inspiring heritage buildings, Essondale (as it was originally called) was intended to remain as a place of refuge and care for some of the most vulnerable members of society. In the 1950s, the need for its services was overwhelming as staff struggled to provide care for almost 5000 patients. Now the tables have turned. With the advent of modern drugs and a budget-minded provincial government, policies over the past decade have been directed towards the emptying of Riverview with the unfortunate result that unacceptable numbers of mentally ill people are now living on the mean streets of East Vancouver and in our local ravines.

It is absolutely wrong that so many mentally ill people do not have adequate care and a place to live. Mental health care has become a police problem - to shame of our society. While the development of modern drugs has certainly been responsible for remarkable resolutions to some mental health care problems, not all such problems can be fixed by the simple writing of a prescription. Those suffering from severe schizophrenia are unlikely to take prescribed drugs on their own. Nor are they capable of making sensible decisions about their lives. Once such people make the mistake of taking hard drugs instead of prescribed ones, their lives quickly turn into a downward spiral. Such patients need stable, longer-term care in a facility such as Riverview Hospital, not overnight confinement in a jail cell.

Riverview, with many buildings spread over its spectacular 100 hectare site, was designed to provide such care in a holistic setting. It offered recreational facilities including a bowling alley and various sports fields. It also provided industrial services where patients could learn new life skills. With its therapeutic landscape and world-class collection of trees, it also offered patients training in horticulture and landscaping services. Clearly, there is an urgent need for such treatment facilities to help the mentally ill and provide a stable environment in which they can slowly regain their health.

Our society is also facing another tsunami of mental health care as the baby boomers approach the age of retirement and declining health. Predictions are that the number of people suffering from dementia will increase dramatically in a few years. Eventually all such people will require long term care for, at least, a few years. Not too long ago, Riverview Hospital through its Valleyview facility provided assessment services for dementia patients in modern hospital setting. Sadly, Valleyview is now closed even though the need for such services as well as longer term care facilities is rising. Personally, I cannot think of a more perfect and tranquil site to provide long term care for older patients with diminishing abilities than the beautiful and pastoral grounds of Riverview. Riverview continues to offer what could be the perfect site and solution for a number of our mental health care needs.

Future land use must also pay attention has been paid to the tree collection. Landscape architects and college instructors highly value the tree collection at Riverview because of its comprehensiveness and because it includes so many trees that have been allowed to grow without pruning in what is truly a stunning setting. For example, in a letter to RHCS from the Society of Municipal Arborists after their Annual General Meeting held in Vancouver, 1999, the President of the Society commented "The Society of Municipal Arborists and other professionals in this business travel great distances to learn about species such as these. For example, people from all over the world visit famous arboreta, such as Riverview, for scientific and educational purposes all the time. Examples of trees such as are on this ground are priceless in terms of their aesthetic, educational, and scientific values. This site could also become an important educational center for arborists. The tree collection also includes some of the oldest specimens of species introduced to the lower mainland. Instructors commonly bring their students to Riverview to study the trees which certainly illustrates their educational worth.

I suggest that management of the tree collection also requires ongoing attention and an adequate budget for maintenance, etc. With far fewer users groups presently on site, it is not clear that the budget will be adequate to monitor and maintain the tree collection in good health. Should any new buildings be contemplated on site, we recommend that there be a special budgetary requirement for landscaping so that the tree collection can be enhanced and the tradition of maintaining an outstanding tree collection on the Riverview Lands will continue.

Over the years, the Riverview Natural Heritage Stewardship Committee has played a valuable role for many years in strengthening the lines of communication between the local stewardship groups and the province. Currently, membership on this committee includes the Riverview Horticultural Centre Society, Burke Mountain Naturalists and Shared Services BC. I recommend this Committee continue and consideration be given to expanding the membership to include Metro Vancouver Parks and the City of Coquitlam.

13. I have jumped through the hoops you have set up to provide public input - it is a very convoluted and frustrating process and I am providing my input by the deadline, here instead because it is so confusing:

Riverview must be kept in the public trust - it must be fully public now and into the future. Riverview has a legacy of important care in our community and should still be used for care whether it is for patients with mental illness or seniors or any other people in our community that need such an amazing space and place to call home.

The arboretum MUST be fully preserved - there is nowhere else like Riverview and it is a gem. Keep Riverview fully intact and preserve it, and maintain it.

I have volunteered for years to help preserve Riverview as a wonderful public resource. The people of this province own it and want to keep it public. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

14. We should expropriate a 20 metre strip of land and widen Lougheed Highway to make it a proper divided highway with full shoulders and a bike lane.
15. Let me state at the beginning that I am suspicious of this process, particularly since BC Housing is involved and any development/improvements to the site are to be paid for by revenue generated. Since when are hospital facilities supposed to be revenue generating?

1. I hope future open house locations will be chosen with more consideration to location and parking. I attended the Open House in Coquitlam on Thursday about 4:45. The parking space was very crowded and by the time I left, the parking on Ranch Park Way was also jammed and there were 2 near accidents, also because of the very narrow road encountered by the rush hour traffic They turned off Dewdney Trunk and were confronted with an unexpected jam.

2. I note the Visioning Process indicates the development was to be self -sustaining. This limits the use. I think the area should be developed with a community centre theme concept and not sold off to developers.

3. I think the open space must be retained. A portion of the rest of the property should be developed as a centre of excellence for the treatment of mental health issues, IF the Colony Farm area is not going to take on that role.

4. I think assisted living for the homeless is also a possibility. The concept of assisted living to allow someone to get back on their feet, with a limit (1year?) to the stay time seems to be working in other areas.

5. A portion of the land should be set aside for a Community central location for historical museum-type facilities. Presently the Museum of the Society for the Preservation of Antique Radio in Canada occupies a part of a building on Riverview lands. There was, I do not know if it still exists, a truck museum located in the Coquitlam or Port Coquitlam area. That could also be considered for location there. The rich native history and early logging, milling, forest industry, etc. should be recognized and a museum set up also.

6. Including the present use of some buildings for filming movies should be retained as it fits with a cultural centre and is a revenue producer. The filming industry requires a wide variety of props and a business specializing in that could also be encouraged to locate. It also being a potential rental revenue producer. Food facilities could be considered to support that activity. Addition space for private service providers for film (editing, CG, etc.) could also be leased out.

7. Our seniors are an important part of the community and a facility that is not just a 'cattlehousing' type but worthy of our seniors could be built and leased to private operators.

## APPENDIX H: COMMENT FORM TRANSCRIPTION – ONLINE

*NOTE: The following responses are a copy of online comments collected through Placespeak on the Renewing Riverview website.*

*NOTE: “n/a” denotes a comment form response that was not answered.*

## Discussions and Noticeboard

### Renewing Riverview Visioning Process

#### Discussions

##### Online Open House - Collecting Ideas and Feedback

**The purpose of the first set of open houses is to gather your ideas and feedback on the future use of the Riverview Lands. Suggestions provided by March 15 will be included in the first report. Check out the Collecting Ideas posters boards in the Resources section. Question #1 - The future of the Riverview Lands has been a discussion for many years. Have you at any point been involved in consultation about the future of the lands prior to the vision process? If yes, tell us how.**

Anonymous - [Burnaby](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

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kevin leake - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 3

The area on the top of Riverview above the fire road has largely turned into a jungle, and is being taken over by some very invasive weeds like Japanese knotweed. I think that housing there would be fine. On the other hand, the area below the fire road, especially the grounds surrounding existing structures to the southwest, contains trees that should never be put at risk as they are amazing to say the least. As the lower mainland population continues to gallop along, it will be especially important to preserve parkland, and the Riverview grounds offers the present governments a chance to do it right. Riverview could become a Queen Elizabeth Park for Coquitlam. There is a lot of land that would be much more suitable for housing development that would not destroy such a beautiful and historical site. I cannot help feeling, however, that this whole consultation process is a sham, and that decisions made by housing developers years ago will take precedence over any other interests in the community. Is anybody really listening out there?

Tania Deans - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 1

Kevin ~ I can't agree with you more. I walk the Riverview lands at least once a week with my dog. We spend a great deal of time on the back road parallel to Chilko and have often thought housing might be best placed on the south side of the road. In some places, however, proximity to the Cypress/Connolly/Cottonwood Lodges is too close, but the stretch of road is approximately 2km long - plenty of opportunity to figure something out for market housing which wouldn't compromise the multi-use potential of the remaining lands. Further, I agree with your intuition regarding the consultation process. While I can't say I believe a decision's been made by developers, one must consider the financial needs of the current provincial government to balance the budget - and being that Riverview is provincial land and not municipal, will Joe Public actually have power to sway the 'vision' for these historically and environmentally significant lands? Indeed, is anybody really listening?

Connie Lang - [British Columbia](#)

Uprated: 10 | Downrated: 0

hummm I grew up there at Riverview. Well at least it felt like that with my father being in there from time to time, as well as Crease Clinic. My thoughts are that I was going to write a book, and may still do, on my time there. As I grew up from a small child, visiting my father. And thirty-three years later, one thing I remember is the open spaces. Old growth trees. Now pair that with my experience working in human resources. I've got a friend who has used this type of housing before. I've been in many a complex, they are messy, dirty, and kids running around etc... The Riverview lands would be great to accompany families, but I guess what I don't want to see is any of those trees wrecked. It's too bad the land was so valuable that it can't just be used as a park with walking trails. Many patients were in and out of there and have memories, of their peaceful time walking the

grounds, getting healthy. I would suggest to say that Riverview is a healing place for me. My father is no longer here, but I know what he would say. He loved walking around the grounds, sitting on the hills, have lunch from the Tuc shop. Visiting people outside, in a very friendly, happy way. There was the air of mental sickness, but it was ground, grass, trees, flowers, bushes, times of healing. Getting well, visiting, happy times, and sad times because your loved one's in the hospital and you have to leave them there. I'm sure some people died in that hospital. Maybe there also should be a memorial site on the property, protected from vandalism with a smaller version of the white arches. Those white arches scared me, because I was so small, and they were so big. I guess I'll have to take a picture, before they go. It would be nice if whatever goes there is of a peaceful nature, not too much city and business. Quietness, and reflection would be great, especially for the people at Woodlands. Who used to be there, can visit on the grounds of Riverview if we keep some parkland there including the old growth trees.

s. Dawson - [North Vancouver District](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I agree preserving the grounds and what it meant for patients, and their visitors, is a great idea. Walking trails and picnic lunches could re-create patient experiences of how healing nature was for them, one of the most positive benefits of living on the grounds. A memorial for those who died there is a good idea, as is a patient museum and walking trails.

Sunil Mathure - [Richmond](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

So true! BC housing could find the land for housing development somewhere else. The mentally ill, addicted and homeless always neglected & treated as 'Not in my Backyard' societal attitude. Give them a peace of mind and dignity on Riverview land.

john rasmussen - [Pitt Meadows](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

i would like to see the site designated heritage , my mom had a nervous breakdown and ended up in crease clinic , my sister old enough to look after us , while my mom got better . my daughter would love to see the inside of the building , i know this is not possible . It is an important part of my history . i felt shame about my mom being in a mental hospital - i guess that word was used so broadly back in the day. i would love to see the lands and buildings stay the same .

Sunil Mathure - [Richmond](#)

Uprated: 12 | Downrated: 0

River view area: Modify this area into mental health research, residential treatment & vocational training centre: All in one umbrella with focus toward independent living, personal development, employment or self employment same time it's much easier research on individual cases & causes with treatment. Mental health, drug addicted or anxiety patient may not fit into regular hospital or emergency or reception area, or general public ward or educational institutions. These people need secure observation, monitor treatment with reality check, ongoing training with discipline and counseling etc. Mental health, drug addicted or similar patient can be admitted as many years until they are qualified to live independently with confidence. The training facility would include & encourage individual interested field focusing toward independent living. These people comfortable working with: 1) Computers & electronic components build & repairs. 2) Work with all sort of animals (since animals are most trustworthy) & product: breeding, dog training, bird sanctuaries etc. 3) Farming, gardening, landscaping, flower & fish farming. 4) Various artistic developments. 5) Entrepreneurship. 6) Fitness. 7) Cooking. 8) Auto repair. 9) Construction & building renovation. 10) Janitorial. 11) Land-scapping and development. 12) Toy, jewelry making. 13) Administrative 14) Seamstress 15) Food industry. Etc.

daphne sinclair - [Burnaby](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

TOO good to be true

Teresa Steeves - [British Columbia](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I think your idea is very good. It makes me think of Providence Farms located in Duncan on Vancouver Island. This is a very busy, successful and positive environment - very unique. It all boils down to the people in charge though and how high minded (or not) they are.

Anonymous - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Some very creative, wholistic and progressive suggestions. Riverview lands and historic buildings and the future development can inspire so much community building and include everyone especially for those that are the most vulnerable folks in our society, people with a mental illness. I propose residential, program and businesses focused on

supporting those most venerable as the priority for all decisions about the development of this site.

Sunil Mathure - **Richmond**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Even though Provincial Government closed down Riverview Hospital and opened up few regional, community oriented forensic hospital, still there are several gaps and problems and waiting list. Also when they closed down the Riverview care facility government did not invited public, patients, families, care givers, medical service provider's opinion. Now it fills like the Riverview land development decision already made way before in closed door proximity similar to HST, without inviting and evaluating pros and cons from interested parties. Today's band-aid service provision for patient having broken brain in local hospital just enough to stabilize the symptoms. But lack of follow ups, recovery and rehabilitation, substantial outreach help, home care, these patients will surely relapse and readmitted into hospital. This cycle goes on for several years that costing health budget and affect family's and patient's years for enjoyment, finances, sufferings. The patients with brain imbalance need long term recovery and rehabilitation process with vocational training before they gain enough confidence to live independently in the community. Some may require periodically mentorship guidance and problem solving monitoring. Just certify under act and medicate these patients and let defend themselves in community will result endless repeat hospitalization and criminalization. The cycle continues. Please reserve the Riverview Land and redevelop into treatment, residential care, research and various vocational training, day program for many PWD clients so they confidently and independently live with dignity and respect in the community.

Anonymous - **Port Moody**

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

Nope -- no previous participation in consultation regarding the future of the lands. There hasn't been an opportunity to participate since their has not been a public consultation regarding the future of lands in over a decade. There has been dreaming, wanting and speaking but its clear that the owner of hte land hasn't reached out in years to hear from citizens about what they want for the future of the lands. Perhaps some history on previous consultations would help put this effort in context? What has changed for the land owner since the last iterations of consultation?

Luke Tengs - **Maple Ridge**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I have not been involved in any prior consultation with regards to the Riverview facilities or grounds.

Brenda Guiled - **Vancouver Island**

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

1. co-edited, with Val Adolph, "The Riverview Lands: Western Canada's First Botanical Garden", 1994; 2. input to other visioning processes through the years; 3. online and print responses to articles about the Riverview lands 3. recent letters to the editor of The Vancouver Sun, Coquitlam Now, and Island Tides to correct Bev Gutray's and Marina Morrow's contention that reopening Riverview would mean using the old model of psychiatric care.

Anonymous - **Port Coquitlam**

Uprated: 6 | Downrated: 0

I grew up in Coquitlam, and now live very close to Riverview. I have not been involved in any consutations regarding the future of Riverview. My strongest thought, is that I would REALLY hate to see this turn into a housing project. This property should never be used for housing/townhouses or condos!

Ken Lawson - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 7

Should developed for housing this Riverview has a bad history!

Teresa Steeves - **British Columbia**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I disagree. Mental illness is not going to go away but I wish the stigma would. There is mental health issues in my family so I am not naive about this topic. Let's turn the property into something positive and help an 'invisable' minority.

Kathy Leko - **Port Moody**

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

I have attended a few Burke Mountain Naturalist meetings and seen maps of the place there.

Michele Delville - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 5 | Downrated: 0

I personally have no connection to Riverview but in the last couple of years have gone on a few information walks there and was amazed at the beautiful site. I wish that it could be made into a world renowned addiction clinic which would support the

upkeep of some of the historic buildings and that we could support the mentally ill. It appeared to me that BC Housing's objective is market housing and destroying much of the site, at least that's the impression that I got. While I know the main issue is funding but once you put market housing up there what's going to pay for the upkeep of what little (if any) is left. I think that a place where you could rent out buildings and make revenue that way in addition to a user pay facility for people that can afford treatment.

Barb Gillespie - **Vancouver**

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

Informally - through word of mouth via family members who have been actively involved in the ongoing visioning process.

Anne Dubois - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

About two years ago there was an open house event which I understood as a visioning process, much the same as this. I did participate and gave input. Now I am wondering if this is the same process again, or if information from the last open house informed the current consultation?

Garry Chalk - **Vancouver**

Uprated: 10 | Downrated: 0

I think that now progress has been made in mental health care that river view should be redesigned with these forward thinking innovations in mind. Such as community integration, independence and most of all life skills. It saddened me to no end when the government decided that people who weren't a danger to themselves or others could be integrated into the community and live normal productive lives. For some this was possible for others not so much. The alzheimers facility has to be re jiggged. It's basically a warehouse to hold people waiting to die. A truly ugly soulless place. Like the rest of the buildings on the site. The only good thing was the parklands but was that for patients or people driving by? Thirty years ago no one wanted anything to do with mental illness. There is still quite a stigma attached to it. What happened to a lot of people who were released from woodlands and river view is criminal. Most mover to the downtown east side where it was cheap. No one wanted halfway houses in their neighbourhoods so these people became prey for every predator downtown. An image forever burned in my mind was a client of mine sitting on the steps of Carnegie library, a sandwich from the convent in one hand and a bag of medication in the other. Howling inconsolably. He had been in an institution since he was five then at age thirty he was literally thrown to the wolves. Bring river view back but rebuild it as a healing facility and not a prison warehouse.

Sunil Mathure - **Richmond**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Well written Garry. Need sympathetic thinking instead of marketing views. All three governments should have willingness to do something for PWD with brain disorder, drug addict & homeless.

Teresa Steeves - **British Columbia**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Well said and incredibly sad. A great idea that would also provide jobs as well as healing.

Stephen Gee - **Burnaby**

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 0

I have not been directly involved in consultation about the future of the Riverview lands but this was my home for about seven years and I was involved in many programs, from vocational and occupational services, to providing the music for the Friday dance night at Penn Hall. I also sat in for some mental health advocacy group meetings and spoke at a public session about my time at Riverview, and another session about the vocational training.

Amber Gareb - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 8 | Downrated: 0

As a former RVH staffer & resident of Coquitlam more needs to be done to preserve the RVH lands and the original mandate of the grounds which had a purpose of housing persons with mental health issues in a setting that was conducive to psychiatric therapies that offered a sense of community in a naturally settling. During the downsize of institutions so many were reassured that the site would remain a site for mental health purposes, although with the recent publications it is just another reminder how the government does not have this as their best interest yet a priority. The reality is that mental health is not going away, it is becoming a common factor in everyday society and not until adequate services are offered that are conducive to the needs of these persons we will forever be entrenched in the issues on how to deal with this. My recommendation is to reopen some of the buildings that are on the RVH site that can serve these persons as well offer a site to transition clients in a comfortable community. This site should be used for educational purposes that revolve around psychiatry and also bringing it back to the original purpose of having a natural setting for persons with mental health issues to recover in a setting that is natural. This site would be beneficial to many if it focused on horticultural learning centre, ECT treatments, along side pharmacy, nursing



education & Therapeutic recreation. These are the real issues to consider as opposed to market housing.

Tania Deans - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Nice observations, Amber. Your last little bit about 'these are the real issues to consider as opposed to market housing' made me realize that there are still plenty of other places in Coquitlam to develop into market housing - why such a strong focus on developing Riverview for market housing when it's adamantly clear that the public is leaning towards other things?

c s - **Vancouver**

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

Yes I have been involved, over the past 4 years i have written mayor gregor, mayor of Coq, NDP and social developmt (liberals)....riverview needs to be kept a health centre (healthy one and welcoming) for those in need, what if these people had cancer?...it would be a care facility for those on the streets right now (homeless) and can't manage, one i envision would have housing, doctors, therapists, pharmacy, gardens, gym and pool, bike trails, grocery store and opportunity to learn skills by having a factory of some sort, like a real community for these disabled people. There is a large segment of people who can't make it out there in the community no matter what the numbers(savings) say, people are losing their lives and have no quality of life....i am disabled and although high functioning with supports i am having a hard time, these people need a place of care and to call home (up to date- nice and big facility not for 70 but for 700 minimum).

gerard then - **Port Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I have not been involved in consultation about the future of the lands prior to the vision process but not is the time.

Cindy Torssonen - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

I haven't been part of any formal consultations but I have been reading and keeping up to date regrading committees and community discussions about preserving Riverlands

Neil Elmer - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

I have not been part of any formal process but I have been following the story for a long time

Anonymous - **Vancouver**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 7

Riverview is the perfect site for BC Housing to build affordable and subsidized apartments/condos for the overwhelming needs of the disadvantaged here in the Lower Mainland. Section 95 Co-operatives that are no longer subsidized by the Federal Government have their leases expiring all in the next few years and there will be many more people who cannot afford market rent, finding themselves homeless and on the streets. Housing on Riverview lands, should be income based rentals for families, singles, the disabled, seniors and new immigrants who cannot afford market rents. I note that the people who have taken part in any consultation and planning are not from Coquitlam or Port Coquitlam and so one does wonder who exactly was a part of these consultations. As in the City of Vancouver, the community planning sessions pretend to listen to community members but the developers have already made their decisions. I am all for keeping the large trees and enough green space at the old Riverview site but with as much affordable subsidized housing that can be managed for a mix of people. I have memories of that area from over 50 years ago and they are not pleasant ones. Riverview, Crease Clinic, Essondale and Woodlands were all institutions housing the most mentally ill, sick and disabled people in our society. Those buildings should not be left standing. as I am sure any former residents and patients will tell you. A memorial site to the victims of Woodlands school and the mental institutions and the history that surrounded them is perhaps in order. It is time to house all the people of this province and give them some dignity. Housing is a human right, as is air and water.

L L - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

To a limited degree. I moved to Coquitlam last year and heard about Riverview when participating in Treefest last summer.

Sunil Mathure - **Richmond**

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

Please read this article copied from online CBC news March 9th 2014 re: Belgian town Geel, a foster-care centre for psychiatric patients. This can be a model for Riverview land. The Riverview land can be Canada's 'Geel', the psychiatric patients will have a home, job,a friend and family. Psychiatric community care: Belgian town sets gold standard There's nowhere on Earth quite like the town of Geel, a foster-care centre for psychiatric patients By Karin Wells, CBC NewsPosted: Mar 09, 2014 5:00 AM ET|Last Updated: Mar 09, 2014 5:00 AM ET Dis (left) and Luc live with a foster family in the obscure Flemish town of Geel in Belgium. Luc is 48 and suffers from obsessive compulsive disorder. Dis is 89, no one even labels his

psychiatric disorder. (Courtesy Gary Porter, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel) Documentary: You Belong in Geel 27:01 ■Mental health care needed by 1 in 6 Canadians ■Mentally ill inmates kept in 'grossly inadequate' conditions ■Mental health centre struggles to divert patients from ERs ■GPS tracking for missing patients mulled by province ■The Sunday Edition, home page

In the obscure little Flemish town of Geel in Belgium, Dis and Luc sit at the dinner table squabbling. Luc is going to camp for 10 days, Dis for only five. Dis's voice gets more and more shrill. Toni Smit, their foster mother, says quietly, "Dis gets jealous." But after a few minutes they get up and together they clear the supper table. Luc is 48 and suffers from obsessive compulsive disorder. He was shunted off into a psychiatric hospital after his father died. "He hated it," she says, but Luc eventually wound up in Geel, where he has lived with Smit and her husband for the past seven years. Dis is 89, and no one even labels his psychiatric disorder. He came to Geel in 1938 and lived with one family through three generations. Then he came to live with Smit. "They are part of the family – we love them," she says. Hundreds of families in Geel take in psychiatric patients; people who suffer from schizophrenia, from obsessive compulsive disorder, serious mental illnesses. About half of "the boarders" as they are known, also have what is described as "a mild mental handicap." families in Geel have been looking after mentally ill people for centuries. When the numbers were at their highest in the late 1930s, there were 3,800 psychiatric patients living with families in Geel, a town at the time of only 15,000. A quarter of the town was noticeably mentally ill. The tradition continues today. A young woman dressed like some sort of ragged angel scurries past on the street; a few minutes later a man with a vacant gaze wanders by muttering to himself. No one bats an eye. "We are known all over the country as the place where there are insane people," says tour guide Alex Martens. "There's also an expression instead of saying you're crazy. You can say you belong in Geel." There really is nowhere on Earth quite like it. Geel has become the gold standard of community care of psychiatric patients, and it's a model that others are starting to adopt. The legend of Dimpna It all started, legend has it, in the 7th century with a fair-haired Irish princess named Dimpna who fled the incestuous advances of her father. He chased her to Geel, and when she resisted he murdered her. Luc (left) has lived with Toni Smit and her husband for the past seven years. "No one tells us what the problem is" says Smit. "Nobody says oh this person has schizophrenia or anything. The only thing we know about Luc is what he told us himself." (Courtesy Gary Porter, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel) Her legend flowered and she was canonized, becoming St. Dimpna, patron saint of the mentally ill. Geel became a religious shrine. "Here in Geel they thought they were chosen by God to help people with mental illness," says Frieda van Ravensteyn, curator of the Dimpna museum, as she unlocks the side door of the church. The door opens onto the sick room where in the middle ages the rich brought their mad children, and institutions for the poor brought cart loads of men, shackled and bound. They came from France, from the Netherlands and from Germany, and they were crammed, screaming and moaning, into four small cells in the sick room. They were made to crawl under the bones of Dimpna, considered religious relics with healing power, and when they were not "cured" they went back to the sick room. "In the middle ages the only remedy they had was to be close to God," says Martens, "and perhaps you will be cured." In time the church was overwhelmed and local families began to take in the afflicted. "It is 14th, 15th century that family care started," says van Ravensteyn, adding that some did it for less than altruistic reasons. "There was a lot of agriculture here, it was cheap labour." The Geel question In the 19th century, medical treatment of the mentally ill trumped religious devotion. Belgian law required "mad people" to live under lock and key in an asylum. But Geel, with its history of community care of psychiatric patients, was exempted for economic as much as humanitarian reasons. Patients worked on the farms, in bicycle shops, in houses. They were part of the Geel soccer team, the Geel band. They were not locked away, and Geel became an object of medical curiosity. Doctors came from all over the world to study the town. Debate raged. Some argued Geel was "a paradise for the insane," while one critic wrote that he had never in his life seen "something as despicable as Geel - a place where sick people live together with normal people and the normal people could become sick." Legend has it that in the 7th century an Irish princess named Dimpna fled from the advances of her father. He chased her to Geel, pressed his incestuous demands upon her and when she resisted, he murdered her - a story depicted in this sculpture. She was later canonized and became St. Dimpna, patron saint of the mentally ill, and Geel became a religious shrine. But, as the modern mantra of psychiatric patients goes, mentally ill people in Geel had "a home, a job, a friend." "And when we see them we know how to react - so do all the shopkeepers, bartenders, the bus drivers," says Toni Smit. "No one really notices them. Not in a negative way." Bert Buchs, social historian and hospital archivist, sees that as key today. "Knowing that you are accepted not only by doctors, not only by your foster family, but accepted by the whole of the community - that also has a healing effect." Luc and Dis After 700 years, there is still a steady stream of international visitors, doctors, social workers - particularly North Americans who can't quite believe that a town can live so comfortably with mentally ill people. "We had journalists from Milwaukee here last month," says hospital spokesman Johann Claeys. "The first thing they asked was how many times have police intervened in a family. In 10 years they had three interventions and it had nothing to do with violence, not at all." And in Geel, there are no labels. "No one tells us what the problem is," says Toni Smit. "Nobody says oh this person has schizophrenia or anything. The only thing we know about Luc is what he told us himself." All of the patients with foster families are officially wards of the local psychiatric hospital. A treatment team comes by unannounced every couple of weeks, has a chat and drops off any medication. The rest is left up to the families. "We do not ask the families to do special things. We only say be as normal as possible. That's the heart of the system," Claeys says. The people eat together, they share a bathroom, they are just member of the family. "There are no great goals set by the professionals, saying try to do this or that, not at all. You don't focus on illness you focus on the qualities and the strengths of those people and you try to do something with that." The families receive a stipend. They provide individual rooms for their boarders, and if things do not work out there is

a parting of the ways and the hospital looks for another family. "We take time to let it grow," says Claeys, "we do not expect in the next week or next month that they [the patient will] become another person. In some families they stay for the rest of lives." No NIMBYism Belgium is questioning the reliance on drug therapy these days, and psychiatric foster care is not the only alternative. The Geel psychiatric hospital provides sport therapy, work therapy, cooking and even gardening therapy for mental illness, as well as foster family care. There have been foster family programs springing from the Geel model all over the world, often after considerable community resistance. But in Geel there has never been a question of Not-In-My-Backyard. No one in Geel, Toni Smit maintains, has ever said they don't want mentally ill people around. "They're just people. They need caring for too."

daphne sinclair - [Burnaby](#)

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

It was marvelous for its time and great for many of the mentally ill. However these days mentally ill are supposedly treated in their community and not segregated. Good and possible for some but many fall thru the cracks. The new Mental Institution is the prison system, when the old Crease clinic sits empty. Many prisoners maybe could use some Psychiatric care and after care. My daughter had marvelous care at Riverview and continues to do well independently. I do hope Riverview is put to good use without ruining the lovely Botanical Gardens

Ginnie Barre - [Port Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

I am happy that the Coquitlam Mayor has good insight to what this land use should be used for. We are in a mental health crisis in this province. Those employed in policing, health care, Fire dept, mental health workers, teachers and the general public see this. The question is \$ over common sense. We have drugs and alcohol mixed in with mental health issues so it is hard to determine what needs are required. One thing for sure is that we have a lot of beautiful land and a serious need. Get your heads out of the sand. This is not 1950. We are not talking about a insane asylum. We could develop the best facility in the world. With a First nation healing centre, police training centre for mental awareness, addiction centres, long term sustainable life skill training for those requiring it after addiction. Out patient facility. Alzheimer care. Charge those that can afford and fund those that can't. If you think this is not costing each and every household now then you are mistaken. There is a lot of land, give big charitable donation tax cuts to those that fund it. Sell off a small portion at top price. Figure it out. Tax us all in the lower mainland a minimal amount , it will save us all in the long term. This should be a facility for several areas. This would bring many , many full and part time jobs to this area, sustainable employment . Get the mayors together . This needs to be a meeting of the minds... don't let the Developers and Clark get hold of this like they did with Woodlands land. This is an opportunity to do something, hold the Provincial Government accountable.

Elaine Willis - [Anmore](#)

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

Yes, involved through City of Coquitlam as well as Heritage Conservation Plan. I have also been involved through the Arts Community, the Health Community and the Environment Community. As a 30 plus year resident of the Tri-Cities, I recognize the value of Riverview in its many roles.

Charlene Allard - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

I have been involved with all consultations re: the Riverview Lands that I have been aware of. I believe very strongly that this land is vital for the mental health of all members of our community. The refurbish of the mental health hospital buildings would provide desperately-needed housing for those who need this type of care. For others, the beauty of the lands (back forest, Finnie's garden, old orchard, arboretum) is equally as important to the quality of our lives.

Mark Gallagher - [Vancouver](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 1

Given the unique trees that have matured on the site, the desire to preserve these trees and the presence of the existing cemetery, would it not make sense to have an expanded cemetery/funeral home use that would preserve trees and provide a community benefit?

Anonymous - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

I provided input into the heritage plan, done a year or so ago. BUT, apparently the heritage plan that the public got to see; is NOT the same heritage plan that is being used in this process. How can the public provide an informed decision, when WE are not given the full suite of tools to work with?

Teresa Steeves - [British Columbia](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

My sincere hope is that the beauty and uniqueness of this property will be retained and restored. I currently live in the Okanagan but spent most of my life in the Lower Mainland. I think the trees and other mature landscaping should be retained, the buildings renovated to individual self contained apartments with amenities in each building. Amenities to include common areas with facilities such as a gym, entertainment area, meeting room for residents or residents and their extended family or friends in which to socialize. The beautiful trees and other mature and healthy landscaping should be cleaned up and kept including the beautiful expanse of lawn that is unique and rare in a city. The outside property should be turned into a park for all to enjoy with walkways, playground and permission for pets on a leash. Due to property location low income housing should definitely be considered especially for those who will never be able to afford a place of their own including those who are successfully managing their mental illnesses and/or developmental disabilities as well as single parent low income families.

Ken Lawson - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

not going to attend any open house to busy

daphne sinclair - **Burnaby**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I have attended one consultation event in Port Coquitlam. I have visited family in Riverview for 10 years in the 80's and 90's. Daphne Sinclair

elaine golds - **Port Moody**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I have been involved with the issue of Riverview for several years, have enjoyed tree tours and visiting Finnie's garden. However, I would not say that the future use of the Riverview lands has been a discussion for many years, it's past use and value for continuing with this important function as well as the current urgent need for vastly improved mental health care has been an topic of discussion in the community and is strongly supported.

Ken Lawson - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

This is a good place for affordable housing or high end housing or mixture of both

## Question 2

**The vision process for the Riverview Lands includes outreach to the public to gather ideas and feedback. How would you like to be consulted?**

Anonymous - **Burnaby**

Uprated: 4 | Downrated: 0

The vision process for the Riverview Lands includes outreach to the public to gather ideas and feedback. How would you like to be consulted?

s. Dawson - **North Vancouver District**

Uprated: 4 | Downrated: 0

Ongoing email alerts with PlaceSpeak forums and webinars.

Shannon Blue - **Port Coquitlam**

Uprated: 7 | Downrated: 0

Continuing emails and placespeak

Sunil Mathure - **Richmond**

Uprated: 5 | Downrated: 1

Please do not waste participant's time if decision has already been made similar to 'HST' in the past. Otherwise brain storming public forums (similar to PWD whitepaper) would be great or social network, webinar would be fine.

Sunil Mathure - **Richmond**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Please read: do not waste.....Sorry my mistake.

Dora Williams - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I agree, it almost seems like a fait accompli that decision has been made behind closed doors.

Evan Harding - **Vancouver**

Uprated: 5 | Downrated: 0

I would like to be consulted online.

Anonymous - **Port Moody**

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 1

The on-line consultations are the way to go. The old-school, blue haired groups are no doubt bamboozled by this method of consultation, but its far superior to face to face story boards and crowded rooms with grandstanding by some of the more vocal citizens. The other massive benefit of on line consultations is that a single voice is heard once as opposed to the face to face situation where citizens with set agendas can "game" the consultation by filling out dozens of questionnaires, and generally act like their opinion matters more than other citizens.

Elaine Willis - **Anmore**

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

Hey anonymous, I think I'll put a blue streak in my grey hair and suggest that to include everyone we need every kind of consultation. Inclusive consultation will lead to results that are best for Riverview Lands and the community.

Luke Tengs - **Maple Ridge**

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 0

I'd alert municipalities of updates and advise them to share those updates on their social media sites, as well as providing news releases to maintain a high visibility of this envisioning process.

Brenda Guiled - **Vancouver Island**

Uprated: 4 | Downrated: 0

This online feedback means suits me fine. There must always be means to comment not tied to attending a public gathering. I'd happily weigh in via telephone, in print, and any other way not involving travel. Beyond my wishes, what are you doing for outreach throughout the province? I heard a piece on CBC radio about this visioning call for input, which is good. What other media are you using to make sure that all British Columbians, all of whom have a stake in mental health care in the province, know about this process?

Dora Williams - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I totally agree Brenda.

Ken Lawson - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I think there should be a survey of every one in BC this is their land

Tania Deans - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 5 | Downrated: 0

I agree with the majority - online discussion groups for those with the technology is a great way to go, but let's not forget the smaller, but just as significant, group of people who do not access today's technology. There must be an appropriate model for EVERYONE to be able to voice their opinions and receive information.

Barb Gillespie - **Vancouver**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Via email

Anne Dubois - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Emails and forums and participating on line when I am unable to get to forums.

Stephen Gee - **Burnaby**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

The best way in this day and age is EMAILING, but for people who do not own a computer, other ways would be advertisements of open houses coming up (like you've been doing!!) in newspapers and magazines. I think TV ads on local networks would be nice, but pricewise, I know it wouldn't be feasible,...also, just word of mouth!!

c s - **Vancouver**

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

I would like to be consulted by more open houses where BC housing actually engages and listens to the public, not be told, "go fill out the form over there..."needs to be face to face convos and find out peoples priorities for the community in a broad sense of all of vancouver and mainland. this website is a great beginning but actually discussions and meetings need to happen,

voices be heard, even if they are mental people, they are who the land was intended for in first place.

Elaine Willis - **Anmore**

Upated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I think BC Housing people were very responsive to questions at the Open House but agree the format needs a lot of improvement. If one looked at the visuals and didn't ask questions, one could easily misunderstand the process and the goals.

Neil Elmer - **Coquitlam**

Upated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Through my Email

Cindy Torssonen - **Coquitlam**

Upated: 0 | Downrated: 0

By email. I heard about the open house from my husband. Few people in my neighbourhood were aware. Inform the public by using the digital signboards that the traffic departments use, place in high traffic areas and use signage at the malls.

L L - **Coquitlam**

Upated: 1 | Downrated: 0

Public forums where all interested parties can equally present their concerns. I attended the Feb 27 Open House. The venue chosen was ill planned. Very limited parking available for folks coming in after work. Even worse for the elderly walking the muddy back alley to get back to cars parked a block away. This should have been better planned. Was this intentional? Some would wonder.

M Slater - **West Vancouver**

Upated: 0 | Downrated: 0

e-mail and notice in local community newspaper.

Ginnie Barre - **Port Coquitlam**

Upated: 0 | Downrated: 0

It need to be a public vote.

Elaine Willis - **Anmore**

Upated: 1 | Downrated: 1

At every step of the way, the community must be consulted in a meaningful way through dialogue, open houses, town hall meetings and an opportunity to vote on any major initiatives.

Charlene Allard - **Coquitlam**

Upated: 1 | Downrated: 0

Yes, particularly via the local paper as most residents have access to this.

Anonymous - **Coquitlam**

Upated: 2 | Downrated: 0

E-mail, Websites, Public forums, Newspapers, by any and all means possible. The property has an important place in health care in primarily this province, but also many patients were from other countries of this planet. This Placespeak thing is poorly setup, and makes me wonder WHY does the Province have to use private companies to do these things for them, when in theory we have well-paid staff, who should be perfectly capable of providing a secure place to provide input. Complete Privacy should be Paramount in these discussions, I do not care who sees my rantings, but I know that some past patients, staff would be afraid to provide information without being assured of complete privacy.

Teri Mad - **Port Coquitlam**

Upated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I totally agree with you. This whole process is difficult & intimidating for a very large segment of the population.

Teri Mad - **Port Coquitlam**

Upated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Bigger venues with more parking. More signage. Reach outside of tricities this is not just a local issue.

Ken Lawson - **Coquitlam**

Upated: 0 | Downrated: 0

By Survey

daphne sinclair - **Burnaby**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I would like you to use e-mail. Daphne Sinclair

elaine golds - **Port Moody**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I do not like being consulted like this. This is an awkward way to accept comments and you don't even have an easy mechanism to correct typos. I have heard other complaints about some people's comments being removed. That is outrageous.

Ken Lawson - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Not really

### Question 3

**The Riverview Lands have an extensive history in the province of British Columbia and the region. Based on the poster boards in the Resource tab, is there any other part of the lands' history that you did not see represented and consider important?**

Anonymous - **Burnaby**

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

The Riverview Lands have an extensive history in the province of British Columbia and the region. Based on the poster boards in the Resource tab, is there any other part of the lands' history that you did not see represented and consider important?

s. Dawson - **North Vancouver District**

Uprated: 6 | Downrated: 1

The perspective of people with lived experience of mental illness, especially those who resided at Riverview during its lengthy history, was not represented and must not be overlooked. It's important to honour the heritage of the people who sometimes spent years of their lives here. Their contributions to the grounds as well as their presence should be honoured by maintaining gardens, signage, and new public art. A museum would also be fitting. Moving forward, it is also appropriate to involve PWLE in the planning and evaluation of future mental health services or housing that may be offered on the site. The site should not be dismantled and developed into housing, it should be preserved as a Heritage Site, but existing buildings can be rebuilt for transitional housing and other needed mental health resources.

Sunil Mathure - **Richmond**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 2

It's easy to dismantle the historical buildings especially hospitals. The Riverview area is just excellent to continue healing process for less privileged with broken minds, called place of their own.

Anonymous - **Port Moody**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Wow, I started off liking this post until it degenerated into madness and economic illness. Yes, the voice of patients have been not heard to the full extent. For example, lets hear from those forced-sterilized women who successfully sued the province in the 1980s. I'm sure they have a great opinion of Riverview. Or the kids that were interred at the boys school in the 1930s. Or the countless lost souls abandoned by their families to a life in a warehouse. Riverview isn't a romantic place -- It's a horrorshow where medical practices were routinely used in the past that would horrify family members of people coping with mental illness today. Insulin Comas. Shock therapy. Hydrotherapy. Chemical lobotomys. Forced Sterlization. The power of the state out of control. PHSA made a decision to deliver mental health services to citizens in their communities years ago. For example, since the lands to the immediate east of the new port Mann bridge used to be used for a dump, should we reopen that area and start dumping our garbage there again?

Sunil Mathure - **Richmond**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Richmond's Garden City land is also a important for developmental idea from the public. Several agencies have vasted own interests & benefits.

Evan Harding - **Vancouver**

Uprated: 7 | Downrated: 0

People with mental illness, particularly those who have spent time at Riverview, need to be included in this discussion.

Luke Tengs - **Maple Ridge**



Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

There was a bit of text concerning the costs of revitalizing the buildings, but there wasn't much denoting how invaluable these buildings are to our society in Metro Vancouver. The saying 'If Walls Could Talk' plays in really well here. It's worth it for future generations to restore everything we can, and maybe fill in some gaps around existing buildings with new-builds. Turn one of the lawn buildings into a destination museum about the history of mental health treatment worldwide, and convert the others into either new mental health facilities (non-residential), and others into condominiums. People love the history of this area. To demolish Riverview would be one of the biggest shams the BC might ever see.

Brenda Guiled - [Vancouver Island](#)

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

Good and well-illustrated summary. Could have mentioned the books and other literature published about the site, for those who'd like to follow up with more comprehensive reading.

Anonymous - [Vancouver](#)

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 0

First, I believe that is important to retain all the beautiful trees on the property. The buildings are of heritage quality and should be saved and re-purposed. It is very sad that it was closed at all. The results of closure are visible in the community with homeless folks everywhere. Perhaps the area could used as a park and the building use as a BC museum.

Anonymous - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 0

The poster boards or resources don't mention the important roll the Riverview lands have played for community groups or provincial government departments not associated with mental health. At present the local Rotary Club, Society for the Preservation of Radio in Canada, the Coquitlam Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Society, and the Kids Cottage Daycare Society currently occupy facilities at Riverview. Given ever increasing commercial rental and leasing costs the Riverview grounds play a critical roll in allowing these non-profit community service organizations to continue to operate. The Riverview grounds also host two British Columbia Ambulance stations, a SAR office and a BC Sheriff's dispatch center.

Tania Deans - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

And let's not forget the film industry, Fraser Health's TriCities Home Health offices, the Justice Institute training offices and other community groups in these buildings. these are all revenue generating ventures. All these services you mention could still have a home in a re-designed or reclaimed Riverview - but would the 'commercial rental and leasing costs' increase to the point where they would be squeezed out into other spaces elsewhere? As an aside, isn't it kind of scary operating a children's daycare in an asbestos-filled building?

Anonymous - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

These are non-profits run exclusively by volunteers, 'commercial rates' are entirely inappropriate for such entities. They've enjoyed access to community space at Riverview for decades at lease rates more appropriate for the nature of their activities. For some of these entities increases to commercial rates would mean the end of operations. Not all non-profit and volunteer activities can happen online or in shared space at community centers and libraries etc. There needs to be a place in the community for such activities to occur and Riverview is perfectly suited for this.

c s - [Vancouver](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 2

First and foremost is the land is FOR those suffering and surviving mental health issues. This was not completely evident in expensive posters....BC housing had trouble engaging with mental people who took the time and effort to show up, talking instead to media and each other, makes you wonder if decisions and buyouts are already arranged, is it just appeasing the public ??, some land should be sold off or a casino built and pay for new facility for the mentally challenged (for 1000 patients), somewhere nice an welcoming and helpful and as well social housing (house another 1000) to allow those to be within arms reach of help. We spend billions on military why not the sick and impoverished,,..... keep the lands wide and open too. 100 years ago it was set aside for the mental it should still stand.

Tania Deans - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Hmmm - good point - invest the casino revenue into the redevelopment/upkeep of the RVH lands. Currently, a number of non-profit community groups receive a portion through an application process every quarter, but the overall annual amount is quite significant. Might it be possible to divert these funds to RVH for a five year period to get the ball rolling?

Neil Elmer - [Coquitlam](#)



Upated: 1 | Downrated: 0

I did not see the uses that the Riverview lands now serve such as the different government agencies local clubs and organizations

Cindy Torssonen - Coquitlam

Upated: 1 | Downrated: 0

Add the stories of people who have lived and worked at Riverview. I also agree with adding the organizations who are currently working there e.g. daycare, share, etc.

L L - Coquitlam

Upated: 4 | Downrated: 0

I did not see a lot of detailed information about the One Of A KIND tree collection at Riverview. I slight mention compared the the "financial" costs if we were to save the buildings. First impression seems to be a one sided representation. I attended the Open House Feb 27 and witnessed a BC Housing rep. being very defensive when posed questions that Riverview should become a park or reestablished to provide mental health services. Seems to me that the decision has been made and the Open House is just for show.

Elaine Willis - Anmore

Upated: 2 | Downrated: 0

The extensive community use that is recent history seemed absent.

Avril Cheesbrough - Port Moody

Upated: 2 | Downrated: 0

The survivors of Riverview, the people struggling with mental illness, and psychosocial rehabilitation experts. We need to engage the people who have the current relevant knowledge to assist us in the development of a first class workable treatment /training/living/recreational site our province will be proud of.

Anonymous - Coquitlam

Upated: 1 | Downrated: 0

The influence on the Communities in a very wide area near Riverview was HUGE, and went a long way in attempting to humanize the communities. Riverview is/ was a sanctuary for health care for the people of the Province. Heritage valuation of the land itself. Heritage valuation of the buildings, (my guess would be a few of them would be very, very expensive to replace exactly these days, very few know how to install, maintain a slate roof for instance ) Wildlife valuation, How important is this property to the sustainability of the local rapidly dimishing wildlfie populations? Landscape valuation; knowing that a few of the shrubby trees are worth in excess of 30K, no not a typo, to collectors. I found out that there exists many documents, reports, that the public has not been provided with, to be able to make an informed decison about the property. The staff at the "open house" did not know this FACT, they kept on assuring me that everything that they used was in the public reports, when they are clearly NOT! ALL of the building should have been evaluated, the powerhouse, built in 1922 was not evaluated in any way, and three cottages are much older than the reports say, and that information is easily available to anybody who knows what due dilligence means. (plagarism of others mis-informed reports, should always be greatly discouraged) The Pitt River road, the original RoW goes through the property, and is a historic road in the development of the lower mainland. The orchard area in the southerly portion of the grounds, contains a very old Indian trail, and was also where development first started on the property, (ground zero). The entire site was over many generations, dedicated to the health care of the people of the Province, be it mental health, geriatric care, veterans, tuberculosis, virulant diseases, preventive health care ( Henry Essons Young's, special area of expertise, and many of those ideas were and still are used throughout North America ), which continued into Education, Recreational Therapy, ( first practiced on a large scale at Riverview in North America to enormous success ), Open houses, Sports days were carried on to outreach into the community, to great success. Community use of the buildings and grounds has been extensive until recently, when many of the buildings were gutted for furnishings and equipment, and closed; the story of the groups is not just a local story but a provincial one. Nursing History Staff History Patient History

Teri Mad - Port Coquitlam

Upated: 1 | Downrated: 0

Open space? What does that mean? The use of these 'terms' can be very misleading in a government presentation. Does that even mean the trees are included in 'open space'? People can make assumptions that are not true about this. The costs of renovating/renewing/etc. have not been depicted accurately. When comparing to constructing new buildings elsewhere the cost of purchasing land is not shown. We already own the land so that cost does not exist. They should show us what the true costs to build past & future new buildings are all over BC (including land cost), so there is an honest comparison of expense. The difference may not be as far apart as people are imagining when reading the poorly presented board. That board was purposely designed to scare people into thinking renovation costs would be so exorbitant that it cannot be considered. The lack of maintenance of OUR assets at Riverview is a factor in the current deterioration. Sadly this is all about privatization of health

care, to the benefit of insiders, and to the detriment of the patients.

elaine golds - **Port Moody**

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

I do not see any evaluation given for the heritage buildings - their significance seems to be totally overlooked. There are seems to be little importance ascribed to the connection between the buildings and the landscape design. Riverview is a site which promotes mental wellness.

#### Question 4

**The vision process is looking to balance economic, social, environmental and provincial considerations for the future of the Riverview Lands. BC Housing is also considering a self-sustaining economic model that would retain the same amount of open space as is currently found on the lands. What other thoughts do you have on the future of Riverview?**

Anonymous - **Burnaby**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

The vision process is looking to balance economic, social, environmental and provincial considerations for the future of the Riverview Lands. BC Housing is also considering a self-sustaining economic model that would retain the same amount of open space as is currently found on the lands. What other thoughts do you have on the future of Riverview?

s. Dawson - **North Vancouver District**

Uprated: 12 | Downrated: 0

Retaining open space and environmental heritage is very important. Honouring people of lived experience who lived at Riverview is also paramount.

Janet Rozanski - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Yes, definitely!

Sunil Mathure - **Richmond**

Uprated: 6 | Downrated: 0

The Riverview land is belonging to hospital and leaves it that way. Rather develop into modern research, residential and various training facility for mentally ill. Addicted and homeless or PWD individual. So these people will have opportunity to live independently with dignity. You may move or expand UBC similar research and treatment centre onto Riverview area.

Evan Harding - **Vancouver**

Uprated: 10 | Downrated: 0

I would like to see the same amount of open space, but more importantly, I would like to see supportive housing for people with mental illnesses and/or disabilities who are in need of it.

Sunil Mathure - **Richmond**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

You have my vote. Do not throw these people on the road to live or let die in the winter.

Janet Rozanski - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

yes

Tania Deans - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 11 | Downrated: 0

Consider the self-sustaining economic model it once was - complete with everything from recreational and treatment facilities, to fire, agricultural, dairy, baking, laundry, groundskeeping, housing for staff, etc. At a peak population of thousands people (staff and patients), it was a mini-city in and of itself. It can be this way again, and set a worldwide model to be replicated. Reclaiming current site buildings is economically unfeasible; however, destroying the architecturally-significant buildings - wiping the slate clean - is also disastrous. Consider rebuilding in the style of the day but to today's building code. Consider a multi-use site to include a state of the art Centre of Excellence for mental health to go hand-in-glove with seniors' supportive living (assisted living and residential care models) - perhaps a specialized university campus or teaching hospital alongside functioning care home models for publicly-funded residential patients and residents. Provide onsite temporary housing and services for students and staff. With 244 acres, consider the multi-use potential - develop a significant film industry, encourage cultural heritage (museums, Granville Island-esque farmer's markets and artist studios/programming), and preserve the natural environment of the arboretum, rolling hillsides and regenerate the gardens. Rejuvenate the bowling alley, gym and pool site to

encourage public use. Bring the site back to its earlier glory and market it as a public space to be visited and treasured by all. Hold onto the past, and move towards the future.

Christine Lawton - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 0

I believe the existing buildings should be restored to functional condition to provide much needed care for those people now at risk and at large, suffering with mental illnesses. I also believe that the therapeutic value of the grounds and gardens tends to be underestimated, and that they should also be rehabilitated I also do NOT believe we should cover every square yard of ground in the city with buildings.

Teri Mad - **Port Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

According to a well known Vancouver Heritage architectural consultant many of these buildings would do well with renovation. Dollars listed for renewing seem very misleading to me.

Linda Asgeirsson - **New West**

Uprated: 14 | Downrated: 0

Ensure that all of the land is kept in public trust and managed as a single unit, even though a variety of functions may occur in the future. The site is owned by the Province of BC.; therefore, this land is our land and should be used to benefit society. Consider designation as a Provincial Heritage Site. Respect Riverview's heritage and build on the existing values, i.e., mental health care, significant tree collection, heritage buildings and natural assets. Continue Riverview's role in providing mental health care, with possible expansion into related health care areas, e.g., care facilities for those suffering from dementia; assisted living facilities. Promote Riverview as a centre of excellence in health care.. Site new buildings in the footprint of demolished buildings or on "brown" spaces (e.g., paved or graveled areas) to ensure continuity of landscaping and to avoid impacts on the tree collection and natural areas. Find appropriate uses for the older buildings if no longer needed for health care while ensuring architectural features and landscaping are preserved to the greatest extent possible (e.g., heritage museum, government offices, use by non-profit societies, botanical garden facilities, etc.). Develop the full potential of the arboretum as a major tourist attraction for Coquitlam and consider expansion into a complete botanical garden/horticultural/education centre. Preserve and enhance natural habitat areas and streams. Ensure that such work complements the development of a botanical garden. Complete flora and fauna inventories. Encourage public appreciation of these values. Consider development of more formal links with nearby greenspaces (e.g., Riverview Forest Park and Colony Farm Regional Park) for public use and wildlife movement. I want to see a land use planning process that will build on the existing values of Riverview and respect its heritage. By the way, this website which offers the opportunity to post comments is very cumbersome and frustrating to use. Will probably discourage rather than encourage people to give you their views.

Luke Tengs - **Maple Ridge**

Uprated: 7 | Downrated: 0

Retain the historic buildings. That can't be emphasized enough. There are so many uses for these valuable historical assets. There are fewer buildings like the ones on the Riverview site than there ever have been; Riverview is one of the few hospital complexes still remaining in North America (if not the only). Convert the buildings to new uses and densify a few of the holes while retaining the arboretum of old trees and shady lawns.

Brenda Guiled - **Vancouver Island**

Uprated: 10 | Downrated: 0

The self-sustaining requirement - i.e. the site has to generate all revenues required to run it - is the deal-breaker when it comes to preserving the entire site, intact with all open spaces retained, for any services related to health care and heritage. I and a great many others think that the entire site should be held in perpetuity for the use and care of those requiring and providing mental health care in B.C., including respecting and honouring the history of mental health care at the site, in the province, and throughout the world. No hospital or psychiatric facilities in the province are told to be self-sustaining or else. Or else what? Obviously, find a tax base. Find a way to put money back into provincial coffers. If/when BC Housing decrees that the site must be repurposed for private market purposes, with all the open space preserved, we can thank this "self-sustaining" undermining, this poison pill of disingenuousness and cynicism, for the decision.

Tania Deans - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 1

While I agree with many of you that no other public institution has this same requirement, if the ultimate vision is to sell off the property for market housing, the argument will no longer hold true as it will no longer be public land. Uh oh. However, the sale of the provincial lands for market housing development may indeed fill the provincial coffers, but will only do so once - it won't be a self-sustaining economic model. The ongoing property taxes gathered would divert to municipal coffers instead; as such, one might pause to (hopefully) consider that the market housing model won't fulfill the self-sustaining

economic requirement after all - is there hope in that deduction? That said, if we are to move forward without raising taxes, then future, ongoing income generation will be an important piece of the discussion. What kinds of things/services/etc can be brought into Riverview which will produce enough funds to sustain the overall outcome? Little ideas are merely a drop in the economic bucket - we need to think big here without 'selling out' the intrinsic value of the land. What out-of-the-box ideas can you come up with that will help move the discussion in this direction?

Mike Chittenden - **Coquitlam**

Upated: 0 | Downrated: 13

Ensuring that there is sufficient road access and an expansion to the loughheed highway considered.

Tania Deans - **Coquitlam**

Upated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Yes, some roadways within the lands are a bit narrow, but that just adds to the charm of it all, no? Expansion may be required if the site is developed for market housing, but if it is to be retained as a self-sustaining model for whatever purpose (mental health, university, museum, film, arboretum, etc), then roadways should be minimized to discourage traffic flow and encourage foot traffic instead. A parking lot at each end perhaps? Or right-turn access/egress on Loughheed? Who knows until the official purpose is decided...?

Anonymous - **Port Coquitlam**

Upated: 1 | Downrated: 0

Why could this not be used for hospital use, a college or some kind of institution, or even part of it as a public park for families to get together. I realize that the buildings are old, and possible too much expense to refurbish. Why not keep Crease Clinic for use for the movie crews.

Mike Lawton - **Coquitlam**

Upated: 13 | Downrated: 0

Riverview was a care facility for the mentally ill. In my opinion there is a current need for such a facility, to reduce the impact of the mentally ill on the resources of general medical facilities, the police, fire, and ambulance services, and social services coping with the mentally ill who have nowhere to live but on the streets. Having said that, I believe that Riverview should be refurbished to provide that care again, and in that regard should not be looked upon as being 'self sufficient', but as a healthcare service. What other healthcare services are required to be 'self sufficient'?

Sunil Mathure - **Richmond**

Upated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I agree.

Andro Palomar - **Coquitlam**

Upated: 11 | Downrated: 0

Retain all species of trees in the area. It will take years to replace those

Tania Deans - **Coquitlam**

Upated: 1 | Downrated: 0

Popular quote - it takes 100 years to grow a 100 year old tree - can you imagine NOT keeping these beautiful specimens? If you haven't already, it's definitely worth a drive to the site to participate in a tree walk in the spring or early summer hosted by the Riverview Horticultural Society. It's absolutely stunning.

Kathy Leko - **Port Moody**

Upated: 13 | Downrated: 0

I am glad to see the site will be considered as a whole so market housing won't chip away at it like it has in the past. The question states: "BC Housing is considering a self-sustaining economic model" Why? Do all hospitals and future projects need to be self-sustaining? More information about this self sustaining part of the project is needed. I fear market housing will be implemented to generate funds. There are other place for market housing! If the provincial gov't has money for LNG grants for large corporations, it surely has money for mental health facilities and facilities for community groups like Search and Rescue at Riverview. I wonder how many Downtown Eastside Residents were former Tri-City resident displaced when Riverview closed and now local facilities are overrun can't serve them. Keeping Riverview for mental health care services seems fair and proper. Valleyview was used in 2011 for dementia services. Why was it shut down? Why can't it be used again? Henry Esson was used until 2012. Yet, it's ranked as poor condition building. How can this be in 1 1/2 years? Finnie's garden is still a quiet reflective space used by the community. We need these kinds of quiet accessible spaces.

Sharon Stevens - **Port Coquitlam**

Uprated: 16 | Downrated: 0

why are you considering it necessary to be self-sustaining. Is that government speak for HOUSING for profit? It was designated a hospital site and has operated as that for over a century. The people it served cannot survive outside of a hospital environment. All you have to do is look to the DTES and the psych wards of all the lower mainland hospitals to figure out that when Riverview closed, their numbers sky rocketed. No matter how you white wash it, there are people that cannot live safely outside the hospital environment. To make them try to sustain themselves with little to no support outside of a hospital setting is just criminal. The Riverview lands need to be used for mental health services. If buildings need to be built, then build them in the same model and style as are existing presently. The site is a jewel, rich with all the heritage trees, history, Finnies garden, and architecture. This site needs to be preserved as much as possible.

Christine Lawton - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 14 | Downrated: 0

The Riverview lands should be kept intact, and the buildings brought back to useable state. The decision to close the mental health treatment facility was wrong, and should be reversed. The grounds should be available to all to enjoy as a quiet haven in the midst of what is becoming yet another high density, high rise blighted community.

Michele Delville - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

I personally have no connection to Riverview but in the last couple of years have gone on a few information walks there and was amazed at the beautiful site. I wish that it could be made into a world renowned addiction clinic which would support the upkeep of some of the historic buildings and that we could support the mentally ill. It appeared to me that BC Housing's objective is market housing and destroying much of the site, at least that's the impression that I got. While I know the main issue is funding but once you put market housing up there what's going to pay for the upkeep of what little (if any) is left. I think that a place where you could rent out buildings and make revenue that way in addition to a user pay facility for people that can afford treatment.

Barb Gillespie - [Vancouver](#)

Uprated: 6 | Downrated: 0

I would like to know more about what your comment above actually means. What are the functional components that you are currently considering and are you envisioning that each component be "self-sustainable" or are you considering a multi-functional operation where some elements are profit generating whilst others are not? What are the possibilities of use you are considering that allow for protection of the trees, upgrading of the buildings and care for the mentally ill.

Cathy Alexander - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 1

Vision - new mental health facilities covering treatment, long term housing, and teaching within the park. Possible addition of same for seniors. Cluster any housing, both public and private (revenue producing) around a small walking village of services i.e. Bank, grocery store, coffee shop, dr.s office, daycare. (Revenue producing.) All buildings restricted in height. Make parkland usable with benches, walking trails and bike paths. Public pay parking (revenue producing) for park use. Retain bus routes. Current buildings demolished as out of date and cost prohibitive to upgrade. Use partial facades on new buildings to retain heritage feel. Incorporate a museum in plans. Retain ambulance facility.

Lynn MacKenzie - [Port Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 6 | Downrated: 2

For Riverview to be lost to housing is morally wrong. These lands and buildings were established to meet the needs of individuals requiring mental health treatment. At one time Riverview/Essondale was self-sufficient and a showcase for the treatment of mental health. We need a mental health and addictions facility in the TriCities. The lack of mental health care facilities in the GVRD is appalling and sending those former Riverview patients into the public domain has been disastrous. With the current population growth we will need more facilities for mental health in the future. If Riverview is to be used for housing let's use it for housing those in need not those with lots of money. My first choice is that Riverview should be used as a Care Centre for Mental Health and Addiction, and to provide assisted living facilities for marginalized individuals requiring help. We could set up teaching centres training people to work in mental health care, addiction and harm reduction. There could be low cost residential housing for students, shelters for homeless or abused, transitional shelter and training for disenfranchised adults and youth trying to get back into society. The buildings used by the film industry could continue to be rented to bring in revenue. Part of the grounds and the arboretum could be set up as a garden with access by paid admission. Most buildings on the site need a great deal of repair to bring them up to today's standards so perhaps historical facades could be kept while new buildings were constructed. Costs of building maintenance might be reduced by environmental design choices.

Lynn MacKenzie - [Port Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 5 | Downrated: 1

For Riverview to be lost to housing is morally wrong. These lands and buildings were established to meet the needs of individuals requiring mental health treatment. At one time Riverview/Essondale was self-sufficient and a showcase for the treatment of mental health. We need a mental health and addictions facility in the TriCities. The lack of mental health care facilities in the GVRD is appalling and sending those former Riverview patients into the public domain has been disastrous. With the current population growth we will need more facilities for mental health in the future. If Riverview is to be used for housing let's use it for housing those in need not those with lots of money. My first choice is that Riverview should be used as a Care Centre for Mental Health and Addiction, and to provide assisted living facilities for marginalized individuals requiring help. We could set up teaching centres training people to work in mental health care, addiction and harm reduction. There could be low cost residential housing for students, shelters for homeless or abused, transitional shelter and training for disenfranchised adults and youth trying to get back into society. The buildings used by the film industry could continue to be rented to bring in revenue. Part of the grounds and the arboretum could be set up as a garden with access by paid admission. Most buildings on the site need a great deal of repair to bring them up to today's standards so perhaps historical facades could be kept while new buildings were constructed. Costs of building maintenance might be reduced by environmental design choices.

c s - **Vancouver**

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

Still keep priority for mentally ill. These people exist in society and need to thrive rather than barely survive, whether people like it or not. Stats say 20 % min of population suffer mental illness, maybe as high as 40%. There is every increasing need for it to house people too ill to fend for themselves. Build money makers out there, sell some off, get matching dollars from harper....invent an app....build another casino, do something....but fund a nice health facility on these lands, you cannot put a price on valuing human lives. people are dying and suffering tremendously on the streets and it is an eyesore and blemish to the city, looks like we don't care, do we?

Cindy Torssonen - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 8 | Downrated: 0

I agree with preserving the lands and providing housing and services for mentally ill and other disadvantaged groups (as it was originally designed). Expanding services to consider health and wellbeing services would also be appropriate. I like the idea mentioned below about renovating the bowling alley etc for public use. I do not understand why it has to be self sustaining - this means for profit. No other public services are asked to be self sustaining. Our tax dollars are already paying the facilities. Coquitlam residents and city councillors have worked hard over the years to preserve Riverview trees, lands, and buildings. I attended the open house. I did not see any representatives from the Ministry who have the power to make decisions and to be accountable to the agenda of the provincial government. Who has veto power? Will the provincial government listen? Invite the Ministers with decision making power to attend sit down meetings to answer questions and to demonstrate their commitment to the democratic process e.g. Minister Rich Coleman vs front line employees with no decision powers.

Neil Elmer - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 8 | Downrated: 0

I see no need for it to be a self-sustaining economically as tax money already pays for it, so it already is. Use the buildings that can be saved for the benefit of public use and the care of the disadvantaged regardless of money. Then protect the rest of the lands for good so this problem wont keep coming back every few years. I would like to see more signs to tell of the open houses perhaps on street corners like election signs as I saw very little notice (as I told the gentleman at the open house). Also I would like to see one or more of the higher-ups in the government come to the open houses to answer questions instead of the b.c. housing workers that have no power and are forbidden to say anything that could be considered negative on government policy for fear of dismissal.

L L - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 0

This site is of historical importance in BC and we should not let it be forgotten. There is a dire need for mental health services and temporary and permanent housing facilities. Those in need of these services are now blended into society and we all know that it has not been entirely successful. There can be more than one solution to this dilemma. I would like to see the trees and park-like tranquility remain (maybe cut the grass once it a while!), and restore some buildings as temporary or permanent homes for patients. Some buildings can be rented to the film industry, leased to educational institutions, or provide housing for independent and/or assisted living for seniors.

Anonymous - **Richmond**

Uprated: 4 | Downrated: 0

As a society we need to right the wrongs perpetrated on the sickest of mental health patients when Riverview was closed. Dumping them on the street without housing or supports was inhumane. Those people, and the rest of us, have been paying for that decision ever since. The Vancouver Police Department has provided ample evidence that not supporting people with



mental illness results in increased policing and emergency health costs. Vancouver struggles daily with mental illness and addiction in the Downtown Eastside. Across the province, mental health services are inadequate or non-existent. This province needs a dedicated mental health care facility that can take care of the sickest as well as provide longer term care for those who are currently trapped in a revolving door system of short term stays, releases, then back into the system again. We need a centre of excellence in mental health care at Riverview. It would take decades for the entire campus to be developed, but it could bring together leaders in the field of mental health, attract funding from all sources, and provide both long- and short-term care and housing for patients. It could provide expertise for medical people practising all across the province, a dedicated facility for children with mental illness, and a short-term stay facility for families whose children are in care, like the one that serves BC Children's Hospital. It would take advantage of this substantial piece of land, its historic location and gardens, and enjoy the support of the City of Coquitlam whose residents know the value of good mental health care. This would be a legacy project for any provincial government that has the vision to address the issue of mental health care.

Anonymous - **Richmond**

Uprated: 4 | Downrated: 0

For the BC Schizophrenia Society's position on the Riverview lands, see:

<http://www.bcscs.org/aboutbcscs/2013/09/bcss-position-on-the-riverview-lands/#read>

M Slater - **West Vancouver**

Uprated: 6 | Downrated: 0

The Riverview site should NOT be developed into high density housing. The mentally ill have been short changed ever since the province began closing residential mental health facilities. Hospitals and health care do not generate money so they end up getting sacrificed - especially mental health as the associated stigma makes it in general (and patients individually) easier to exploit. We are in desperate need of quality mental health facilities and we do not have them. This is likely our last chance to have a superior mental health facility. The lovely grounds and heritage trees should remain as they are important components to recovery as well as irreplaceable assets for all. PLEASE DO NOT DEVELOP THIS SITE for anything other than mental health facilities.

Victoria Otton - **Port Moody**

Uprated: 4 | Downrated: 0

I am not going to answer the first two questions (have you participated in past consultations and how do you want to be consulted). These questions serve only to provide the appearance of consulting the public by asking for meaningless information that is irrelevant to the big questions at hand. For the third question (what's missing from the info panels), one aspect that is not captured is the strong feelings and collective memory that local people have for the site. Many have known the spot since childhood, and have either worked there or had parents who worked there, or have had a family member be a patient there. To them, it is a sacrilege to consider losing these lovely grounds that have taken over a century to produce. Riverview is an oasis in our dreary suburbia that should be magnificently celebrated, and not subjected to a "self-sustaining economic model" of a future. For the fourth question (the only question of relevance), I strongly object to the restriction that whatever the future holds for Riverview, it needs to be self-sustaining. These lands belong to the people of BC and must remain that way. Keep all of Riverview for its original purpose – for the care of the mentally ill. That is the message that without exception every responder on this discussion board has given. Listen to us.

Elaine Willis - **Anmore**

Uprated: 4 | Downrated: 0

Retaining the green space is critical. Retaining the heritage is critical. Retaining the gardens is critical. Defining future use to include mental health is critical. Proceeding with caution is critical - we have so little heritage, so little sacred ground, so little urban greenspace - we must retain, maintain, refurbish and revitalize. Partnering with non-profit societies and others interested in maintaining the cultural values expressed by the community can achieve the balance without leaning heavily on economic drivers.

Connie Lang - **British Columbia**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 2

I posted another post, got a little carried away with the 1st comment, unrelated to the question and off I went. This post may seem opposite to my other post, however. If I answer the question this time, and B.C. Housing was approved. I would suggest a couple of things. 1. that the Natives bless the land. 2. that crystals cleanse the land. 3. all the buildings come down. 4. B. C. Housing goes up. 5. strip mall, with restaurant, doctor, coffee, dentist, gas. 6. the lands stay the same, but security would have to be on-site. Overall property may have to be fenced. Priority given to mentally ill individuals for reduced-cost housing. Or a ratio be given so that two out of four have mental health concerns, and other two need low income housing. The grounds serve as a memorial park, or a small replica of the white pillars in a garden setting. The above stays with the economic, environmental and social. May I say I have or can hear nightmares from my visits there for 33 years of my life. There have been atrocities performed at Riverview, Crease Clinic and Woodlands. My father was subject to shock treatment. I've heard of

people having all their teeth removed because they bite the personnel. I've been crying on and off (there was not alot of help back then). I want people to know what the relatives went thru and what would they like to see for their own healing process. It would be nice to learn from these atrocities, by having a building museum, etc...however, as the reference pages show, the buildings (as historic as they are) are too old, and too expensive to maintain or upkeep. Therefore teaching the young about the atrocities of the mental ill and where they were kept and what was performed there is unlikely to happen. It could work this way. I personally (because of my growing up there) (and I wasn't a patient), want to see all the buildings go..gone. Too much cement. Too many memories. A lot of the memories were wierd. A wipe out or cleansing has to happen for healing to begin. Replaced with help for the mentally ill. But unfortunately not a perfect help. With high tech medical assistance, research etc... Personally if I don't ever see anything that appears to be something of that type of medical nature I would be very happy. It would be a rest or a relief. Mentally ill people should not be locked up, thru many doors. The marjority of mental health patients are harmless. It's a fine line to keep the mentally ill safe from harm. Independent housing of some sort has to happen. It's too expensive to lock up individuals. It's too expensive to have them nursed 24 hrs in a day. So, it's important to be realistic. Safety is #1. How do you provide inexpensive housing (because being mentally ill can affect your ability to work and keep a steady job) and keep the individual safe. And keep people from praying on the ill individual. Filling the site with homes to help and a public park with memorial would re-new the healing process for those of us who have suffered right along with our loved ones, in this case it was my father who was sick. My mother was adamant that he have a family environment, and not be stuck in an institution. My mother raised five children this way, and we have all been affected by this. Buy thanks to my mother, my father had a loving home environment, which was very important for his self esteem. The kids suffered dearly, too much, trama, but Dad had a life. How can we vision a "caring" "loving" environment for the mentally ill individual? Can we provide a housing support that gives them levels of care that they require. A fully-supportive environment or a independent supportive environment. It is possible to have this model and keep costs for emergency care down. Streamlining is important, I think that's what happened when they closed Riverview. The Vancouver Police Report, showed a flux on their end. So one problem was gone, and another one surfaced. That new problem is still there. Steamlining thru hospitals has caused this, but it's really the way to go. If they get new housing for the mentally ill, some individuals will come off the streets of Vancouver and be helped that way. I always envisioned an island where mentally ill people could go, and enjoy life, without getting hurt. Just go about their day hearing voices whatever...enjoying themselves with no worries. But very safe. How do you keep the less vulnerable safe? 24 hrs a day?

Stephen McMillan - **Port Coquitlam**

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 1

A cycling route parallel to Lougheed should be included. The section of Lougheed Hwy in front of Riverview is one of the most dangerous for commuter cyclists. A paved route could be easily incorporated at very low cost by creating an opening next to the yellow gate at the end of Sorel St. The route would then follow Pine Terrace. Some lane markings at the intersection with Holly Drive would be great. The route would end at the western end of Holly Drive, and would allow cyclists to continue along Lougheed west from Colony Farm Rd. This route could also serve eastbound cyclists as well, as there are lit crosswalks at Colony Farm and at Pitt River Rd. Thank you.

Charlene Allard - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

Environmental - Please do retain the same amount of open GREEN space. Open space could be interpreted quite differently than green space. I walk through the Riverview Lands on a daily basis and the wealth of flora and fauna should be maintained. A lot is at stake if we start to disturb this. I agree with another post that developing more formal links between Riverview Forest, the Riverview Lands and Colony Farm would enhance and increase movement for both the public and wildlife. The arboreteum should continue to be celebrated and advertised as a destination for families. The would provide a healthy and learning experience. Social - While I question BC Housing's posted assessments of what it would cost to refurbish/rebuild many of the former hospital building, a centralized mental health hospital (in a beautiful setting such as Riverview) is needed in the lower mainland. Offering this hospital to the residents (and families) that need it is one of the responsibilities of a civilized and humane government. Any refresh and/or new buildings should be constructed on brown space.

Anonymous - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 0

When did the Province become concerned about self-sustainability of OUR assets? Will this apply to the parliament buildings? Government House? fair is fair. Riverview was originally founded on the premise to lower patient costs, by attempting to create a more self-sustaining community for the patients; BUT that same premise NEVER applied to labor, building costs even though it did help to lower the costs. We have to go back to the 1970's to see where the costs rose considerably because the patients were not allowed to work anymore, which also lowered many of the patients own sense of personal worth. Riverview should FOREVER be dedicated to the health care of the peoples of this Province, thousands of patients are staff over many generations worked hard to create Riverview, knowing that is was their SANCTUARY. Only recently has this Promise been broken, and trust violated. In the normal world, people would look after their homes, and buildings, by doing regular



maintenance, they may not want to, but when the roof leaks you fix it, or you may not have a healthy home to live in. At Riverview since the late 1970's, there has been this gradual lack of maintenance, until the 1990's when almost none was done, (leaky roof put a woven tarp on it, which in itself leaks, and makes the problem worse) The lack of maintenance of OUR assets has been glaring at Riverview. You either pay a little all the time, or end up having to pay a HUGE amount to fix it later. Sadly we are at that stage today. In private practice, anybody running a business like that would quickly be out of business. Through the years many ideas were put forward to lower the costs at Riverview, some them: EDUCATION, use, actually insist on using the site to educate students in the maintenance, construction, landscaping, tree care, painting,,,,,, this idea has been said many times, and would have lowered to costs considerably, and would have given valuable insight to many students who especially were interested in building restoration. BUT nothing has, and never was done. As the increasing needs of the geriatric community (grab a mirror) grow, Riverview will be needed more than ever, (remember we already OWN it ), No idea WHY Fraser Health is now building on expensive land in Port Coquitlam, much the same type of facilities that were provided at Riverview unit recently. Want to lower Costs? ask Fraser Health why they are wasting OUR money to buy private land, when they could have built for FREE on land that we already own. Sadly this whole exercise is all about privatization of health care, to the benefit of insiders, and to the detriment of the patients who are used as pawns in a sick game. Riverview should first and foremost be used for health care, has been for nearly 110 years(this May 31) . I understand the the Royal Columbian is expanding in Sapperton, at great cost because of the greatly constrained site where it is presently located. Why? are we not insisting on a new hospital being built at Riverview, since the population around this area is growing in leaps and bounds, and the Province itself recently sold off over 200ha in the area for development. As a taxpayer I would never expect for Riverview, or health care to be self-sustainable in an economic sense; I would expect it to be looked after properly, maintained well, and only be sustainable in the sense of SUSTAINING a long and healthy life for the people who need health care at some stage in their life. The buildings at Riverview, the larger ones being mostly of fire-proof materials, are perfect for many government departments to be using, hopefully for services that would not greatly impact any patient health care services on the site. The greatest crime of all of this downsizing, cost-cutting, union-busting, de-institutionalization, whatever you want to call it, was to the the vulnerable older generations of the province, in shutting down Valleyview and North Lawn which provided specialized care to the geriatric population, which is increasing daily. Only to see them dumped into privately-held for profit large institutions, where they are now held hostage, as they are used as pawns in the cruel game of using them to generate higher fees. pers com. with patients families. And NO, I never worked there; just a historical researcher, who is still in awe of what was accomplished at Riverview by the past generations, where the patient was the customer, and not a for-profit-pawn as is the case today.

Mick Short - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 0

This property is a jewel in the Lower Mainland crown, and as such, it is imperative that it doesn't fall prey to yet more housing development such as Burke Mountain or Westwood Plateau. Sadly the Riverview buildings and grounds have been allowed to deteriorate through a deliberate act of neglect, to justify closure by stealth of the mental facility that existed for almost a century. Now the Provincial Government have appointed BC Housing as the fox in charge of the hen house, to oversee the future of this property with a mandate that all costs associated with any community amenities, must be paid for by revenue generated from the site, a model which is surely deliberately designed to fail. Shamefully, a government that knows the cost of everything, and the value of nothing. At the open house, costs associated to restore some of the heritage buildings were erroneous, an observation confirmed by Shared Services BC, the current site managers, and the use of the words "Poor" and "Critical" to assess the condition of the buildings, gave the impression they were about to collapse in a heap of rubble. Was this by design to create a mindset amongst the public that the buildings were beyond repair? Proposals for the property could include Metro Vancouver assuming the responsibility of the grounds and creating a park, as with Colony Farm, therefore preserving the arboretum of trees and introducing the public to them. The heritage buildings could be restored and used to create a university campus and medical teaching facility. Residential care homes for the elderly could be constructed on the footprint of the service buildings that will likely have to be demolished due to the neglect. Movies and the film industry generate a million dollars a year in revenue using Riverview, and should be encouraged to continue. Build more facilities like Connolly, Cottonwood and Cyprus Lodges to cater to the needs of the mental health patients that require looking after in a safe and secure environment. All of these models could co-exist in harmony. In conclusion, if the Provincial Government can afford to build a Transportation Management Centre just a mile away on the Lougheed Highway, at a cost of \$33 million to collect tolls from the Port Mann Bridge, or miraculously find the money to cover the \$388 million cost overrun of the Vancouver Convention Centre, then there should be no requirement for the future of Riverview to be self sustaining, just an excellent use of OUR taxpayers money to preserve this precious property for generations to come.

Anonymous - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Well said, I also found the "rating system" very flawed, and also full of errors, and wildly fluctuating costs, that made no sense at all, almost made up figures out of thin air. And created using reports that the public paid for, but were not allowed

to see or use to create their own informed decision. The bureaucrats were also quoting the rating of two buildings as "poor" when in reality in the report one was classed as good, and one as poor. But the reality is that many of the buildings were built well in the first place, and are built of much stronger stuff than they appear. Apparently the fellow who did the "survey" used the recent building code to derive his costing structure to bring the buildings up to today's building code; but in reality the buildings are existing but not conforming, as are many buildings throughout B.C. No need to bring the building up to today's code, just make them safe. You will also frequently hear mention of asbestos issues, which of course is normal in buildings of the eras involved. But in reality many of the buildings were dealt with years ago, for the more troublesome forms of asbestos use. Destruction by neglect, of OUR collective asset, should be a crime. The original land collection, including Colony Farm cost us less than \$5 per acre, and a land trade with an English speculator for lands that today make up portions of Brentwood mall, and Lake City in Burnaby.

Teri Mad - **Port Coquitlam**

Upvoted: 1 | Downvoted: 0

Riverview should FOREVER be dedicated to the mental health care of the peoples of this Province. BC government is asking the public for input because they do not have the imagination to create something worthwhile on their own. They've proven that running a 'business' is not their forte. In private practice, anybody running a business like that would quickly be out of business. Why are other assets not concerned about self-sustainability? Many visions have already been created, so instead of re-stating the obvious I would like to reference those as my answer to this question: RHCS 2003

<http://rhcs.org/media/VisionLandUse2004.pdf> BMN 2004 <http://www.bmn.bc.ca/assets/bmn/doc/Riverview2004.pdf> COQ. RV TASK FORCE 2005 <http://www.bmn.bc.ca/assets/bmn/doc/Riverview2004.pdf> It is very clear what many want for the place. But it is also clear the government has not heard what 'THEY' want. Somehow they are going to get what they want to hear by steering the surveys in that direction. Absolutely NO MARKET HOUSING. Keep the land for the people of Canada. We need it for Mental Health. The Arboretum & ALL TREES on the lands must be kept & just as important MAINTAINED, NO MORE NEGLECT!!

Stephen Gee - **Burnaby**

Upvoted: 0 | Downvoted: 0

I think the vegetation, like the huge selection of trees and Finnie's garden should not be changed to more housing, but kept up as park land would be. For the buildings, I feel the smaller cottages and boarding homes, like Brookside and Leaside should be used for low-income housing and 3/4 houses (BC Housing should determine this). The large buildings, West Lawn, Center Lawn, East Lawn, Crease Clinic, to begin with; have harmful asbestos poisoning and are deteriorating and rotting away, and should be demolished. Or if you want to try and spend 10's of millions of dollars to preserve it for a heritage sight that's your choice. North Lawn, Valleyview, and the other large hospital centers that are built later, don't really have a purpose here either, with every emergency service dispersed through the province in modern years, I think housing would be important right now,. But please preserve as much as you can.

laura dupont - **Port Coquitlam**

Upvoted: 1 | Downvoted: 0

There are more important priorities for Riverview than "economic" Some things have a value above and beyond the "economic" and Riverview is certainly one of those places. Preserve Riverview in its entirety and keep it fully public. It is a public resource maintain it, preserve it, use it for its intended original purpose and DO NOT SELL ANY OF IT for market housing.

daphne sinclair - **Burnaby**

Upvoted: 0 | Downvoted: 0

Most people agree that the Botanical gardens with all the Trees should all be kept including all the streams. Colony farms and General Hospital Psych wards seem to look after acute care. (disastrous as far as my relative was concerned but that was then) Transitional housing has been moved to the community, including group homes. and shared apartments (including supper). Once people have proved they can manage to maintain themselves and apartment, they can look for independent living or go home. So what sort of role should Riverview play?, The four main buildings were well built but outdated and one, West Lawn has been empty for 40? years, some have asbestos in the walls, of course there are huge gaps in all categories of care. Try to catch up on social housing or encourage teaching institutions to locate suitable campus' on the site. I don't feel qualified to say. Mental problems seem to be increasing. Why? Huge subject

Janet Rozanski - **Coquitlam**

Upvoted: 0 | Downvoted: 0

I feel it is important to hold all of the Riverview lands in public trust. Do not sell the lands for commercial or residential development! Riverview should be developed into a centre of excellence for health care.

Ken Lawson - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

This is a good place for affordable housing

## Online Open House - Coming Soon

### Watch for the online open house to start on February 28th.

Anonymous - [Burnaby](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Watch for the online open house to start on February 28th.

Mary Reeves - [Langley City](#)

Uprated: 9 | Downrated: 1

The lands should be used for state of the art mental health and drug addiction facilities. Closing Riverview because of some problems, was throwing the baby out with the bath water. The land is already zoned and the city supports this use. The whole lower mainland drastically needs these services.

Karen Baldock - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 1

As a parent of a son who lived at Riverview for several years, I am very familiar with the housing needs of the mentally ill. One form of housing that is sorely lacking, particularly in the Tri-Cities, is enhanced supported apartments. This model allows each resident to live in their own small apartment, but there is 24 support. Help is provided to residents with medication and one communal meal is provided each day. They are also assisted with learning life skills such as cooking, cleaning shopping while they learn to live independently in the community. This model is also much less expensive than group homes, while providing more support. This transition from acute care to independent living is key in transitioning people in the community. There could also be market housing with a certain number of suites set aside for those with mental illness. This, along with Cottonwood, Connelly, and Cypress lodges would provide a continuum of care, that is much needed. I feel the property is so large that it could be developed to satisfy everyone, with services such as coffee shops, restaurants, senior's housing and still maintain the beauty that already exists on the grounds.

Janice Yiau - [Richmond](#)

Uprated: 6 | Downrated: 1

There was good intentions with the implementation of deinstitutionalization. In theory, it still sounds quite promising. But with lack of funding and inadequate planning, it has become a disaster. The tragic consequences of deinstitutionalization is having a profound negative effect our society and is causing undue suffering for the mentally ill. Increased homelessness, increased high-risk activities for survival purposes, the "revolving door" phenomenon, and in some ways, increased stigma of mental illness due to exaggerated media stories, are just some examples of the repercussions this disorganized 'deinstitutionalization movement' has caused. Let's get our Riverview back. Better yet, a "state-of-the-art mental health centre of excellence" as suggested by Coquitlam Mayor Richard Stewart.

Peer-Daniel Krause - [Vancouver](#)

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 1

I have heard so much discussion about this topic, but I am only vaguely familiar with the actual site. Is there a map somewhere out there? Land Use Plan? Overview of relevant stakeholders and government agencies?

Luke Tengs - [Maple Ridge](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Go there. You're free to walk around the site during daylight hours.

L L - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

And don't forget to look up at the trees. If you know your trees, you'll be amazed at what you find there.

Avril Cheesbrough - [Port Moody](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I would be very interested in a SIMPLE breakdown of this as well.

Avril Cheesbrough - [Port Moody](#)

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I would be very interested in a SIMPLE breakdown of this as well.

Anonymous - [Coquitlam](#)

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

No land use plan, the property is Provincially owned, (Meaning WE ALL OWN IT ). This is what this present process is supposed to be about, a land Use Plan. (does not look like one yet though )

<https://sites.google.com/site/niftyrial2/rvmapp#Top> For map, wander around and it shows who is using some of the buildings, and what they do. it is constantly changing though, and some of the Society's are fairly low-key and keep things fairly quiet. Wait five minutes and the government may change again who has power and control over Riverview, it has changed frequently since the liberals have been in power. At one time the Government took care of everything at Riverview, but in the past 10 years or so numerous companies have been contracted to look after the the many complex issues that a site of this size can generate. Management by neglect, being foremost.

Kathleen Fortier - Coquitlam

Uprated: 6 | Downrated: 1

I work in mental health with the majority of our clients suffering from mental illness and addictions and/or residing the DTES. I see the suffering and trauma. I see the challenges we as healthcare workers are faced with; The lack of resources we often have to work with or without. I see the "frequent flyers" returning to hospital again and again, as if we have set them up for failure. Challenging cases, challenging clients, addictions, refractory psychosis...where are these people to go? Where can they get help? Where can they live? Where can they find the proper supports for their multi-factoral issues? The system we have now isn't working and it is costly, there is no easy fix. The government needs to come up with a long term plan to treat, house, and support the mentally ill. The situation in this province has been deemed an epidemic. Yes this will be expensive but in the long run it will be worth it. According to The Canadian Mental Health Association: •The economic cost of mental illnesses in Canada for the health care system was estimated to be at least \$7.9 billion in 1998 – \$4.7 billion in care, and \$3.2 billion in disability and early death. •An additional \$6.3 billion was spent on uninsured mental health services and time off work for depression and distress that was not treated by the health care system. •In 1999, 3.8% of all admissions in general hospitals (1.5 million hospital days) were due to anxiety disorders, bipolar disorders, schizophrenia, major depression, personality disorders, eating disorders and suicidal behavior.Sources: The Report on Mental Illness in Canada, October 2002. EBIC 1998 (Health Canada 2002), Stephens et al., 2001 Therefore supporting mental health services and housing now will decrease hospitalizations, suicide, complications related to addiction, disability payments...the list is endless. Invest now for a better future. Please consider renovating Riverview into a state of the art Mental Health/Addictions facility and housing unit. The mental illness we saw decades ago is not what we are dealing with presently, our healthcare needs a face lift.

Peer - Annuska van der Pol, BA PDD-IMHA - Victoria

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 6

Regarding the renewing Riverview visioning process, I would like to contribute to the discussion, by perhaps detouring the idea of reopening the institution. Instead, I think the building and grounds should be turned into a museum, explaining to all layers of society, how the seriously mentally ill were treated in the past. The idea of the museum would be to increase awareness about serious mental illness amongst everyone. Furthermore, I believe that the profits of the museums, should go to the development of projects which the seriously mentally ill individuals and/ or individuals who suffer from addictions want for their own treatment. Finding out what peers want for themselves will be a win win situation. One that resembles respect, equality and a decentralized approach versus a power struggle, namely hierarchy approach.

L L - Coquitlam

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Should we ask my 28 year old niece who has a mental capacity of a 4 year old how she wants to live and what she wants to eat?

Anonymous - Burnaby

Uprated: 6 | Downrated: 1

The Riverview Hospital land belongs to the people of BC, and I want to see it kept that way. I am very concerned about the stated requirement that whatever is decided for the future of the site, it needs to be on a "break-even" basis financially. What else does the province own that is expected to be self-supporting? Schools? Hospitals? Roads? No. These are services and it's the government's job to provide them, just as the province provided mental health care here for the past 101 years. Maybe the whole site doesn't have to be devoted to mental health, and maybe that could be expanded to other types of healthcare (though good institutionalized dementia care promises to be a looming need). With the land at Riverview, we have 244 acres of land owned by the province that should not suffer the short-term-thinking fate of being sold off for housing. If we don't come up with definitive plans for the entire site in the short few months ahead, that's fine; when we think of the future, we need to leave some options open for people in the future to make their own plans. But if the land is encased in speculators' condos, then those people will not have the options they should have.

Anonymous - Coquitlam

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Most people think that only mental health was provided to the average person, when in fact it was a hospital, did surgeries, and had a highly-trained specialized geriatric care facility in Valleyview, North Lawn, and at least 8 other buildings. Dementia was a common problem dealt with at Riverview. Sadly the Government has chosen to keep a common stigma, about health care active, and calling all care at the hospital "mental health" care, which is true of course, but in many cases the patients had other health problems that needed the care of doctors, surgeons, registered nurses, Riverview had this service. If the public understood properly what was taken from them by the closing of Riverview, there would probably be an open revolt. Is it Health care, or Mental health care, sadly the government has chosen to feed our totally unfounded movie, institution fears, and use a word that people fear "Mental". The care at Riverview was considered very good, for all types of health issues. They dealt with people who other hospitals could not. i.e dementia, with other issues, like liver failure, kidney failure, very complicated sometimes, people wanting to rip out the tubing keeping them alive, being violent,,, You do not want to strap people down, but sometimes you have to, difficult work.

Ann Soucie - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 8 | Downrated: 1

I am most interested in the future of the Riverview site and what the intended purpose will be by the shortsightedness of the Provincial Government who has suggested selling off the lands to the private sector would generate funding to contribute to the "balancing of the budget". This would only result in a temporary fix and ultimately compound the existing problem of lack of housing and treatment facilities for the mentally ill, those who suffer from addictions, seniors suffering from dementia etc. My optimistic hope for the Riverview lands is to develop some of the land, restore some of the buildings, maintain the arboretum and to provide long lasting healthcare for the region specifically with emphasis on the aforementioned criteria suggested. Being a long term resident of Coquitlam where I raised my family and still reside, I remember when Riverview supported the mentally ill before the broadview of group homes and deinstitutionalizing people was implemented. Obviously the vision for deinstitutionalizing mentally ill was intended to provide people who were mentally challenged a chance to gain some independence, integrate back into the mainstream of life, however it has miserably failed. I would love to see Riverview retained in this community for the future healthcare facilities this region desperately needs. I know that the Mayor Richard Stewart is very supportive and in favour of developing more healthcare facilities on this precious jewel that could be lost.

Tania Deans - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Hi Ann ~ I couldn't agree with you more - your last comment alluding to the City of Coquitlam's stance resonates strongly with me. That said, however, we must remember the lands are provincially owned; no matter what the municipality hopes for, ultimately it will be the province which makes the final decision.

Brian Davies - **Maple Ridge**

Uprated: 5 | Downrated: 0

It appears that my thoughts are reflected by most of the postings already. We need a place for the mentally ill and addicted and this location is probably the only one in Metro Vancouver that could be used because any other location would be vetoed by NIMBYs

Anonymous - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 1 | Downrated: 0

I live within walking distance of the river view lands, and I would love to see it used as a place for the mentally ill and addicted, as well as preserving the peaceful, healing grounds around it.

Sharon Stevens - **Port Coquitlam**

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

I feel that the Riverview lands should be continued to be supported as a safe haven for the mentally ill. It is unfortunate that city has grown up around it and the government now wants it for housing. The land historically provided a safe place for treatment and support for those who are so dramatically marginalized, it is criminal that the only place they have now is the downtown eastside with others whom they know. There is an unfortunate truth that not all people who have mental illness can be supported by community services. There will always be those who need a higher level of support than what can now be provided because of the closure. I feel that instead of polarizing people to opposite ends of thinking (keeping it the way it was or get rid of it all for housing) there has to be a way that we can provide what it needed the most. Support for those who cannot support themselves. I can very easily see not only mental health services there but an arts and cultural centre, a museum, possibly an open air theatre. That whole area has so much potential, I would really like to see it preserved for other things.... we have a great opportunity to make this area shine in facilities and services that it is important that we really brainstorm and get involved in the process of how this evolves.

Tina P - **Port Coquitlam**



Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 0

I want this land to never be developed for housing. Whether it be reopened for the mentally ill, which is what it's intended purpose was and should never have been shut down in the first place, or whether it be used for community groups and services for all to enjoy. It is a heritage site and should be preserved as such. We are losing so much heritage every day, and this land should be saved and kept from developers because we do not need more townhouses and condos, we need to keep the green space, and what better way than putting it to use to those who are in need? I am sure the police would agree as they have stated that they are not mental health workers and they are dealing with so many these days. It was a grave mistake to ever shut down this hospital in the first place, and we all said it back then and have lamented over the years the same thing.

paula aiken - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 0

As a family physician in Coquitlam, I find there is a desperate need for more mental health services. There is also ongoing need for more assisted living facilities and elder care facilities. I hope these lands can be used to provide a mix of services for the elderly, the mentally ill, with both residential and day care options. I sincerely hope that the government does not give up this precious land by selling it off to developers, but will find ways to use it in ways that will benefit the whole lower mainland.

Jacquelyn Renner - **Vancouver**

Uprated: 3 | Downrated: 0

This is an opportunity to right the wrong of closing this facility in the first place. Use all the money from movie rentals and upgrade and rebuild the facility with cutting edge care and technology. Given that a massive segment of our population is turning 65 we should look at ways of managing the elderly with particular reference to their mental care and housing. Study and follow the Hogewey model in the Netherlands - self-contained town of entirely dementia patients. It would work well as a live/work facility where the better abled can grow self-esteem by working in different businesses - the on-site grocery store, etc. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hogewey>. Lots of retiring medical professionals who have uncertain financial futures might enjoy continuing to share their wisdom in a live/work situation there too. Here is a clip of Gupta on site. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwiOBlyWpko>

Tina P - **Port Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

I am unfortunately unable to make it in person to the open house, but am wondering if the Riverview grounds and buildings are ever open to the public to tour? I am a firm believer that these grounds and buildings should be preserved, renovated, refurbished and reopened to what they were originally intended for, to help those that are mentally ill. They had a purpose, and that purpose is still needed more now than ever. This hospital should never have been shut down in the first place, many people thought it was a mistake. Essondale/Riverview has a place in this community, and it should never be sold to developers who would tear down and put up more townhouses, more houses, more condos. Keep it as is, for people to enjoy and put it to use to help those in need, and keep our heritage alive.

Tania Deans - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

I quickly Googled Riverview tours and came up with a bunch of relevant hits - why not take a virtual tree tour here (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ohF-ADRGnSs>), then you can do more searching on your own if you like. Don't forget to check out the Riverview Horticultural Society pages ([www.rhcs.org/](http://www.rhcs.org/)). Good info at both sites.

L L - **Coquitlam**

Uprated: 2 | Downrated: 0

Treefest in the summer should not be missed. There are also tree tours in the Spring and Fall. Go to Lots of info at <http://www.rhcs.org> for more info. You can stroll the grounds, take your dog for a walk or run, or ride a bicycle.

Tina P - **Port Coquitlam**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

thank you for the info! I will definitely check out the suggestions :)

c s - **Vancouver**

Uprated: 0 | Downrated: 0

Good i hope BC housing and Government are ALL EARS.....and not busy thinking their own thoughts, .....talk to people with experience being homeless or mentally ill and esp those who may have lived at river view.....health care is a number one priority in canada as set out long ago, do you know it costs \$ 1000/day to have a bed for a mentally ill person in average hospital and stays as long as 3 months at a time.....truth.....that is \$90,000 for one suffering and decomposing in society.

Barbara Krell - **Coquitlam**

Upated: 2 | Downrated: 0

In my opinion Riverview should be redeveloped as a training hospital for mental health services. Any housing should be reserved for students, workers and support workers on the grounds. There are many other areas that can be developed into housing for profit and these lands should not, under any circumstances be used for that purpose.