1. Vancouver Waterfront Initiative

MOVER: Councillor Reimer
SECONDER: Mayor Robertson

WHEREAS

1. Waters in and around Vancouver play an important role in the economic, ecological and social well-being of Vancouver;

2. The health of the City’s waters have been particularly important to First Nations whose diet and economies depended on abundant sources of fresh fish and shellfish;

3. Biological and toxic pollution has rendered all of Vancouver’s waters unsafe for humans and aquatic life for all or part of the year;

4. Climate change is amplifying the negative impacts of biological pollutants;

5. Vancouver has had success restoring creeks, rivers and habitat that has brought salmon and herring back to like Still Creek, Musqueam Creek and False Creek;

6. Cities like New York, Chicago, and Copenhagen have all undertaken waterfront revitalization initiatives which have brought together industry, all levels of government and the community to re-establish healthy waterways.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Vancouver establish a Waterfront Initiative for major natural waterways including the Burrard Inlet, False Creek, Lost Lagoon, the Fraser River and Trout Lake that engages First Nations, industry, senior levels of government and adjacent municipalities, and the community to support three goals:

1. A Thriving Working Waterfront
2. Safe, Accessible Waterfront Recreation
3. Restoring Aquatic and Riparian Ecology and Traditional First Nation’s Food Sources

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, as a first step, the Waterfront Initiative focus on establishing and implementing a series of Quick Starts including those focused on measures to make high use waterways in Trout Lake and False Creek safely accessible by swimmers in advance of Summer 2018.

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