KIRK LAPOINTE

Candidate for Mayor, District of West Vancouver

Trusted Leadership for West Vancouver's Future

The Plan West Vancouver Wants

After months of listening to the community, here is what I've learned are the priorities for West Vancouver I need to deliver as mayor.

PART 2 OF 3

Better Neighbourhoods, Stronger Business

A safer, more walkable West Vancouver, and commercial villages that work for the people who own, run and visit them.

FIVE COMMITMENTS

1. **Fix the basics first — sidewalks, streets and safety near schools and parks.** Prioritize sidewalk and street repair on routes used by schools, seniors and transit, paired with a traffic-calming blitz.
2. **Get serious about our bylaws.** Enforce bylaws on term parking, traffic, e-bike and e-scooter use and noise consistently across the District, and end pay parking.
3. **Revitalize our four commercial villages.** A Local Business Districts Plan for Ambleside, Dundarave, Horseshoe Bay and Caulfeild, built with the merchants and residents, a commercial tax review, and a petition to the Province for an Empty Stores Tax to discourage vacant storefronts.
4. **A wildfire plan exists. It isn't being implemented.** That puts neighbourhoods at risk without evacuation plans, and we need safety measures long before next fire season.
5. **Build a Walkable Playground Strategy in year one.** Identify gaps and set a concrete goal of convenient, walkable access to play space in every neighbourhood, not just some.

HOW I WILL SUPPORT THESE COMMITMENTS

STREETS AND SAFETY

- **An immediate blitz to repair sidewalks and streets on routes used by schools, seniors and transit.** — *Address safety risk before deferred maintenance becomes a genuine hazard on the routes children, seniors and transit riders use every day.*
- **Establish a community advisory committee on street safety.** — *Give residents with direct experience of these streets a standing role in shaping the fixes.*
- **Fix 50 streetscape problems in 50 days in the spring of 2027, and show the community the result.** — *Prove the blitz is real with a visible, dated result, not just an announcement.*
- **Work with West Vancouver Police to deliver a traffic-calming blitz near schools, shopping districts and parks.** — *Protect the streets where children and seniors are most exposed, instead of leaving them for last.*

ENFORCING OUR BYLAWS

- **Strengthen enforcement of speeding, e-scooter and e-bike infractions.** — *Make sure rules that exist on paper actually change behaviour on the street.*
- **Enforce term parking limits so spaces actually turn over for customers.** — *A time limit nobody enforces isn't a rule — it's a suggestion.*
- **Enforce noise bylaws consistently across the District.** — *A rule that only applies when someone complains loudly enough isn't being enforced at all.*
- **Eliminate pay parking.** — *Remove a persistent, everyday obstacle for merchants and customers before it costs another storefront its business.*

REVIVE OUR LOCAL BUSINESS DISTRICTS

- **Build a Local Business Districts Plan for Ambleside, Dundarave, Horseshoe Bay and Caulfeild.** — *Create a task force to lead a long-term vision to make our shopping villages better places to visit, operate and invest.*
- **Examine commercial tax treatment.** — *Review the commercial tax rate to evaluate its fairness in current local business conditions.*
- **Petition the Province to introduce an Empty Stores Tax option for the municipality, as part of the same plan to revitalize our villages.** — *Give the District a genuine tool to discourage storefronts sitting vacant indefinitely, right alongside the plan meant to fill them.*
- **Create an Economic Office at Municipal Hall as a genuine point of contact for business, supporting the revitalization of all four villages.** — *Give the villages plan an actual owner inside the District, instead of leaving business attraction and retention to nobody in particular.*

PREPARE US FOR WILDFIRES

- **Implement the neighbourhood-by-neighbourhood evacuation plans that West Vancouver's existing wildfire strategy still lacks — assembly points, evacuation routes and volunteer contacts for every neighbourhood.** — *Turn a wildfire strategy that already exists on paper into something residents in every neighbourhood can actually use in an emergency.*
- **Remove dead and hazardous trees on public land, and help residents do the same on private property.** — *Dead and dying trees are the fuel that turns a spark into a wildfire — reducing it is one of the most direct, immediate ways to lower the risk.*
- **Extend wildfire risk assessment to the private land the District's current plan leaves out.** — *Roughly 40% of West Vancouver's highest-risk land is privately owned and wasn't included in the District's own detailed wildfire analysis — even though it holds most of the community's infrastructure and highest-value assets.*
- **Fund a full-time FireSmart Coordinator, rather than leaving it a part-time responsibility layered onto another role.** — *Give West Vancouver's wildfire risk a coordinator whose full-time job is reducing it.*

CREATE A WALKABLE PLAYGROUND STRATEGY

- **Consult families to build a plan in year one.** — *Establish a task force to create a long-term playground vision at the centre of a strategy for children and play in West Vancouver.*
- **Fix the obvious deficiencies quickly.** — *Deliver visible progress while the larger strategy is still being built, with equipment, seating, shade or accessibility upgrades.*
- **Map every existing playground and identify the gaps.** — *Base decisions on population, walking distance, terrain and where families are concentrated or growing — not guesswork.*
- **Set a walkability objective — roughly a 10-minute walk to a playground or usable play space wherever practicable.** — *Give the strategy a concrete, checkable standard, while recognizing West Vancouver's geography makes a rigid rule unrealistic.*
- **Create a recurring playground capital program.** — *Replace one-off projects and parent fundraising campaigns with a predictable program so neighbourhoods know when improvements are coming.*
- **Seek private support for the playground capital program.** — *Stretch public dollars further by inviting community and business partners to help fund the plan.*
- **Publish progress annually.** — *Show the gaps identified, playgrounds upgraded, money spent, and the share of West Vancouver families gaining walkable access.*

Part 1 — Taxes, Trust and Transparency, released Sunday, Sept. 13

Part 3 — A Plan for West Vancouver's Future, to be released Thursday, Sept. 17

kirklapointe.ca | kirk@kirklapointe.ca