

# news release



Subject	City of North Vancouver Signs International Walking Charter Committing to Global Effort to Provide Pedestrian-Friendly Cities
Date	Monday, October 3, 2011

The City of North Vancouver is reinforcing its commitment to sustainability and community health by signing the **International Charter for Walking**. The **Walk21 International Charter for Walking** is a unique global initiative, embraced by international cities and local governments such as the City of North Vancouver and Vancouver. The City of North Vancouver is officially committing to the Charter's principles and actions at a ceremony on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Charter recognizes the individual and societal benefits of walking, as well as walking opportunities as a key indicator of healthy, efficient, socially inclusive and sustainable communities. The Charter also acknowledges the universal rights of people to have the ability to walk safely and enjoy high quality public spaces.

Built on extensive discussions with experts throughout the world, the Charter identifies the needs of people on foot and provides a common framework to help authorities refocus their existing policies, activities and relationships to create a culture where people choose to walk.

Mayor Darrell Mussatto on behalf of the City of North Vancouver will sign the Charter at a City hosted Walk21 reception on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at the Pinnacle Hotel at the Pier. The official signing will be commemorated with walking tours of The Shipyards, including a walk along the City's 700-foot long Burrard Dry Dock Pier.

"The City is very pleased to participate in an effort so aligned with its commitment to a healthy and sustainable community", says Mayor Darrell Mussatto. "The City supports the principles and actions outlined in the International Charter, and will continue its pro-active efforts to deliver and maintain high quality and fully accessible urban green spaces, walkways and walkable attractions. The City's Waterfront and Spirit Trail are excellent examples of our commitment to pedestrian and bike friendly amenities." [www.cnv.org/SpiritTrail](http://www.cnv.org/SpiritTrail)

The 12<sup>th</sup> annual International Walk21 Conference, hosted by Metro Vancouver, runs from October 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> and is the first to be hosted by a regional partnership of governments, including the City of North Vancouver. [www.walk21.com](http://www.walk21.com) Past Walk21 conferences have been held in Barcelona, Spain, New York and The Hague.

During the conference, Walk21 delegates will visit the City of North Vancouver to experience the City's waterfront via a walking tour.

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