

A look at what we have been up to...

Safety & Security

From August 2016 to July 2017, Mission Possible Neighbours, our culturally sensitive safety and security service, has:

- Removed 53,321 needles from the streets & sidewalks
- Reported 238 cases of illegal dumpings & garbage
- Attended to 2,041 alternative service requests (this includes business check-ins, referrals to alcohol & drug programs, free food, free phone services, shelter, housing, etc)
- Referred 33 situations to the VPD
- Added 'hot spot' patrols around specific areas



In addition to neighbourhood patrols, our **Safety Committee** has been hard at work. A new **De-escalation & Naloxone Training** session has been created and scheduled every three months to train business staff on ways to make our community safer in light of city-wide challenges with crime and the opioid crisis.

Events, Sponsorships, & Marketing

- Fair in the Square (included online passport to 11 HxBIA businesses)
- DOXA Festival
- Firehall Arts Centre Eat.Drink.Play Event
- HUB Bike to Shop Day Lunch Meet (included DTES Market partnership)
- Indian Summer Festival
- WORD Vancouver Festival
- Vancouver Queer Film Festival
- Victory Square Block Party/ CiTR (included Binners' Project partnership)
- SFU Vancouver Welcome Back BBQ (included online passport to HxBIA businesses & tabling opportunity)



New Signature Event: 'Experience Hastings Crossing'

This year, we launched the inaugural proof-of-concept event, and the community loved it! **20 local businesses** partnered with **13 DTES organizations and social enterprises** to showcase their unique relationships. The event gathered ~\$10,000 in sponsorships and received **provincial and international awards!**

Community Driven Public Art Investment

Hastings Crossing BIA commissioned a new mural wrap on the Pigeon Park Savings building at 92 E Hastings as part of this year's Vancouver Mural Festival. In partnership with Vancity, PHS Community Services Society, DTES Market, and BC Housing, renowned Haida artist, Corey Bulpitt painted 'East Van Pigeon' as an iconic crest for the urban community.

Six additional tree planters were also installed and are being painted with local art and cared for by Mission Possible and Hives for Humanity.



Community Advocacy & Involvement

Community Economic Development Strategic Action Committee

HxBIA is taking a key role in the implementation of the DTES Community Economic Development plan. This includes:

- Advising to BC Housing and City of Vancouver on the new Community Impact Real Estate Society program with recommended tenant criteria and selection.
- Supporting new Eastside Resident Card program to encourage inclusive and welcoming businesses.

Vancouver BIA Partnership

- Joint letter to provincial government in support of the expansion of opioid treatment options to save lives and to aid in reduction of street disorder and cleanliness issues.
- Continuing work on street issues including patios, streeteries, bike share, construction, etc.

Urban Core Community Workers' Association

- Developing business tool kit for social hiring and procurement strategies in partnership with DTES social enterprises and employment organizations.

C2U Expo

- Supported community engagement conference to hire and train 50+ local residents as Ambassadors during 5-day conference.

DTES Liquor & Patio Policy

- Advocated to Vancouver City Council and staff regarding patio space and proposing creative solutions for liquor primary establishments seeking additional patios.

HxBIA Committees

Connections Committee

The Connections Committee is tasked with strengthening the connections between the traditional business community and the wealth of social enterprise and social innovation in the Downtown Eastside. This comes in the form of programs including CommunityWise, special events, business/social enterprise mixers, and other forms of outreach and research.

Arts & Culture Committee

The Arts & Culture Committee develops the arts and culture-related programming within the BIA. Much of the work and programming associated with this committee builds upon the strong history of culture within the Downtown Eastside. First Nations arts and culture is prevalent throughout this community, and incorporating its rich legacy into the BIA is essential.

Safety Committee

The Safety Committee's scope includes developing projects related to the safety and security of local businesses and properties, as well as local customers, employees, and residents. The committee seeks to foster positive relationships with Downtown Eastside community residents and organizations through partnerships and good neighbour strategies. The committee regularly receives updates from the Vancouver Police Department, Vancouver Coastal Health, the City, and our MP Neighbours Patrol.

Governance Committee

The Governance Committee develops and strengthens HxBIA's internal governance procedures and policies. Some projects include ensuring a strong board of directors that adequately represents the BIA community, creating a board recruitment and succession procedure, and evaluating staff and board members on an annual basis.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee develops and oversees the BIA's budget and spending, while ensuring the organization is in good financial standing in compliance with our mission and society and City by-laws.

