



MEDIA RELEASE

May 6, 2009

Media Contact

Drina Read: drinaread@yahoo.ca

BC Hydro apartment upgrade hides cell tower agenda?

Candidate Drina Read calls for public consultation

Event: Green Party Community Rally

Venue: 1395 Beach Avenue, Vancouver

Date: Thursday, May 7, 2009 **Time:** 9am – 10am

Information: 604-331-1532

Admission: Free

The Event

Cell tower antennas have been attached to residential buildings in the West End since 1995 in secrecy without the residents' consent and knowledge.

Vancouver-West End Green Party Candidate Drina Read is calling for public consultation before another tower goes up. "I am deeply concerned about the health effects of cell phone antennas placed on buildings. This untested technology has been known to cause cancer and other health problems."

Local West End resident Tina Zanetti contacted Read because the notice posted in the elevator of her building indicates that a temporary electrical outage will take effect on May 7, but it does not specify whether the electrical service upgrade will also include increasing the power for supplying the cell phone antennas on the four outside walls and on the roof. She believes that the time it will take BC Hydro to "upgrade" the apartment block will instead be used to turn it into a high radiation site when the power is switched on.

Ms. Zanetti wants an explanation from BC Hydro Chairperson, Mr. Mossadiq Umedaly, to find out if they intend to turn her home into a 200,000 watt radiation antenna. She has sent a written request to Dr. Penny Ballem (Vancouver's City Manager), Mayor Robertson and the Vancouver City Council to intercede on her behalf as part of the newly-announced Greenest City Action Team.

Our Candidate

Drina Read is a long-time Vancouver West End resident who was the BC Green Party candidate in the provincial Vancouver-Burrard by-election in October, 2008. She worked for Enquiry BC, a provincial government call centre, for over 8 years. She is the Green Party's Vancouver-West End candidate and the Administration and Vice Chair of the party.

The Green Party of BC

The Green Party of BC is part of the global green movement for economic, social and ecological responsibility. As the third largest political party in the province, Greens have consistently polled as the preferred choice of one in six decided voters. Jane Sterk was elected leader of the BC Green Party in October 2007. Further information at <http://www.greenparty.bc.ca>

Media Resources

The Green Party of BC's election platform, "British Columbia's Green Book" can be found at www.greenparty.bc.ca. High resolution versions of the candidates' photos and the Party logo can be downloaded from www.greenparty.bc.ca/media-resources

Provincial Media Contact

Kevin McKeown, Media Relations Director

bcmedia@greenparty.bc.ca

778-228-2548