

FORWARD!

FOR A FRACK FREE FUTURE 2024

JUNE 7-9, 2024

**INFORMATION
PACKAGE**

FORWARD! 2024 is hosted by Frack Free BC, a broad-based alliance made up of allied organizations including NGOs, Indigenous partners, grassroots organizations, community groups, and individuals who are organizing their communities to raise awareness and apply pressure to the government to end fracking in BC.

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FORWARD!

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WHY WE ARE GATHERING

Fracked gas is B.C.'s biggest climate problem. But the government continues to approve new LNG terminals and expand the fracking industry, intensifying disasters like earthquakes, wildfires, droughts, and floods.

To turn that around, our movement needs to show up bigger, louder, and with persistence. That's the vision behind Forward! 2024. To bring campaigns, communities, volunteers, activists, and everyone in between together for a weekend that will energize, inspire, mobilize and drive our movement – and our province – forward toward a sustainable and safe climate for future generations.

Together, we will build a safer, fairer, healthier future for our province.



“We cannot continue to expand fossil fuel infrastructure and hit our climate goals”

PREMIER DAVID EBY, 21 OCT 2022

FORWARD! **2024**

From June 7-9, activists, organizers, and changemakers from across B.C. will gather on the unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations in Vancouver. We'll level up our practical skills through workshops and trainings, deepen our understanding of the issues that matter, and strengthen connections across the diverse campaigns, communities, and perspectives that make up our movement.

This weekend is for all kinds of people, whether you want to learn more about B.C.'s biggest climate problem, gain new skills, or find your place in the movement. Together, we'll share and develop fresh new strategies that will inspire and re-energize our communities to take action.

Join us for a weekend of connection, training, scheming, and dreaming of a Fracking – and Fossil – Free Future.

Read on for more information about where it will take place, options for travel and accommodation, and everything you'll need to participate!

THE PROGRAM: AT A GLANCE

FORWARD! Will kick off on the evening of Friday, June 7th with a community social to get to know each other better, to ground ourselves with our intentions for the weekend, and to begin in a good way. On Saturday, we'll start with a plenary session to go over the big picture of the moment we're in and what we can look forward to doing throughout the weekend. Then we'll dive right into workshops, trainings, panel discussions with compelling speakers, and other exciting activities. On Sunday, we'll delve deeper with additional trainings, opportunities for regional organizing, and emergent conversations. You can also expect art-making, outdoor time, a hang-out space for chatting and scheming, and evening fun with friends old and new!

By the end of the weekend, you'll have gained new skills, a wide network to collaborate with, and a clear pathway to take action for a fossil fuel free future this fall.



THE PROGRAM: DRAFT WEEKEND AGENDA

Time	Friday June 7	Saturday June 8 All sessions at SFU Harbour Centre	Sunday June 9 All sessions at SFU Harbour Centre
8:00am		Registration	
9:00am		Opening Plenary (60 mins)	Opening Plenary (45 mins)
10:00am			Workshop (75 mins)
11:00am		Anti-Oppression Workshop (60 mins)	Workshop (75 mins)
11:00am		Workshop (60 mins)	Workshop (75 mins)
11:00am		Workshop (60 mins)	Workshop (75 mins)
Noon		LUNCH BREAK	Regional Breakouts (60 minutes)
1:00pm		Workshop (60 mins)	Open Space Conversations (60 mins)
1:00pm		Workshop (90 mins)	
2:00pm		Workshop (90 mins)	
2:00pm		Workshop (90 mins)	
3:00pm		Workshop (90 mins)	
3:00pm		Workshop (90 mins)	
4:00pm		Workshop (90 OR 75 mins)	
4:00pm		Workshop (90 OR 75 mins)	
4:00pm		Workshop (90 OR 75 mins)	
5:00pm		DINNER BREAK	
6:00pm	Registration & Evening Social 312 Main	Evening Keynote Event	Closing Plenary (30 mins)
7:00pm			
8:00pm			

PROGRAMMING STREAMS

The *FORWARD!* workshop program is organized into streams focusing on practical skill training, exploring fracking and LNG resistance from particular angles, and exploring the intersections between fracking and LNG campaigns and other social and climate justice organizing. Below are some examples of the types of workshops you can expect at *FORWARD!*

For more information check out the preliminary program available on frackfreebc.ca

Skills for Action Trainings	Frontline Resistance to Fracking & LNG	Building Political Power	Cross-Movement Strategies
↓	↓	↓	↓
Bird-Dogging: How to put politicians on the spot	Place-based Resistance to LNG	How to have effective meetings with elected officials	Holding the Fossil Fuel Industry Accountable
↓	↓	↓	↓
Making the Media Work For You	Lessons from movement wins & losses	How to talk about climate change and fossil fuels	Community Organizing & Outreach
↓	↓	↓	↓
De-escalation & community safety	More to be announced soon!	Engaging with political parties	Effective Legal Strategies

COVID-19

Covid-19 has become a reality of daily life. While there are no longer any province-wide restrictions on travel, gatherings, or events in BC, many populations are still at risk, or particularly vulnerable.

To help keep ourselves and others safe, please consider testing before you travel to Vancouver, and in the mornings before the event starts. If you are taking public transit to Vancouver, or to the venues each day, please consider wearing a mask, and be sure to wash or sanitize your hands frequently. Masks and hand sanitizer will be provided at the registration desk and are optional, but encouraged.



VENUE INFO



312 MAIN

A CENTRE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INNOVATION

Our Friday registration and evening social will be held at 312 Main Street – a community-centered hub that fosters collaboration and innovation among organizations, artists, and entrepreneurs located in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside.

312 Main’s entrance is off Cordova Street by the bus stop. The front desk is staffed 24/7 and you will be buzzed in upon arriving. There are no steps to access the main floor, and there is a ramp for wheelchair access. It is easily accessible by several bus lines. You can use [TransLink’s Trip Planner](#) to plan your transit route. If you are driving, there is metered street parking available on adjacent streets, as well as a number of [parkades nearby](#). Indoor guest bike parking is available for those cycling.

All-gender washrooms are located by the front entrance beside the front desk and at the southeast corner of the ground floor. A filtered water bottle filling station is located on the ground floor.



515 WEST HASTINGS ST.
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY AT HARBOUR CENTRE

Simon Fraser University at Harbour Centre is located in Vancouver's historic Spencer building, at the corner of Hastings and Richards streets. All *FORWARD!* rooms are in the Northwest corner of the ground floor, and the entire venue is wheelchair accessible. There is a food court conveniently located on the basement level of the building.

Harbour Centre is directly across the street from Vancouver's Waterfront Station, where the Skytrain and Seabus are located. There are many public parking lots nearby – the closest of which is at 400 West Cordova Street. Paid street parking is available throughout downtown, though it is expensive. We recommend planning to walk, take transit, or carpool from your accommodations. Street parking is free after 10pm.

11400 - 1430 Segal Centre

This is the main room where our plenaries and other group sessions will take place. It is located on the main floor.

1500 Conference Room | 1520 Lecture Room | 1530 Lecture Room

All located on the main floor, these rooms will be used for workshop spaces for the weekend.

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

This is a city-based event without a camping option. If you have friends or family who can host you we encourage you to do so. We have also provided some recommendations for hotels or hostels that are conveniently located and have competitive rates. Spaces book up quickly, so we recommend also doing your own research and booking soon!

BILLETING

We are looking for volunteers within our network who can offer spare bedrooms or sofas to attendees visiting from out of Vancouver.

If you can offer a place to stay, [please fill in this form](#) as soon as possible.

If you need to request a place to stay, [please fill in this form](#) as soon as possible. The deadline for billeting requests is May 31.

HOTEL RECOMMENDATIONS

**Carmana Hotel & Suites | Grand Park Hotel & Suites |
Tropicana Suite | Blue Horizon Hotel**

The above hotels are all located a 15 minutes bus ride or 20 - 25 minute walk from the venue and are competitively priced for Vancouver.

Lonsdale Quay Hotel

Located in North Vancouver, this hotel is competitively priced for Vancouver and is an enjoyable 30 minute sea bus ride from North Vancouver.

HOSTEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Cambie Hostel Seymour

The Cambie Hostel Seymour is a 3 minute walk from the venue. Prices range from \$79.99 - 81.99 + tax per night and include 2- bed mixed, female, and male dorms

Cambie Hostel Gastown

The Cambie Hostel Seymour is a 5 minute walk from the venue. Prices range from \$76.99 - \$78.99 + tax per night and include 4, 6, and 8- bed mixed dorms and a 4-bed female dorm.

St. Clair Hotel - Hostel

Located in a heritage building located a 3 minute walk from the venue.

Hostelling International Vancouver Downtown

Located in a quiet spot just off the West End's Davie strip, this hostel is located a 11 minutes bus ride, or 30 minute walk from the venue

Hostelling International Vancouver Jericho Beach

Located steps from Vancouver's Jericho beach, this hostel is a 35 - 55 minute bus ride, or 20 minute drive from the venue. It has lots of parking, and is well suited if you are attending *FORWARD!* as a group wishing to stay together.

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

We invite people from across BC to join us and we're eager to help with travel logistics where we can. Depending on where you are traveling from, ferries and coach buses are likely to be the cheapest way to get to Vancouver.

Once in the city, Vancouver has a robust public transit system that includes buses, the Skytrain, and the Seabus between North Vancouver and Downtown. Most of *FORWARD!*'s programming will be taking place at SFU Harbour Centre, which is located a few blocks from Waterfront Station. For those who only use transit occasionally, tapping your credit card is the simplest option. [For more information on using Vancouver's transit system, check out this guide.](#)



RIDESHARING & CARPOOLING

We'll have participants coming from all over the province. If you are traveling in from out of town please consider offering a ride to another participant from your area! Email FrackFree2024@gmail.com to let us know how many spaces you have, or if you are looking for a ride.

There are also [community ridesharing groups](#) we encourage you to check out for BC-wide rides, and for specific communities like [the Kootenays](#).

COACH BUSES

If there aren't rideshare options available in your area a coach bus may be an option, check out the following resources:

- Sea to Sky (Whistler, Squamish): [Squamish Connector](#), [YVR Skylynx](#), or [Epic Rides](#)
- Sunshine Coast: [Sunshine Coast Connector](#) (plus [BC Ferries](#))
- Vancouver Island (plus ferry)
 - [Island Link Bus](#) or [Vancouver Island Connector](#) (plus [BC Ferries](#))
- Interior:
 - [Fraser Valley](#) (Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Hope, Merrit): [Ebus](#)
 - Kamloops and Kelowna: [Ebus](#)

Prince George (Williams Lake, 100 Mile House, 70 Mile House): [Ebus](#) to Kamloops three days / week (travel on Thursday, return trip on Monday)

FERRIES

Vancouver is accessible from two ferry stations:

Tsawwassen Ferry

- Ferries from Vancouver Island (Swartz Bay, Duke Point) and Southern Gulf Islands
- Public Transit (\$4.55, cash or card)
 - Take bus 620 (Bridgeport Station) to Bridgeport Station
 - Take SkyTrain (Canada Line) from Bridgeport Station to Vancouver City Centre
- Taxis and ride-share services also pick up at Tsawwassen, ranging in price from \$40-100 depending on your destination

Horseshoe Bay Ferry

- Ferries from Nanaimo, Sunshine Coast and Bowen Island
- Public Transit (\$4.55, cash or card)
 - Take bus 250 (Vancouver) or 257 (Vancouver Express) to Vancouver City Centre
- Taxis and ride-share services also pick up at Horseshoe Bay, ranging in price from \$30-80 depending on your destination.

TRAVEL BURSARIES

We have a limited amount of funding to help participants cover their travel costs. If costs prevent you from attending, please outline your needs in an email titled 'Travel bursary request' at FrackFree2024@gmail.com.

If you are able to fund your own transport and accommodations, please do so, so that those that would otherwise not be able to attend can access that funding.

The registration fee for the weekend, covers participation in all scheduled programming from Friday Evening to Sunday afternoon including the Saturday Keynote event. Additional costs associated with the weekend may include travel costs (getting to and from Vancouver), accommodations and meals.

WELFARE & WELL-BEING

We want everyone participating in *FORWARD!* to feel welcome, included, safe and supported. Before making your way down, please think about what you specifically may need with you to make sure you feel comfortable and able to participate fully, e.g. medications, useful phone numbers. In addition, we will have a dedicated team throughout the weekend to answer questions and provide friendly support. If you have specific requests or accessibility or well-being requirements, please contact frackfree2024@gmail.com in advance.

REGIONAL & ACTION GROUPS

We welcome participation from existing groups, teams and collectives, as well as those new to climate and social justice organizing. An important goal for the weekend is to connect participants with one another and with networks in their community to support more people to take action for a fossil fuel free future.

If you're already part of a local group, and/or are traveling with other people, you may wish to meet up beforehand to plan how to get the most out of the weekend. If not, we will have sessions designed to help people form new teams and connect with existing groups in their community or campaign interest area.

COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS

We want to make sure we are curating a brave space at *FORWARD!* that fosters safety and participation from, and for, all attendees. To that end, we are encouraging participants to abide by some community agreements. If you have agreements you would like to contribute that would help you to participate in the weekend, we'd love to hear from you. Please send suggestions to frackfree2024@gmail.com

Together, We Know A Lot

Try to meet people where they are at, understanding that not everyone is coming with the same level of experience or knowledge.

Take Space, Make Space

If you are often the first to speak, leave room for others. Usually the observer? Your contributions have value, try to speak up.

Ask For What You Need, Offer What You Can

Be Curious & Respectful

Not everyone shares the same perspective on issues we all care about. Try to be curious rather than judgemental about others' opinions.

Take the Wisdom, Leave the Names

This is a space for sharing, try to respect the privacy of those who may share personal experiences for the education of others.

Listen to Understand, Rather Than Respond

CHECKLIST

- Make sure you've registered for *FORWARD!*
- Invite your friends to join you!
- Book time off work or studies, if you need to: Friday, June 7 to Sunday June 9 are the gathering dates.
- Book your travel, if you're coming from outside of Vancouver.
- **Offer accommodation**, if you can.
- **Request accommodation**, if you need it.
- Connect with other members of your regional or local groups if you can to form a crew that can attend together. If you can't, there will be time during the weekend for this.

& WHAT TO BRING

- Clothing, toiletries, and medications for the weekend
- Cash or card for transit, meals
- A sleeping bag and mat, depending on your accommodation situation.
- Your friends!
- Reusable cup

CONTACT US

Email

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Website

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