

Chemtrade's North Vancouver chlor-alkali facility is one of Canada's largest providers of liquid chlorine – accounting for 40 per cent of all liquid chlorine available in Canada. Regionally, this equates to over 70 per cent of the liquid chlorine available in BC and Alberta. **Why is this important?** A study conducted by [Statistics Canada in 2015](#) found that 96 per cent of Canadian communities relied on chlorine to treat its municipal water supply, which equates to over 30.7 million Canadians. Knowing the significant role that Chemtrade liquid chlorine plays in supporting safe drinking water for millions of Canadians, we need to start having conversations now regarding our potential future operations.

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## A look back at 2024:



**Hosted over 50 information update meetings** with elected officials, First Nations, stakeholders, special interest groups, and US elected officials/agencies



**Held two open house meetings** attended by over 65 residents with **overwhelming positive support**



**Initiated over 200 interactions** (letters, emails, phone calls, meetings, presentations) with **overwhelmingly positive feedback received**



**Created three new engagement tools** [www.AskChemtrade.ca](http://www.AskChemtrade.ca), community newsletter, and launch of public tours of facility

Since our first newsletter in May 2024, we have continued our efforts to raise awareness of our operations, the role we play in supporting safe drinking water (not just for BC, but for all of Canada and the Western US), as well as the significant updates and investment made at the site that have significantly improved safety and reduced the risk to the community.

Moving forward, we will continue to engage with all members of the community, special interest groups, the municipal, provincial, federal governments and First Nations to ensure there is an understanding of the risks, as well as the benefits of our continued operation, and how we are planning to continue to invest in the facility to ensure we remain a good neighbor.

**In August, 2024, we received national and international media coverage regarding the importance of liquid chlorine during the unprecedented rail strike by both Canadian railways.**

Many people don't know this, but the only way to transport liquid chlorine is by rail car. When talks between the railroads and the unions were breaking down, we saw embargos on the transportation of goods start to go into effect, and we were unable to ship any liquid chlorine two weeks in advance of what turned out to be labour action at both railways. In response, we reached out immediately to ministries within the federal government, raising awareness about the risk to municipal drinking water supplies. In response, we were contacted by staff from several key ministries, including the Office of the Prime Minister, to better understand the risk to Canadians. We were also in touch with committees and departments within the US government, who shared concerns regarding the protection of water for the millions of Americans who also rely on Chemtrade-produced chlorine for securing their safe drinking water.

When Labour Minister Steven MacKinnon announced his decision to order binding arbitration, the need to ensure access to critical products was cited as a reason, with liquid chlorine for water treatment being specifically named. This unprecedented rail strike highlighted just how quickly the impacts would be felt across Canada and the US if we were unable to continue to produce and ship liquid chlorine from our facility.

## Chemtrade is preparing to apply for rezoning with the District of North Vancouver, and is asking for support from the community

The District of North Vancouver passed a bylaw in 1984 restricting the production of hazardous materials within District's limits. As a facility that has been operating safely since 1957, it has always been granted grandfather status.

As part of our plans to secure long-term operations for our North Vancouver facility, **we are proposing several capital improvement projects that will further improve safety and reduce potential risk.** Through meetings and conversations with the District of North Vancouver to better understand the process to implement these improvements, it became clear that **we need to apply for a development permit, which would trigger a rezoning process** as well.

The safety improvements we are proposing on-site include the construction of an enclosure around the rail car loading area, along with other changes like the removal of old infrastructure, and other modernization projects.



**Above:** Chemtrade's Vice-President, Commercial, Alan Robinson speaks on CBC National News about chlorine disruptions.

**Below:** Robinson on the Vancouver Early Edition providing and update regarding the risk to national chlorine supplies from the rail labour dispute.



**To be clear – we are not making any changes to how we operate. We will not be increasing production or increasing the delivery of raw materials or the shipment of completed products from site. We will not be increasing on-site storage (in fact we will be reducing it) nor will we be increasing transportation to or from site for our raw materials or completed products. We are simply applying for rezoning so we can move from a state of legal non-conformity to conformity to pursue further capital investments at our site aimed at increasing safety and reducing risk to the community.** To learn more about our proposed improvements, and the impact these will have on risk reduction, please visit [www.AskChemtrade.ca/safety](http://www.AskChemtrade.ca/safety).

## What's next?

We are currently preparing all of the information required for the rezoning application, including the commissioning of several studies. **We plan to submit the full application in the spring of 2025.** Following this, and as outlined within the District of North Vancouver's rezoning application process, **there will be a series of engagement opportunities – both online and in person.** There will be a public open house, with a date to be confirmed following the application filing. We anticipate using a similar format to what we used during both our June 6 Open House sessions, with hosted information stations as well as a formal presentation and open question period.



*One of the many information stations at the open house meetings held on June 6, 2024.*

**As we get closer to filing the application, we will provide detailed information on how you can get involved, learn more, and show your support.** We are committed to working closely with the District to ensure we meet all of the requirements within the rezoning application process.

## Ways to engage, learn more and show your support:

We continue to offer **public tours of the facility** on a first-come basis. If you are interested in visiting our site and seeing our operations firsthand, we would welcome the opportunity to show you what we do. We can accommodate groups of up to 10, and we provide attendees with a safety briefing, and all required personal protective equipment (PPE). The tours run for approximately an hour and a half and require you to be able to walk on uneven surfaces.



If you have any questions about the tour program or would like to be added to the tour list, please reach out to our Director, Corporate Communications, Amy Jonsson at [ajonsson@chemtradelogistics.com](mailto:ajonsson@chemtradelogistics.com).

## Taking questions from the community

We have continued to receive questions through our engagement website, [www.AskChemtrade.ca](http://www.AskChemtrade.ca), and are happy to share the answers to those questions below, and also post them on our website.

If you have a questions you would like to see answered, please send it to us, either through [www.askchemtrade.ca/frequently-asked-questions-faq](http://www.askchemtrade.ca/frequently-asked-questions-faq) or by email to Amy Jonsson at [ajonsson@chemtradelogistics.com](mailto:ajonsson@chemtradelogistics.com).

### ***If you aren't changing your operations, or increasing production, then why do you need to apply for rezoning through the District of North Vancouver?***

Our facility has been safely operating since 1957, but due to a bylaw passed in 1984, our facility has been operating as a legal non-conformity since that time and has been grandfathered up until this point.

As part of our efforts to secure long-term operations, we are proposing several major capital improvements at our site that will not only increase safety but reduce risk to the community. The most visible project, and the one with the largest ability to reduce risk for the community, is the proposed construction of a building around the current rail car loading area. The building would be equipped with sophisticated air scrubbing technology and would be able to capture and contain any chlorine leaked during rail car loading – completely removing it from the atmosphere.

In order to move forward with construction, we would need a development permit from the District of North Vancouver, which will trigger the need for a rezoning application as the District believes this change meets the threshold of rezoning criteria.

**To confirm, we are not increasing our output of any of the materials we produce. We are simply looking to ensure we are correctly zoned so we can move forward with planned safety and risk reduction projects.**

## Ways to get in touch with us

We would love to hear from you, and there are several ways to contact us. The first is by visiting [www.AskChemtrade.ca](http://www.AskChemtrade.ca) where you will be able to submit questions, find up-to-date information, and send us a message directly. The second is by reaching out directly to our Director, Corporate Communications Amy Jonsson at [ajonsson@chemtradelogistics.com](mailto:ajonsson@chemtradelogistics.com) who will be able to answer questions or connect you with someone who can. Or you can visit our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/chemtrade>) and send us a message that way.



#### A Vision for the Future

**Chemtrade's site has operated safely in North Vancouver for more than 65 years.**

Chemtrade engages with the North Vancouver community through a robust approach, and reports on 2024 and other progress to the community through the [Community Update](#).

With a long history of responsible operations, we are proud to have been the largest producer of liquid chlorine in North Vancouver and other parts of the province. We are committed to ensuring the safety of our operations and the health of our community. We are also committed to ensuring the safety of our operations and the health of our community.

Since 2019, over 100,000 people have been involved in the North Vancouver site to improve safety, reliability, and maintain the facility.

We are committed to ongoing work with the North Vancouver community about these plans and the importance of this site for the community's present and future.