



**DISTRICT OF HIGHLANDS
MINUTES OF ELECTRONIC COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021 @ 7:00 PM**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ken Williams
Councillor Leslie Anderson
Councillor Ann Baird
Councillor Gord Baird
Councillor Marcie McLean
Councillor Karel Roessingh
Councillor Rose Stanton

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Administrative Officer Lorraine Hilton
Corporate Officer Deb Hopkins

Public Observation: 2

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: 42-2021

Moved Councillor McLean, Seconded Councillor Roessingh
That the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

2. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

2.1

Sally Gose, Highlands resident, addressed Council regarding Mount Work and the increased building of unsanctioned trails and unauthorized installation of trail signs connected with mountain biking within the park. Ms. Gose asked why the District does not have representation on the CRD Parks Committee given the number of parks located within the Highlands.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1

Council Minutes – February 16, 2021

MOTION: 43-2021

Moved Councillor Stanton, Seconded Councillor McLean
That the minutes of the February 16, 2021 Council meeting be adopted.
CARRIED

3.2

West Shore Parks and Recreation Society Minutes – January 21, 2021

MOTION: 44-2021

Moved Councillor Anderson, Seconded Councillor Stanton
That the minutes of the January 21, 2021 West Shore Parks and Recreation Society meeting be received.

CARRIED

4. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS

Councillor Leslie Anderson
Heritage Select Committee, West Shore Parks and Recreation Society and Western Communities Policing Advisory Committee
Councillor Ann Baird
CRD Climate Action Committee and CRD Housing Trust Fund Commission
Feb. 12, 2021 Climate Caucus: Nature Based Solutions Group
Topic: Green Roofs – highlights

- Excellent informative presentation from Steven Peck from

www.Greenroofs.org

- Policy and Benefits with focus on urgency of the Climate Emergency
- Many indirect benefits resulting in net reduction in GHGs and climate adaption. Important to begin considering and accounting for these benefits
 - Reduced heating and cooling costs of buildings
 - Increased output of roof mounted solar PV
 - MUCH Longer lasting
 - Food production on commercial buildings
 - Reduced Heat Island effect in dense neighbourhoods or industrial sites
 - Storm water management/ rain-water filtration for collection into cisterns
 - Reduced Fire risks
- Many benefits for ecosystems and people
 - Use in hospitals increases health outcomes
 - Habitat
- Regulations/policy
 - Last year there was a UBCM resolution that failed due to misunderstanding
 - LGs cannot currently require green roofs, can only suggest
 - Updated UBCM policy coming in 2021 requesting that LGs be allowed to require green roofs IF THEY CHOOSE.
 - Strong public support for green roof policy
- Huge benefits when installed on industrial sites
- MYTHS
 - They leak – no more than other roofing types
 - Expensive – not when full cost/benefit analysis performed
 - Green roofs also increase property values

See the presentation here: [recording](#) and the [slides](#).

Councillor Gord Baird

CRD Regional Water Supply Commission & CRD JDF Water Distribution Commission

CRD Regional Water Supply Commission

The CRD RWSC received a Demand Management Program update. There was lengthy discussion that arose that touched on issues of regional population growth, climate change and implications to speed up filtration and second intake-tower design. This will be guiding the Strategic Master Plan expected to be completed late summer 2021.

<http://crd.ca.legistar.com/gateway.aspx?m=l&id=/matter.aspx?key=8104>

Water Quality Report covers June to November 2020. In short, water quality is still of excellent quality, though summer warming trends are showing a trend to aesthetic algae blooms and short periods of warmer water through August and September.

<http://crd.ca.legistar.com/gateway.aspx?m=l&id=/matter.aspx?key=8052>

Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission Feb. 2

We received our Major Capital Projects update. The budget for the year is \$25,215,000 and covers 38 projects, three of which are the majority (Rocky Point upgrade, South Skirt Water upgrade, and Goldstream asbestos-cement pipe replacement.

[https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/crd-document-](https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/crd-document-library/committeedocuments/juandefucawaterdistributioncommission/20210202/j)

[library/committeedocuments/juandefucawaterdistributioncommission/20210202/jwdc2021-02-02agendapkg.pdf?sfvrsn=51218ccc_2](https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/crd-document-library/committeedocuments/juandefucawaterdistributioncommission/20210202/jwdc2021-02-02agendapkg.pdf?sfvrsn=51218ccc_2) Agenda item 10.1, Page 8

Councillor Marcie McLean

Coexisting with Carnivores Alliance, Greater Victoria Family Court Youth Justice Committee, Intermunicipal Advisory Committee on Disability Issues and Sustainable Land Use Select Committee

Councillor Karel Roessingh

Capital Region Emergency Services Telecommunications (CREST), CRD Arts and Greater Victoria Public Library Board

CREST:

Councillor Kyara Kahakauwila has resigned as chair over concerns that recent media coverage would overshadow her role as spokesperson for CREST, and at the board meeting February 17th, Esquimalt Councillor Tim Morrison, former Vice Chair, was acclaimed as the new Chair. I was nominated for Vice Chair by View Royal Mayor Screech, and the nomination seconded by North Saanich Councillor Murray Weisenberger. Former Chair Kahakauwila was nominated for Vice Chair by Langford Councillor Lillian Szpak but the nomination was not seconded, and I was acclaimed. My former role as chair of the Finance Committee will be taken by Oak Bay Councillor Esther Paterson. In the very near future CREST will be making major announcements regarding the completion of the P35 upgrade and a new website.

GVPL:

This spring the Board will be embarking on an updated Strategic Plan that will be in effect for a 2-year period, rather than the usual 5 years, due to the uncertainty of COVID. Esquimalt is planning a new library branch, and Victoria has included relocation or renovation options for the Central Branch as a priority in their Strategic Plan. The inadequacies of the Central Branch have been under discussion for at least 35 years, as the current building was intended as a temporary home for the library in the 80s.

Councillor Rose Stanton

Emergency Planning and Social Sustainable Committee

Mayor Ken Williams

Wed. Feb. 17th, 2021 CRD Environmental Services Committee

There was much support by the delegations for “Rethinking Waste 90% Diversion” presentation by Larry Gardner, Manager of Solid Waste Services, Regional District of Nanaimo. See link:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=21441&GUID=80B4C83F-A2DD-4EFA-93E8-B492308CE625>

The Committee recommended that the CRD Board approve the kitchen scrap tipping rate. See link:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=21439&GUID=904AE585-FA52-4A74-B57C-5CAE346730D6>

The City of Victoria gave an update on their Zero Waste Policy. See Link:

<https://crd.ca.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=21440&GUID=3F558C58-B057-402E-813E-F97D195F5A09>

Fri. Feb. 19th, Mayors Zoom Meeting

Oak Bay Mayor Kevin Murdoch hosted a meeting with Vancouver Island Construction Association (VICA) chair Rory Kulmala. He gave a report about the construction industry with hopes that business licensing and permitting could be sped up and made more uniform throughout the region. The Mayors also discussed potential future meetings about regional policing and the effect of Surrey’s plan to have their own police force rather than the RCMP.

Mon. Feb. 22nd, 2021 Minister Osborne Teleconference

Minister Josie Osborne and Minister Sheila Malcolmson held a teleconferencing call to discuss COVID-19 updates and continued support for Local Governments.

Vaccine Key Messages

- Vaccine supply is limited right now, but we are confident that supply will increase in the weeks ahead.
- Island Health is planning the next phase of the immunization program while delivering the second doses for Long Term Care and Assisted Living residents and care teams.
- Island Health is carefully tracking each first dose, and providing second doses within the recommended timelines provided by the Provincial Health Officer.
- Phase 2 will begin with seniors aged 80+ and Indigenous seniors aged 65+. We will be providing an update on the immunization process for these

groups in the coming weeks.

- Minister Sheila Malcolmson said steps have been taken to increase the number of beds and help for those with mental health and addiction problems during the pandemic.

Home Owner Grant Centralization

Effective 2021 all home owner grant applications must be submitted directly to the BC Provincial Government through a secure online application.

Municipalities no longer need to and should not accept any applications.

As of February 16, 2021, homeowners can apply for their current year or their retroactive home owner grants online at gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant. Homeowners can find information about this change at gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant or they can call toll free: 1-888-355-2700 to speak with an agent.

Infrastructure Planning Grant Program: Intake is open year-round.

Local governments can apply for grants that support projects related to the development of sustainable community infrastructure through the Infrastructure Planning Grant Program. The program is open for applications year-round with regular processing deadlines. See

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/local-governments/grants-transfers/grants/infrastructure-planning-grant-program> for more details.

BC Parks Discover Camping 2021 Reservations Opening

Here's an update regarding some highly anticipated 2021 plans from BC Parks, including: opening dates, park occupancy guidelines, information on BC Parks' refund policy, and more - together with a [Government News Release](#).

Reservation Opening Dates

- Starting **March 1, 2021 at 7am** the Berg Lake Trail and Bowron Lake Canoe Circuit will be released for the entire 2021 season.
- Starting **March 8, 2021 at 7am** the Discover Camping website and call centre will begin accepting frontcountry and backcountry reservations. Discover Camping will continue to allow bookings on a two-month rolling window (reservations can be made up to two months in advance of an arrival date).

Priority Access for British Columbians

- Due to the ongoing pandemic, **B.C. residents will be provided with priority access to camping reservations throughout the summer.**
- Reservations can be made no further than two months out from arrival, and the reservation system will be limited to people who live in B.C. until July 7, ensuring they have first access to the core season of reservations through to the Labour Day weekend and end of the traditional summer holiday period.
- Starting July 8, non-residents of B.C. will be permitted to make reservations for any remaining arrival dates in the season, pending orders that may allow travel.
- For accessing priority reservations, a B.C. resident is someone with a B.C. address.
- Visitors will need to confirm they are a B.C. resident before booking a campsite.
- Non-residents of B.C. are still allowed in parks, as travel orders permit, whether for day use, first-come first-served camping, or for reservations made after July 7.

Site Occupancy Guidelines

Provincial Health Officer (PHO) guidelines for gatherings may change between the time of booking and the scheduled arrival date. All camping parties MUST meet current PHO guidelines for gatherings, even if those numbers are less than BC Parks' maximum site allowance.

Refund Policy/Cancelations

It is the responsibility of camping parties to ensure their plans are consistent with PHO guidelines before bookings are made. Speculative bookings made in anticipation of health guideline changes should be avoided, as requests for exceptions to BC Parks refund policies will not be accepted, except as noted in [BC Parks refund policy](#) and supported by the required documentation (for example, a medical note). Reservation policy can be found at www.bcparks.ca/reserve.

Day Use Facilities, Picnic Shelters and Halls

To meet current PHO guidelines, reservations for day use facilities, including picnic shelters and halls, remain closed for the 2021 season. All of this information, along with user guides, FAQs and park-specific status updates, are available at www.bcparks.ca.

5. RATIFICATION OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**6. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS****7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS****8. CORRESPONDENCE****9. BYLAWS****10. NEW BUSINESS**

10.1

West Shore RCMP (7500.20)

RE: WEST SHORE RCMP 2020 ANNUAL YEAR END REPORT

MOTION: 45-2021

Moved Councillor McLean, Seconded Councillor Gord Baird

That Council receive the West Shore RCMP 2020 Annual Year End Report.

CARRIED

10.2

Report, Chief Administrative Officer, February 22, 2021 (5400.13)

RE: 2021-2023 PAVING AND CULVERT REPLACEMENT CAPITAL PROGRAM AND REQUEST FOR EARLY SPENDING APPROVAL

MOTION: 46-2021

Moved Councillor Anderson, Seconded Councillor Roessingh

That early spending approval for up to \$350,000 over 2021-2023 for culvert replacement work be approved, and that the funding be incorporated into the Five Year Financial Plan for formal consideration.

CARRIED

10.3

Report, Corporate Officer, February 23, 2021 (0230.20)

RE: HIGHLAND HERITAGE PARK SOCIETY – 2021 MASTER PLAN AND BUDGET REQUEST

MOTION: 47-2021

Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor Ann Baird

That the Highland Heritage Park Society 2021 Master Plan be approved and that the proposed 2021 drainage and pathways project along with the associated funding of \$3,712 be referred to the 2021 budget process for consideration.

CARRIED

10.4

Report, Corporate Officer, February 23, 2021
RE: SELECT COMMITTEE RECRUITMENT 2021

MOTION: 48-2021

Moved Councillor Stanton, Seconded Councillor McLean
That Council suspend the Social Sustainability Select Committee until the next annual Select Committee recruitment process and direct staff to notify the membership accordingly.

CARRIED

11. IN CAMERA

MOTION: 49-2021

Moved Councillor Roessingh, Seconded Councillor McLean
That Council move In Camera in accordance with Section 90(1)(c) of the *Community Charter* to discuss items specific to labour relations or other employee relations.

CARRIED

Council reconvened from In Camera at 9:08 pm.

**12. RELEASE OF IN CAMERA
RESOLUTIONS**

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: 50-2021

Moved Councillor McLean, Seconded Councillor Roessingh
That the Council meeting of March 1, 2021 adjourn at 9:08 pm.

CARRIED

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER

Adopted April 6, 2021