

DISTRICT OF SECHELT
MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Held in Community Use Room, 5797 Cowrie Street, Sechelt, BC and
via Zoom Electronic Meeting Platform
Wednesday, June 14, 2023

PRESENT Acting Chair Councillor B. Rowe; and Councillors D. McLauchlan; A. Shepherd and D. Inkster

REGRETS Mayor J. Henderson; and Councillors A. Toth and D. Bell

STAFF Acting Chief Administrative Officer D. Douglas; Corporate Officer K. Poulsen and Recording Secretary F. Bol

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARATION OF CONFLICT

Chair Rowe called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 3:03 pm and asked for declarations of conflict. There were none.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Recommendation No. 1 – Adoption of Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the agenda be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED

3. APPOINTMENTS AND DELEGATIONS

None.

4. NEW BUSINESS

None.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

5.1 Union of BC Municipalities Ministerial Meetings and Recommendations

The Corporate Officer provided a brief overview of the annual Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) convention and noted that the opportunity to meet with Provincial ministers at the convention provides Council an opportunity to discuss potential topics that may benefit from advocacy at the Provincial level.

In discussion the following was noted:

- The deadline for ministry meeting requests is on June 30, 2023.
- Not all meeting requests are accepted and that the ministries coordinate themselves and may bring in more than one minister to address a specific topic.

Council discussed several topics, including:

- Fire safety in BC could be improved if the Ministry of Forest were to close logging roads during forest fire season.
- More frequent sailings of the BC Ferries 'L-Route' for ferry direct service from Nanaimo to Langdale and offering more options for foot passengers could benefit travellers.
- More frequent sweeping of the highway may help improve safety.
- Province-wide zoning around elementary schools for multi-family townhouses could create more housing options for families.
- Increasing the funding available from the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport could help municipalities improve infrastructure grants for parks, trails and parking for beach accesses.
- Clarification on the expectations and accountability model for BC Housing's service delivery would be helpful.
- Increasing the availability of housing that is actually affordable with respect to the increased cost of living is critical for Sechelt.
- More health services and support for those with addictions is greatly needed.
- More options for seniors would help alleviate pressure on long term care facilities and may provide better care options, especially for those with complex care needs.
- Capital infrastructure grants for building childcare facilities don't currently include funding for internal operational costs for municipalities, which can be a barrier to being able to apply.
- A higher wage grid is needed for early childhood educators.

Recommendation No. 2 – UBCM Ministerial Meetings

Moved/Seconded

That the following 2023 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention Ministerial meeting requests be submitted:

- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation
- Ministry of Education and Child Care
- Ministry of Housing
- Ministry of Mental Health and Addiction; and

That the Town of Gibsons, Sunshine Coast Regional District and shíshálh Nation be invited to attend the District of Sechelt's scheduled 2023 UBCM Minister meetings.

CARRIED

6. ADJOURNMENT

Recommendation No. 3 – Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Committee of the Whole meeting of June 14, 2023 be adjourned at 3:31 pm.

CARRIED

Certified Correct:



John Henderson, Chair



Kerianne Poulsen, Corporate Officer

