



## Minutes

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| <b><u>Meeting</u></b> | <b>Regular Council Meeting</b>                                   |
| <b><u>Date</u></b>    | <b>December 6, 2022</b>  |
| <b><u>Time</u></b>    | <b>7:00 PM</b>   |
| <b><u>Place</u></b>   | <b>Municipal Hall - Council Chambers and by electronic means</b> |

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| <b><u>Present</u></b> | Mayor Martin Davis          |          |
|                       | Councillor Meggan Joseph    | by video |
|                       | Councillor Sarah Fowler     |          |
|                       | Councillor Cheryl Northcott |          |
|                       | Councillor Douglas Elliott  |          |

|                     |   |          |
|---------------------|---|----------|
| <b><u>Staff</u></b> | Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer |          |
|                     | Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager   | by video |
|                     | Lauren, Roth, Finance Assistant             | by video |

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| <b><u>Guest</u></b> | Shaun Koopman, Strathcona Regional District, Protective Services Coordinator | by video |
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| <b><u>Public</u></b> | 18 Members of the public | 18 (6 by video) |
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### **A. Call to Order**

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **Land Acknowledgement**

Mayor Davis acknowledged and respected that Council is meeting upon Mowachaht/ Muchalaht territory.

Call to Order December 6, 2022

I wish to call this meeting to order by speaking to the issues that have come up at the last two meetings and its implications to order.

For the last four years, meetings including public input have been collegial and have allowed for a free exchange of information and opinions. We have not been following the rules around public input and to a lesser degree, the conduct of Council at meetings. This has only been possible because both Council and the public have managed to operate in largely a civil and respectful manner.

In this new term, this has broken down, with members of the public and Council speaking out of turn which disrupts the conduct of the meeting. This is harmful to the process and acts to suppress the conduct of Council business and deter members of the public from attending, either in person or online. In addition, it creates an unsafe environment for Council to speak freely within the rules. From here on, we will be closely following Robert's Rules of Order and our own bylaws. This means that public input will be limited to those that have signed the speakers sheet before the meeting. The public can speak to issues on the agenda for two minutes or less. Abuse and attempts at intimidation will not be tolerated and will be considered out of order. Verbal information or opinions from the public will be received with thanks, but the mayor is under no obligation to respond. Councillors will not respond in public input unless recognized and authorized by the Mayor as chair of the meeting. In addition, Councillors can not interrupt the Mayor, and indeed each other, when speaking during Council meetings.

Under the bylaws, both the public and council have a right to attend meetings online or by telephone. This is not debatable and is not a reason for criticism. This can occur for reasons of health, such as Covid, which is why these rules were changed across most jurisdictions, including ours. Perception of an unsafe working environment, or Councillors or staff being out of town at the time are also valid reasons. Council or staff are under no obligation to the public to justify virtual attendance and if continuing toxic behaviour continues, we may be seeing more virtual meetings, not less.

Regarding Council conflict of interest, if a Councillor feels that they may be in a conflict, it is up to them to declare it. No other councillor can accuse others of conflict as this is perceived as an intimidation tactic and will be considered out of order.

#### **B. Introduction of Late Items**

An amendment to Councillor Fowler's notice of motion under New Business as M1.

#### **C. Approval of the Agenda**

**Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0405/2022**

**THAT** the Agenda for the December 6, 2022 Regular meeting of Council be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED**

#### **D. Petitions and Delegations**

None.

**E. Public Input # 1**

A member of the public spoke about "Participatory Democracy".

A member of the public commented on the Tahsis Council's strategic priority of economic vibrancy.

A request return the community dumpsters to back downtown.

A member of the public asked Councillor Fowler about the 2022 UBCM Convention in Whistler, BC.

There were questions about site location for the new Tahsis Firehall

A question was directed to Councillor Northcott regarding the CAO's salary.

**F. Adoption of the Minutes**

**1 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on November 14, 2022**

**Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0406/2022**

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes of November 14, 2022 be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on November 15, 2022**

**Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0407/2022**

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes of November 15, 2022 be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on November 15, 2022.**

**Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0408/2022**

**THAT** the Regular Council Meeting minutes of November 15, 2022 be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on November 28, 2022**

**Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0409/2022**

**THAT** the Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes of November 28, 2022 be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

G. Rise and Report

At the November 21, 2022 Closed Committee of the Whole meeting Council

1 approved the following 2023 Strategic Priorities:

**TAHSIS COUNCIL'S 2023 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

**ECONOMIC VIBRANCY**

Develop an Economic Development Strategy (to include partnering with the Mowachaht/ Muchalaht First Nation with an emphasis on aquaculture and community forest)

Dispose of developable Village land parcels, under the Property Management Policy.

**INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICE**

Complete the Tahsis Fire Hall Relocation Project

Bolster energy security to mitigate the impacts of power outages by adding more emergency power sources (e.g. generators) and advocacy

Develop and approve an Asset Management Policy and Plan

Advocate for improved transportation options for residents, including supporting the Strathcona Regional District's West Coast Communities Transportation Study

**COMMUNITY WELL-BEING**

Develop a food security plan for the community

Advocate for more mental health supports and community safety initiatives

**NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

Plan and develop a regional hiking and biking trail network, in consultation and cooperation with the Mowachaht/ Muchalaht First Nation

**SENSE OF COMMUNITY**

Enhance communication to local residents, focussing on informing new residents about the community and providing all residents and visitors information on emergency preparedness

Dedicate increased funding for bylaw enforcement to focus on nuisance and unsightly properties

- At Council's November 15th Closed meeting, Council approved a Property
- 2 Management Policy regarding Village owned property. The policy is included in this meeting's agenda (G2) and will be posted on the Village website.

- At the December 6<sup>th</sup> Closed Committee of the Whole meeting Council received and
- 3 accepted a legal opinion which concludes that neither Councillor Fowler nor Councillor Northcott are in a conflict of interest by voting on matters relating to the Fire Hall Relocation Project.

- At the same meeting, Council approved publicly releasing all fire hall reports and
- 4 related documents that had been previously received and considered at closed meetings.

#### **H. Business Arising**

- 1 **Shaun Koopman, Emergency Coordinator, Strathcona Regional District**  
**Presentation Re: Alertable**

**Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0410/2022**

**THAT** this presentation be received.

**CARRIED**

Shaun Koopman gave a presentation on Alertable, the regional mass notification system. A general overview of the notification system's features and applications were presented.

A question period followed.

#### **J. Council Reports**

##### **Mayor Davis**

I was sad to hear of the passing of Anne Cameron. I had heard of her through her writings but didn't actually get to know her until we were both elected to Tahsis Village Council from 2008-11. She became a dear friend and we had many animated conversations about politics, Tahsis, First Nations, crows, you name it. She may have been a famous Tahsis citizen but she lived a humble existence in our midst and was always open to visits, coffee and smokes. Her acerbic wit always made for interesting reports to council, to say the least, like her colorful description of the crow wars that were ongoing in the trailer park around that period. Her health suffered during that stressful time on council and I thought she wasn't going to make it, but she continued for another 12 years. During my door knocking campaign in the last election, I spent over an hour chatting with her and catching up on things. In retrospect, I am so glad I did as it was the last time we were to speak together. Rest in Peace Anne, we will miss you.

### **Councillor Joseph**

Good evening,

Thank you for taking the time out of your day to be here and taking interest in the happenings of our community.

Tonight, I thought I would take a moment to let you all know what I have been doing.

The past couple of months seem to have flown by. I have been taking a lot of time to study and educate myself. This includes getting up to speed on current projects, learning how to be a politician. I have spent hours upon hours educating myself on policies, projects and procedures. As all of you know I did not assume this position with eons of experience, but I stood up when we needed it. I am here, I am learning, and I am acting on what I believe is the best interest of the members at large.

I had the opportunity to attend an educational meeting with Frank Leonard. What a great man. He made some especially important points; I very much appreciated his opinion on volunteers and how sometimes it's best to just get out of the way. As we know Tahsis, relies so much on volunteers and their efforts. So just a quick shout out to them. I am so thankful for all of you.

Today I also want to acknowledge Anne Cameron. Anne was an amazing and brave woman full of powerful knowledge and experiences. She was a motivator like no other. I would like to send my heart felt condolences out to her family, friends and loved ones. I will miss her too!

I also want to let those of you whom have taken the time to reach out to me know, I stand for Tahsis, I stand for all those who voted for me and even the others. I hear you.

Thank you,  
Meggan

### **Councillor Fowler**

Please see my attached documents

- 1 Nootka sound Watershed society rebrand ( input requested)- attachment J1
- 2 NSWS agenda-attachment J2
- 3 NSWS minutes- attachment J3
- 4 Good Food Box, Village veggies poster December 13th, 2022 order deadline. Delivery day is December 21, 2022 - attachment J4
- 5 In BC Investment Strategy Summary

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1a-RNhZJ7zk6gAmRe5rRutVeXjABd7KAGBY1fDHsHdlc/edit?usp=sharing>

file:///C:/Users/sarah/Downloads/InBC\_Investment\_Strategy\_Summaryvf-web.pdf



I have a amendment to my New Business "M1" on todays agenda.

**Notice of motion for AVICC's submissions deadline.**

**WHEREAS** climate change modeling showcases water temperature in salmon streams; and

**WHEREAS** cold water refugia is a predictor of early survival of juvenile salmonids: and

**WHEREAS** wild salmon are integral to UNDRIP/DRIPA, food security and BC cultural lifestyle in every community;

**BE IT RESOLVED** to advocate to prioritize habitat, health, study and understanding of interconnected ecosystem of pacific; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

**THAT** AVICC receive, by the resolutions deadline for motions to be accepted, as coastal communities are leading on this study.

Further, I have an interest to share there were 17 households participating in the GFB – Tahsis buyers group that I am expecting to deliver tomorrow when they arrive from Gold river. Also we expect the Speedy Boys to be bringing in 60 Christmas hampers for our community members on December 20. I hope that lots of people turn up at the rec centre that day to act as neighbourhood leaders, helping delivery the last mile on the Knight of Columbus charitable hampers. I am currently accepting donations to cover the freight charges associated with getting 60 perishable food hampers from Campbell River to Tahsis. Looking forward to seeing the community at the CMESS concert on Wednesday December 14, 2022.

Submitted respectfully,

Councillor Fowler

**Councillor Northcott (written)**

Before I begin, I'd also like to express my sorrow at the passing of Anne Cameron. Tahsis resident, former councillor, and literary powerhouse. My condolences to her family and friends.

On November 25<sup>th</sup> I attended a councillor orientation session presented by Frank Leonard. I found it very helpful and informative.

There seems to be some confusion over what qualifies as attendance at council meetings, so to clarify;

Per Council Procedure Amendment Bylaw No. 643, 2021:

9(2)Members of Council who are participating in a regular, special or committee meeting conducted electronically in accordance with sections 5(2) and 9(1) are deemed to be present at the meeting.

9(3)Any Council member, including the member chairing the meeting, can participate in a regular, special or committee meeting electronically.

This means that all Council members who attend meetings electronically are considered to be present and should be treated as though they are attending in person.

And while I'm on the subject of policies and procedures, I think it might be useful to reacquaint ourselves with the Tahsis Council Code of Conduct 2019 which is as follows:

### **Section 3 – Scope of Policy**

3.1 The policy applies to all members of Council and the CAO. It is each member's individual responsibility to uphold the letter and the spirit of this Code of Conduct in their dealings with other members, staff and the public.

3.2 Elected officials must conduct themselves in accordance with the law. This Code of Conduct is intended to be developed, interpreted and applied by members in a manner that is consistent with all applicable Federal and Provincial Laws, as well as the bylaws and policies of the local government, the common law and any other legal obligations which apply to members individually or as a collective Council.

### **Section 4 – Standards of Conduct**

Members of Council and the CAO will exhibit the values of:

- \* Accountability
- \* Impartiality
- \* Inclusion
- \* Integrity
- \* Leadership and Collaboration
- \* Respect
- \* Transparency

as defined above in fulfilling their duties and obligations as elected officials and staff.



## **Section 5 – General Conduct**

5.1 Council members must adhere to the values, principles and provisions of the Code of Conduct.

5.2 Council members must act lawfully and within the authorities of the Community Charter, the Local Government Act and any other applicable statutes and regulations.

5.3 Council members have an obligation to consider issues and exercise powers, duties and functions in a manner that avoids arbitrary and unreasonable decisions.

5.4 Council members must avoid behavior that could contravene:

- \* this policy;
- \* the BC Human Rights Code; and
- \* Village bylaws and policies, including the Respectful Workplace and Prevention of Harassment, Bullying and Discrimination

5.5 Council members must treat one another, staff and the public with dignity and respect. They must also refrain from behavior that is an abuse of power or otherwise amounts to discrimination, harassment, personal threats, intimidating or demeaning behavior or verbal attacks upon the character, professionalism or motives of others.

5.6 Council members shall not:

- \* undermine other members of Council or Council as a whole by making critical, denigrating or derogatory comments about the views, decisions, positions, expressed or approved by Council;
- \* engage in physical altercations with any person;
- \* defame, libel or slander a member of Council, staff or the public;
- \* utter or otherwise make threats of violence aimed at a member of Council, staff or the public; and/or
- \* utter or otherwise make racist, sexist or homophobic remarks

5.7 Contraventions of the General Conduct rules, as set out this section, may result in sanctions being imposed by Council.

**Section 6 – Conduct of Meetings**

6.1 Council members shall prepare themselves for meetings by reading all materials, and during the meeting listen courteously to all discussions and focus on the business at hand. Council members should refrain from interrupting other speakers while not unnaturally constraining dialogue.

6.2 Council members are encouraged to be courageous in bringing forward ideas and in debate while being mindful of the impact of their language on others.

6.3 Council members shall further the public interest by keeping an open mind, acting on the best information and being transparent in decision making.

6.4 Council members shall not engage in:

- \* side conversations
- \* eye rolling
- \* disrespect of the Chair
- \* Foul language
- \*verbal condemnation of other members of Council

**Councillor Elliott**

Report not received by Council.

**Recess into a closed meeting**

**Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0410/2022**

**THAT the Regular Council Meeting Recess.**

**CARRIED**

**Northcott: VOT 0411/2022**

**THAT the meeting be closed to the public in order to consider a matter under section 90 (1) (a) of the Community Charter- personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality.**

**CARRIED**

**time 7:57 p.m.  
on the recording 1:14:40**

**Reconvene**

**Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0412/2022**

**THAT the Regular Council Meeting reconvene at 8:27 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

THAT Mayor Davis, Councillor Joseph, Councillor Northcott and Councillor Fowler's Reports be received.

**K. Bylaws**

None.

**L. Correspondence**

- 1 November 22, 2022 letter from Mervyn Brown to Mayor and Council Re: The provision of copies for public review of the 10 documents listed in his letter along with clarification of item #10.

- 2 Email to Mayor Davis from Josie Osborne, Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship Re: Congratulations on re-election and thankyou for meeting at the 2022 UBCM.

- 3 November 16, 2022 email from Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests to Mayor and Council Re: Meeting with Village of Tahsis Council at the 119th UBCM Convention in Whistler.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0413/2022

THAT these correspondence items be received.

CARRIED

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0414/2022

THAT correspondence item # 3 be pulled for discussion.

CARRIED

The CAO spoke to this item. Councillor Northcott noted that the incorrect reference to "Village Roads" in paragraph two of the email.

**M. New Business**

- 1 Councillor Fowler- Notice of Motion Re: AVICC 1st Call for 2023 Resolutions

**WHEREAS** climate change modeling showcases water temperature in salmon streams; and

**WHEREAS** cold water refugia is a predictor of early survival of juvenile salmonids; and

**WHEREAS** wild salmon are integral to UNDRIP/DRIPA, food security and BC cultural lifestyle in every community;

**BE IT RESOLVED** to advocate to prioritize habitat, health, study and understanding of interconnected ecosystem of pacific; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

**THAT** AVICC receive, by the resolutions deadline for motions to be accepted, as coastal communities are leading on this study.

**Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0415/2022**

**THAT this Notice of Motion be received.**

**CARRIED**

**Adjournment**

**Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0416**

**THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

**Certified Correct this**

**the 3rd day of January, 2023**



**Chief Administrative Officer**