

Committee of the Whole to be held on October 3, 2023 at 1 p.m. 977 South Maguinna Drive in Council Chambers and by electronic means

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as much as you can, and d) try to avoid sharing any identifying information.

Call to Order

Land Mayor Davis will acknowledge and respect that we are meeting upon

Acknowledgement Mowachaht/Muchalaht territory.

Introduction of

Late Items None.

Approval of the

Agenda

Report to Council Re: Cabinet Minister and Staff meetings held during the 2023 **New Business** M1

UBCM Convention

Adjournment

VILLAGE OF TAHSIS

Report to Council

To: Mayor and Council

From: Chief Administrative Officer

Date: September 26, 2023

Re: Cabinet Minister and Staff meetings held during the 2023 UBCM Convention

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To summarize key points from the 11 meetings held from September 18th-21st

Minister of Municipal Affairs (Hon. Anne King)

Resources for Local Government Elections

- No direct support from MMA
- Possible follow up with MAG re: immunity for LG staff
- MA staff (Marijke Edmondson) to follow up with VoT

Training for Newly Elected Council Members

- LGLA is improving its course offerings
- Suggest tying remuneration to training
- MA staff to follow up with VoT

RCMP "E" Division Commanding Officer (Deputy Commissioner Dwayne MacDonald)

- Acknowledged response to call policing in Tahsis is challenging
- Agreed with importance of the detachment commander holding regular meetings with Mayor and Council
- More coordination with Island Health and other agencies is important
- Pleased that the detachment commander authored letter to MoTI and Mainroad re: road maintenance
- No follow up items

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (Staff)

Head Bay FSR

- No commitment for future chip seal
- No new information
- Will follow up with VoT re: road maintenance standards and commitment for a meeting with MoTI staff responsible for contract management
- (MLA to possibly arrange meeting with Minister Fleming in Victoria)

Minister of Finance (Hon. Katrine Conroy)

Public Service Remote Working Opportunities

- Considerations of staff working in other locations occurs at Ministry level (case-by-case)
- Ministries have the autonomy and flexibility to approve remote working arrangements
- No government-wide policy now or expected in the future (other than the current policy)
- No follow up (VoT may want to approach BCGEU)

Minister of Education and Child Care (Hon. Rachna Singh)

Recruitment and Retention of Teachers and Staff in SD#84

- Additional funding for teachers and other resources have resolved the recruiting challenges
- No follow up needed

Minister of Mental Health and Addictions (Hon. Jennifer Whiteside)

Mental Health and Addiction Services in Remote Communities

- MMHA staff to follow up with Island Health re: social worker for Gold River, Tsaxana and Tahsis
- Minister described types of services available, e.g., telehealth, but recognized inperson is often more effective.
- Minister concerned about patients being detained by police under the Mental Health Act and released by hospital in Campbell River without transportation back to Tahsis.

<u>Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (Hon. Bowinn Ma)</u> Improving Tsunami Warning System

- Minister asked the Mayor for the funding amount needed for the sub-sea sensors in the Tahsis Inlet
- Minister referred to the funding streams available under the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (up to \$150,000) – October 6, 2023 deadline (other funding opportunities may be available in out years)

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (Parliamentary Secretary Aman Singh)

Western Forest Products Inc. contaminated former hemlock mill site

- WFP submitted a site disclosure plan in January 2023
- MECCS staff are reviewing it is a high risk site based on the information provided by WFP
- MECCS staff to arrange a call with VoT to follow up with details and next steps
- Acknowledged the public interest in a remediation strategy
- VoT staff to follow up with City of Prince Rupert staff re: Watson Island project

Minister of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation (Hon. Brenda Bailey)

Island Coastal Economic Trust re-capitalization

- Minister stated the \$150m ask is too much will not be approved by Treasury Board
- ICET needs another option
- Needs to be Indigenous involvement
- Other trusts are funded differently

Ministry of Forests (Parliamentary Secretary Doug Routley)

Community Forest Opportunity

- Review of timber supply in TFL19 underway by the Chief Forester which will result in new apportionment decisions – could result in new arrangements with the tenure holder
- New tools in the Act to support communities

Head Bay FSR maintenance and improvements

• No commitment to impose load limits to preserve chip sealed sections

Old Growth Strategic Review (McKelvie Creek Watershed Protection)

- Landscape planning process is underway
- New process using Forest Landscape Plans will include consultation with local governments and First Nations
- Commitment to preserve McKelvie in perpetuity through this process

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (Parliamentary Secretary Kelly Greene) Open Net Fish Farms in Nootka Sound and Hecate Channel

- Fisheries and Oceans Canada ("DFO") responsible for leading transition plans for fish farms to move to closed containment systems on land
- BC is strong advocate for ensuring that the social, environmental and economic impacts are well understood and addressed by the federal government
- Wild salmon is an important value in the Coastal Marine Strategy
- Blue Economy is vital to BC's economy

Cave Protection Act

- This legislation is not currently contemplated
- MWLRS has a prepared a draft karst protection protocol (will be shared with the Mayor)
- Commitment to bio-diversity and ecosystem health