



AGENDA

**Regular Meeting of the Village of Tahsis Council
to be held on December 5, 2023 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers
Municipal Hall, 977 South Maquinna Drive and by electronic means**

Remote access: To attend this meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams/ phone
Join the Village of Tahsis Microsoft Teams Meeting
[Click here to join the meeting](#)
Or call in (audio only)
Toronto, Canada
+1 437-703-5480
Phone Conference ID: 693 613 527#

Microsoft Teams may be hosted on servers in the U.S., so the name you use with Microsoft Teams and metadata about how you use the application may be stored on servers outside of Canada. If you have privacy concerns: a) don't create your own account with Microsoft Teams, b) provide only your first name or a nickname when you join a session, c) keep your camera off and microphone muted, as much as you can, and d) try to avoid sharing any identifying information.

- A. Call to Order** Mayor Davis will call the meeting to order.
- Land Acknowledgement** Mayor Davis will acknowledge and respect that we are meeting upon Mowachaht/Muchalaht territory.
- B. Introduction of Late Items** None.
- C. Approval of the Agenda**
- D. Petitions and Delegations** None.
- E. Public Input # 1**
- F. Adoption of the Minutes**
- 1 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on November 15, 2023.**
 - 2 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on November 21, 2023.**

H. Business Arising None.

J. Council Reports 1 **Mayor Davis**
 2 **Councillor Joseph**
 3 **Councillor Fowler**
 4 **Councillor Northcott**
 5 **Councillor Elliott**

K. Bylaws None.

L. Correspondence 1 **November 28, 2023 email from Kelly Greene, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship to Mayor Davis Re: Recap of Meeting at UBCM.**

 2 **November 10, 2023 email from Doug Routley, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Forests to Mayor Davis Re: Recap of meeting at UBCM.**

 3 **November 10, 2023 email from Honourable Bowinn Ma, Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness to Mayor Davis Re: Follow up from September 20, 2023 meeting at UBCM.**

 4 **November 16, 2023 email from Honourable George Heyman, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy to Mayor and Council Re: Follow-up on Parliamentary Secretary Singh's meeting with Tahsis Representatives at UBCM.**

 5 **November 27, 2023 email from Honourable Anne Kang, Ministry of Municipal Affairs Re: Meeting at UBCM.**

 6 **November 28, 2023 email from Marie Crawford, General Manager, Richmond Operations, Union of BC Municipalities Re: Minister Kang's Referral to UBCM.**

M. New Business None.

N. Public Input #2

Public Exclusion

Moved, seconded by Councillors _____ **THAT** this meeting is closed to the public in accordance with 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; and 90 (1) (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.

Recess:

Reconvene:

Rise and Report

O. Adjournment



Minutes

Village of Tahsis

Meeting	Committee of the Whole - Budget Meeting #1
Date	November 15, 2023
Time	1:00 p.m.
Place	Municipal Hall - Council Chambers and by electronic means

Present	Mayor Martin Davis	
	Councillor Meggan Joseph	by video
	Councillor Sarah Fowler	by video
	Councillor Cheryl Northcott	
Absent	Councillor Doug Elliott	
Staff	Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer	by phone
	Adia Mavrikos, CPA,CA, Director of Finance	by video
	Janet StDenis Corporate Services Manager	by video
Public	1 member of the public.	

Call to Order

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement

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

Introduction of Late Items

None

Approval of the Agenda

Fowler: COW 0105/2023

THAT the Agenda for the November 15, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

M. New Business

- 1 2024-2028 Financial Plan/ Budget Meeting #1**

Fowler: COW 0106/2023

THAT this presentation be received.

CARRIED

The Director of Finance presented the draft high level 2024 operating budget for Council's consideration with the assumption that the 2024 operating budget will be a " Status Quo" budget with no utility rate changes for 2024 at this time.

Council was briefed on the draft 2024 operating budget expenditures, FTE's, salaries, benefits and utility expenses. Explanations for variances between the 2024 and 2023 operating budget line items were provided.

Northcott: COW 0107/2023

THAT the meeting be opened up to the public input.

A member of the public had questions about the utility numbers to which the director of finance responded.

Adjournment

Northcott: COW 0108/2023

THAT the meeting adjourn at 1:58 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified correct this
5th Day of December 2023

Corporate Officer



Minutes

<u>Meeting</u>	Regular Council Meeting
<u>Date</u>	November 21, 2023
<u>Time</u>	7:00 PM
<u>Place</u>	Municipal Hall - Council Chambers and by electronic means

<u>Present</u>	Mayor Martin Davis Councillor Sarah Fowler Councillor Cheryl Northcott Councillor Meggan Joseph Councillor Douglas Elliott	by video (sat in gallery/ did not vote)
<u>Staff</u>	Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager Lauren Roth, Finance and Administrative Assistant Paige Sawyer, Rural Business Advisor	by video by video by video by video
<u>Public</u>	10 Members of the public.	2 by video

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.

B. Introduction of Late Items

None.

C. Approval of the Agenda

Northcott/Joseph: VOT 0393/2023

THAT the Agenda for the November 21, 2023 Regular meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

D. Petitions and Delegations

None.

E. Public Input # 1

A member of the public had concerns regarding the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation Salmon Parks Declaration to which the Mayor and Staff responded.

Councillor Elliott was permitted sufficient time to read his letter to Council.

MS Teams -Transcripts from Councillor Elliott's letter

What I've done is I've typed out a letter to me and council.

Basically, I can go into a lot of details.

Virtually would be criticizing the Mayor's conduct since I've been elected, especially as comments on January 3rd when he deceived the taxpayers of Tahsis announcing that the existing fire hall was unrepairable.

And there are other aspects of the Mayor's conduct that I was very disappointed with as far as his verbal confrontation with me in a local store.

Uh fact that I had to go to the police.

To it, the fact that we are now proceeding with a first responder facilities on school property. I believe that this is not only in colossal active stupidity, but I do believe that this Council and the School Board should bear the responsibility when the first child is injured by such a decision. I can go into Councillor Fowler's conduct.

How basically the conflict of interest which she brought forth the motion to have the Village finance her food box projects.

This not only be in a conflict of interest, but also could be perceived as an act of buying votes in the community.

I was also going to mention her behavior.

Basically, when I did remove the gavel from her, which was completely unprofessional and uh, becoming. As far as Councillor Northcott, her comment comments on February 28th at a closed meeting instructing the administration to come up with ways to screw me over.

I find her not only undemocratic, but outright unethical.

As far as Councillor Joseph, she has been rather dishonest with past conversations.

She informed me that she was going to resign.

However, I see she has changed her mind on that.

I do wish her all the best in her future endeavors, but I feel that she also too should resign.

And that decisions concerning our Community be done by local representatives.

It is very apparent that I don't feel safe in any of your presence.

And therefore I've chosen not to attend any meetings with you, the Council.

Currently I am working on projects.

In the interest of the Village as councillor and one of the most disturbing aspects is I came across this document that Bylaw Number 347 states, except as otherwise provided in this bylaw, the Council and the Staff, including the fire department of the Village, should be indemnified against any claims for damages against them arising out of the performance of their duties and in addition, the Village shall pay all legal costs incurred in any court proceedings arising out of such claims.

The Council should not seek the indemnity against an officer and an employee or a member of Council and respect of any action of the officer, employee or member that results in the claim for damages against the municipality. Something that your lawyer pointed out to you.

But the Council may see claims arise that claims arise out of gross negligence and mine exposing your conduct in my mail outs is not gross negligence.

I have an officer or employee or member or where in relation to the action that gave rise to the claim against at officer or an employee, the officer or an employee willfully acted contrary to the terms of their employment.

Or an order of a superior, which means you, Mr. Mayor, are responsible for the conduct of this Council and administration.

You are the ones that is liable for these passed violations for the Community Charter.

Our local bylaw and you're outright violations of the Code of Conduct which you have violated more so than any member of this community Council.

So I'm here to inform you that any other legal action that you bring against me by the lawyer will be contacting the Village to make arrangements for funding for my expense.

The staff is not liable according to this Bylaw 347.

If they're working under your orders, they're doing their job to the Council expectations, which basically brings Councillor Northcott's comments that she made on February 28th, which I have the transcripts.

Very unethical and you may find yourself answering to a Supreme Court judge in the future.

You stated in your email to me that the Village deserves full representation and fiscal responsibility.

Yet you have not disclosed any information concerning how much money has been spent on legal expenses since Miss Aiden's sewer problem.

You have not stated what legal action cost against me.

I will assure you that my legal bills will be made public.

You stated that they deserve.

There's still responsibility.

I don't see any of that.

It's the actions of this Council.

So I'm informing you anymore legal action that you threaten against me.

My lawyer will be contacting the Village office and that I will be signing into the next scheduled meeting remotely because I will not endanger my personal safety by being in the presence of any of you.
So that Mayor, go ahead.

F. Adoption of the Minutes

2 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on November 7, 2023.

Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0394/2023

THAT the Regular Council Meeting minutes of November 7, 2023 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

H. Business Arising

1 Draft Community Questionnaire Re: Head Bay Forest Service Road

Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0395/2023

THAT this draft questionnaire be received.

CARRIED

Fowler/Joseph: VOT 0396/2023

THAT this Community Questionnaire Re: Head Bay Forest Service Road be approved as presented.

J. Council Reports

Mayor Davis (written report)

There is some good news with the ambulance service as they are getting more money for staffing, which means that they will be moving from the station being open for 8 hours per day to 16 hours. The one catch is that while they were fully staffed, they need to hire one person to meet the new staffing requirements. If you are interested or know anybody that would be, have them get in touch with the ambulance service or the Village for information.

I am happy to see that the Mowachaht-Muchalaht First Nation have received endorsement of their Salmon Park concept by the federal government within their traditional territory, with a grant of \$15.2 million toward making this a reality. The money will be used for research, education, restoration and protection of critical habitat.

We can finally announce that we have purchased a small parcel of land adjacent to the Tahsis River, between the north sewage treatment plant and the bridge. This will allow us access for new a new sewage conduit that will allow us to shut down the aging north plant and send all effluent to the south plant, which is funded largely by a grant. Other possibilities for the land include building up a roadway/dike from North Maquinna to the Head Bay Road, which could also become our new sanidump site. Other possibilities could include a dog park, something that many residents have been asking for.

Councillor Joseph (verbal report)

I just want to remind people budget meetings are happening and it would, it would be really nice to see more community members in attendance aside from our one and only very committed community member.

Councillor Fowler (written report)

As you may have noticed from the posters around town, there are only 5 sleeps until the annual CMESS PAC Holiday Bazaar. Many folks local to Tahsis will be showcasing their talent and I want to take a minute to thank the Village for continuing with the long standing tradition of donating the rental of the rec centre tables to the well attended community event. I also want to express a huge debt of gratitude to the parents of Captain Meares students for hosting the community fair, it really does take a team to make the dream work. Lastly, I want to commend the Tahsis Building Supply for donating the photocopying of the Knights of Columbus Christmas Hamper forms and acting as a hub, many years running. If you haven't submitted your form yet please get it in as soon as possible since this year's hampers are expected to go very quickly and on a first come first serve basis. I expect to have some at the bazaar to complete and will be trying to reach the number of 60, which we received last year. I will be submitting them to Kevin before November 30 so if you have one at home partially complete please drop it off at the hardware store or bring it to the bazaar.

submitted respectfully
councillor Fowler

P.S. I would be there in person but am in Chilliwack at Rangers training and have been asked by many people if I know Dan Dahling.

Amendment- I just received word I need to get our forms in on Monday November 27 to ensure we are able to get some.

PLEASE get your completed forms ASAP. They can be submitted at the Tahsis Building Supply and after the bazaar will be submitted without delay.

Attachment #1 Knights of Columbus 2023 Hamper Registration Form

Councillor Northcott

No Report.

Councillor Elliott

No Report.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0397/2023

THAT the Council Reports be received.

CARRIED

K. Bylaws

None.

L. Correspondence

1 Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation Salmon Parks Declaration

Northcott/Joseph: VOT 0398/2023

THAT this correspondence item be received.

CARRIED

M. New Business

None.

Public Input #2

A member of the public commented on the Draft Community Questionnaire regarding Head Bay Forest Service Road.

A member of the public commented on the Village of Tahsis Indemnity Bylaw No. 347.

Adjournment

Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0399/2023

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified Correct this
5th Day of December, 2023

Chief Administrative Officer

Community Christmas Hamper Fund Registration

Knights of Columbus



Please fill out **ALL** sections below. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.** The main reasons for the rejection of registrations are invalid addresses and unreadable submissions.

Head of Household

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____
NUMBER STREET APT CITY

PHONE NUMBER: _____

OTHER Household Occupants who live at this address: (Adults & Children)

Please give the FULL NAME, both First and Last.

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

Name of person registering: _____
PLEASE PRINT

Signature of registrant: _____

DELIVERY DATE FOR OUT OF TOWN HAMPERS IS DECEMBER 19, 2023
REGISTRATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023 OR ONCE 1075
REGISTRATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED WHICHEVER COMES FIRST.



Reference: 31969

November 28, 2023

VIA EMAIL: reception@villageoftahsis.com

Martin Davis, Mayor
Village of Tahsis
977 South Maquinna Dr.
PO Box 219
Tahsis, British Columbia
V0P 1X0

Dear Mayor Martin Davis:

I am writing to thank you and your staff for taking the time to meet with me at this year's Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention in Vancouver, and to recap the topics we discussed and commitments made at our meeting.

During our meeting, we discussed open-net pen fish farms and a proposal for a *Cave Protections Act*. Regarding open-net pen fish farms, the Village of Tahsis expressed support for the move to closed containment of these operations, and communicated that you would be happy to have such facilities based in Tahsis. You were also supportive of expanding to other forms of aquaculture and noted that the region has potential for growth in this area. I agree that the blue economy is incredibly important and that enduring, sustainable jobs are vital to healthy communities. We recommend reaching out to the British Columbia (B.C.) Shellfish Growers Association or Pacific Seaweed Industry Association to see if any members have an interest in expansion of shellfish aquaculture operations to Tahsis.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is continuing with an engagement process related to the federal 2025 Net-Pen Transition Plan. The provincial government is waiting to see the results of this engagement and has been advocating that DFO consider environmental, social, and economic impacts prior to release of the plan. In addition, following extensive engagement, the Province will be releasing a co-developed Coastal Marine Strategy in 2024 which will guide policies and actions surrounding B.C. waters for the next two decades.

Page 1 of 2

The Village of Tahsis raised concerns regarding the destruction of caves, cultural sites, and groundwater issues associated with damages which can directly impact fisheries. You advocated for legislation because you feel much is falling through the cracks without it. While there is currently not a *Caves Act* being contemplated, we will take your suggestion under consideration, as the *Forest Act* is currently under review; David Muter, Assistant Deputy Minister, has agreed to forward the draft protocols for the Karst Cumulative Effects and its management.

Since meeting in September, the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship has become responsible for additional water, land, fish and wildlife authorities. The attached outlines those changes in detail. Engagement sessions will be held with local governments, First Nations and stakeholders in the coming months to review these changes and to continue our work together in these priority areas.

Thank you for your time. I am pleased we had the opportunity to meet about topics important to both provincial and local government.

Sincerely,



Kelly Greene
Parliamentary Secretary
Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

Attachment (1)

pc: Honourable Nathan Cullen, Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship
David Muter, Assistant Deputy Minister, Land Use Policy and Ecosystems Division
Lisa Helmer, Executive Director, Resource Stewardship Branch
Matthew LeRoy, Executive Director, Coast Area

Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

Existing Functions and Responsibilities:

- Provincial water leadership:
 - Watershed Security Strategy & Fund; Coastal Marine Strategy; Wild Salmon Strategy
 - Water sustainability planning
 - Lead coordination on government's strategy on source to tap, including drinking water
 - Water quality objective setting
 - Marine use policy and planning
- Integrated land management frameworks to guide land use decisions in B.C., modernized land use policy and planning and land base objective setting
- Provincial cumulative effects regime
- Strengthen partnerships, collaboration, and engagement with Indigenous Peoples on the management of natural resources and the land base (e.g., Collaborative Indigenous Stewardship Forums)
- Development of a co-management/shared decision-making regime with First Nations
- Consultation and accommodation policy, including the Area Based Approach & First Nations Consultation System
- Fish and wildlife leadership:
 - habitat/ecosystems; fisheries, aquaculture & wild salmon strategic policy
- BC/CAN Nature Agreement
- Integrated, science-based land, aquatic, terrestrial, resource data/information, and geographic/geospatial data, systems and analysis
- Strategic marine, land and resource management policies to support the effective operationalization of DRIPA in the natural resource sector
- Permitting Solutions Office
- Support for governance, organizational effectiveness, performance monitoring and reporting on progress
- Corporate Services for the Natural Resource ministries
- Natural Resource Information & Digital Services
- Crowns, Agencies, Board and Commissions:
 - Wildlife Advisory Council
 - Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board
 - Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission
 - Mackenzie River Basin Board

NEW From FOR

Water Management Functions:

- Full suite of authorities for managing water use, authorizations and orders for drought (e.g., Water Comptroller)
- River Forecast Centre & Flood Safety
- Flood strategy, policy and management
- Dams, Dam Safety and Utility Regulation (e.g., BC Hydro)
- Dikes, drainage and ditches
- Water allocation
- Source water protection

Fish and Wildlife Functions

- Fish and wildlife policy, research, allocations and authorizations
- Fisheries licensing
- Fish stock assessments
- Rivers and lakes management
- Data and reporting
- Wildlife and aquatic specialists
- Provincial wildlife veterinarian

Land Functions:

- Full suite of authorities and for lands authorizations (and related permitting support functions, including business transformation and First Nations engagement).
- FrontCounter BC
- Crown Land Opportunities and Restoration (including Contaminated Sites)
- Land programs
- Policy (Crown land and strategic)
- Land returns

NEW Crown Responsibilities (From FOR):

- Creston Valley Wildlife Management Authority
 - Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC
 - Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation
 - Association of BC Land Surveyors
 - Integrated Cadastral Information Society
- *BC Land Title and Survey Authority to FIN*

Ministry of Forests

Ongoing Functions and Responsibilities:

- Modernize forest sector and support a sustainable and innovative forest economy:
 - Forest sector policy including, tenures, economics and trade, value-add, softwood lumber, pricing, competitiveness, compensation, forest worker safety, and private managed forest lands
 - BC Timber Sales
- Forest management:
 - Old Growth Strategic Review
 - Forest Landscape Planning
 - Office of the Chief Forester including, forest research, investment, practices, planning, inventory, and health, Allowable Annual Cut decisions and seed orchard/seed centre, bioeconomy and forest products innovation
- Strengthen partnerships, collaboration, and engagement with Indigenous Peoples on the management of forest resources
- Integrated authorizations, permitting for archeology, forestry & range
- Multi-disciplinary research support for natural resource management
- Provincial Engineering Program
- *Heritage Conservation Act* transformation
- Range
- BC Wildfire Service including all hazards response
- Natural resource compliance and enforcement

Crowns, Agencies, Board and Commissions:

- Coastal Logging Equipment Support Trust
- Forest Enhancement Society of BC
- Forest Practices Board
- Private Managed Forest Land Council
- Timber Export Advisory Committee



November 10, 2023

VIA EMAIL: mayor@villageoftahsis.com

Mayor Martin Davis
Village of Tahsis
977 South Maquinna Drive
Tahsis, BC
V0P 1X0

Dear Mayor Davis:

Thank you to your delegation for meeting with me and Ministry of Forests representatives at the annual UBCM Convention held September 18-22 in Vancouver. I am writing to recap the conversations and commitments made at our meeting, which I hope you found as productive and beneficial as we did.

During the meeting, we discussed Tahsis' wishes for a Community Forest in partnership with local First Nations. The Timber Supply Review is currently underway and is expected to be completed early in the new year. Apportionment will follow, and we will be sure to keep you informed of any decisions. Lesley Fettes, District Manager of the Campbell River Natural Resource District, is available to meet with you to discuss community forest opportunities.

We also discussed old growth protection in the Tahsis area. On October 26, 2023, the Province confirmed the locations of five new Forest Landscape Planning projects including a project in west-central Vancouver Island that includes areas around Tahsis. Staff will be reaching out to municipalities as part of those processes.

Again, I appreciate you taking the time to meet. I am pleased our governments had the opportunity to connect about these important topics.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Routley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Doug" being more prominent.

Doug Routley
Parliamentary Secretary

pc: Lesley Fettes, District Manager, Campbell River Natural Resource District



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

November 10th, 2023

Reference: 640150

His Worship Martin Davis
Mayor
Village of Tahsis
Email: mayor@villageoftahsis.com

Dear Mayor Davis:

I am writing to follow-up on our meeting at this year's Union of BC Municipalities Convention on September 20th, 2023. Thank you for the opportunity to hear first-hand from your delegation about the importance of tsunami risk reduction to you and your community, and the work being done to explore the installation of a tsunami warning system.

I understand you are still exploring different options for the Tsunami Alerting System. Amanda Broad, Manager of Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Policy, Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) will be in contact to connect you with the Ministry of Citizen Services to discuss whether the Connected Coast Partnership may be an option. With funding, additional components can be added to the network by communities. Recently, Natural Resources Canada provided funding to have earthquake early warning sensors installed at some of the landing sites as part of the Canadian Earthquake Early Warning network.

Funding for monitoring equipment for data collection is an eligible activity in the Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaptation (DRR-CA) stream of the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF). The CEPF DRR-CA funding stream can contribute 100% of the cost of eligible activities. A tsunami warning system project is eligible for a maximum of \$150,000 per applicant. Funding requests from two or more eligible applicants for regional projects may be submitted as a single application for eligible, collaborative projects, in which case the maximum funding available would be based on the number of eligible partners included in the application. The next application deadline is March 28th, 2024, and funding permitting, October 4th, 2024, and March 28th, 2025.

Again, thank you and your delegation for taking the time to meet.

Sincerely,

Bowinn Ma
Minister of Emergency Management
and Climate Readiness

CC: Cheryl Northcott, Councillor, Village of Tahsis
Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Tahsis
Michele Babchuk, MLA, North Island
Kathryn Forge, Assistant Deputy Minister, Disaster Risk Management Division, EMCR
Amanda Broad, Manager of Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Policy, EMCR

From:
Sent: November 21, 2023 5:38 PM
To: Janet St. Denis
Subject: FW: UBCM 2023 Meeting with Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Minister, ENV ENV:EX** <ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Date: Thu, Nov 16, 2023 at 3:00 PM
Subject: UBCM 2023 Meeting with Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
To: mayor@villageoftahsis.com <mayor@villageoftahsis.com>
Cc: Nash, Laurel ENV:EX <Laurel.Nash@gov.bc.ca>

Reference: 404094

November 16, 2023

Their Worship Mayor Martin Davis

and Councillors

Village of Tahsis

Email: mayor@villageoftahsis.com

Dear Mayor Davis and Council:

I am writing to follow up on Parliamentary Secretary Singh's meeting with representatives from the Village of Tahsis at the 2023 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention. I regret that I missed the opportunity to engage with local governments while I was in New York for Climate Week. The opportunities to engage with counterparts from other jurisdictions in North America and elsewhere in the world provide significant opportunities to align our climate actions as well as explore emerging clean energy and technology economic opportunities that benefit the province and communities throughout B.C. As I know you appreciate, the causes of climate change and actions required to address it are many and complex. Efforts to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions require collective action that is best approached at multiple levels, and I know this issue underpins many of the topics raised at UBCM this year.

As you know, the annual UBCM Convention offers an important opportunity for local governments to have conversations and outline priorities with the provincial government. These meetings help to inform ministries on issues that matter most to British Columbians, and I value these opportunities. I hope you continue to engage with my ministry and our government on issues that matter to you and your community so we can continue to move forward with our goals of building a strong, sustainable, innovative economy, a cleaner environment and healthy communities that work for everyone.

In the meeting, I understand you spoke about potential contamination at the former mill site of Western Forest Products Inc. Assistant Deputy Minister Laurel Nash committed to having her office arrange a meeting between the Village of Tahsis and the land remediation team to discuss plans to move forward, including the potential for subdividing the site. Assistant Deputy Minister Nash would also be interested in having conversations with provincial and municipal governments and the proponent. I am pleased this work is underway.

Thank you again for taking the time to meet with Parliamentary Secretary Singh. I look forward to continuing to work closely with you in the future.

Sincerely,

George Heyman

Minister

cc: Laurel Nash, Assistant Deputy Minister, Environmental Protection Division, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy



November 27, 2023

Ref: 273420

Their Worship Mayor Martin Davis
and Members of Council
Village of Tahsis
PO Box 219
Tahsis BC V0P 1X0

Dear Mayor Davis and Councillors:

Thank you for sending a delegation to meet with me during this year's Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Convention. It was a pleasure to hear from you in my first UBCM Convention experience as Minister of Municipal Affairs.

I was very interested in the issues your delegation brought forward including resources for local government elections and mandatory training for elected officials.

With regards to legal resource supports for local governments in situations related to local elections, I will follow up with the Ministry of Attorney General and ensure that staff pass along any information. In addition, UBCM has a fund available to assist with legal costs if the issue has local government system wide implications, and there may be an opportunity for the Village of Tahsis to reach out to UBCM to explore this option. Staff at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs are always available to provide guidance related to the legislative framework for elections and by-elections.

I would also encourage you to make use of other resources designed for local governments in British Columbia. The Local Government Management Association (LGMA) offers a variety of resources to support local elections, including a detailed elections manual, online training, a peer network, and an orientation kit.

The ministry recognizes that how elected officials conduct themselves in their relationships with elected colleagues, staff, and the public is directly connected to how a community is governed. Education and training for newly elected officials is one tool that can be used to proactively address conduct. The Local Government Leadership Academy offers a range of opportunities, including courses specifically for newly elected officials which are offered across the province after each general local election. In addition, the ministry, UBCM and LGMA recently collaborated to develop a new online module called "Responsible Conduct Every Day".

.../2

Their Worship Mayor Martin Davis
and Members of Council
Page 2

We recognize the need for local governments to maintain public confidence and trust. I appreciate the conversations I've had to date on this topic and am energized by the progress we've made in partnership with UBCM and LGMA through the Working Group on Responsible Conduct (WGRC). Still, we need to do more, so I look forward to continuing our work together to ensure community members have confidence in their local governments. We will continue research and develop resources and tools through the WGRC to strengthen responsible conduct including a discussion paper that explores different models such as Integrity Commissioners.

If you have any specific questions regarding conducting local elections, training opportunities for local elections staff and elected officials, or furthering responsible conduct, I encourage you to contact Michelle Dann, Executive Director, Governance and Structure Branch, by telephone at: 778 698-3261, or by email at: Michelle.Dann@gov.bc.ca.

Thank you again to your delegation for taking the time to meet with me, I look forward to continuing to work with your Council.

Sincerely,

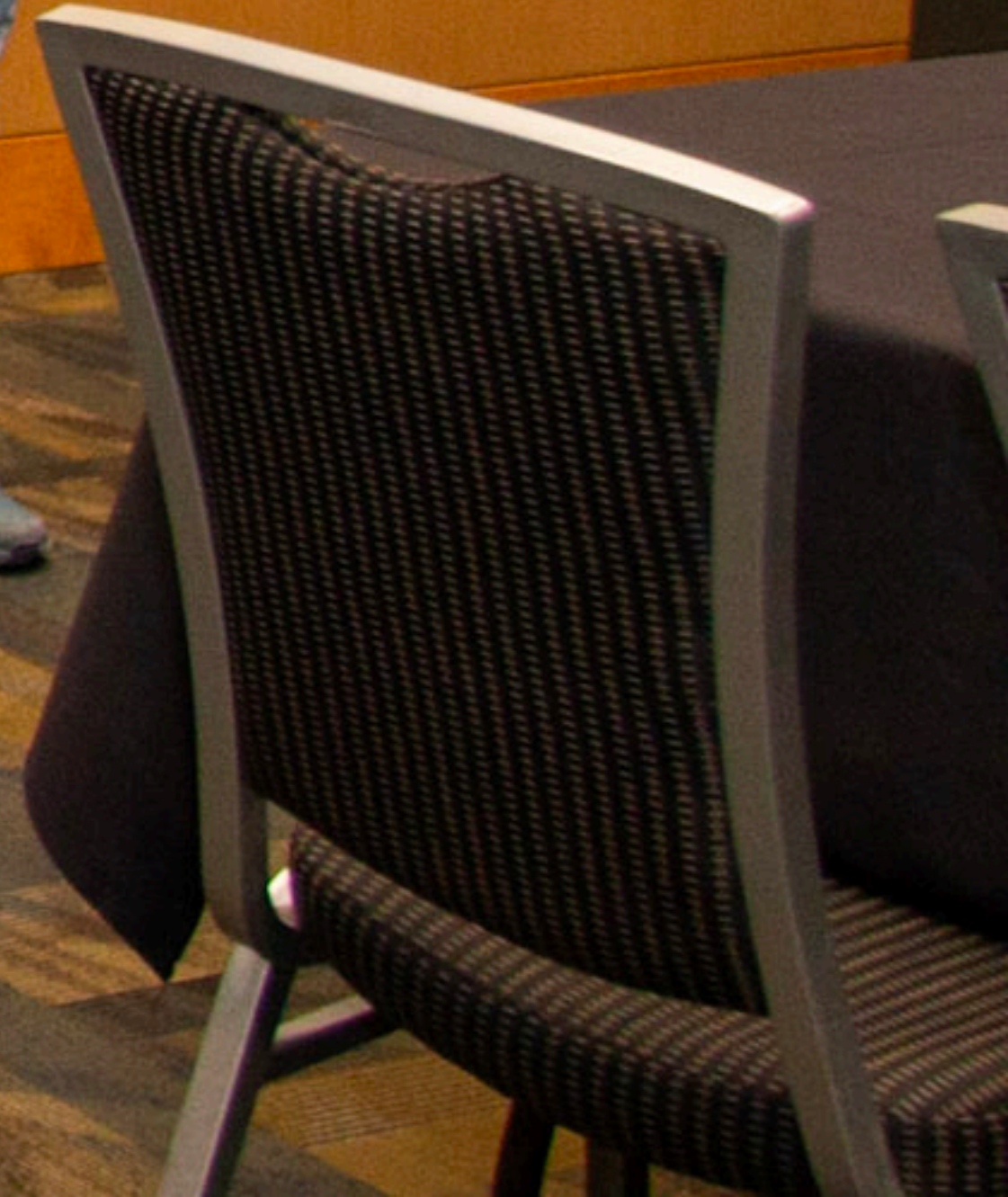


Anne Kang
Minister

Enclosure

pc: Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Tahsis
Michelle Dann, Executive Director, Governance and Structure Branch

TAHSIS



From:
Sent: November 28, 2023 9:53 AM
To:
Subject: FW: Minister Kang referral to UBCM

From: Marie Crawford <mcrawford@ubcm.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 9:31 AM
To: Mark Tatchell <MTatchell@villageoftahsis.com>
Cc: Gary MacIsaac <gmacisaac@ubcm.ca>
Subject: Re: Minister Kang referral to UBCM

Hi Mark:

Thanks for sharing the letter from Minister Kang, as it does not appear we were copied on the response.

UBCM only has one legal assistance fund, and that was the one I referenced in our previous email exchange. Our Fund is specific to funding cases that are at the appeal stage. I note the reference in the Minister's letter to 'local government system wide implications' which is not exactly the wording as you can see below, but the idea is that the case (*which must be at the appeal stage*) has the ability to "affect all local governments or their employees in a substantial way". Please see yellow highlight below related to our Policies:

2.6 financial assistance for legal appeals

UBCM may financially assist a member in a legal appeal subject to the following [Resolution 2(a), 1978].

- (a) There shall be no participation by the UBCM at the initial trial stage in any court action, regardless of whether it is conducted in the Provincial Court of BC, the Supreme Court of BC, or the Federal Court.
- (b) The UBCM shall only participate in appeals of court decisions, prior to consideration by the Court of Appeal of BC, the Federal Court of Appeal, or the Supreme Court of Canada, that affect all local governments or their employees in a substantial way.
- (c) Complete discretion shall be exercised by the UBCM as to whether it should contribute part of the costs of an appeal. The decision as to whether the UBCM will participate shall be made

by the Executive. If approved by the Executive, UBCM shall contribute 1/3 of the costs to a maximum of \$10,000. (Feb/03, April/ 15)

- (d) There shall be no UBCM participation in court appeals involving the validity of a particular bylaw or the interpretation thereof, which could be achieved by amending the bylaw to bring it within the *Local Government Act, Community Charter, or Vancouver Charter*.
- (e) The UBCM shall not participate in court appeals that deal with the policy of a particular local government (e.g. shopping hours, no-growth policy, etc.) which may not be a general policy of most local governments.
- (f) The UBCM shall not participate in court appeals when the subject matter is clearly indefensible from its start.

Apologies for the confusion this has caused for you and your community. We will be following up with Ministry staff to ensure that they understand the criteria of our Legal Assistance Fund so this does not happen in the future.

Thanks for bringing this to our attention.

All the best,
Marie

Marie Crawford, General Manager, Richmond Operations

[Union of BC Municipalities](#)

604-270-8226 ext. 104 | mcrawford@ubcm.ca

60-10551 Shellbridge Way, Richmond

From: Mark Tatchell <MTatchell@villageoftahsis.com>

Date: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at 8:59 AM

To: Marie Crawford <mcrawford@ubcm.ca>

Subject: Minister Kang referral to UBCM

Hi Marie,

In Minister Kang's letter she refers a to a UBCM fund to assist with a local government's legal costs if the issue has local government system wide implications. The UBCM web does not appear to list this type of fund. Can you assist us in shedding some light on this fund ?

Thanks Marie.

Mark

Mark Tatchell

Chief Administrative Officer

Village of Tahsis

(250)934-6344 (office)

(250)202-9612 (mobile)