



AGENDA

**Regular Meeting of the Village of Tahsis Council
to be held on February 6, 2024 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
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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 January 16, 2024.**
 - 2 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 16, 2024**
 - 3 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on January 17, 2024.**
 - 4 Minutes of the Public Hearing held on January 23, 2024.**

G. Rise and Report

H. Business Arising **1 Report to Council Re: Rural Dividend Program Grant - Project Options**

All Regular Council Meetings, Committee of the Whole Meetings and Special Council Meetings are recorded unless otherwise specified.

Village of Tahsis
Regular Council Meeting Agenda
February 6, 2024

- 2 Councillor Fowler Re: Resolution for submission to the AVICC by the February 7th, 2024 deadline.

WHEREAS climate change modeling showcases water temperature in salmon bearing streams is an indicator of the carrying capacity of this keystone species; and

Whereas cold water Refuge is a predictor of early survival in juvenile salmonoids;

BE IT RESOLVED to advocate to prioritize habitat health study and understanding of interconnected ecosystems of the Pacific wild salmon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the AVICC receive by the February 7, 2024 deadline for motions to be accepted as Coastal communities and First Nations are leading on this knowledge gathering and sharing.

- J. Council Reports
- 1 Mayor Davis
 - 2 Councillor Joseph
 - 3 Councillor Fowler
 - 4 Councillor Northcott

- K. Bylaws
- Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 660, 2023 Re: Tiny home and RV permanent Residency- Rugged Mountain Road.
3rd Reading

- L. Correspondence
- 1 January 10, 2024 email from Ryan Moore to Mayor and Council Re: Support, Opinion, Moral of the Story.
 - 2 January 19, 2024 email from Mayor and Council from Vanessa Craig, Chair, Regional district of Nanaimo Re: Legislative Reform Initiative Update.
 - 3 January 13, 2024 email to Mayor and Council from Shalan Kelly, BC Public Relations and Communications Adviser, BC Council, Girl Guides of Canada Re: Guiding Lights Across BC.
 - 4 January 12, 2024 from Monica Cox, Assistant Deputy Minister, Partnership, Engagement and Legislation, Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness re: Emergency and Disaster Management Act Implementation- Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program.
 - 5 January 26, 2024 email on behalf of the District of Sicamous Council Re: Support for Bill-34.
 - 6 January 24, 2024 letter from Mervyn Brown to Mayor and Council Re: Village of Tahsis Requirements under the Community Charter and the B.C Municipal Act.

- M. New Business
- None.

N. Public Input #2

Public Exclusion:

Recess:

Reconvene:

O. Adjournment

All Regular Council Meetings, Committee of the Whole Meetings and Special Council Meetings are recorded unless otherwise specified.

Village of Tahsis
Regular Council Meeting Agenda
February 6, 2024



Minutes

Village of Tahsis

Meeting	Committee of the Whole
Date	January 16, 2024
Time	1:00 p.m.
Place	Municipal Hall - Council Chambers and by electronic means

Present	Mayor Martin Davis Councillor Sarah Fowler Councillor Cheryl Northcott	
Absent	Councillor Doug Elliott Councillor Meggan Joseph	
Staff	Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer Adia Mavrikos, CPA, CA, Director of Finance Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager Wanda Waksdale, Administration Assistant Paige Sawyer, Rural Business Advisor	by video by video by video
Guests	Lesley Fettes, District Manager, Campbell River District Office, Ministry of Forests Ben Morton, Director, Strategic Initiatives, Ministry of Forests Azar Kamran, Administrator, CEO, Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation	
Public	1 member of the public.	

Call to Order

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 1:04 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

Northcott: COW 0001/2024

THAT the Agenda for the January 16, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**H. Business
Arising**

1

Follow up from 2023 UBCM meeting with Ministry of Forest staff Re: Forest Landscape Planning and the Community Forest opportunities.

Northcott: COW 0002/2024

THAT the Village of Tahsis Council engage in discussions with Ministry of Forest Staff regarding Forest Landscape Planning and the Community Forest process.

CARRIED

Ministry staff spoke about the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People Act and the resulting legislation. Also discussed the steps and preconditions involved in the Forest Landscape Plan for TFL 19. In addition Ministry Staff explained the objectives, timeline and legislation of the Forest Landscape Plans and the Salmon Parks initiative.

A follow up meeting with Council is tentatively planned for spring 2024 once the Common Vision Intentions paper is issued.

Ministry staff described the process for developing a community forest which begins with an invitation from the Minister to establish a community forest.

Also discussed were the implications for the tenure holder in developing a community forest, specifically the compensation requirements for withdrawing area from the TFL to establish a community forest.

Ministry staff recommended the Village engage a professional forester to assist with planning and come to to a formal agreement with the MMFN to partner in a community forest

Adjournment

Northcott: COW 003/2024

THAT the meeting adjourn at 2:23 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified correct this
6th Day of February, 2024

Corporate Officer



Minutes

<u>Meeting</u>	Regular Council Meeting
<u>Date</u>	January 16, 2024
<u>Time</u>	7:00 PM
<u>Place</u>	Municipal Hall - Council Chambers and by electronic means

Present Mayor Martin Davis
 Councillor Sarah Fowler
 Councillor Cheryl Northcott
 Councillor Meggan Joseph
 Councillor Doug Elliott

by video
 by video (7.26 p.m.) in
 briefly person)

Staff Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer
 Adia Mavrikos, CPA, CA, Director of Finance
 Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager
 Paige Sawyer, Rural Business Advisor
 Wanda Waksdale, Administrative Assistant
 Kyle Wilkinson, Fire Chief

by video
 by video
 by video

Guests Sgt. Greg Young, NCO i/c Nootka Sound RCMP Detachment

Public 11 members of the public.

6 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

Under New Business as "M3" a Notice of Motion by Council Fowler regarding a resolution for submission to the AVICC by the February 7, 2024 deadline.

C. Approval of the Agenda

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0028/2024

THAT the Agenda for the January 16, 2024 Regular meeting of Council be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

D. Petitions and Delegations

None.

E. Public Input # 1

A member of the public commented on the standard behaviour she expected of Council and Staff.

A member of the public asked why the Village of Tahsis was surveying and sub-dividing (DL 442 PID 009 809 244) to which the Mayor responded.

A member of the public requested a list of capital projects and budgets to which Mayor Davis directed him to the office for a copy.

A member of the public had a question regarding the ordering of the blocks for the Flood Wall Project to which they were directed to the capital project staff report on the Village's website.

There was a request for the amount of funds spent on legal proceedings.

F. Adoption of the Minutes

1 Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on December 21, 2023.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0029/2024

THAT the Special Council Meeting minutes of December 21, 2023 be adopted as presented

CARRIED

2 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 2, 2024

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0030/2024

THAT the Regular Council Meeting minutes of January 2, 2024 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

Rise and Report

None.

H. Business Arising

**1 Nootka Sound RCMP -Village of Tahsis quarterly report
Sgt. Greg Young, NCO i/c Nootka Sound RCMP Detachment**

Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0031/2024

THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

Sgt. Greg Young, NCO i/c provided Council with an update on staffing, operations and recapped the 2023 statistics for the Village of Tahsis.

2 Tahsis Council 2024 Strategic Priorities

Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0032/2024

THAT the Village of Tahsis 2024 Strategic Priorities be received.

CARRIED

**1 "no vote" registered to
Councillor Elliott**

TAHSIS COUNCIL'S 2024 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

ECONOMIC VIBRANCY

Implement the action items from the Strategic Economic Development Strategy including promoting tourism. (Tourism promotion includes partnering with the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation whenever possible and focussing on outdoor recreational activities.)

INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICE

Negotiate formal information sharing agreements with ministries of Transportation and Infrastructure and Forests on monitoring and inspections of the Head Bay FSR maintenance and upgrades. Continue to lobby the Province for expanding capital improvements, i.e., chip sealing.

Replace the Recreation Centre heating and ventilation systems (including controls) and consider establishing a standing committee to develop new programming.

Develop a plan to re-purpose Captain Meares School east wing for municipal and community purposes, including space for the Tahsis library

COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

Undertake a Housing Needs Report (funded from the provincial housing capacity grant) as a first step in developing an affordable housing plan.

Continue to lobby the Province and Island Health for more and better services for residents with addiction and mental health issues. Facilitate communication about resources to residents whenever possible.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Develop an outdoor recreation policy to promote health and well-being, conservation of natural resources and community engagement and social cohesion.

Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0033/2024

THAT the Village of Tahsis 2024 Strategic Priorities be approved as presented.

CARRIED

**1 "no vote" registered to
Councillor Elliott**

J. Council Reports

Mayor Davis

No report.

Councillor Joseph

No report.

Councillor Fowler (verbal report)

My report is essentially just late item "M3". It is a motion that I brought up last year for the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal communities. Their deadline is February 7th for resolutions that will be debated at the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities in April.

Attachment J1 Report to Council and motion for AVICC

Councillor Northcott (verbal report)

I just wanted a huge thank you to public works for getting the water line fixed as quickly as they did in truly awful, awful conditions.

Councillor Elliott (written report)

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Since this will be my last report, I didn't want to dwell on the fact that the Mayor is wasting your tax dollars taking me to court to have me disqualified when I already have submitted my resignation twice. This is a vindictive move to stick me with a legal bill and another example of how he has abused his power and dishonesty.

I also didn't want to dwell on the fact that I have not met one intelligent individual who believes that Councillor Joseph should hold on to her position now that she has relocated out of town and is not a property owner. Councillor Joseph, you should do the right thing as you discussed with me back in September and resign. By doing so, hopefully the community elects two Councillors that can add balance to the Council.

I don't have anything nice to say about the two re-elected councillors. I happy that I won't have to waste any more of my time with them. I firmly believe that their conduct will mark the end of their political careers in the upcoming general election.

Instead I want to take this opportunity to share with you the positive aspects of my experience as a councillor in the past year.

I found it a unique challenge to apply the skills that I obtained by reading the Robert Rules of Order and Parliamentary procedures. I recommend that anyone considering running in the by-election, to purchase these books and to study them before the election. In a properly chaired meeting, it gives you the skills to promote healthy debate and to share ideas. If that atmosphere is allowed to thrive in a public meeting, the community can contribute to solutions that will build a better community.

The formation of the Tahsis Taxpayers Association has been further proof that there are a number of individuals in the community that are truly concerned about the future of this village. I have had the distinct pleasure in participating in some of their meetings and listened to their concerns. These are community minded individuals that want to see our community succeed, but most of all, they believe that this village should exist within their financial means. When the administrative overhead is 95% of the tax base, this can attract a great deal of concern with individuals that understand the basic concepts of accounting. I will continue to work with them and I truly believe that this organization will have a positive influence with the local government.

I also want to share my appreciation to the members of the volunteer fire department. I have been of the belief that the 2 million dollar grant would be best served if the existing fire hall was repaired and that the balance of the grant be utilized to provide more modern resources to increase your expertise and service levels for the community. I have seen a lot of improvement within the department over the years and I hope that the trend continues. The relocation project lacks long term vision that will have severe financial consequences in the distant future. In my mind, this has been a colossal mistake and it will limit the amount of resources that could be purchased for the department.

I would also like to convey my appreciation to the Public Works Staff. As a former employee, I do appreciate the hard work that is required to perform the necessary services that this community relies on. The day to day challenges working with ailing infrastructure in all sorts of weather conditions can be challenging at the best of times. It is this department that is truly responsible for providing us with the services that define our quality of life. I was hoping that this council would direct more funds to provide the staff with modern tools, increased training opportunities and resources that would reduce our unnecessary dependence on contractors from out of town. Working for Public Work should not be just a job, it should be a long term career with compensation in line with other communities. We are fortunate to have a great crew that keeps this village running all year round.

I would also like to convey my appreciation to the ladies that work in the office. Your dedication to this village is very inspiring. I have received countless compliments concerning the pleasant services that you all provide. I have always enjoyed our interactions and I'm grateful for your assistance as a Councillor.

I also wanted to take this opportunity to thank all those who approached me to share their ideas. Unfortunately many individuals find it difficult to attend council meetings but it is not because they don't care. I received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback from my earlier mail outs and this has been the foundation for numerous intelligent conversations concerning the wellbeing of the community. With the high rate of inflation, many of you are concerned about the taxation and financial wellbeing of the community. Many of us are here for the long haul and are concerned when the local government engages in deficit spending. Our existing tax rates are incredibly high. A recent news article in CHK News explained how a house that was assessed at 1.3 million dollars, located in the Nanaimo Regional District, would now have to pay 1162.00 dollars with the recently announced tax increase. That house is assessed over 8 times higher than my house and I pay almost double the tax rate. The sour taste of the 2022 tax increase has not been forgotten. There is growing support amongst the community that are interested in discussing the possibility of the Strathcona Regional District managing our village. The regional district employs qualified staff and has far more resources at their disposal. And for the record, recreation centres exist in every regional district throughout the province. In a regional district, you get what you pay for with a far more efficient administrative overhead.

A small minority in this community, that have the most to lose, are opposed and will go out of their way to argue this concept. Don't be fooled. We are the ones that pay the price.

I firmly believe that great ideas can come from all directions and it is important to listen with an open mind. This community has no shortage of great ideas. It is important that this community elects intelligent, open minded individuals that are willing to acknowledge the concerns of the community and engage in meaningful discussions concerning our future. Providing an occasional report concerning their efforts and justifying their trips wouldn't hurt.

I would like to recognize the property owners that continue to invest in their homes and provide economic opportunities for our local contractors throughout the community. These contractors, some of which are friends and neighbours greatly appreciate your investment in our community. I have seen some amazing upgrades throughout the community and I hope this trend continues in the future. This is vital if this community is to attract more similar investors. Pride of ownership is the key to creating an attractive community. It is one of the most important aspects of our limited economy. Our village continues to spend massive amounts of our tax dollars supporting contractors from out of town. This needs to change if we want to create local employment opportunities.

I hope in the next by-election, two positions for council become available. I urge the community to be careful in their selection. The strategic priorities of this Council are irresponsible and lack vision. This Council needs balance and intelligent individuals that understand the role of local government. It's about managing and maintaining our assets, implementing consistent contribution to our cash reserves, taking advantage of grants that we can afford, promoting investment and increasing the tax base, working with other levels of government to improve services, working with our largest taxpayers to promote economic growth and most of all, living within our financial means. Those who have been successful in their own personal growth and are willing to sacrifice their time to oversee that the administration is managing our community in a financially sustainable way, are the best choices we can make. Those that need the job are why this village has taken on debt for the first time since the mill closed and the reason why many of the residents are considering a transition to have the village placed under the control of the regional district. I urge you to vote in the interest of the community as a whole.

Tahsis is located in one of the most pristine areas on the planet. The natural surroundings attract tourism from all around the world. Unfortunately our summers are short and outdoor recreation is limited in the off season. The mill site has amazing potential for growth creating year round employment opportunities. Without the cooperation with WFP, our largest taxpayer, this site will remain dormant and restrict growth. This will have a negative impact on future road upgrades and services from other levels of government. Growth leads to prosperity and increased services that would enhance the quality of life for the entire community. Deficit spending to fix the infrastructure is a recipe for disaster.

Regardless of what happens, I still consider this place as paradise. I have been fortunate to meet many new friends throughout the community. I look forward to exploring more of the coast and the surrounding areas. This was the main attraction when I bought my home 20 years ago. It is also the reason why I want to spend the rest of my life here.

And most of all, I wanted to thank all of you that supported me this past year.

Elliott/Joseph: VOT 0034/2024

THAT the Council Reports be received.

CARRIED

**1 "no vote" registered to
Councillor Northcott**

K. Bylaws

None.

L. Correspondence

- 1 January 2, 2024 email from Shawna Gagne Re: Knights of Columbus Annual Christmas Food Hamper Program.**

Northcott/ Elliott: VOT 0035/2024

THAT this correspondence item be received.

CARRIED

Elliott/ (no seconder)

THAT correspondence item #1 be pulled for discussion.

FAILED

M. New Business

- 1 Report to Council Re: Appointment of Fire Chief and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Kyle Wilkinson.**

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0036/2024

THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

The CAO introduced Fire Chief / Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Kyle Wilkinson.

- 2 Report to Council Re: Regional Grant Opportunity - Emergency Support Services**

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0037/2024

THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

The CAO spoke to this UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund grant and responded to questions from Council.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0038/2024

THAT as part of the Village of Tahsis ongoing work in relation to emergency planning that an application for financial assistance under the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund 2024 Emergency Operation Centre grant be authorized for submission to the UBCM, in collaboration with the Strathcona Regional District (SRD); and

THAT the Village of Tahsis agrees to the Strathcona Regional District submitting an application on their behalf, and that if funded, agrees to the Strathcona Regional District managing the grant and being the recipient of all funding.

CARRIED

- 3 Notice of Motion by Councillor Fowler Re: Resolution for submission to the AVICC by the February 7th, 2024 deadline.**

Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0039/2024

THAT this Notice of Motion be received for consideration..

CARRIED

WHEREAS climate change modeling showcases water temperature in salmon bearing streams is an indicator of the carrying capacity of this keystone species; and

Whereas cold water Refuge is a predictor of early survival in juvenile salmonoids;

BE IT RESOLVED to advocate to prioritize habitat health study and understanding of interconnected ecosystems of the Pacific wild salmon; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the AVICC receive by the February 7, 2024 deadline for motions to be accepted as Coastal communities and First Nations are leading on this knowledge gathering and sharing.

Councillor Fowler spoke to this resolution.

Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0040/2024

THAT this resolution be brought forward at the February 6, 2023 Regular Council meeting.

CARRIED

Public Input #2

A member of the public spoke about food insecurity.

A comment was made on carbon savings data with respect to the Good Food Box.

Adjournment

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0041/2024

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified Correct this

6th Day of February, 2024

Chief Administrative Officer

From:
To:
Subject:
Date:

Subject: Fowler report January 16 with late item

Thank you, Natasha, that is quite helpful.

You have captured the story well and I have nothing to ammend except that village of Tahsis is both north and west Vancouver, but perhaps more west. We are in the jurisdictional boundaries to the regional district of Strathcona and our neighbour on the other side of rugged mountain, BC's smallest community of Zeballos, also recently started to offer their own good food box program.

I have no context for greenhouse gas calculations, so it blows my mind to say that the tahsis buyers have tallied 119,535,360 g (119,535.36 kg) CO2 saved in the last year of deliveries of GHG reduction for 2023 alone. After a quick search (see photo attached) I have found the price of carbon for that year to be \$65 per metric ton but in this year, it's valued at \$80. The more people who share in the freight, the cheaper the healthy food and clean air. It's a triple win!

I hope to have your below email included in my council report because it has helped me so much to receive support and a multi-solving approach from the Tamarack Institute Cohort this past year.

Furthermore

I have a draft notice of motion for the next regular meeting as a **late item** that also is at the intersection of longer-term food security and UNDRIP. It is a revised (changes in bold) motion from last year that passed about **salmon parks** and *my hope is that it can be sent, with the background letter sent by Mayor Davis to the council of chiefs at the MMFN*, into the AVICC by the resolution deadline of February 7.

Notice of motion (late item draft)

Whereas climate change modeling showcases water temperature in salmon **bearing** streams as an indicator of the carrying capacity of this keystone species.

And whereas cold water Refuge is a predictor of early survival in juvenile salmonids.

Be it resolved to Advocate to prioritize habitat health study and understanding of interconnected ecosystems of the Pacific wild salmon.

Be it further resolved the that the AVICC receive by the February 7th, 2024 deadline for motions to be accepted as Coastal communities and **First Nations** are leading on this knowledge gathering and sharing.

Background

Since becoming involved in the Nootka Sound Watershed Society, a regional land use table which studies downstream effects, for the village 5 years ago I have learned a lot about Pacific salmon, their habitats for spawning and their lives in the ocean. It is my understanding that the association of Vancouver Island in coastal communities is the area Association most aligned to gather, share and disseminate lessons and follow the example of the Mowachaht Muchalaht First Nations stewardship. With the long-term focus on asset health and management, the subtle effects of the marine environment and the cumulative nature of many forms of pollution, like heat, on ocean creatures and food availability.

Submitted respectfully,
Councillor Fowler

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From: Natasha Pei <Natasha@tamarackcommunity.ca>
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2024 3:14:22 p.m.
To: Councillor Fowler <sarahfowlertahsis@gmail.com>
Cc: Sarah Fowler <SFowler@villageoftahsis.com>
Subject: RE: Short Phone Call

Hi Sarah,

Thank you for the phone call today. Below is a draft write-up of the story I heard you share. I've highlighted some things in blue that could use some fact checking by you. Particularly about which "region" the good food box now covers.

Also the math! I love math but please see if you can help make it better. I did a draft calculation of how much emissions you *might* be saving with the good food box. Below are my assumptions and the math rough work. Please change the equation and update the emissions count if anything is off.

For example: I did the calculation based on average Canadian emissions per km per car, but in Tahsis you may have a much higher expenditure with more heavy/older trucks on the road. Please update the calculation if you have a more accurate emissions estimate in Tahsis. Based on our conversation, I also estimated that anyone paying full price for the good food box would/could drive to the grocery store if the Good Food Box didn't exist, but I'm not sure how comfortable you are making that assumption. That was 60% of participants based on your PowerPoint.

Estimated emissions savings:

Assumptions:

- IF there was no Good Food Box, 40% of Good Food Box participants (the people receiving subsidies) would not go to the grocery store; 60% would drive to the grocery store individually in Campbell River
- The average Canadian car emits [206g CO2 per kilometer](#)

- Tahsis to Campbell River grocery store is 320 km (roundtrip)

Calculation:

- $206 \text{ g CO}_2 \times 320 \text{ km} = 65,920 \text{ g CO}_2$ saved per person per trip
- $30 \text{ Good Food Box participants} \times 0.6$ (who would drive to the grocery store) = 18 residents would drive if they didn't have access to the Good Food Box
- $18 \text{ residents} \times 65,920 \text{ g} = 11,186,560 \text{ g CO}_2$ saved
MINUS 1 trip (Sarah's car) = **11,120,640 g CO₂ saved in the first delivery**
- $7 \text{ Good Food Box participants} \times 0.6$ (who would drive to the grocery store) = 4.2 residents who would drive if they didn't have access to the Good Food Box
- $4 \text{ residents} \times 65,920 \text{ g} = 263,680 \text{ g CO}_2$
MINUS 1 trip (Sarah's car) = **197,760 g CO₂ saved in the most recent delivery**
- Average: 5,692,160 g CO₂ saved PER ORDER in the last year
- 21 deliveries made in the last year
- **TOTAL ESTIMATED:** $5,692,160 \text{ g CO}_2 \times 21 \text{ deliveries} = 119,535,360 \text{ g (119,535.36 kg) CO}_2$ saved in the last year of deliveries

LIMITATIONS: This calculation does not account for residents carpooling with neighbours to the grocery store, making the same trip anyways for dairy/meat which is not included in the box, nor picking up groceries while in-town in Campbell River already for other reasons. This calculation also assumes people who can pay full price for a good food box are also able to drive a car into Campbell River (e.g., they have the time, mobility/vision, and are not financially constrained, etc.).

STORY

Direct Benefits to People and the Environment: Tahsis, BC

The Tahsis community restored its Good Food Box program and completed one year of service in 2023. The program served between 7 and 30 households bi-weekly in a small remote village of 400 people, helping people reduce their carbon emissions and increase access to fresh, affordable food. Food insecurity in the Village of Tahsis is due in large part to their geography; located 63km down a gravel road where food distributors cannot travel, the closest grocery store for residents is in neighbouring Campbell River, which is 160km away.

The Good Food Box program is a produce bulk buying program. Rather than each resident driving to the nearest grocery store on their own, one person takes everyone's orders, makes the drive to a closer community – Gold River – which acts as a Hub for volunteers to distribute *all* of the Good Food Boxes for the small communities on Vancouver Island's west (or north?) coast. Good Food Boxes are brought back to Tahsis and are either delivered or picked up by residents at the community centre. This saves an estimated 65,920 g of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per person per trip to the grocery store. In total, it is estimated that for residents who would otherwise drive to the grocery store on their own, the 21 deliveries made by the Good Food Box in 2023 have saved approximately 119,535.36 kg CO₂.

The program is also reducing food affordability challenges, as Tahsis has a median after-tax income well-below the Canadian average ([\\$40,400 in Tahsis](#) compared to [\\$68,400 for Canada](#)), a high unemployment rate ([35.7% in Tahsis](#) compared to [6 % for Canada](#)), and [one-third of all residents](#) are seniors 65 years and older. Without the Good Food Box, it's estimated that the 60% of participants receiving Food Box subsidies (income less than \$52,000 per year) would not be able to access fresh produce at all, unless from friends,

family or neighbours.

Finally, during this year they practiced collaboration with which is very important in their small, rural community, where there are few financial and public resources. They have collaborated with the Greenways Land Trust, United Way and several communities in the **Strathcona** region to expand the Good Food Box across the region.

Please help to change anything above that may be incorrect or that you're uncomfortable with sharing. Congratulations again on the success of the program! As you mentioned, it seems like there is drop-off of participants, but if the numbers bounce back, it has great potential too!

Thank you,
Natasha

Year	Carbon tax (\$/tonne)	Cost per liter
2021	\$40	\$0.09
2022	\$50	\$0.11
2023	\$65	\$0.14
2024	\$80	\$0.18
2025	\$95	\$0.21
2026	\$110	\$0.24
2027	\$125	\$0.28
2028	\$140	\$0.31
2029	\$155	\$0.34
2030	\$170	\$0.38



Minutes

Village of Tahsis

Meeting	Committee of the Whole - Budget Meeting #3
Date	January 17, 2024
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
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Staff	Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer	
	Adia Mavrikos, CPA, CA, Director of Finance	by video
	Janet StDenis Corporate Services Manager	by video
	Lauren Roth, Finance and Administrative Assistant	by video
	Paige Sawyer, Rural Business Advisor	

Public	1 member of the public.
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Call to Order

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 1:01 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 0004/2025

THAT the Agenda for the January 17, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**M. New
Business**

- 2024-2028 Financial Plan/ Budget Meeting #3**

Fowler: COW 005/2024

THAT this presentation be received.

CARRIED

The Director of Finance covered the following topics: the unaudited operating results at December 31, 2023, the proposed 2024 Operating Budget, options for Council remuneration, the proposed 2024-2028 capital plan, 2023 reserve balances, the Long Term Capital and Asset Management Plan and recommendations for the Long Term Capital and Asset Management Plan.

Council provided direction to staff to undertake the following in the next iteration of the 2024 budget: COLA increases for Council members; COLA increases for Village staff who currently do not received COLA increases; target \$20,000 in savings on the operating budget and utility rate increase options.

Adjournment**Fowler: COW 006/2024**

THAT the meeting adjourn at 3:27 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified correct this
6 Day of February 2024

Corporate Officer



Minutes

<u>Meeting</u>	Public Hearing
<u>Date</u>	January 23, 2024
<u>Time</u>	1:00 PM
<u>Place</u>	Municipal Hall - Council Chambers

Present Mayor Martin Davis
Councillor Sarah Fowler
Councillor Cheryl Northcott

Absent Councillor Meggan Joseph
Councillor Douglas Elliott

Staff Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer by video
Adia Mavrikos, CPA, CA, Director of Finance by video
John Manson, P.Eng., Municipal Engineer by video
Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager by video
Lauren Roth, Finance and Administrative Assistant by video
Wanda Waksdale, Administrative Assistant

Guests Kevin Brooks, Division Manager Planning, McElhanney by video
Jennifer Barber, Senior Building Official, Strathcona Regional District by video
Bruce Carpenter on behalf of 3122880 B.C. Ltd. by video

Public 10 members of the public.

A. Call to Order

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

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

B. Opening by Mayor

This public hearing is being held in accordance with Division 3 of the *Local Government Act* regarding the amendment to Zoning Bylaw No 630, 2020. Staff will introduce and describe the purpose of the Bylaw. After that, there will be an opportunity for public comment. Council members may then ask any questions. The property owner will have an opportunity to speak and answer questions. And we will end the meeting by considering a resolution. The procedures for public comment have been distributed and more copies are available from staff.

C. Introduction of Bylaw by Staff

Village of Tahsis Zoning Amendment Bylaw, No. 660, 2023

Purpose of the Bylaw:

The property owner has applied to the Village to rezone the two parcels which constitute the mobile home park to permit permanent residency of recreational vehicles and tiny homes. The goal is to diversify housing types and also permit increased revenue to help make the operation of the park financially viable long term. The site is located within the Anthropogenic Hazard Development Permit Area making land excavation challenging. Any development that would result in ground disturbance will trigger the Anthropogenic Hazards development permit requirements. Due to the issues with ground stability and excavation, the provision of housing that avoids excavation is a suitable use for the property. The bylaw also includes provisions for density, setbacks, laundromat facilities and a prohibition against permanent foundations.

Kevin Brooks, Division Manager Planning, McElhanney gave a presentation on the rezoning proposal to allow for the permanent residency of Recreational Vehicles and Tiny Homes within the existing mobile home park.

D. Public Comment

Questions and concerns from members of the public included the following topics: health and safety Issues; property maintenance and other bylaw infractions; adequate services such as a laundromat facility; fire regulations and safety; utility services; housing density; set backs and easements; appropriate zoning for this use; definitions and explanation of a permanent structure and permanent residency; insurance; bear proof garbage bins; wording of the legal description in the bylaw; revenue generation required for maintenance and improvements and a number of pros and cons associated with the bylaw amendment.

Village of Tahsis Council, Kevin Brooks, Division Manager Planning, McElhanney, Jennifer Barber, Senior Building Official, SRD, John Manson, Municipal Engineer and Bruce Carpenter, the property representative responded to questions from the public.

E. Applicant Comment:

Bruce Carpenter spoke to his application for the zoning amendment and responded to questions from the public, Council and Staff.

F. Questions from Council

The concept of rezoning to commercial was raised to which Kevin Brooks responded.

G. Council Resolution

Fowler/ Northcott: VOT 0042/2024

THAT the January 23, 2024 Public hearing be adjourned; and

THAT the Village of Tahsis Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 660, 2023 be returned to Council for a third reading.

CARRIED

H. Closing

The public hearing was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Certified Correct this

6th Day of February, 2024

Chief Administrative Officer

VILLAGE OF TAHSIS

Report to Council

To: Mayor and Council

From: Chief Administrative Officer

Date: January 29, 2024

Re: Rural Dividend Program Grant – Project Options

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To provide Mayor and Council with economic development project options for utilizing the remaining Rural Dividend Program Grant funds as per the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation requirement.

OPTIONS/ALTERNATIVES

See below

BACKGROUND:

At the November 15, 2022 Council meeting, Council passed the following resolution:

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0376/2022

THAT option #1 (approve re-purposing the Rural Dividend Program (RDP) grant for a project to develop an economic strategy for the Village of Tahsis, including the broader region, and invite further input from the Village of Zeballos (VoZ), the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation (MMFN) and the Ehattesaht/Chinehkint First Nation (EFCN)) be approved.

CARRIED.

The Village engaged GNPCI consultants in early 2023 to develop a Strategic Economic Development Plan (“SEDP”) which was completed in August 2023 and an action plan to implement the SEDP. (The action plan will be presented to Council on February 13, 2024.) The SEDP and the action plan were funded from within the 2018 Rural Dividend Program Grant (\$200,000).

On January 19, 2024, Ministry staff asked the Village to commit to a project as soon as possible (and not later than March 31, 2024) to utilize the remaining Rural Dividend Program Grant funds of approximately \$120,000. Village staff outlined four potential projects which Ministry staff stated would fall within the rubric of the Rural Dividend Program so all would likely be approved (some with caveats).

Options:

The options summarized below include general descriptions and analysis. The remaining Rural Dividend Program Grant funds will largely determine the final scope of the approved option.

Option 1:

Retain a professional forester to research and prepare a management plan for the Community Forest Agreement, in concert with the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation, and the Ministry of Forests. (This action was recommended by Ministry of Forests staff at the January 16, 2024 committee of the whole meeting.)

Pros:

- Moves the Community Forest initiative forward.
- Provides Council with more information which could be used to build a case for engaging with the Ministry of Forests and the MMFN.
- Aligned with the Strategic Economic Development Plan
- May facilitate access to other grants or funding sources

Cons:

- An area-based community forest in the Tahsis watershed is not guaranteed.
- The MMFN Council of Chiefs require certainty on Reconciliation funding, at a minimum, before considering partnering with the Village of Tahsis on a community forest.
- Will not have immediate impact on improving the Tahsis economy.

Option 2:

Improve, rehabilitate, promote and possibly expand the municipal trail network within the Village boundary.

Pros:

- Local trails are a natural amenity which the Village can highlight in tourism promotion.
- The trails are a free, accessible and alternative outdoor recreation activity for summer visitors.
- Could evolve into more sustained outdoor recreation programs and policies.

Cons:

- Not included in the Strategic Economic Development Plan.
- Nexus between improving local trails and tourism spending is unproven.
- Possible to carry out trail rehabilitation in-house.

Option 3:

Plan, develop and construct a trail system in either the McKelvie Creek community watershed (and MMFN Salmon Park) or the Tahsis watershed, subject to Recreation Sites and Trails BC approvals and support from the MMFN Council of Chiefs.

Pros:

- Expanding a trail system into the relatively pristine wilderness which surrounds Tahsis capitalizes on this natural amenity to promote tourism beyond sportfishing and other marine-based activities.
- Drawing more visitors to Tahsis is a necessary condition to increasing the Tahsis population and, subsequently, business investment.
- Trails are an attractive option for shoulder season visitors.

Cons:

- Requires approvals and support from other parties (RSTBC and MMFN).
- WFP has harvesting plans for the Tahsis River watershed which may impact trail development.
- Would compete with the Nootka Trail and Tatchu Trail – both are coastal trails which may be considered more attractive/higher value than inland trails.
- Forthcoming amendments to the *Land Act* requiring First Nation co-management of Crown Land might complicate executing these trail projects.
- Not listed in the Strategic Economic Development Plan.

Option 4:

Create a full-time Economic Development Officer position for a 2 year period.

Pros:

- Aligned with the Strategic Economic Development Plan draft action plan.
- Adds capacity to Village to pursue and execute economic development actions, including, for example, Community Forest, and to pursue grant opportunities.
- Demonstrates support for the local and regional business community.
- Will amplify Tahsis tourism promotion through our Destination Marketing partner and social media.
- Will provide staff support to a Council standing committee on business engagement, as recommended in the Strategic Economic Development Plan action plan.
- Has cost/budget certainty

Cons:

- Funding may not directly translate into business expansion or new businesses.
- May not be well received by some local businesses.

POLICY/LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:

Under the Community Charter,

Municipal purposes

7. The purposes of a municipality include:

- (a) providing for good government of its community,
- (b) providing for services, laws and other matters for community benefit,
- (c) providing for stewardship of the public assets of its community, and
- (d) fostering the economic, social and environmental well-being of its community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Island Coastal Economic Trust has funded the Rural Business Advisor position (\$70,000) for a one year term which ends in June 2024. In October 2023, the Village applied to the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program (REDIP) for \$100,000 to fund a full-time Economic Development Coordinator position. If the Village's REDIP application is approved the Ministry has confirmed that the Rural Dividend grant funding could still be used to further extend (e.g., into 2026) the funding for this position.

2024 STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

Yes.

Implement the action items from the Strategic Economic Development Strategy including promoting tourism. (Tourism promotion includes partnering with the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation whenever possible and focussing on outdoor recreational activities.)

RECOMMENDATION:

Option 4

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Mark Tatchell', written in a cursive style.

Mark Tatchell, CAO

From:
Sent: January 17, 2024 4:49 PM
To:
Subject:

I have a draft notice of motion for the next regular meeting as a **late item** that also is at the intersection of longer-term food security and UNDRIP. It is a revised (changes in bold) motion from last year that passed about **salmon parks** and *my hope is that it can be sent, with the background letter sent by Mayor Davis to the council of chiefs at the MMFN*, into the AVICC by the resolution deadline of February 7.

Notice of motion (late item draft)

Whereas climate change modeling showcases water temperature in salmon **bearing** streams as an indicator of the carrying capacity of this keystone species.

And whereas cold water Refuge is a predictor of early survival in juvenile salmonids.

Be it resolved to Advocate to prioritize habitat health study and understanding of interconnected ecosystems of the Pacific wild salmon.

Be it further resolved the that the AVICC receive by the February 7th, 2024 deadline for motions to be accepted as Coastal communities and **First Nations** are leading on this knowledge gathering and sharing.

Background

Since becoming involved in the Nootka Sound Watershed Society, a regional land use table which studies downstream effects, for the village 5 years ago I have learned a lot about Pacific salmon, their habitats for spawning and their lives in the ocean. It is my understanding that the association of Vancouver Island in coastal communities is the area Association most aligned to gather, share and disseminate lessons and follow the example of the Mowachaht Muchalaht First Nations stewardship. With the long-term focus on asset health and management, the subtle effects of the marine environment and the cumulative nature of many forms of pollution, like heat, on ocean creatures and food availability.

Submitted respectfully,
Councillor Fowler

From:
To: Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation Salmon Parks Declaration
Subject: January 29, 2024 2:53:47 PM
Date:
Attachments:

From: martin davis <iskarst22@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 17, 2023 9:08:00 PM
To: Eric Angel <eric@bigcanoe.ca>
Cc: Mayor Davis <Mayor@villageoftahsis.com>; Sarah Fowler <SFowler@villageoftahsis.com>;
Meggan Joseph <MJoseph@villageoftahsis.com>; Cheryl Northcott
<CNorthcott@villageoftahsis.com>; Mark Tatchell <MTatchell@villageoftahsis.com>
Subject: Re: Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation Salmon Parks Declaration

Greetings,

I would like to recognize and respect that I am writing to you from Mowachaht Muchalaht Territory, speaking on behalf of Tahsis Village Council and its citizens. Thank you for your letter and declaration regarding Salmon Parks for your hahuulii. I wish to congratulate you on achieving recognition from the federal government which is in turn being manifested by this grant to help enable your Nation to make this dream a reality.

We in Tahsis also acknowledge that much damage has been done to salmon habitat within your hahuulii over the last several decades and have all witnessed the decline in salmon returns to our local rivers. It is indeed time that we work together to reverse this trend and to do what we can to heal these lands and waters. As mayor, I have supported the Salmon Parks concept since its inception and am happy to see it coming to fruition. From my perspective, issues that have been identified include habitat loss, poor fishing practises, fish farm impacts on smolts returning to the sea and impacts of industrial contamination over the years.

I believe we share similar values and that it is important to work together to create meaningful, positive and lasting changes that will benefit not only salmon habitat but all habitat that is important to the continuation and enhancement of biodiversity within these territories and beyond.

On behalf of our village I would like to extend our hand in helping to make these goals a reality and look forward to working with your Nation in this endeavour. We also anticipate joining you in your celebration of this success.

Warm Regards,
Mayor Martin Davis and Council,
Village of Tahsis.





On Wed, Nov 15, 2023 at 8:27 AM Eric Angel <eric@bigcanoe.ca> wrote:

Dear Mayor Davis,

The Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation (MMFN) is excited to share the attached declaration of a network of *Salmon Parks* as Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) in our hahuulii (territories) under MMFN inherent law and authority. These *Salmon Parks* cover more than 66,000 hectares of critical salmon habitat, including some of the last remaining old-growth forest ecosystems on Vancouver Island, and collectively represent the most resilient landscapes within our hahuulii in the face of climate change.

By establishing *Salmon Parks*, we are carrying out our responsibilities as ḥawiiḥ, as hereditary leaders, as our ancestors have always done. We envision *Salmon Parks* brought back to full health for all beings and generations to come under our Nuuchahnulth laws. Our people will thrive practicing our culture, language and laws, learning from and living off the land and the water and working as guardians, educators, technicians and managers within these Parks.

A critical milestone was achieved last week when the federal government confirmed a significant contribution of \$15.2M towards *Salmon Parks*, through Environment and Climate Change Canada. This funding will go a long way towards securing the protection of the old growth forests within *Salmon Parks*. We invite other governments, philanthropic foundations, and businesses to extend their support to *Salmon Parks* so that all of the lands and waters within them can be protected in perpetuity.

"It's not about laying blame or pointing fingers ... working together is the way to go ... for those wild stocks to be able to survive and be sustainable ..." (tayii hawil Mike Maquinna)

We are deeply committed to working with government partners to ensure that *Salmon Parks* benefit all those who live within and visit the hahuulii of the Mowachaht/Muchalaht ḥawiiḥ. For this to take place, we call upon all governments and their citizens to recognize *Salmon Parks* and to respect the authority and decisions of Mowachaht/Muchalaht decision-makers. No further resource tenures should be granted, or sought, on, under or above these lands.

This Declaration is an invitation to witness and support us in our vision. At a date to be announced, we will hold a gathering and celebration to share the Declaration, a living document, in both Nuuchahnulth and English, with our community and honoured guests.

For more about the *Salmon Parks* story, please see the documentary by filmmaker Carter Kirilenko here: <https://vimeo.com/710571157>

For further information about *Salmon Parks* and this Declaration, please see the attached Backgrounder.

For questions, contact Eric Angel, Project Manager, Salmon Parks, at eric@bigcanoe.ca.

On behalf of the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation Council of Chiefs,

Cuuc

Eric Angel, PhD (he/him)
Project Manager (Contract)

Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation
100 Ouwatin Road P.O. Box 459
Tsaxana, Gold River, BC V0P 1G0

phone: 604-889-4743

email: eric@bigcanoe.ca

web: www.salmonparks.ca





ZONING AMENDMENT BYLAW No. 660, 2023 - A BYLAW TO AMEND ZONING BYLAW 630, 2020 RM-2 ZONE TO PERMIT PERMANENT RESIDENCY OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES.

WHEREAS Section 479 of the ***Local Government Act*** allows a local government to create different zones and regulate uses, density, and siting within each zone;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Village of Tahsis, in open meeting assembled, enacts the following:

Short Title

1. This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the “Village of Tahsis Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 660, 2023”.

Administrative Provision

2. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase in this bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid by a decision of any Court of competent jurisdiction, the decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of the bylaw.

Text Amendments

1. The text of the Village of Tahsis Zoning Bylaw No. 630, 2020 is hereby amended as follows:
 - 1.1 Amend Section 2.1 (2) to add the following definitions:

Permanent Residency means a structure or dwelling that is occupied for at least 240 days in a calendar year.

Tiny Home means a single dwelling unit intended for permanent residency that includes the basic amenities of a permanent home including a kitchen, washroom and sleeping area, is less than 47 m² and can be mobile (on wheels), or with a temporary or permanent foundation. This includes a recreational vehicle used for permanent residency that is sited on a permanent pad with full services.

1.2 Amend Table in Section 5.5 Residential Multiple Zone Two (RM-2) as follows:

1.2.1 Add under Accessory Use:

On LOT A DISTRICT LOT 595 AND 662 NOOTKA DISTRICT PLAN VIP53172
EXCEPT PLAN EPP92447 tiny homes are permitted

1.2.2 Add the following under Minimum Setbacks:

On LOT A DISTRICT LOT 595 AND 662 NOOTKA DISTRICT PLAN VIP53172
EXCEPT PLAN EPP92447

Minimum Setbacks
4) Where new tiny home sites are permitted the following is required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Front – 5.0 metres • Rear - 2.0 metres • Side - 1.5 metres

1.2.3 add the following under Minimum Lot Size and Frontage:

On LOT A DISTRICT LOT 595 AND 662 NOOTKA DISTRICT PLAN VIP53172
EXCEPT PLAN EPP92447

Minimum Lot Size and Lot Frontage	
Minimum area	Mobile home - 325 square metres Tiny Home/RV – 175 square metres
Minimum frontage when abutting an internal roadway right-of-way	Mobile home - 12 metres Tiny Home – 6 metres

1.2.4 add the following Conditions of Use:

On LOT A DISTRICT LOT 595 AND 662 NOOTKA DISTRICT PLAN VIP53172
EXCEPT PLAN EPP92447

Conditions of Use
7) Tiny Home Provisions
a) The maximum density of Tiny Homes will be less than 50 % of the total pads within the park.
b) Any Tiny Home located within an RM-2 zone must be on a permanent pad as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pad must be dust free permanent pad of gravel, cement or asphalt • Each pad must be provided with full year-round services
c) Where a laundromat is provided the following is permitted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 65% of the total pads within an established mobile home park can be tiny homes
d) Tiny homes must be movable and may not be placed on a permanent foundation or cribbing.

Adoption

This Bylaw shall come into force and take effect upon the date of final adoption by the Council of the Village of Tahsis

READ A FIRST TIME THIS	7 th	DAY OF	November	2023.
READ A SECOND TIME THIS	7 th	DAY OF	November	2023.
A PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF THIS BYLAW WAS HELD ON THE	23 rd	DAY OF	January	2024.
READ A THIRD TIME THIS	xxth	DAY OF	xxxx	2024.
APPROVAL PURSUANT TO SECTION 52 OF THE <i>TRANSPORTATION ACT</i> RECEIVED ON	xxth	DAY OF	xxxx	2024.
ADOPTED THIS	xxth	DAY OF	xxxx	2024.

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original
Bylaw No. 660, 2023 duly passed by the Council of the Village of Tahsis on this
_____ day of _____, 2024.

CORPORATE OFFICER

From: Ryan Moore
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 9:52 PM
To: Meggan Joseph <MJoseph@villageoftahsis.com>
Cc: Mayor Davis <Mayor@villageoftahsis.com>; Sarah Fowler <SFowler@villageoftahsis.com>; Cheryl Northcott <CNorthcott@villageoftahsis.com>; Reception Account <Reception@villageoftahsis.com>; Mark Tatchell <MTatchell@villageoftahsis.com>
Subject: Support, opinion, and the moral of the story, From a nobody in the community.

I'm honestly dissappointed in the community that I even feel the need to send this.

The last few years, through Covid has changed so much, albeit some for the better a lot has suffered. The mob mentality that has risen due to isolation, only amplified by the segregated nature of our small village makes it easy for an individual or a group to use intimidation, or bullying to force someone to bow to their wishes, force their hand so to speak. For lack of any term that would describe it better, the rise of keyboard warriors who get a rise from throwing hate and causing destruction is utterly scary. To get to the point quickly its truly sickening the treatment of counselors in the village, when their conduct is appropriate and they have done nothing to deserve the influx of hate, and anger that is quite obviously happening. Its public that a group is attempting to force you (Meggan) to abandon your post, which I would like to believe I understand how important it is to you. Tahsis is not an easy place to move to, live, and even less so to love, and your passion for the Village has always been obvious and I hope that I am able to express to you that despite a potential lack of outgoing support, or unwillingness to express it, how valuable you are to your friends, neighbors and the community. As long as you are willing, and able to continue your position I hope you do so. I hope that you do not succumb to the pressure, and instead rise above and lead by example. Take what is truly constructive criticism and show them that you are capable of being exactly what we need.

To everyone else. The same applies. I would hope that this year starts to give rise to a place where everyone can not only be themselves, but also work, participate in the community, and even interact with the online world without feeling like you've put a target on your back. I want you all to know that the community truly does value what you do. Remember that noone notices the three quiet shopping cart wheels. Only the one with nothing to contribute thats the loudest.

Signed.

Ryan Moore

A concerned citizen that wants you to know you aren't alone.

From:
Sent:
To:
Subject:

From: Gail Smith <GSmith@rdn.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2024 4:46 PM
To: Gail Smith <GSmith@rdn.bc.ca>
Subject: Legislative Reform Initiative Update

To the attention of Mayor and Council / Chair and Board:

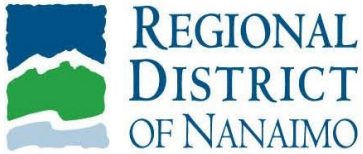
Please see the attached correspondence from Regional District of Nanaimo Chair Vanessa Craig regarding the Legislative Reform Initiative.

Kind regards,

Gail Smith
Policy Advisor, Strategy & Intergovernmental Services
Regional District of Nanaimo
6300 Hammond Bay Road, Nanaimo, BC V9T 6N2
T: 250-390-4111, x 6230 | C: 250-713-2639 | Email: gsmith@rdn.bc.ca
[RDN](#) | [Get Involved RDN](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

We acknowledge with respect that for thousands of years the Coast Salish First Nations have been deeply connected to the territories where we now have the honour to work.

This email is confidential and may be privileged; it is for the use of the named recipient(s) only. If you are not an intended recipient of this email, please notify the sender immediately and do not copy or disclose its contents to any person or body. Any use of this email by an unintended recipient is prohibited. The accuracy or completeness of the information attached to, or disclosed in this email is not guaranteed by the sender.



January 19, 2024

Re: Legislative Reform Initiative Update

Dear Local Government Colleagues:

On September 21, 2023, the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN), Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, Fraser Valley Regional District (City of Chilliwack), and Don Lidstone, K.C., hosted an interactive, discussion-based panel session (Legislative Reform Initiative) focused on reform of the *Local Government Act* (LGA) at the UBCM Annual Convention in Vancouver. While the lack of powers for regional districts in the *Act* was a major spark for this initiative, the session was intended for both municipal and regional district officials because many aspects of municipal operations are contained in the *LGA* and municipal issues with the *Act* have been the subject of numerous UBCM resolutions over the years. Similar workshops have been held previously at the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities' Annual Conventions in 2022 and 2023. Approximately 80-85 people attended the September 2023 UBCM session, indicating a broad interest in this evolving topic.

Concerns about the dated *Local Government Act* have been widespread for some time among local governments. Although the Ministry of Municipal Affairs has made significant incremental changes in the legislation over time, without a comprehensive modernization of the *LGA* regional districts are left without sufficient tools or authority to meet expanding responsibilities or to legislate in key areas in comparison with municipalities. Moreover, the evolving social, political, and economic environments that both municipalities and regional districts operate within, such as climate change, environmental stewardship, and a recognition of the importance of First Nations' participation in regional governance, should be reflected in updated and modernized legislation. A key component of our discussions is that any additional powers or tools granted to local government are opt-in so that local governments can choose to implement tools based on what is best for their area.

The goals of the September 2023 UBCM interactive panel session were:

- to provide context and background about the Legislative Reform Initiative
- to discuss whether to proceed with the Legislative Reform Initiative
- to discuss options for the best path forward to steer the process

Prior to the session, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs provided some background information and several questions to consider during the group's discussion. This material was useful and very much appreciated.

The RDN committed to sending UBCM members a "What We Heard" document summarizing discussion at the session and next steps. We are attaching that document to this letter for your information, as well as the material provided by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs that was considered as part of the September 2023 panel discussion at UBCM. In addition, we are attaching the slide deck presented at the UBCM session.

We encourage other local governments to participate in this important initiative. As indicated in the "What We Heard" document, the RDN is currently following up with UBCM on the possibility of requesting that the UBCM Executive form a working group on this topic. Having letters of support from local governments across the province would be helpful in demonstrating interest. Should you wish to send a letter of support, have any questions, or wish to share examples of legislative challenges stemming from the *Local Government Act*, please contact RDN Chief Administrative Officer Douglas Holmes at dholmes@rdn.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vanessa Craig". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Vanessa" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Craig".

Vanessa Craig
Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo

Encl.

LEGISLATIVE REFORM INITIATIVE: NEXT STEPS
UBCM ANNUAL CONVENTION, September 21, 2023
Summary of Session and What We Heard

SUMMARY OF SESSION

On September 21, 2023, the Regional District of Nanaimo, Fraser Valley Regional District (City of Chilliwack), Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, and Don Lidstone, K.C., hosted an interactive, discussion-based session on legislative reform. The session was intended for both municipal officials as well as regional district officials because many aspects of municipal operations are contained in the *Local Government Act*.

The goals of the session were:

- to provide context and background about the Legislative Reform Initiative
- to discuss whether to proceed with the Legislative Reform Initiative
- to discuss options for the best path forward to steer the process

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs provided background and several questions to consider during the group's discussion (Attachment 1).

Approximately 80-85 people attended the session, indicating a broad interest in this evolving topic.

Concerns with the dated *Local Government Act* include restrictions on taxation and revenue sources, complexities in establishing services, and the lack of provisions in comparison with Section 8 of the *Community Charter* which gives municipalities powers to regulate, prohibit, and impose requirements by bylaw without provincial approval or establishing bylaws. Regional districts are limited in their legislative authority in comparison with municipalities in several key areas such as business licensing authority (which the province is now addressing as part of its efforts around short-term rental housing), subdivision approval, regulation of fireworks discharge, parking enforcement, tree management, and taxation and funding models. Further, social, political, and economic environments that local governments operate within continue to evolve in areas such as climate change, environmental stewardship, and a recognition of the importance of First Nations' participation in regional governance. These realities should be reflected in a modernized legislative framework.

During the session, Slido polls were used to conduct two "straw polls" of the participants, on these questions: 1) whether or not to proceed with the Legislative Reform Initiative, and 2) whether a UBCM working group or a joint local government project is the best path forward to steer the process.

The majority of participants indicated support for the Legislative Reform Initiative, and indicated their preference would be for a UBCM working group to steer the initiative. These polls were conducted to gain a sense of the sentiments of the session participants only, and are not assumed to represent the views of the UBCM membership as a whole.

WHAT WE HEARD

WHY A COMPREHENSIVE MODERNIZATION EFFORT IS NEEDED

- The Ministry of Municipal Affairs has made important incremental changes in the legislation over time, but a more comprehensive modernization project is needed.
- Extensive downloading of responsibilities from the Province to local governments has exacerbated the problems local governments face; outdated legislation prevents local governments from addressing these issues effectively.
- Over 90% of the province is rural and is not under the *Community Charter*; these areas should not be governed by legislation that was drafted in 1966.
- Regional districts and municipalities have restricted powers where they have delegated authority only, are not constitutionally protected, and have few tools or resources to address local problems.
- Particular challenges with the *Local Government Act* (LGA) raised by participants at this session:
 - responding effectively to emergencies and natural disasters
 - taking measures to mitigate the effects of climate change
 - dealing with old infrastructure and the ability to fund these projects solely through property taxes
 - population growth and migration from cities during the pandemic is rapidly changing the character of rural areas; incoming residents have higher expectations for services
 - incorporation should not be the only other governance option for rural areas; there should be an intermediate step available
 - Electoral Areas lack power and resources
 - business licensing authority¹ and subdivision approval are difficult for regional districts
 - small municipalities and regional districts are unable to fund necessary projects costing millions, such as recycling, dikes, etc., to continue to provide the quality of life that residents cherish in these communities.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR PURSUING LEGISLATIVE REFORM RAISED AT THIS SESSION

- The background and questions provided by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs were very helpful in this discussion.
- Need to identify and list specific, concrete, local community issues and distill them from a 10,000-foot level to provide the Ministry of Municipal Affairs with evidence for the need to modernize the *Local Government Act*.
- Legislative reform should be viewed as supporting the Province, not in conflict with the Province.
- The Ministry of Municipal Affairs should be involved from day one.
- The Ministry should provide funding for this initiative's research and policy work, as they have done for the Northwest Benefits Alliance.

¹ The Province is addressing this as part of its efforts around short term rental housing. Amendments to the *Local Government Act* allow Regional Districts to regulate and licence short-term rentals and other businesses in similar ways to municipalities [see link](#)

- What is working well in the legislation should be left as is.
- If legislative reform is successful in providing new powers and tools for local governments, that does not mean all local governments must use them.
- Islands Trust has an even smaller toolbox than municipalities and regional districts.
- Metro Vancouver has excellent models and best practices, especially in the area of climate change; we can borrow good ideas.
- Local governments need a legislative framework that recognizes the importance of, and facilitates working together with, First Nations in a respectful, effective, and inclusive manner.
- When First Nations participate at the Board level, it changes the conversation and the votes. Local governments often are not well informed regarding Indigenous rights and title.
- The inclusive governance goals in UNDRIP legislation and provincial action plans can be reinforced and worked on concurrently with the Legislative Reform Initiative.
- Need to consider 7 generations into future when modernizing the LGA.
- Planning and land use issues should not be included in this initiative.
- Several participants stressed the need to draft a new charter rather than revise portions of the LGA in a continuation of the “band aid” approach.
- Area associations of UBCM should be included in the conversation.
- A retired CAO or Chair could be a primary resource person for this project, conducting research and policy work and keeping the project on track.

DECIDING WHETHER TO PROCEED WITH THE LEGISLATIVE REFORM INITIATIVE

- **Slido poll #1:** Is there an interest in proceeding with the Legislative Reform Initiative? (96% yes, 4% no)

OPTIONS FOR STEERING AND MANAGING THE LEGISLATIVE REFORM INITIATIVE

Option 1: UBCM Executive could form a working group on legislative reform, comprised of representatives from municipalities, regional districts, First Nations, UBCM, and ministerial staff

Option 2: This could be structured as a joint local government project, with local governments contributing funding to form a working group on legislative reform, comprised of representatives from municipalities, regional districts, First Nations, UBCM, and ministerial staff

Considerations for Option 1:

Pros:

- UBCM has an efficient network, broad reach, consistency, research capacity, and impact with the province.
- UBCM can be representative.
- UBCM has already been doing some work on legislative reform, and has experience.
- UBCM can allocate resources if legislative reform is identified as a priority.
- Reporting back will happen at UBCM.

Cons:

- Last UBCM working group report in 2010 did not meet expectations.
- Some uncertainty on the part of some participants as to how a UBCM working group functions.
- A UBCM working group may be more distant from local governments than is ideal.

Considerations for Option 2:

Pros:

- May insulate the project from getting sidetracked, if the Province does not assist with resources for UBCM.
- With a group of passionate people committed to working together on the project, the Legislative Reform Initiative may not need UBCM.

Cons:

- Challenges with resources and capacity: initiative will require significant buy-in and continued long-term commitment from local governments in terms of funding and staff time.
- Difficult to achieve forward momentum “off the side of the desk”.
- The complex coordination required for the project will be a challenge.

➤ Slido poll #2:

- **Option 1:** UBCM Executive forming a working group (85% in favour)
- **Option 2:** Joint local government project (15% in favour)

NEXT STEPS

- A “What We Heard” document summarizing the session will be distributed to UBCM members.
- It is noted that although there was significant enthusiasm for the initiative, including from areas outside the AVICC region, some representatives indicated they would like additional information on the initiative.

UPDATE: December 2023

Following the UBCM Annual Convention, Douglas Holmes, CAO of the Regional District of Nanaimo had the opportunity to discuss the Legislative Reform Initiative and the September 21, 2023, interactive panel session with Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director, UBCM. Mr. MacIsaac is in the process of seeking direction on this matter from the President’s Committee.

Background and Discussion Questions

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI) is committed to listening to local governments about their evolving needs and how the existing legislated framework accommodates new responsibilities and challenges. Much of the legislative agenda sponsored by MUNI in recent years has responded to critical local government needs uncovered as a result of the pandemic and in response to UBCM resolutions. The development of legislative change is a lengthy, complex, and resource intensive process. Therefore, it must be rooted in and supported by a clear gap in existing tools and authorities to fix an identified problem that the current legislation or other tools don't resolve. The mere desire for regional district (RD) legislation alone needs to be tested against a real need, with a clear path on policy development for the province to consider.

Government Priorities

The province has been clear in its priorities and focus on pressing issues of affordability and housing supply – allocating significant resources from both the Ministry of Housing and MUNI to initiatives in this space. That scarce allocation is determined by elected decision makers. The priority on affordability and housing supply also presents an opportunity and recognizes that issues of housing availability and affordability are not just urban issues – and that there is a role for regional approaches to support this work that may require new thinking of how RDs are better able to participate in solutions that will have direct implications for RD regulatory authorities.

In addition, MUNI along with other agencies and ministries, are working on other initiatives that have a direct impact on RD authorities, these include:

- The local government financial review working group, made up of staff from the province and UBCM, where work has been underway to review the local government finance system in B.C., analyzing the recommendations in the 2021 UBCM report, and discussing matters of mutual interest;
- Inclusive regional governance to explore First Nations' interests on RD boards (explore issues such as geographic implications/boundaries of the current RD system and alignment with First Nation territories, election mechanics, and service provision);
- Consideration of business licensing and enforcement authorities for RDs, as previously requested by RDs.

Discussion questions – Are there specific RD challenges and legislative concerns that align with the current provincial priorities? What are the clearly defined problem statements/lack of authority for RDs not already accommodated for?

Other Approaches and Tools

In the past, RD officials have expressed a range of concerns such as lack of regulatory authority – in some cases the authorities in question may exist or it may be facilitated through regulation (recent examples include fireworks and source separation regulations). Other identified concerns relate to some of the fundamental foundations of RD structures and principles – such as the principle that cost-recovery for services being matched with the beneficiaries of the service, or the unique ability of RDs to balance rural and urban interests. Any changes contemplated need to be evidence-based and targeted

and not be change for “a nice to have” versus a particular business or governance need for which a policy rationale exists and no other tools exist.

Discussion questions – given the inherent flexibility in the RD system, are there other tools or approaches that may address challenges that could support RDs in the absence of legislative changes?

Process for further engagement

Given the key and pressing priorities that the province is currently engaged on (e.g., housing and homelessness, climate change and emergency planning, health, and the opioid crisis) there are practical considerations about how the local government system (including municipalities and RDs) will partner and collaborate with the province to address these issues. MUNI remains committed to understanding the broad views and perspectives of local government officials (both regional and municipal) across BC on the issues facing their regions and communities including the need for legislative change. We will take under consideration the results of this session.

Discussion questions – Have inclusive, broad meaningful conversations about RD outcomes and authorities occurred across all RDs? And have those been shared with MUNI? How will RDs organize themselves to ensure that all voices will be heard?

Legislative Reform Initiative: Next Steps

To log into Slido for this session:

Join at slido.com
Enter code: #UBCM1

In Slido, please tell us where you are from and whether you are an EA Director or from a municipality.

Agenda

L2

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 2:30-2:40 | Welcome/introductions/objectives of session |
| 2:40-3:40 | Legislative Reform Initiative: A Summary <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Context and background• Challenges with the Local Government Act• 20 years of resolutions: a quick review• Actions taken on this initiative• Themes from previous sessions and discussions• Priorities identified in previous discussions• Background and questions from Ministry of Municipal Affairs• Reflections from the panel and discussion• Decision: Is there an interest in proceeding with the leg reform initiative? |
| 3:40-4:20 | Options for steering and managing the legislative reform initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UBCM working group• Joint local government project• Other ideas• Decision: decide the best path forward to manage the initiative |
| 4:20-4:30 | Conclusion/wrap up |

Welcome and Introductions

- **Vanessa Craig**, Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo
- **John Jack**, Chair, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District; Chief, Huu-ay-aht First Nation
- **Jason Lum**, Chair, Fraser Valley Regional District; Council Member, City of Chilliwack
- **Don Lidstone**, K.C., Managing Partner, Lidstone & Company

Objective of Today's Session

- Provide context and background about the Legislative Reform Initiative
- Decide whether to proceed with the Legislative Reform Initiative
- Decide the best path forward to steer the process

Legislative Reform Initiative: Context and Background

- Community Charter replaced Municipal Act 2003
 - Excellent piece of municipal legislation in Canada
- Local Government Act (LGA) created in 1966
 - Not overhauled in early 2000s as planned
- Comprehensive modernization of LGA has not been done
 - Accountabilities of RDs continuing to increase
 - RDs lack tools and authority to meet expanded responsibilities
 - Many aspects of municipal operations that need updating are in the LGA (planning)

Challenges with the Local Government Act

- Limits on legislative authority no longer supported by policy rationales
- Demographics/population growth/increased development/sparsely populated areas
- Business licensing, subdivisions, fireworks, parking, tree management
- Is such a distinction between authority of regional districts and municipalities still supportable?
- Revenue generation, models of taxation, funding for services – lack of flexibility in current paradigm

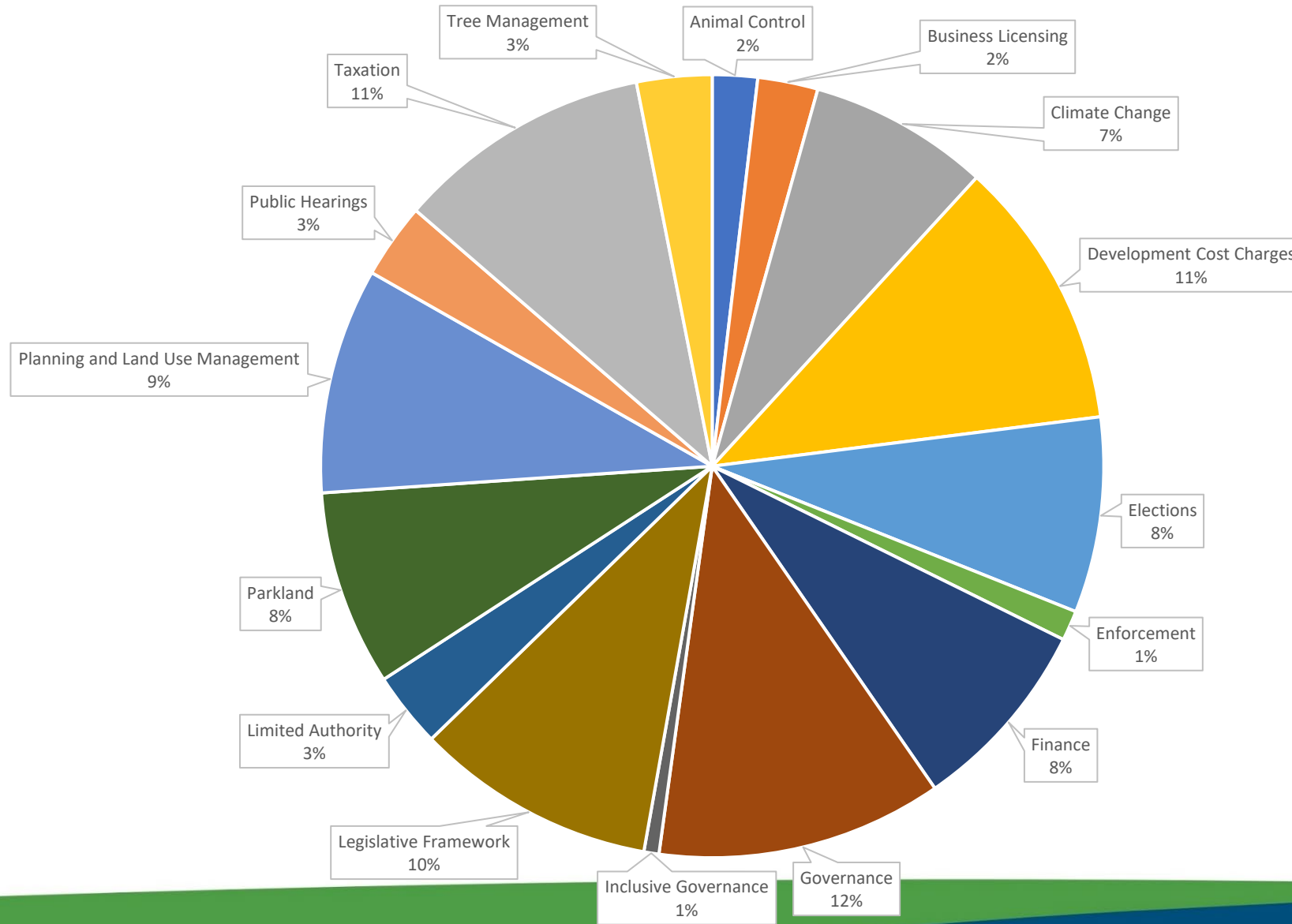
Challenges with the LGA (continued)

- Establishing services to optimize scale, cost distribution, fair participation
- Urban/rural friction
- Social, political, economic values have shifted significantly since legislation was drafted
- *The Province has implemented incremental legislative change over time - which is welcome and beneficial - but it is time for a comprehensive review and update.

20 Years of Resolutions: A Quick Review

- From 2003 to 2022, 161 endorsed resolutions specifically mentioned amending the Local Government Act. 34% were sponsored by regional districts. The rest are from municipalities.
- An additional 71 resolutions requesting an LGA amendment were submitted to UBCM for consideration and were either not endorsed or not admitted for debate.
- Of the 161 endorsed resolutions, three have called specifically for modernization of the LGA and one has called for the creation of a Regional District Charter.
- The 5 most common themes are:
 - Governance
 - Development Cost Charges
 - Taxation
 - Legislative framework
 - Planning and land use management

Resolutions At a Glance



Actions Taken on this Initiative

L2

- **April 2021** – RDN initially presented this topic to Chair/CAO Forum for preliminary discussion
- **June 2021** – RDN and Don Lidstone hosted a half-day session with BC Chairs and CAOs to explore a collaborative effort to modernize the LGA
- **April 2022** - AVICC convention – RDN, ACRD and Don Lidstone hosted a 2-hour workshop with local governments to hear about areas needing reform, and to build support for interjurisdictional collaboration
- **September 2022** - RDN submitted resolution, endorsed by UBCM, proposing that UBCM work with Ministry and local government on this initiative

Actions Taken on this Initiative, cont'd

L2

- **September 2022** – RDN and ACRD met with former Minister of Municipal Affairs Nathan Cullen to discuss moving project forward
- **March 2023** - Provincial response to RDN 2022 UBCM resolution on legislative reform received:
 - “The current framework mostly works well”
 - RDs can be innovative, creative in targeting issues
 - RDs should work with Ministry for tailored regulations
 - New tools/authorities must be based on a clear analysis
 - Consensus is needed for system-wide change
 - January 2022 “MOU on Local Government Financial Resiliency” (UBCM/Province) establishes a working group to review challenges

Actions Taken on this Initiative, cont'd

L2

- **March 2023** – RDN again presented on this initiative to CAO Forum and Chairs/CAOs Forum to gather ideas and specific examples
- **April 2023** - RDN, ACRD and Don Lidstone hosted a second panel session at the 2023 AVICC Convention in Nanaimo, building on ideas from 2022 AVICC workshop and seeking guidance on how to move the project forward
- **September 2023** – UBCM Convention (Vancouver), RDN, ACRD, City of Chilliwack, and Don Lidstone hosting a third panel session, building on ideas from the April 2022 and April 2023 AVICC sessions, and seeking guidance on next steps, process and timeline, and priorities to be addressed

Themes from Previous Sessions and Discussions

- UBCM may be the most effective avenue for shepherding this initiative
- First Nations must be invited to be part of modernizing exercise
- A new legislative scheme should contemplate seven generations into the future; establish a framework responsive to future societal changes
- “Be careful what you wish for”: more authority may require more resources
- Ensure core task of modernizing legislation is not sidetracked by other issues
- RDs need more flexibility with revenue sources.
- Municipalities have authority to use fees to shape behaviour.

Themes from Previous Sessions and Discussions, cont'd

- Community amenity contributions should be addressed as part of this initiative
- Consultation with Boards, First Nations, stakeholders, developers, owners, citizens, Province is key
- Identify specific, concrete, local community issues to build ongoing grassroots pressure on local politicians
- Planning and land-use issues should not be included in this initiative
- Connect issues to ministerial mandates
- Capacity and resourcing (financial and staff time) will be major challenges for moving project forward

Priorities to Be Addressed: Ideas from March 2023 Chair/CAO Forum

- Legislative Powers
 - Clarify respective powers of Mayor and Council
 - Amending legislation that provides the ALC with powers to supersede the OCP and RGS
 - Give local governments time to make those changes within the land use plan in the OCP and RGS
- Weighted Voting Structure
 - EA Directors outvoted by municipalities (Planning and Land Use Management)
 - Unfair voting practices on RD assets/service establishment bylaws and their taxation with limited and ineffective representation

Priorities to Be Addressed:

Ideas from March 2023 Chair/CAO Forum, cont'd

- Subdivision Approval
 - Maximum build-out to water availability to ensure sustainability. Water consumption needs to be met by raw water source without affecting other current infrastructure, forced to create potable water service
- Inclusive Governance
- Revenue Alternatives
 - Sales tax revenue alternatives, competing for grant funding
 - Ability to have additional revenue streams
 - Additional tools to meet residents' quality-of-life expectations

Priorities to Be Addressed: Ideas from March 2023 Chair/CAO Forum, cont'd

- Long-term Borrowing
 - For regulated infrastructure (water treatment) and essential services (sewer where there are health and/or environmental issues). Not requiring AAPs/referendums.
- Service Establishment – reduce complexity
- Business Licensing – enable RDs to have licensing
- Bylaw Enforcement – declared nuisances

Background and Questions from Ministry of Municipal Affairs

- Legislative reform is a resource-intensive process
- Need to demonstrate a clear gap in tools and authorities
- Must show a real need and a clear path
- Must be evidence-based and targeted
- Consider options other than legislative reform
- Provincial priority on affordability and housing supply presents urban/regional opportunities to participate in solutions

Background and Questions from Ministry of Municipal Affairs, cont'd

- Province has several other initiatives that impact regional district authorities (e.g., inclusive governance study, financial review working group, consideration of business licensing)
- Demonstrate how local government challenges align with provincial priorities
- Local government needs an effective process to organize this project and to enable broad, inclusive and meaningful consultation

Questions for Consideration from Ministry of Municipal Affairs

L2

- Are there specific RD challenges and legislative concerns that align with the current provincial priorities? What are the clearly defined problem statements/lack of authority for RDs not already accommodated for?
- Given the inherent flexibility in the RD system, are there other tools or approaches that may address challenges that could support RDs in the absence of legislative changes?
- Have inclusive, broad, meaningful conversations about RD outcomes and authorities occurred across all RDs? And have those been shared with MUNI? How will RDs organize themselves to ensure that all voices will be heard?

Reflections from the Panel

Why this initiative is important...

Slido Poll:
Is there an interest in proceeding with
a legislative reform initiative?

YES

NO

Discussion: Options for Next Steps

- What process would be most effective to steer and manage this initiative?
 - UBCM working group
 - Joint local government-led project

A Refresher: Process Suggested at April 2023 AVICC Workshop

Option 1: UBCM Working Group

UBCM to manage this initiative; establish working group to steer the legislative review process:

- Working group comprised of reps from municipalities, regional districts, First Nations, UBCM, ministerial staff
- Research and policy work on the framework/approach to reviewing and modernizing the LGA
- Report back to UBCM membership in 2024 (if there is a resolution from the floor in 2023) or in 2025 (if resolution is submitted in 2024)
- Discuss pros and cons of this option (unified, centralized, broad reach, consistency, mechanisms in place)

Alternative Process To Consider

Option 2: Joint Local Government Project

Local governments could contribute funding to establish a working group to oversee the legislative review process.

- Working group possibly comprised of reps from municipalities, regional districts, First Nations, UBCM, ministerial staff
- Undertake research and policy work on the framework and approach to reviewing and modernizing the LGA
- Report back to UBCM membership? Local governments?
- Discuss pros and cons of this option (challenges with capacity, resources, complex coordination)

Slido Poll: Choose One Option

- Option 1: The Legislative Reform Initiative should be steered and managed by a UBCM Working Group.
- Option 2: The Legislative Reform Initiative should be steered and managed as a joint local government project.
- Option 3:

Conclusion and Wrap Up

- Action(s) depending upon results of today's polls
- RDN staff will follow up with a “What We Heard” document

Thank you!

From:
Sent:
To:
Subject: FW: Guiding Lights Across BC

From: BC PR & Communications Adviser <bc-prcomm@girlguides.ca>
Sent: Saturday, January 13, 2024 3:42 PM
Cc: BC Guiding Lights <bc-guidinglights@girlguides.ca>
Subject: Guiding Lights Across BC

Dear Mayor and Council,

On behalf of Girl Guides of Canada's British Columbia Council, I am writing to ask for your support for girl empowerment in BC on February 22 2024, by lighting up in the colour blue. Blue is the well-known colour of Girl Guides. Our members of all ages in BC have worn their blue Girl Guide uniforms with pride for many generations.

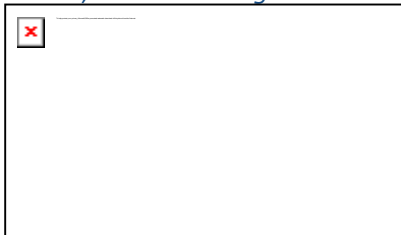
Best Regards,
Shalan Kelly

Shalan Kelly (She/Her) | BC Public Relations and Communications Adviser

BC Council, Girl Guides of Canada

bc-prcomm@girlguides.ca / (cell) 250-816-0353

I respectfully acknowledge that I live and work within the traditional and unceded territory of the Stz'uminus First Nation, whose heriatge we honour and respect.





To Whom it may concern,

February 22, is a special day for Girl Guides around the world. Here in Canada, Girl Guides celebrate World Thinking Day, a day of international friendship. It is an opportunity to speak out on issues that affect girls and young women globally, celebrate the founding of Girl Guides, and be connected to the 10 million members around the world who are part of the Guiding movement.

Here in British Columbia, we have thousands of girls and women who are members of Girl Guides of Canada. Our Girl Guide program is present in nearly every community across BC. Our girls/volunteers light up their communities year-round through leadership and community service. Girls typically participate in annual Thinking Day activities held on/around February 22. When the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the way we participate in usual gatherings, we developed an initiative to keep our communities and members connected by lighting up our communities blue. This event has been widely accepted by our members and communities, we are excited to announce we will be entering our fourth year of Guiding Lights across British Columbia.

For Thinking Day 2024, we will be celebrating in a way that brings our member and the public together : **Guiding Lights Across British Columbia**. This community initiative will light up outdoor landmarks, bridges, buildings, stadiums, and other illuminated locations, with blue lights, in celebration of the sisterhood of Guiding across BC and beyond, on February 22. Participating locations and the Guiding Lights Poster can be found at: www.girlguides.ca/guidinglightsacrossbc

We will be encouraging our members, their families and members of the public to admire these lit-up sites in ways that share in the guiding spirit. Photos will be shared on social media, emailing our members with info about how to participate, and more.

Our Girl Guide members and broader network of supporters would be thrilled to have your landmarks lit up as part of Guiding Lights Across British Columbia, and to highlight your participation as part of this province-wide event. Please contact us at bc-prcomm@girlguides.ca to confirm your ability to participate in this February 22, 2024, activity.

Thank you for your support for Guiding in BC!

January 12, 2024

Village of Tahsis
PO Box 219
Tahsis, BC
V0P 1X0

Dear Chief Administrative Officer:

Re: *Emergency and Disaster Management Act Implementation* - Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program

On behalf of the Province of British Columbia, I am pleased to provide this letter of offer and Contribution Agreement to support implementation of the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA) through the Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program.

Guided by the *United Nations Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction* and B.C.'s *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, the EDMA includes engagement provisions that promote relationship building and collaboration across jurisdictions. Engagement requirements of municipalities and regional districts include consultation and cooperation with Indigenous governing bodies, the incorporation of available Indigenous knowledge into emergency plans and risk assessments, and consideration of cultural safety across emergency management practices.

The Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program is intended to:

- support relationship-building across jurisdictions through consultation and cooperation with Indigenous governing bodies;
- ensure the incorporation of Indigenous knowledge and cultural safety across emergency management practices;
- support policy improvements that reflect the lived experience of Indigenous Peoples; and
- address the disproportionate impacts on Indigenous Peoples during emergency events.

The Province is providing funding to First Nations, municipalities, and regional districts in response to feedback about capacity requirements to implement the EDMA. This funding is intended to support municipalities and regional districts in meeting their Indigenous engagement requirements, and to support Indigenous governing bodies in participating in such engagement.

This letter of offer is accompanied by a Contribution Agreement which sets out the terms and conditions of the funding, including eligible activities and reporting. The term of the Contribution Agreement begins on the Effective Date and extends to March 31, 2025. Please sign and return the Contribution Agreement

to EMCR.Procurement@gov.bc.ca on or before March 31, 2024 to receive funding.

Further information about the Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program is provided on our [website located here](#) and includes the Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program Guide, fact sheet, and Interim Guidance. The website also contains contact information should you have further questions about the Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program.

Yours truly,



Monica Cox
Assistant Deputy Minister
Partnerships, Engagement and Legislation
Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness

From:
Sent: January 29, 2024 12:03 PM
To:
Subject:

From: Kandace Yost <kyost@sicamous.ca>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 2:43 PM
To: premier@gov.bc.ca
Cc: mel.arnold@parl.gc.ca; greg.kyllo.MLA@leg.bc.ca; Mayor <canderson@sicamous.ca>
Subject: Re: Support for Bill-34

Dear Premier,

Please find the attached correspondence sent on behalf of the District of Sicamous Council.



Kandace Yost, Executive Assistant
District of Sicamous | Box 219, 446 Main Street | Sicamous, BC V0E 2V0
t. 250-836-2477 f. 250-836-4314 email: kyost@sicamous.ca

I respectfully acknowledge that I work within the ancestral, traditional, and unceded territory of the Secwépemc Nation.

The information contained in this communication is confidential and intended only for the use of those to whom it is addressed. If you have received this communication in error, please notify me by telephone (collect if necessary) and delete or destroy any copies of it. Thank you.

District of Sicamous

446 Main Street
PO Box 219
Sicamous, BC
VOE 2V0

T: 250 836 2477
F: 250 836 4314
E: info@sicamous.ca
sicamous.ca



January 26, 2024

The Honourable David Eby, MLA
Premier of the Province of British Columbia
premier@gov.bc.ca

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Re: Support for Bill-34

Dear Premier,

District of Sicamous council would like to express its support for Bill 34 and the *Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act*.

We are disappointed by the Supreme Court's decision to grant a temporary injunction against Bill-34, which would protect children and youth from being exposed to illicit drug use and impose fines on those who choose to use drugs openly in public parks, sports fields and beaches.

Council urges the Province to appeal the Supreme Court decision.

When decriminalization came into force, council saw that the pilot program lacked guardrails and undermined provincial legislation regulating the possession and consumption of alcohol, tobacco and cannabis in public spaces.

For Sicamous, it was important to ban drug use in our parks, aligning with existing prohibitions for smoking, alcohol and cannabis. We knew we had to keep parks safe and welcoming for families. Amending our parks regulation bylaw allowed the District to implement its own guardrails and we were pleased to see the Province taking a similar approach.

Public spaces should continue to be enjoyed and used for their intended purpose.

Decriminalization aims to reduce the stigma that prevents illicit drug users from accessing lifesaving supports and services. We fear decriminalization will not solve the toxic drug crisis. Many of us have either lost a friend or loved one from toxic drugs or know someone who has lost a friend or family member. The number of overdoses, the lives lost, in our Province is devastating.

Increased funding and immediate access to addiction supports and treatment beds are

needed to help individuals and families suffering from addiction.

When help is sought, and a glimmer of hope exists, it must be available at that moment for there to be healing and change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen Anderson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Colleen' and last name 'Anderson' clearly distinguishable.

Colleen Anderson, Mayor
DISTRICT OF SICAMOUS

cc. Mel Arnold, MP North-Okanagan Shuswap
Greg Kylo, MLA Shuswap
B.C. Municipalities and Regional Districts

RECEIVED

JAN 31 2024

Post Office Box 104,
Tahsis, B.C. VOP 1X0Village of Tahsis,
977 S. Maquinna Drive,
P.O. Box 219,
Tahsis, B.C., VOP 1X0

January 24, 2024

For The Attention Of:**Village Of Tahsis Mayor and Council**

The *Village of Tahsis* is required to abide by the *Revised Statutes of British Columbia* - including the *Community Charter* and *Municipal Act*. However, transcripts from council meetings and previous *Council Agenda's* depict that municipal regulations, which are required to be followed in British Columbia, have been ignored by the mayor and council of the *Village of Tahsis*. Furthermore, it has also become apparent that municipal bylaws have been systematically enacted through procedures and practices that are contrary to established legislation and which violate acceptable standards that are fundamental to our democratic process and system of government.

Statements published by Councillor Elliott depict that he repeatedly gave advance notice of his planned resignation from council and provided details of why he was resigning. His letter of resignation was provided to the Village office in early December of 2023. However, during the recent Public Council Meeting of January 16, 2024, Mayor Davis denied having received this notification or being aware of it. The *Village of Tahsis* subsequently used taxpayer funds to proceed with an application that was filed at the Supreme Court of British Columbia, in Victoria, to seek the dismissal of Councillor Elliott. This costly application was unnecessary and it also failed to accurately present the complete facts to the court.

At the Regular Council Meeting on January 16, 2024, Mayor Davis stated that Councillor Elliott's resignation letter was not received. This denial suggests that Mayor Davis was not truthful to the public. When asked about this during the meeting, Mark Tatchell CAO, stated "*no comment*". Such an expression is indicative that the administrative officer of our municipality was involved in deceit. Tahsis residents need an explanation. The facts must be clarified if we are to have faith in our elected municipal government.

The Victoria registry of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, contains a filed affidavit dated November 30, 2023, that is signed by Mr. Tatchell, on behalf of the Village. At Paragraph #9 of this affidavit, Mr. Tatchell affirms: "*As at the date of this affidavit, Councillor Elliott has not provided the Written Resignation to Council at a council meeting or to me, as the corporate officer of the Village, at any time.*"

Such precise descriptive wording is indicative of an intentional misstatement. It wrongly implies that a notice was not received by this municipality. However, providing a resignation document during a council meeting, or personally handing it to an administrative officer, are not the usual or sole means of providing documentation to a municipality. The Village office is the correct venue and it is my understanding that the resignation notice that was provided to the municipality by Councillor Elliott, was hand delivered to the corporate office. However, the court was not provided this relevant statement of clarification by Mr. Tatchell - despite there having been more than six weeks for him to do so.

It is also my understanding that the resignation letter provided by Councillor Elliott, was disregarded by both Mayor Davis and the administration of our municipality. These significant details were not submitted to the registry or presiding judge, prior to the court hearing on January 24, 2024.

Costs incurred by the Village, for this unnecessary hearing, are funded by taxpayers. However, it has since become public knowledge that expenses for the legal representation of Councillor Elliott at this hearing, were denied by mayor and council. An elected councillor was thereby placed in a prejudicial position that jeopardized his legal rights. This was clearly an intentional act of hostility and contrary to the judicial standard of equality and fair play that is deemed to be paramount in the courts of British Columbia. This was also not the first time that Mayor and Council of this Village, have denied legal representation for Councillor Elliott, but instead, used taxpayer funds to victimize and oppress him.

According to an attachment provided in the affidavit of Mr. Tatchell [pg 13] comments made by Councillor Elliott [reported in the Agenda of the Regular Council Meeting held on July 4, 2023] were displayed and he was quoted in relevant part as saying: ***" I swore an oath to abide by the laws of this country. When I exposed the questionable activities of my fellow elected officials, they adopted an illegal bylaw at a closed meeting where they would have the Village finance their legal attack upon me and I would have to finance my own defence..."***.

A different excerpt from the same affidavit of Mr. Tatchell [pg 33] which is attached to this letter as page 3, establishes under *Rise and Report*, that Mayor Davis, Councillor Fowler and Councillor Northcott held a 21 minute 'closed council meeting' for the purpose of passing a measure that approved wordage used in an unrelated and antiquated thirty year old bylaw [*Village of Tahsis Idemnity Bylaw No. 347, 1993*] to approve of a motion they have suggested, immunizes themselves against any liability for their negligent conduct. This motion has been phrased in such a way as to indicate that taxpayers are obligated to pay for all expenses and costs that may be awarded against any of them - Mayor Davis, Councillor Fowler and Councillor Northcott - if they are found guilty of negligence in the current trial of *Brown v. Tatchell & Village of Tahsis et al*, that is currently being heard in Campbell River. The phraseology used in this bylaw, also appears to attempt providing immunity for Mark Tatchell.

Do Tahsis residents support these self-serving measures? Are taxpayers comfortable with policies and bylaws being phrased then discreetly and hurriedly enacted at in-camera meetings - without public knowledge, participation or input? Is it considered acceptable for Mayor Davis, Councillor Fowler, Councillor Northcott and Mark Tatchell, to be a law unto themselves and have immunity from claims of misfeasance, negligence and reckless misconduct?

Yours truly,



Mervyn Brown N.D., D.O., D. Phys.

Cc The Hon. David Eby, M.L.A., Premier of British Columbia
The Hon. Selina Robinson, M.L.A., Minister Of Municipal Affairs

Recess:**Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0380/2023****THAT** the Regular Council Meeting recess at 8:45 p.m. to go into the in camera meeting.**CARRIED****Reconvene:****Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0391/2023****THAT** the Regular Council Meeting reconvene at 9:06 p.m.**CARRIED****Rise and Report**

At the November 7th, 2023 Regular Council Meeting that Council approved the motion **THAT** pursuant to Village of Tahsis Indemnity Bylaw No. 347, 1993, that all legal costs incurred by the Village of Tahsis, Mark Tatchell, Martin Davis, Sarah Fowler and Cheryl Northcott in defending themselves in the small claims action brought by Mervyn Brown (File No. C7686, Campbell River Registry) will be paid by the Village of Tahsis; and

THAT, under the above referenced bylaw, the Village of Tahsis, Mark Tatchell, Martin Davis, Cheryl Northcott and Sarah Fowler are indemnified by the Village of Tahsis for any claims for damages or other costs arising from the above referenced matter.

Adjournment**Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0392/2023****THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 9:07 p.m.**CARRIED**

Certified Correct this

21st Day of November, 2023

**Chief Administrative Officer**

Mark Tatchell
Corporate Officer and
Commissioner for Oaths and Affidavits
Village of Tahsis
977 S. Macquinn Drive, PO Box 219
Tahsis, BC, V0P 1X0
(250)934-6344