



**Minutes**

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<b><u>Meeting</u></b>	<b>Regular Council Meeting</b>
<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b>October 7, 2025</b>
<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b><u>Place</u></b>	<b>Municipal Hall - Council Chambers and by electronic means</b>

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**Present** Mayor Martin Davis  
Councillor Sarah Fowler  
Councillor Brenda Lenahan  
Councillor Ryan Moore  
Councillor Cheryl Northcott **by video**

**Staff** Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer **by video**  
Adia Mavrikos, CPA, CA, Director of Finance **by video**  
Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager

**Public** 2 members of the public. **2 by video**

**A. Call to Order** Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Land Acknowledgement**

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

**B. Introduction of Late Items** None.

**C. Approval of the Agenda**

Moore/Fowler: VOT 0354/2025

THAT the Agenda for the October 7, 2025 Regular meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**E. Public Input # 1** None.

**F. Adoption of the Minutes**

**1** September 11, 2025 Standing Committee of Business Liaison Meeting Minutes

**Moore/Fowler: VOT 0355/2025**

**THAT** the Standing Committee of Business Liaison Meeting minutes of September 11, 2025 be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2 September 16, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes**

**Moore/Fowler: VOT 0356/2025**

**THAT** the Regular Council Meeting minutes of September 16, 2025 be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**G. Rise and Report**

None.

**H. Business Arising**

**1 Report to Council regarding Economic Development Survey and Open House Results**

**Moore/Fowler: VOT 0357/2025**

**THAT** this presentation be received.

**CARRIED**

Council reviewed the Economic Development Survey and Open House results, discussing community engagement, the process of compiling feedback and the integration of this input into the Strategic Economic Plan.

**Fowler/Moore: VOT 0358/2025**

**THAT** option #1 be approved (approve the survey analysis and community consultation report [attached as "Appendix A"] as presented and request staff to prepare an updated Strategic Economic Development Plan and Action Plan incorporating the results presented in the report and present the updated Strategic Economic Development Plan and Action Plan to the Standing Committee for Business Liaison for review and comment before submitting these documents to Council for consideration).

**K. Bylaws**

None.

**J. Council Reports**

**Mayor Davis**

Since our last Council meeting, I have attended meetings of Strathcona Regional District and Comox Strathcona Solid Waste Management Board. The Regional District is considering a joint planning function for the region and we will be hearing more about this in future, including a visit from the SRD CAO to speak regarding benefits and risks of the proposal.

I recently attended the Union of BC Municipalities annual meeting. During this, I participated in meetings with government representatives where we discussed various Tahsis issues such as the road, clinic staffing, mental health supports, forestry and forest management, accessibility grants, funding for ongoing economic development between Tahsis and Mowachaht Muchalaht First Nation, maintenance funding for the Leiner campsite and housing issues. I also attended a Truck Loggers Association dinner where a fascinating video called BC is burning was shown. This video documents the serious wildfire situation in BC and proposes forest management practices to mitigate this. During UBCM I also did two CBC interviews regarding the state of our road and advocated for sealcoating and other improvements.

On September 28 we had our official opening of our new fire hall. It was well attended despite the rain. The Mayor of Zeballos, Mowachaht Muchalaht representatives, Zeballos and Campbell River Fire Departments, the Coast Guard, Members of BC EHS Station 133 Tahsis, Tahsis Fire Rescue and of course our Fire Chief were in attendance.

I would like to acknowledge the recent passing of Elder Sam Johnson of the Mowachaht Muchalat First Nation. He was a well known figure of this region. He has led many awakenings, purifications and blessings over the years, including in Tahsis. I remember him with light in his eyes, fire in his heart and a smile on his face. He will be missed; condolences to his family. I will be attending his memorial service tomorrow.

**Councillor Northcott**

No report.

**Councillor Lenahan**

I want to acknowledge the passing of Samuel Johnson Jr- a cultural leader and elder of the Mowachaht/ Muchalaht and a deeply loved grandfather, husband, uncle and father.

He was enamoured with Cole from the day he met him at Yuquot and invited him into many ceremonies and drum circles. He became a friend and we will miss his both the joy and wisdom he shared with us.

I walked the first piece of the Grease Trail today and thought of him as I did so. He told me of the many trail songs that his father had taught him. I am glad he had the opportunity to see the trail being brought back into use.

I also want to thank the many community volunteers from Gold River and Tahsis who have worked so hard to improve the first stretch of trail before it meets the river, so that it can be more accessible to more Tahsis residents.

**Councillor Moore**

At UBCM this year, we had the opportunity to have many conversations that my hope leads to positive changes within the Village. I have been very open and honest with my own personal experiences with the hopes that it changes processes for not only us, but communities across the island since quite obviously what was said, had not been heard before.

My personal high point was being stopped by Anna Kindy, our current MLA, who I took advantage of attending the Oppositions health round table with and then walking down town Victoria before getting a tour of the Legislature with. It's not often that these opportunities get presented, but I do look forward to working with her in the future.

Resolutions at UBCM are such an interesting process, and if I had to bring home one that hit home, it was a resolution from the floor seeking oversight on cost overrun for capital projects.

Northshore Vancouver brought this forward due to its waste water project which was originally estimated to be \$700m. Currently the project is nearing \$4b and that is dependant on meeting the new budget, which they have not only struggled with, but as council have not received any answers to their questions, have now raised utilities by \$590 a year for the next 30 years to cover the cost overrun. This is quite obviously an issue that is not specific to our own community, but to even the largest, and in a much larger scale. The resolution was defeated, due to its very specific wording to their own municipality, but I expect this to come forward again with the intent to protect everyone.

Weekend before last I got to attend the Fire Department's grand opening of our new fire hall, and would like to extend our thanks to not everyone already included, but our local school board SD84, but also our often forgotten School board trustee Allison Stiglitz for not only her tireless work to ensure we had a building for our fire department to call home but also for her care and concern for our students and teachers. We have one of the most supportive schools anywhere, and it is often missed. Most parents worry about class sizes while we are privileged to have not only small class sizes, but a phenomenal breakfast and lunch program, and field trips that are second to none.

All too often people get forgotten, and I hope that anyone who hears this takes a moment to realize that it is nearly impossible to list all the all the people responsible for how amazing Tahsis is, but they do deserve to be recognized, and shouldn't need an event for it to happen.

#### **Councillor Fowler**

It was very busy week at UBCM as I attended the following meetings:

the Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth,

Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, Ministry of Environment and Parks, Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs, and the Ministry of Health. And that was just the first day.

On behalf of the Village of Tahsis I also attended meetings with the Ministry of Forests, the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) and Regional Health authorities.

Additionally, I attended the following plenary discussions that may be of interest to our residents.

**1 Modest Growth & Big Challenges: The Road Ahead for BC's Economy.**

Recent figures from the provincial government reveal BC's finances are entering stormy waters with headlines about record deficits, spiraling debt, shrinking GDP, and credit downgrades in the news. This session will go beneath the surface to assess how serious the situation really is and look at what the challenges are to getting the economy – and provincial finances – back on course. Panelists will also consider how the current financial picture could affect provincial policy decisions, and what the knock-on impacts will be for the work and finances of local governments.

From Policy to Plate: Local Food Leadership.

- 2** As communities across B.C. face increasing pressures on food access, affordability, and sustainability, local, regional governments are uniquely positioned to lead transformative change. This session explores how municipalities can strengthen local food systems through robust policy development, strategic planning, and practical implementation. Drawing on real-world examples, panelists will share how food and agriculture initiatives—such as land use tools, procurement policies, and school meal programs—are being integrated into broader planning frameworks to improve community well-being. Learn how effective, place-based governance can reduce reliance on external food systems, increase resilience, and support long-term food security. Whether your community is urban or rural, large or small, this session offers actionable insights for delegates looking to chart a more sustainable, food-secure future.

**3** Local Watershed Boards: empowering communities to build watershed security.

Across BC, momentum is building for local watershed solutions. In the face of increasing drought, wildfire, floods, source water degradation, and economic uncertainty, communities are stepping up to lead. More local governments are walking alongside First Nations, forming partnerships to advance shared water priorities.

With provincial commitments to advance shared watershed governance and the Watershed Security Fund, there is an opportunity to shape a made-in-B.C. model of local watershed boards that support community-driven watershed planning, management and governance.

Hear from elected leaders and policy experts about their experience advancing shared watershed governance in their communities, how your community can get started, what's still needed, and how local watershed boards can drive solutions to community water challenges in partnerships with First Nations.

**4** Cowichan Tribes Aboriginal Title Court Decision: Implications for Local Governments.

In a recent landmark ruling, the BC Supreme Court granted Cowichan Tribes Aboriginal title to 780 acres in the City of Richmond including fee simple lands, setting important legal, political, and practical implications for local governments across BC. Join us to learn more from legal experts about this precedent setting decision and implications for local government. This session is designed for local elected officials seeking to understand how this landmark decision could affect municipal decision-making, land use authority, and relationships with First Nations.

Looking ahead, I have signed up for the attached conversation with Catherine McKenna but best of all was attending the grand opening of the Fire Hall. It was a sustained effort by many people over a long period of time to have this milestone to celebrate and at the event I spoke with both the Mayor and Fire Chief of Zeballos in addition to the many folks who came from far to share the day with our Village.

Submitted respectfully,  
Councillor Fowler

**Fowler/Moore: VOT 0359/2025**

**THAT** the Council Reports be received.

**CARRIED**

**L. Correspondence**

**1** September 17, 2025 email from Liz Charyna, Executive Director, Pathways Serious Mental Illness Society to Mayor Davis Re: Call for Mayors response- Regarding Charter Challenge to the BC Mental Health Act.

**2** September 22, 2025 email from the Ombudsperson of British Columbia Re: Open Meetings: Best Practices for Local Governments, second edition.

**3** September 24, 2025 email from Tejindar Parhar, Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing and Land Use Policy Division, Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs Re: Local Government Development Approval Program (LGDAP)- 3rd Intake.

**4** September 23, 2025 Letter from Ambrose Yung, Registrar, Youth Parliament of BC Alumni Society Re: British Columbia Youth Parliament, 97th Parliament

**Fowler/Moore: VOT 0360/2025**

**THAT** these correspondence items be received.

**CARRIED**

**Fowler/Moore: VOT 0361/2025**

**THAT** correspondence items #1 and #3 be pulled for discussion.

**CARRIED**

- September 17, 2025 email from Liz Charyna, Executive Director, Pathways Serious Mental Illness Society to Mayor Davis Re: Call for Mayors response- Regarding Charter Challenge to the BC Mental Health Act.**

Council debated a proposed letter to the BC government regarding involuntary mental health care, with council members expressing different views on the complexity of the issue and ultimately deciding not to support the letter as presented.

- September 24, 2025 email from Tejindar Parhar, Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing and Land Use Policy Division, Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs Re: Local Government Development Approval Program (LGDAP)- 3rd Intake.**

Councillor Fowler spoke briefly to this correspondence item noting the opening of program's 3rd intake.

## **M. New Business**

### **1 2026 Budget Meeting Dates**

**Moore/Fowler: VOT 0362/2025**

**THAT** the 2026 Budget Meeting dates be received.

**CARRIED**

Council agreed to move the November 19th meeting to November 21st to accommodate all members, with Adia confirming the new date and council members agreeing to remain flexible for future changes

**Fowler/Moore: VOT 0363/2025**

**THAT** the 2026 Budget Meeting dates be approved as amended.

**CARRIED**

### **2 Report to Council Re: REDIP Grant Application**

**Fowler/Moore: VOT 0364/2025**

**THAT** this Report to Council be received.

**CARRIED**

The CAO summarized the four REDIP Grant Streams (Capacity, Development, Implementation and Transition) outlining the funding amounts, eligibility, and matching requirements for each.

Council members discussed the pros and cons of each grant option.

Capacity Stream grant option could provide up to \$50,000 per year for three years plus access to a one-time \$100,000 fund for future projects and avoids the requirement for matching funds.

**Fowler/Moore: VOT 0365/2025**

**THAT** option #1 be approved (submit an application for the Capacity Stream to fund a staff economic development position).

**CARRIED**

**N. Public Input #2**

None.

**Fowler/Moore: VOT 0366/2025**

Mayor – I wish to raise a point of order. I wish to speak to personnel matters which, under the Community Charter, should be addressed in an in camera meeting. Therefore, I move that this meeting recess in order to go into a closed meeting so that this matter can be considered under s. 90(1)(c) of the Community Charter - labour relations or other employee relations.

**CARRIED**

**Recess**

**Fowler/Moore: VOT 0367/2025**

**THAT** Council recess at 8:03 p.m.

**CARRIED**

**Reconvene**

**Fowler/Moore: VOT 0368/2025**

**THAT** council reconvene at 8:27 p.m.

**CARRIED**

**O. Adjournment**

**Fowler/Moore: VOT 0369/2025**

**THAT** the meeting be adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

**CARRIED**

**Certified Correct this  
21st day of October, 2025**



**Chief Administrative Officer**