



Minutes

<u>Meeting</u>	Regular Council Meeting
<u>Date</u>	April 7, 2026
<u>Time</u>	7:00 PM
<u>Place</u>	Municipal Hall - Council Chambers and by electronic means

<u>Present</u>	Mayor Martin Davis Councillor Sarah Fowler Councillor Brenda Lenahan Councillor Ryan Moore Councillor Cheryl Northcott	7:04 by video by video
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<u>Staff</u>	Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager	by video
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<u>Guests</u>	Natalie Dickson, Principal, Captain Meares Elementary Secondary School
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<u>Public</u>	10 members of the public.	7 by video
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A. Call to Order Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement

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

B. Introduction of Late Items None.

C. Approval of the Agenda

Moore/Fowler: VOT 0141/2026

THAT the Agenda for the April 7, 2026 Regular meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

D. Delegation

Captain Meares Elementary Secondary School (CMESS) Presentation on the 2026-2027 School Growth Plan

Moore/Fowler: VOT 0142/2026

THAT this presentation be received.

CARRIED

Natalie Dixon, principal of CMESS, presented the 2026-2027 School Growth Plan, emphasizing the importance of community and stakeholder input into the plan and outlined the process for gathering feedback through surveys targeting students, families, staff and local leadership.

Attachment # 1 CMESS Presentation

E. Public Input # 1

A member of the public spoke to a recent CMESS event.

F. Adoption of the Minutes

1 March 17, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0143/2026

THAT the Regular Council Meeting minutes of March 17, 2026 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

G. Rise and Report

None.

H. Business Arising

1 Report to Council Re: Capital Projects Status Report

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0144/2026

THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

The CAO provided council with an update on the status of major capital projects, including the completion of the Waste Water Treatment Project, the Fire Hall Project, and the Tourist Centre Upgrade Project as well as the current status of Phase 3 of the Flood Protection Project and the Community Boat Launch Project.

Phase 3 of the Flood Protection Project received a letter from Fisheries and Oceans Canada confirming the project as described will not violate the Fisheries Act as long as the steps are taken to avoid and mitigate non-compliance.

The Community Boat Launch is set to open to the public with the project approximately 90-95% complete.

Council discussed the seasonal nature and accessibility of the new washroom for the Community Boat Launch and potential upgrades. Council also discussed other possible amenities.

Council debated the introduction of fees for the community boat launch and the establishment of a reserve fund to finance future maintenance and replacement.

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0145/2026

THAT Council establish a reserve fund for the Community Boat Launch.

CARRIED

Lenahan/Moore: VOT 0146/2026

THAT as budget updates become clear on the Community Boat Launch Project Council will have a further discussion regarding amenities with the remaining grant funds.

CARRIED

2 Report to Council Re: Tahsis Museum and Visitor Information Centre Reopening Plan Project.

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0147/2026

THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

The CAO presented three options for reopening the museum- a Tahsis Heritage Society -led model, a village-led model, and a formal partnership agreement between the Village and the Tahsis Heritage Society. The pros and cons of each option were discussed.

The Visitor Information Centre is targeted for opening in June 2026 while the museum's full reopening may be phased, starting with basic displays and expanding as resources and agreements allow.

Reopening Plan Options:

Moore/Fowler: VOT 0148/2026

THAT option # 3 be approved (that the Village and Tahsis Heritage Society negotiate and enter into a formal agreement defining roles, responsibilities, expectations for the planning, development, and ongoing operation of the museum before proceeding with the next phase of the work).

CARRIED

Funding Options:

The reopening plan estimates \$15,000 in costs, with \$4,500 allocated to the Visitor Information Centre and \$10,500 for the museum.

Council emphasized the importance of involving the Tahsis Heritage Society and local First Nations in exhibit development and decision-making, with plans to consult further and seek grant opportunities for museum enhancements.

A reserve fund for Visitor Information Centre's physical infrastructure was proposed to ensure long-term maintenance and replacement.

Lenahan/Fowler: VOT 0149/2026

THAT option # 4 be approved (that the Visitor Information Centre reopen in 2026 using \$4500 from the Economic Development Reserve Fund).

CARRIED

3 Report to Council Re: Road Safety Program Strategic Priority- ICBC Requirements and Implications.

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0150/2026

THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

The CAO presented to Council the requirements and implications for proceeding with the Road Safety Strategic Priority. Topics discussed included: ICBC funding and financial implications; installation and maintenance requirements; and staff capacity and project timing.

Concerns were expressed about speeding near the school and the playground zones, emphasizing the need for concrete data (which can be obtained from the speed reader boards) and enforcement.

Alternate safety measures such as improved signage and the RCMP involvement in safety education were discussed.

Fowler/Lenahan

THAT option # 3 be approved (defer this Strategic Priority to 2027).

**MOTION
FAILED**

**Registered "no
vote"**

**Councillor
Moore**

**Registered "no
vote"**

**Councillor
Northcott**

**Registered "no
vote" Mayor
Davis**

Moore/

THAT Option #2 be approved (fund this Strategic Priority by increasing 2026 property taxes).

**MOTION
FAILED**

J. Council Reports

Mayor Davis

No report.

Councillor Northcott

No report.

Councillor Lenahan

No report.

Councillor Moore

No report.

Councillor Fowler

Please include this one pager from the March 4, 2026 Webinar- Union of BC Municipalities/BC Wildfire Service webinar regarding Wildfire Act policy engagement related to prevention regulation.

Attachment #2 Municipal Feedback on regulating activities that cause wildfires.

Also, Look for Nootka Sound Watershed Society hats at the Derby this year. At the March 21st Nootka Sound Watershed Society Strategic Priority Planning meeting hats were distributed.

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0151/2026

THAT the Council Reports be received.

CARRIED

K. Bylaws

1 Election and Assent Voting Bylaw No. 681, 2026

1st, 2nd and 3rd Readings

The CAO outlined the key aspects of the bylaw which included: increasing the minimum number of nominators from two to ten; adoption of the provincial voter's list, specifying one advance voting day, and repealing previous related bylaw to ensure compliance with the Local Government Act.

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0152/2026

THAT Election and Assent Voting Bylaw No. 681, 2026 be received for consideration.

CARRIED

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0153/2026

THAT Election and Assent Voting Bylaw No. 681, 2026 receive a first reading this 7th day of April, 2026.

CARRIED

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0154/2026

THAT Election and Assent Voting Bylaw No. 681, 2026 receive a second reading this 7th day of April, 2026.

CARRIED

Moore/Fowler: VOT 0155/2026

THAT Election and Assent Voting Bylaw No. 681, 2026 receive a third reading this 7th day of April, 2026.

CARRIED

L. Correspondence

1 March 17, 2026 email from Montana Scotties to Village Council of Tahsis Re: Community Event Proposal - " Smoke on the Harbour" Drift Event.

2 March 18, 2026 email from Mayor Sid Tobias, Town of View Royal to Mayor and Council Re: Judicial Review Coalition Update- Provincial Housing Legislation (Bills 44, 27, 13, 15, and M216).

3 **March 19, 2026 email from ParticipACTION Re: 2026 ParticipACTION Community Challenge presented by Novo Nordisk- \$1000 Grant.**

4 **March 6, 2026 email from Colin Boyd, Regional Director, Canadian Heritage Re: Celebrate Canada Funding - \$2040 Grant.**

5 **March 27, 2026 email sent from Comox Strathcona Waste Management to Mayor and Council Re: Draft Solid Waste Management Plan.**

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0156/2026

THAT these correspondence item be received.

CARRIED

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0157/2026

THAT correspondence item(s) 1 and 3 be pulled for discussion.

CARRIED

L1 **March 17, 2026 email from Montana Scotties to Village Council of Tahsis Re: Community Event Proposal - " Smoke on the Harbour" Drift Event.**

Councillor Moore spoke to this correspondence item noting the Village's unsuitable terrain for drifting, potential noise and pollution and lack of community support.

L3 **March 19, 2026 email from ParticipACTION Re: 2026 ParticipACTION Community Challenge presented by Novo Nordisk- \$1000 Grant.**

Councillor Fowler thanked staff for taking the time to complete this grant application.

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0158/2026

THAT correspondence item #5 also be pulled for discussion.

CARRIED

L5 **March 27, 2026 email sent from Comox Strathcona Waste Management to Mayor and Council Re: Draft Solid Waste Management Plan.**

The CAO spoke to this correspondence item noting the request from CSWM staff to present and discuss the contents of the draft Solid Waste Management Plan at a future council meeting.

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0159/2026

THAT CSWM staff be invited to present to Council the draft Solid Waste Management Plan.

CARRIED

1. **New Business**
March 24, 2026 email and template letter from Brodie Guy, CEO, Island Economic Trust to Mayor Davis Re: Request for a letter of Support.

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0160/2026

THAT this email and request for a letter of support be received and considered.

CARRIED

Mayor Davis spoke to this request from Island Coastal Economic Trust's (ICET) for a letter of support to obtain sustainable provincial funding for the trust.

Moore/Fowler: VOT 0161/2026

THAT Council approve sending the template letter from Island Coastal Economic Trust to Minister Kahlon and requesting staff to prepare the letter accordingly for the Mayor's signature, with copies to Anna Kindy, MLA North Island and Island Coastal Economic Trust.

CARRIED

N. Public Input #2

A member of the public inquired about speed control measures such as speed bumps and RCMP speed gun availability to which council responded.

The Village's long-term debt servicing percentage was requested. The Director of Finance responded that approximately 2.3% of operating revenues are allocated to long-term debt.

There was a discussion regarding access to the landfill and the Grease Trail during the Perry Bridge repairs to which the CAO responded.

A request was made to improve the visibility and condition of the parking honour box sign down by the boat launch.

Questions were raised about alternative uses for the Tahsis Visitor Information Centre during the off season with suggestions including meeting space and co-working hubs.

O. Adjournment

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0162/2026

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

CARRIED

**Certified Correct this
21st day of April, 2026**



Chief Administrative Officer



School Growth Plan

2026–2027

Your Voice Matters

Village of Tahsis Council | April 7, 2026

Who we are

31

Students
K-12

1

School in
Tahsis

7

Indigenous
students

Captain Meares Elementary Secondary School is a K-12 school serving families and children on the traditional territory of the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation.

It's important that a school represent goals and hopes of the the community that it serves.

Why we're here tonight

- 1 Every BC school must develop a School Growth Plan under the Ministry's Framework for Enhancing Student Learning
- 2 SD84 has a new strategic plan with three priority areas for all schools
- 3 Community input is required — and we want it to be genuine, not a checkbox
- 4 We're starting fresh: asking the community what matters before setting goals

"We're not asking you to rate us. We're asking you to help us set the direction."

Three priority areas

SD84's strategic plan asks every school to set goals in:



Learning

Student achievement in literacy and numeracy



Relationships

Belonging, safety, and well-being



Indigenous Ways of Knowing

Honouring Indigenous perspectives and culture

What we're asking the community

No pre-loaded goals

The community tells us what to prioritize — we don't start with answers

Choice-based survey

Under each priority area, choose what matters most from real goal themes used across BC

Multiple versions

Adults, plus age-appropriate versions for K–3, Grades 4–7, and Grades 8–12

Open to everyone

Students, families, staff, community members, Elders

What the survey looks like

Learning

“Which learning priorities are most important for our school to focus on next year?”

Reading • Writing • Math • Critical thinking • Goal-setting • Support • Challenge • Transitions ...

Relationships

“What would make CMESS a place where everyone feels safe, valued, and connected?”

(Open-ended -- your own words)

Indigenous

“Which priorities related to Indigenous ways of knowing are most important to you?”

Local history • Land-based learning • Elder relationships • Languages • Reconciliation ...

Who we're consulting



Students

All grades, age-appropriate surveys



Families

Adult survey (online & paper)



Staff

Teachers and support staff



Village of Tahsis

Tonight's presentation



Mowachaht/Muchalaht FN

Rights-holders — territory



Ehattesaht First Nation

Rights-holders — students

First Nations are rights-holders in education, not just stakeholders. We are engaging them directly and respectfully.

What we're asking of Council

1

Receive

this presentation on our school planning process

2

Help distribute

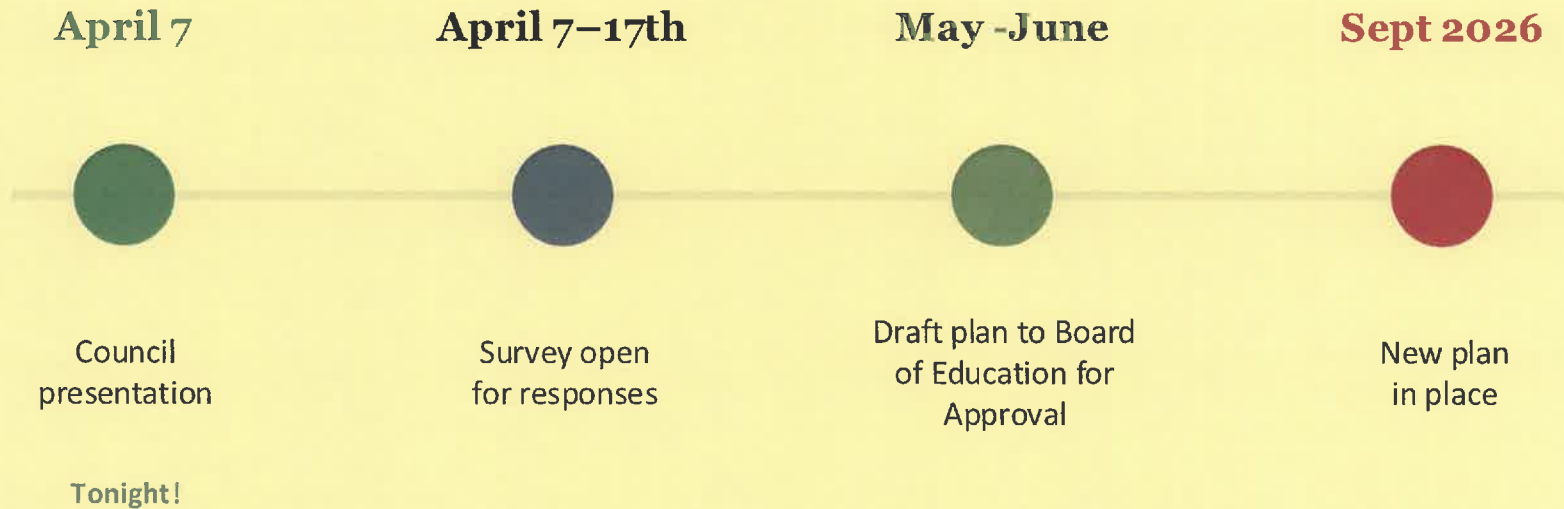
the survey through Village channels — website, social media, newsletter — to reach families and residents

3

Share your input

Council members are welcome to complete the survey yourselves

Timeline





Thank you

for being part of our school community

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/m2zj2L5G69>

Natalie Dickson, Principal

Captain Meares Elementary Secondary School
(250) 934-6305 | ndickson@viw.sd84.bc.ca

Captain Meares Elementary
Secondary School - School Goal
Planning Survey



QUICK SUMMARY: Municipal feedback on regulating activities that cause wildfires

What are municipalities currently regulating?



Open burning



Yard waste management



Fireworks

Biggest challenges regulating wildfire prevention through bylaw?

**Capacity
(79%)**

**Communication
(33%)**

**Authority
(29%)**

What's unique about regulating wildfire within municipal boundaries?

Local authorities/
development considerations
(e.g. Wildfire Development
Permit Areas, covenants,
bylaws)

Jurisdictional overlap (with
Crown, private lands,
agricultural uses)

Smoke/venting
considerations (e.g. high
smoke sensitivity zone)

People (e.g. recreation,
tourism)