



AGENDA

**Regular Meeting of the Village of Tahsis Council
to be held on March 17, 2026 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers
Municipal Hall, 977 South Maquinna Drive and by electronic means**

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

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

A. Call to Order **Mayor Davis will call the meeting to order.**

Land Acknowledgement **Mayor Davis will acknowledge and respect that we are meeting upon Mowachaht/Muchalaht territory.**

B. Introduction of Late Items None.

C. Approval of the Agenda

D. Petitions and Delegations None.

E. Public Input #1

F. Adoption of the Minutes **1 March 3, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes**

2 March 3, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

3 March 6, 2026 Special Council Meeting Minutes

G. Rise and Report

H. Business Arising **1 Report to Council Re: Wide Area Fill (hog fuel) Evaluation Report.**

J. Council Reports

- 1 Mayor Davis**
- 2 Councillor Fowler**
- 3 Councillor Northcott**
- 4 Councillor Lenahan**
- 5 Councillor Moore**

K. Bylaws

L. Correspondence

- 1 March 3, 2026 email from Ross Siemens, Mayor, Abbotsford to UBCM Member Municipalities Re: Request for Support- 2026 Proposed UBCM Resolutions 1) Engagement on Pipeline Valuation Changes and 2)Exempting Local Governments from Expanded Provincial Sales Tax Requirements.**

- 2 March 9, 2026 email from Philip Perras, Student at Camosun College, Kamloops, to Mayor and Council Re: Evidence Before Blame: Structural Questions Following the Tumbler Ridge Tragedy.**

M. New Business None.

Public Input # 2

Rise and Report

O. Adjournment



Minutes

Village of Tahsis

Meeting	Committee of the Whole	
Date	March 3, 2026	
Time	1 p.m.	
Place	Municipal Hall - Council Chambers and by electronic means	
Present	Mayor Martin Davis Councillor Sarah Fowler Councillor Cheryl Northcott Councillor Ryan Moore	
Absent	Councillor Brenda Lenahan	
Staff	Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer Janet Stdenis, Corporate services Manager	by video
Guests	Ashley Cousens, Area Manager, Vancouver Island District, Courtenay Office, Ministry of Transportation and Transit Greg Goldstone, Resource Manager, Regional Operations Division, Coast Area, Ministry of Forests Kellen Truant, Operations Manager- North Island, Ministry of Transportation and Transit Chelsie Stubbs, Economic Development Officer/ Community Advisor, Village of Gold River	by video by video by video by video
Public	1 member of the public.	1 by video

Call to Order

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

Land Acknowledgement

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

Introduction of Late Items

None.

Approval of the Agenda

Moore: COW 0022/2026

THAT the Agenda for the March 3, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

H. Business
Arising

1

The Village of Tahsis Council quarterly meeting with the Ministry of Transportation and Transit and the Ministry of Forest staff regarding the level of maintenance and related issues regarding the Head Bay Forest Service Road.

Moore: COW 0023/2026

THAT the Village of Tahsis Council engage in discussions with Ministry of Transportation and Transit and Ministry of Forest staff regarding the level of maintenance and other issues on Head Bay Forest Service Road.

CARRIED

Ashley Cousens, Ministry of Transportation and Transit, provided a comprehensive update on HBFSR winter road conditions and maintenance. She noted that the grader has been down for a week with the parts for it expected soon, after which a full grading of the road will be done.

Discussions are ongoing about installing additional reflectors and delineators at kilometers 21 and 22. There have been challenges with installing delineators due to bedrock, so alternative solutions such as rocks or barriers are being considered.

Drainage issues, especially near Head Bay Camp, are being investigated, with plans for spring cleaning and ditch repairs.

Council inquired about recent traffic monitoring to which Ashely Cousens responded that none had been conducted since the last meeting but is scheduled for the coming month.

Council raised concerns about the condition of bridge approaches, noting that potholes often form at the edges and that previous suggestions to pave these approaches have not been implemented.

Council described the persistent problem at the Little Canton Bridge where pavement was removed during the bridge replacement and was not restored, resulting in hazardous potholes and a dangerous transition between the gravel and paved surfaces. Greg Goldstone, noted that the Ministry of Forests does not handle hard surface work and that coordination with the Ministry of Transportation and Transit is required.

Greg Goldstone, committed to speaking with his engineers and necessary ministry contacts and to providing a report on the status of the issue at the Little Canton Bridge by the next meeting.

There was a discussion about "danger trees". Ashely Cousens explained the current brushing and danger tree protocols, incident and proactive management procedures, the revision process to address gaps in the MOU between the Ministry of Transportation and Transit and the Ministry of Forests regarding danger trees and the interim safety measures.

Council discussed with ministry staff the need for improved signage and communication for Head Bay Forest Service Road users, including cyclist warning signs, cell coverage notifications and real-time road condition updates.

Greg Goldstone confirmed that cyclist warning signage are included in this year's signage order, pending budget approval, and anticipated before summer. Council suggested that the information on the signs include information about the lack of cell coverage but Greg Goldstone explained that the selected sign is a standard schematic without text.

There was a discussion about the recent emergency response to the Highway 28 washout along with the protocols for assessing and opening alternative routes in case of major blockages.

Council discussed the damage to the #2 Sucwoa Bridge caused by logging trucks which Ashley Cousens committed to investigate.

Fowler: COW 0024/2026

THAT representative of the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation or Gold River be permitted to speak and ask questions of Ministry staff.

CARRIED

There were no questions for ministry staff.

Adjournment

Fowler: COW 0025/2026

THAT the meeting adjourn at 1:53 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified correct this
17th day of March, 2026

Corporate Officer



Minutes

<u>Meeting</u>	Regular Council Meeting
<u>Date</u>	March 3, 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	by video
<u>Staff</u>	Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer Adia Mavrikos, CPA, CA, Director of Finance Kyle Wilkinson, Fire chief/ EPC Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager	by video by video by video by video
<u>Guests</u>	Sgt. Greg Young, NCO i/c Nootka Sound RCMP Detachment. Shaun Koopman, Manager, Emergency Services , SRD	left 7:13 p.m. by video
<u>Public</u>	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

Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0112/2026

THAT the Agenda for the March 3, 2026 Regular meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

D. Delegation

None.

E. Public Input # 1

None.

F. Adoption of the Minutes

1 February 17, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.

Northcott/Moore: VOT 0113/2026

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

CARRIED

2 February 18, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

Northcott/Moore: VOT 0114/2026

THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2026 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

G. 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/Moore: VOT 0115/2026

THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

Sgt. Greg Young, NCO i/c Nootka Sound RCMP Detachment presented the detachment's quarterly report to council, detailing crime statistics, policing priorities, staffing updates and the introduction of body worn cameras. Sgt. Greg Young expressed an interest in participating in community events and announced plans for a bike rodeo in collaboration with Road Safe BC.

2 Reconsideration of Resolution VOT 0055/2026 (January 20, 2026 Regular Council Meeting).

At the January 20, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Council passed the following resolution.

Lenahan/Moore: VOT 0055/2026

THAT the SCBL continue with an amended objective (to interact with Mayor and Council and to develop a dialogue to enable the delivery and future development of the Strategic Economic Development Plan) and the following amended scope:

1) Identify alternative funding opportunities and grants for business and tourism development.

2) Consider information, suggestions and recommendations for economic development and business growth working within the approved Strategic Economic Development Plan and Action plan.

3) Consult with the public as per the existing Economic Development Plan mandate

and;

THAT the meetings be held quarterly.

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0116/2026

THAT resolution VOT 0055/2026 be reconsidered.

CARRIED

Moore/Fowler: VOT 0117/2026

THAT resolution # VOT 0055/2026 be rescinded.

CARRIED

Council revisited the resolution due to concerns about the rigidity of the quarterly meeting schedule.

Councillor Lenahan proposed also amending the language of the scope of the resolution expressing concern that restrictive wording could impede the committee's effectiveness. Council debated the merits of changing the language of the scope but decided not to proceed with the proposed changes.

Northcott/Moore: VOT 0118/2026

THAT the SCBL continue with an amended objective (to interact with Mayor and Council and to develop a dialogue to enable the delivery and future development of the Strategic Economic Development Plan) and the following amended scope:

1) Identify alternative funding opportunities and grants for business and tourism development.

2) Consider information, suggestions and recommendations for economic development and business growth working within the approved Strategic Economic Development Plan and Action plan.

3) Consult with the public as per the existing Economic Development Plan mandate

and;

THAT the meetings be held up to 4 times per year at the Chair's discretion.

CARRIED

J. Council Reports

Mayor Davis

At this point, the new boat launch ramp has been completed in the tidal zone, with future work including adding more riprap to stabilize it and further concrete slabs added above the tideline. Completion of the project involves placement of a new metal gangway and floating dock for the launch, along with building a new public washroom beside it. The old airplane dock has been removed as it had advanced rot. No contract has been tendered yet for a replacement and we will see how our costs are going before proceeding further, as we are avoiding any cost overruns.

The museum upgrades are largely complete and we hope to have our opening in May. Displays will take longer but the plan is to have First Nation history, Colonial history, mill history and natural history of the region.

I am not happy to announce that the planned longterm care facility planned for Campbell River has been shelved by the province, which is in a budget crisis currently. The Comox Strathcona Health Board, of which I am a director, had allocated \$50 million toward this project and our Chairperson is seeking a meeting with the Province to address this. For now, the prospects of reviving the project in the near future are not good.

Councillor Northcott

I attended the Vancouver Island Regional Library Orientation, AGM, and Board meetings on February 21. At the AGM I was elected Vice Chair, and will also sit as a non-voting member of the Audit and Finance Special Committee.

Councillor Lenahan

On Friday, I attended the first ever conference dedicated to Pre-Hospital and Retrieval Medicine.

The host was a relatively new organization called Med Response BC whose objective is to deliver timely, expert care to critically ill and injured patients in rural, remote, and Indigenous communities across British Columbia. They aim to complement, not replace, the existing system by filling gaps in prehospital & retrieval medicine (PHRM).

We are so lucky to have a robust ambulance crew in Tahsis. But it's important to note that BCEHS teams have limits to their mandate and are not permitted to engage in retrievals that are 'off road'. So this organization is proposing a service that would fill the gaps in critical care and in situations that require "off road" retrievals.

It was super interesting to hear discussions about remote communities- mostly First Nations, fly in and boat in- and that many of them of similar size do not have BCEHS support like we do but do have nursing stations that sound similar to our health centre except possibly less resourced.

I was at the conference in my role as the Executive Director of BC Complex Kids Society, to listen to a mom I know speak about her experience with a lack of timely transport that unfortunately led to her son dying while waiting for transport to BC Children's Hospital from Comox.

I look forward to following this organizations progress and support the work they are doing.

Councillor Moore

No report.

Councillor Fowler

Please include the above slide deck from a webinar I attended as my Report to Council. Despite healthcare being a provincial government responsibility, municipalities must focus more on core services like roads and sewers. I imagine there are some village residents that will be possibly affected by these changes. My hope is that folks will find the information helpful as it regards pharmaceutical products in BC, especially concerning diabetes medications being covered, via a federal program, starting March 1st.

Below is a list of other information gathering opportunities copied from my calendar, as virtual **(only 2 in-person meeting over the 2 week time period, both local and noted with bold type)** attendance was brought up by a member of the public at the budget meeting. I didn't provide the same breakdown last meeting, as is my preferred practice, but hopefully I can find a better way to share with anyone interest the takeaways from my endeavors and may be able to answer question on, should any arise.

Submitted respectfully,
Councillor Fowler

Attachment # 1 Diabetes Wellness Webinar 2026 UBCM

February 18, 2026

You're registered for Diabetes medication in BC: The current and changing landscape

Hi Sarah, Your spot is reserved for this event.

Diabetes medication in BC: The current and changing landscape

Wed, Feb 18, 2026 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

National Pharmacare

Plan: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/plans/national-pharmacare-plan-np>

Free contraceptives: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/pharmacare-for-bc-residents/what-we-cover/prescription-contraceptives>

PEER Diabetes Medication Decision Aid: <https://decisionaid.ca/diabetes/>
Canadian Diabetes Risk Questionnaire

(CANRISK): <https://www.healthycanadians.gc.ca/en/canrisk>

Virtual Diabetes Education Program: <https://www.diabetes.ca/get-involved/local-programs-events/virtual-diabetes-education-program>

Self Management BC (Free programs designed for those experiencing type 2 diabetes): <https://www.selfmanagementbc.ca/diabetesprogram>

T2D Network: <https://www.t2dnetwork.ca/>

As discussed, our next webinar is on March 4th: Bridging the gap on men's mental health literacy. Join Joe Rachert from HeadsUpGuys for a powerful session that explores how we can better support men's mental health.

CBSR Sustainable Procurement Fellowship (SPF) 2026 – Information Session

CBSR invites you to join an Information Session about the 2026 Sustainable Procurement Fellowship (SPF), our national, virtual program designed to help sustainability, procurement, and supply chain professionals move from ambition to practical implementation.

This session is for professionals considering applying to the 2026 cohort and wanting a clearer sense of fit, expectations, and impact.

What we'll cover:

Overview of the Sustainable Procurement Fellowship (SPF)

Who the program is designed for

SPF Alumni testimonials

Program structure and 2026 schedule (March–June) Q&A: Application process and timelines

Date & Time: Wednesday, February 18, 2026

11:00–12:00 pm PT | 12:00–1:00 pm MT | 2:00–3:00 pm ET

-in person

**February 18, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting (VOT Budget Meeting)
at 7 p.m.-10pm**

February 19

Thank you for registering for the Winter 2026 Virtual Initiative Spotlights, part of the Oceans Protection Plan (OPP) Pacific Marine Dialogue Forum! We are excited to have you join us as we explore important updates and discussions on oceans protection and marine transportation initiatives on the Pacific coast.

Event Details; Dates: Every Thursday from February 5 to March 26 Time:

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM PT

February 20

National Electeds-only Call (Climate Caucus)

A monthly meeting space for current and former local elected leaders across the country to connect, share insights, challenges, and success stories, and discuss climate policies important to your communities.

February 24

Topic: The Five Principles of Strategic Communication

Description: Every organisation needs to engage – with staff and stakeholders, with the media, with government and regulators, and with the public. But too often, communications are tactical, responsive and fragmented. Strategic Communications is about building engagement that delivers your organisation's core aims by: Developing and delivering strategic aims; Building constructive relationships; Understanding and influencing opinion; Managing risk and reputation.

This training seminar will introduce the main concepts of: Audiences; Engagement; Persuasion; Narrative; Advocacy.

These are all applicable across different professional settings and national cultures, as they are based on understanding how people think, how they listen, and how they respond to information, which are deep human behavioural traits.

February 25

Integrating Natural Assets into Municipal Asset Management

Date & Time Feb 25, 2026 08:00 AM Vancouver

Description Incorporating a Natural Asset Inventory into municipal asset management helps municipalities recognize and protect the essential services that natural systems provide, while reducing long term costs and strengthening overall service reliability.

In this webinar, Patrick Wong, Senior Natural Heritage Planner at City of Markham will share about the findings and recommendations of Markham's Natural Assets Inventory and Evaluation Study. The session will highlight key components of the natural asset inventory—including asset valuation, condition, and levels of service—and provide an overview of how these assets contribute to municipal climate resilience and municipal service delivery.

Safeguarding Services: A Practical Toolkit for Local Government Continuity

Description: Under the Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA), continuity planning is a legal requirement, making it vital for municipalities to understand and implement robust strategies. This webinar provides practical tools and guidance to help BC local governments meet EDMA compliance, reduce risk, and ensure uninterrupted delivery of essential services. Learn how to build resilience through effective planning, governance, and real-world best practices.

What You'll Learn

- Why business continuity matters for local governments and its role in protecting essential services during emergencies.
- Understanding EDMA compliance: What the Emergency and Disaster Management Act requires and how to meet those obligations.
- Key components of a continuity plan, including risk assessment, governance, and resource allocation.
- Practical tools and templates to help municipalities implement effective continuity strategies.
- Best practices and real-world examples from BC local governments to strengthen resilience and maintain public trust.

Nootka Sound Watershed Society 7pm-8:30(monthly)

February 26

Environment and Health Seminar Series: Trusting your senses, how community members identify air quality issues with Dr. Matthew Adams

February 27

Environment Seminar Series: "I wish these were trees": A case against sacrifice zone framings with Dr. Laurence Butet-Roch

AVICC Virtual Session

Housing Corporations & Rural Solutions:

Expanding Access to Affordable Housing

Presented by The Capital Region Housing Corporation, The CRD's Rural Housing Program and The Comox Valley Housing Authority

JEDDI Seminar Understanding EDI Reversals

March 3

Patriotic purchases: What a national Buy Canadian policy means for local procurement

-in person

March 3, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting at 1 p.m.

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0119/2026

THAT the Council Reports be received.

CARRIED

K. Bylaws

1 Report to Council Re: Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 682, 2026

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0120/2026

THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

The Director of Finance presented to Council the Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw, explaining its purpose, borrowing limits, and anticipated cash flow needs. The Director of Finance responded to questions from Council.

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0121/2026

THAT option # 1 be approved (Give first, second and third readings to the Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No, 682, 2026).

CARRIED

Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 682, 2026

1st, 2nd and 3 Readings

Northcott/Moore: VOT 0122/2026

THAT the Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 682, 2026 be received for consideration.

CARRIED

Northcott/Moore: VOT 0123/2026

THAT the Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 682, 2026 receive a first reading this 3rd day of March, 2026.

CARRIED

Northcott/Moore: VOT 0124/2026

THAT the Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 682, 2026 receive a second reading this 3rd day of March, 2026.

CARRIED

Northcott/Moore: VOT 0125/2026

THAT the Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 682, 2026 receive a third reading this 3rd day of March, 2026.

CARRIED

L. Correspondence

1 None.

M. New Business

1 Report to Council Re: Grant Opportunity- 2026-2027 FireSmart Community and Funding Support.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0126/2026

THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

Shaun Koopman, Manager, Emergency Services , Strathcona Regional District, presented to Council for approval, a grant application under the Community Resiliency Investment 2026-2027 FireSmart Community and Fund Supports program.

This grant application seeks nearly \$300,000 in funding for wildfire training for the fire department, equipment purchases, hiring a FireSmart crew member, providing rebates for property owners to implement FireSmart improvements and curbside debris removal (chipping).

Fowler/Northcott VOT 0127/2026

THAT option # 1 be approved (THAT as part of the Village of Tahsis ongoing work in relation to wildfire risk reduction that an application for financial assistance under the Community Resiliency Investment 2026-2027 FireSmart Community and Funding Supports program be prepared and submitted based on the scope and budget presented in this staff report and THAT the Village of Tahsis commits to its willingness to provide overall grant management if the application is successful).

CARRIED

N. Public Input #2

None.

O. Adjournment

Moore/Northcott: VOT 0128/2026

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

CARRIED

**Certified Correct this
17th day of March, 2026**

Chief Administrative Officer

Diabetes

Update 2026

Anar Dossa BScPharm Pharm D CDE
Vice President, Pharmacy Services

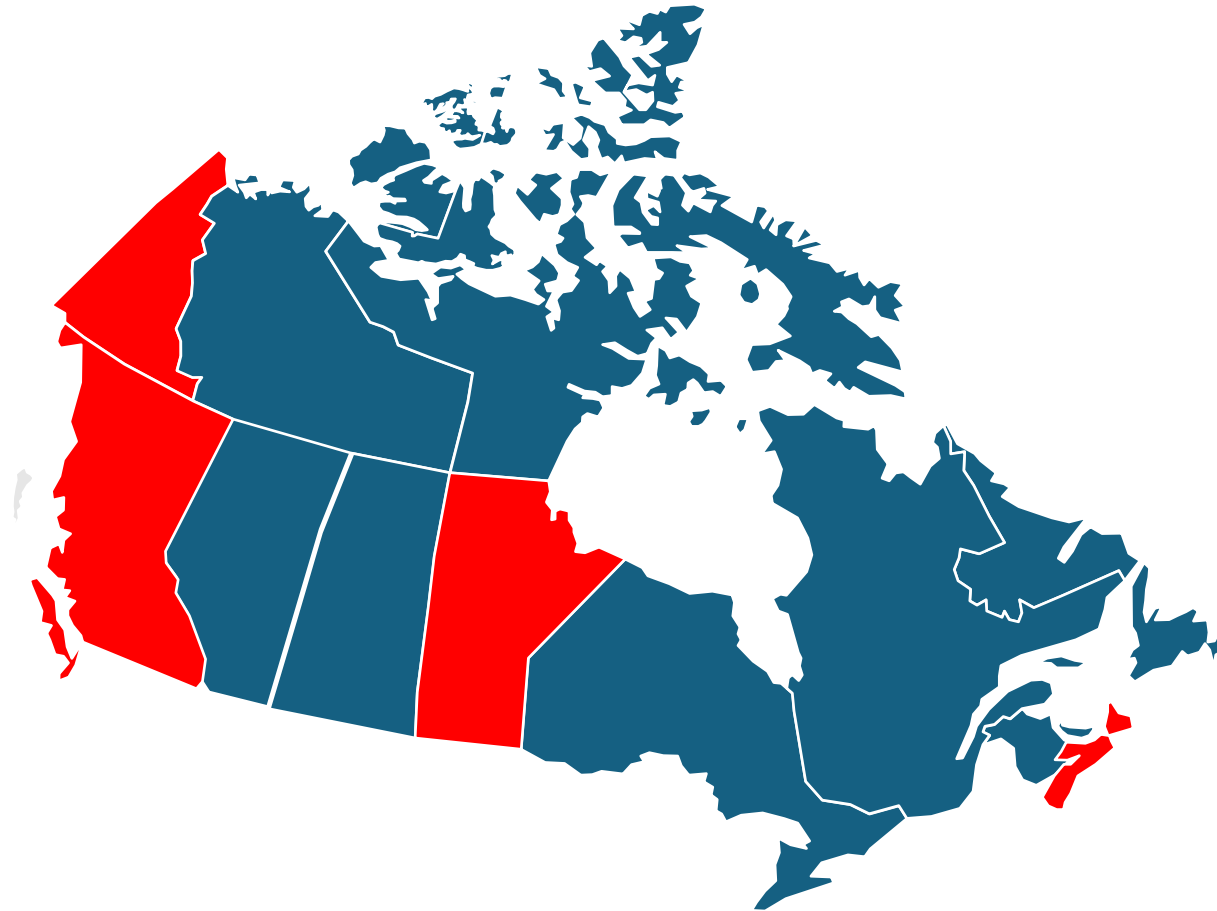


- **National Pharmacare:** What to expect on March 1, 2026 with coverage for diabetes medications and supplies
- **Mounjaro** is America's top selling medication of all time – how does it stack up against Ozempic and other treatment options?
- **Ozempic's lifting patent** – what this means for costs and access to diabetes treatment
- **Screening and prevention** – tips and guidelines that can be shared in the workplace to promote diabetes awareness and early detection and intervention of prediabetes

Environmental Update: National Pharmacare



National Pharmacare – What We Know So Far



BC
 March 1, 2026

- 100% coverage of select diabetes medications and hormone therapy

April 1, 2026

- Expanded coverage for certain diabetes devices and supplies

Yukon
 BC
 Manitoba
 PEI

Each provincial list is different



National Pharmacare is a federal program administered provincially
BC PharmaCare is a provincial program

New Plan – Plan NP

As of March 1, 2026

- Some diabetes medications will be free (see link below for list)

- Some hormone therapies will be free

- Most contraceptives will continue to be free

As of April 2026

- Diabetes supplies-expanded coverage

- Deductible will have to be met

- Details to come

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/plans/national-pharmacare-plan-np>

FREE CONTRACEPTIVES FOR ALL
Many contraceptives are free to B.C. residents

How it works

- 1 If you currently pay for a prescription, ask a prescriber or pharmacist if it is now free or if they can change it to one that is free
- 2 Present the prescription and your BC Services Card at any pharmacy

Share the news

- [Poster, \(PDF, 68KB\)](#)
- [Information sheets \(available in 15 languages\)](#)
- Posts for [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)
- [Free contraceptives in B.C. \(video\)](#)

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/pharmacare-for-bc-residents/what-we-cover/prescription-contraceptives>

Comparison

Diabetes Medications



Diabetes Drugs | Mounjaro vs Ozempic

Attachment #1

F2

Feature	Ozempic	Mounjaro
Approved by Health Canada for Type 2 diabetes	✓	✓
Reduces blood sugar	✓	✓
Supports weight loss	✓	✓
Weight loss (average)	15%	15-21%
Hormonal mechanism	Works on one hormone	Works on two hormones
Prolongs life	✓	Under study
Reduces heart attack risk	✓	Under study
Reduces kidney damage	✓	Under study
Public coverage	✓	✗
CDA* submission status	Positive listing recommendation received	Submission withdrawn and resubmitted by manufacturer
Estimated annual cost	\$6,000	\$10,000

*CDA = Canadian Drug Agency

Diabetes Drugs – Jardiance vs Ozempic

Baseline risk of death per 1000 people with T2DM over 5 years ^{4,5}	with CKD and CVD		with CKD		with CVD		with ≥ 3 CVD risk factors	
	265		170		120		70	
Change in risk of death if 1000 people receive treatment for 5 years ^{4,5}	Jardiance	Ozempic	Jardiance	Ozempic	Jardiance	Ozempic	Jardiance	Ozempic
		30 fewer	24 fewer	22 fewer	17 fewer	16 fewer	13 fewer	10 fewer

CKD = Chronic Kidney Disease
CVD = Cardiovascular Disease

Diabetes Drugs – Jardiance vs Ozempic

Poll

Which drug would you take?

1. Jardiance
2. Ozempic

Diabetes Drugs—How Much Do They Cost?

Attachment #1

F2

Drug	Annual Cost (\$)
Metformin	Less than \$50.00 (March 1 free)
Glyburide, Gliclazide	Less than \$150.00(March 1 free)
DPP4 Inhibitors (Trajenta)	\$900.00-\$1,300.00 (March 1 free if special approval in place)
Jardiance	\$1,100.00 (March 1 free)
Ozempic	\$5,000.00 (not free, but still part of BC PharmaCare)
Mounjaro	\$10,000.00 (not covered, until more science available)

Step 1 Calculate Risk

Sex Female Male

Age 55 years

Systolic Blood Pressure 130 mm Hg

Race/Ethnicity (if applicable)

Black

Hispanic

Current Medications

Anticoagulant

Antihypertensive (Including ACEI or ARB)

Antihypertensive (Without ACEI or ARB)

Oral diabetes drug (excluding semaglutide or flozin)

Statin

Medical History

Current smoker

Prior myocardial infarction or stroke

Labs

Serum creatinine 70 umol/L

eGFR (2021 CKD-EPI equation) 85 ml/min/1.73 m²

Urine albumin-creatinine (ACR) ratio 2 mg/mmol

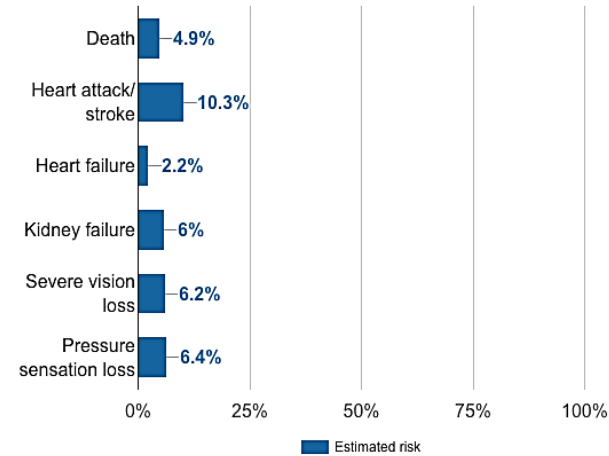
Total cholesterol 4.0 mmol/L

HDL cholesterol 1.0 mmol/L

Hemoglobin A1c % 7.0 mmol/mol

1 2 3 4

Risk of complications related to diabetes in the next 10 years



NEXT

Ozempic Generics in 2026

Attachment #1

F2

What We Are Doing to Prepare

- Ozempic was produced under the biologic pathway
- Ozempic generics are being produced under the generic pathway
- Pharmacists can do the change from brand to generic at the pharmacy
- Pharmacists cannot do the change from Ozempic biologic to the biosimilar at the pharmacy
- PBC working with manufacturers, government, pharmacists to ensure seamless experience for members at the pharmacy
- Coupon cards and radio ads etc being used to maintain Ozempic market share
- Will BC PharmaCare cover the generics right away?

pan-Canadian Tiered Pricing Framework (TPF)



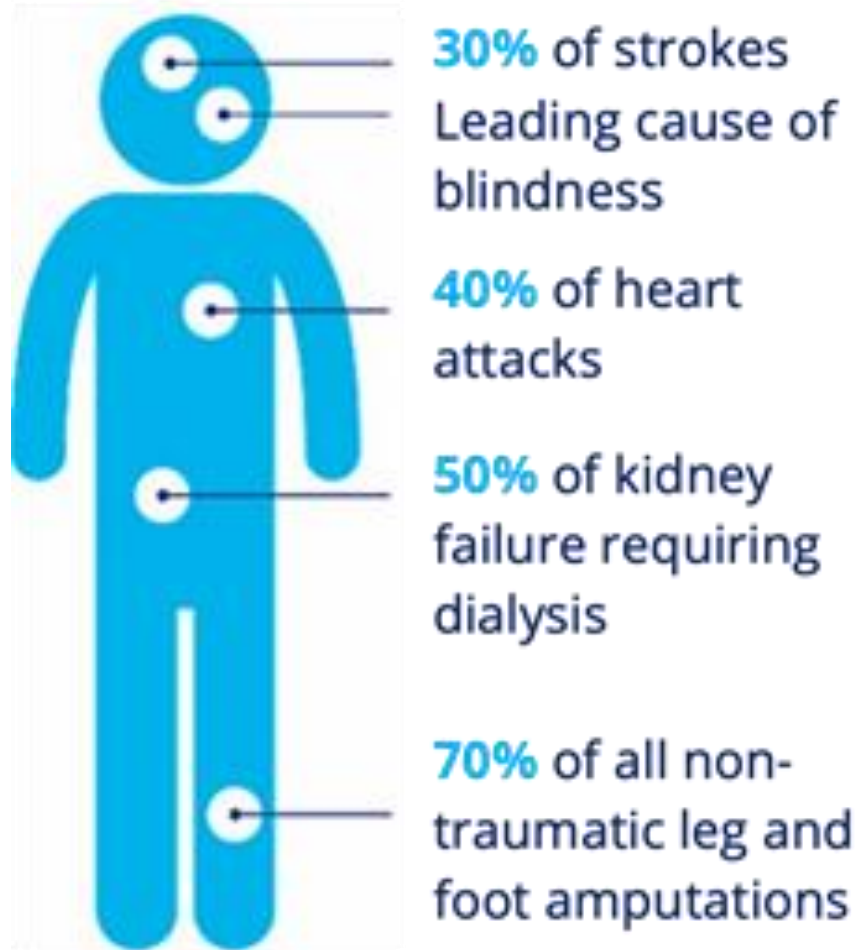
- Pharmacare may not list generic Ozempic right away if they have better price on brand Ozempic
- As more generics launch, the price is lowered

Diabetes Are you at risk?

From Public Health Agency of Canada

<https://www.healthycanadians.gc.ca/en/canrisk>

Impact of Diabetes



Diabetes can
reduce lifespan by
5 – 15 years

Diabetes in Canada: Facts and figures from a public health perspective [Internet]. Ottawa: Public Health Agency of Canada; 2011 p. 126. Available from: Health-Adjusted Life Expectancy in Canada: 2012 Report by the Public Health Agency of Canada - Canada.ca

Risk Factors for Type 2 Diabetes

- Being **40 years of age or older**;
- Having a **close relative (parent or sibling)** who has T2 diabetes;
- Being a member of a high-risk population, such as those of **African, Arab, Asian, Hispanic, Indigenous or South Asian descent**, low socioeconomic status;
- Having heart disease;
- Having a history of gestational diabetes
- Having high **blood pressure or high cholesterol**
- Being **overweight, especially around your abdomen.**
- Having given birth to a baby that weighed 9+ lbs at birth;
- Having obstructive sleep apnea



Recommended Screening Guideline

Diabetes Canada recommends routine screening for type 2 diabetes **every three years for individuals aged 40 and older.**

Screening should be **earlier and more frequent** (every 6 to 12 months) for those at very high risk or with additional risk factors.



THE **CANADIAN** DIABETES RISK
QUESTIONNAIRE
CANRISK



From the Public Health Agency of Canada, the questionnaire can help you find out if you are at higher risk of having pre-diabetes or type 2 diabetes.

Click here: <https://www.healthycanadians.gc.ca/en/canrisk>

January 29, 2026 - November 26, 2026 | Virtual Event

Virtual Diabetes Education Program



Are you newly diagnosed with diabetes and looking for information to get you started, or need a refresher on diabetes management? Join our virtual diabetes education program to learn the basics of diabetes management and connect with others affected by diabetes from the comfort of your home.

[Register for the program here](#) 

Diabetes Canada's virtual diabetes education program provides the option to learn practical, up-to-date tips and tricks at your own pace.

Location Details

January 29, 2026 - November 26, 2026

7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (ET)

Virtual Event

Self-Management

British Columbia

Home

Programs

Register Now

About Us



Diabetes

Gain knowledge + skills + confidence

The following program formats are designed specifically for persons experiencing Type 2 Diabetes. People with Type 1 diabetes have also found benefit.

Virtual Group [FIND A WORKSHOP](#)

Our virtual interactive program using web-cams is offered over six sessions, 2.5 hours per week for 6 weeks as a 5-8 persons group workshop.

In-Person [FIND A WORKSHOP](#)

This community based program is offered over six sessions, 2.5 hours per week for 6 weeks as a 6-12 persons group workshop.

Telephone Peer Health Coach [LEARN MORE](#)

A telephone-based one-to-one peer coaching program in which you receive a telephone call from a Health Coach for 30 minutes once a week, for a period of three months.

Online [LEARN MORE](#)

"Better Choices, Better Health" is a 6-week self-paced internet-based program moderated by two trained facilitators. Participants log on at times convenient to them to complete weekly modules. Communication happens on threaded bulletin boards, where participants can share experiences, as well as give and receive support.



Preventing and Reversing Type 2 Diabetes



12-Week Program

Diabetes Reversal

For Physicians

[Join LifestyleRx](#)

Reverse Type 2 Diabetes with LifestyleRx and Pacific Blue Cross

✓ Covered in BC, AB, and ON

Our 12-week program is free to access and can help you to:

- ↘ Reduce insulin resistance
- ⊞ Reduce or eliminate medications
- 💧 Restore normal blood sugar
- 🧑 Restore good health

[Get Started with LifestyleRx →](#)





Lifestyle Supports for Type 2 Diabetes

This handout is about free programs in British Columbia (BC) to support people with Type 2 diabetes. These programs help you stay healthy. You will learn how to be active, eat healthy food, and take care of your feelings and stress. Doing these things can help you manage your diabetes.



www.t2dnetwork.ca

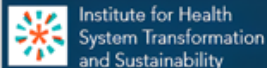
Here are some helpful resources for type 2 diabetes.

These resources were picked with help from people who have type 2 diabetes and healthcare providers.

Let us know how we can make this resource better or if you found it useful:

T2DNetwork@IHSTS.ca

Version: December 2025



Attachment #1 Helping You Stay Healthy

Start with one or two things and add more later as you make progress.



Scan the QR code or go to this website for helpful information:
<https://www.t2dnetwork.ca/healthy-lifestyle>



Exercise

Tips to move, stay active, keep your heart healthy, and control blood sugar.



Healthy Eating

Tips for picking healthy foods and making balanced meals.



Diabetes Programs

Programs to help you to take care of your diabetes.



Stress & Mood

Ways to handle stress, worry, and feeling sad.



Older People & Caregivers

Helps older people and caregivers stay active, independent, and manage diabetes.

Looking for diabetes help that fits your culture?



South Asian Resources

Tips for South Asian foods and culture.
<https://www.t2dnetwork.ca/southasian-resources>



East Asian Resources

Tips for East Asian foods and culture.
<https://www.t2dnetwork.ca/eastasian-resources>



Indigenous Resources

Guidance from Indigenous communities.
<https://www.t2dnetwork.ca/indigenous-resources>

Tips for Success

- Make goals you can reach and focus on one or two things
- Move your body often by doing activities
- Eat healthy foods to help keep your blood sugar steady
- Manage stress with relaxation techniques
- Check your blood sugar regularly
- Get help from doctors or groups that can support you.

Other Helpful Hints

- Drink less alcohol
- Spend time outside in nature
- Sleep better by making good habits
- Cook more meals at home
- Do things that matter to you
- Go to your appointments regularly

* If you want to know more about your medications, ask your doctor for help.



Find events about type 2 diabetes near you



Join the T2D Network

Thank You.

Questions?



Minutes

<u>Meeting</u>	Special Council Meeting
<u>Date</u>	March 6, 2026
<u>Time</u>	1:00 PM
<u>Place</u>	Municipal Hall - Council Chambers and by electronic means

<u>Present</u>	Mayor Martin Davis Councillor Ryan Moore Councillor Cheryl Northcott	by video by video by video
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<u>Absent</u>	Councillor Sarah Fowler Councillor Brenda Lenahan
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<u>Staff</u>	Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer Adia Mavrikos, CPA, CA, Director of Finance Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager	by video by video
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<u>Public</u>	None.
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A. Call to Order Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement

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

B. Introduction of Late Items None.

C. Approval of the Agenda

Northcott/Moore: VOT 0129/2026
THAT the Agenda for the March 6, 2026 Special meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

K. Bylaws 1 **Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 682, 2026**
Adoption

Moore/Northcott: VOT 0130/2026

THAT the Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 682, 2026 be received for consideration.

CARRIED

Moore/Northcott: VOT 0131/2026

THAT the Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 682, 2026 be reconsidered, finally passed and adopted this 6th day of March, 2026.

CARRIED

O. Adjournment

Northcott/Moore: VOT 0132/2026

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

CARRIED

**Certified Correct this
17th day of March, 2026**

Chief Administrative Officer

VILLAGE OF TAHSIS

Report to Council

To: Mayor and Council
From: Chief Administrative Officer
Date: March 17, 2026
Re: Wide Area Infilling (Hogfuel) Evaluation Project

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To assist Council in considering options for the wide area infilling (hogfuel) evaluation project.

OPTIONS/ALTERNATIVES

1. Approve the February 26, 2026 proposal submitted by Active Earth Engineering Ltd. ("Active Earth")
2. Request Active Earth submit a revised proposal.
3. Do not approve the Active Earth proposal.
4. Any other option that Council deems appropriate.

BACKGROUND

At the January 6th, regular meeting, Council passed the following resolution:

Moore/Northcott: VOT 0008/2026

THAT option "C" be approved (site investigations in the Anthropogenic DPA).

CARRIED

(Option "C": The Anthropogenic DPA greatly affects a broad range of the Village's residential lands. It is recommended that a small number of properties in this DPA be designated for site investigations by a Contaminated Sites Approved Professional. The investigations are intended to determine the extent, if any, of contamination above the provincial thresholds in the Contaminated Sites Regulation which will inform future discussions with the Ministry of Environment and, possibly, Western Forest Products Inc.)

Staff contacted Active Earth for a proposal to conduct a wide area infilling evaluation project consistent with Council's resolution.

The attached proposal includes the scope and budget estimate for this project.

A Direct Award to Active Earth is required to meet the Ministry's deadline of December 31, 2026 to expend the Housing Capacity funds. Active Earth was previously engaged to support the Village's site disclosure statements to the Ministry of Environment for the Captain Meares School/Firehall and the boat launch/hangar building subdivision applications. Moreover, they were instrumental in the wide area evaluation project involving legacy coal mines in the downtown core of the City of Nanaimo. Meredith Guest, P.Eng, is a Contaminated Sites Approved Professional (CSAP).

POLICY/LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:

Village of Tahsis Procurement Policy, No. 2011, 2024

For Expenditure Approval

9.1 All procurement activity, including the purchase method as per Table 1, where the anticipated expenditure for general purchases exceeds \$25,000 (and over \$40,000 for Professional Services and Construction) must be approved by Council by way of a resolution in response to a staff Report to Council.

For Direct Awards or Sole Sourcing

5.1 Procuring goods and services is to be done on a competitive basis unless otherwise permitted by this policy. Exceptions could be due to:

- *the urgency with which the goods or services are needed;*

9.4 All exceptions to the Procurement Policy (e.g., those listed in section 5) must be reported to Council explaining what occurred and why.

Official Community Plan, 2020

Development Procedures Bylaw, No. 633, 2020

Environmental Management Act, RSBC 2003, c. 53

BC Reg 375/96 Contaminated Sites Regulation

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

In 2024 the Village received \$151,286.00 under the Housing Capacity fund program to implement the provincial housing initiative which included OCP amendments, the Housing Needs Report and Zoning Bylaw amendments. Having satisfied the provincial requirements a total of \$92,830.85 is available to be utilized for the proposed option. Using Housing Capacity funds for this option has been approved by the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs. The funds must be spent by December 31, 2026.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY:

This is not a 2026 Strategic Priority; however, it is a step to accelerate housing development in the municipality's north area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Option 1: Approve the February 26, 2026 proposal submitted by Active Earth Engineering Ltd. ("Active Earth")

Respectfully submitted:



Mark Tatchell, CAO

TAHSIS WIDE AREA INFILLING REVIEW PROPOSAL

Attn: Mark Tatchell (Tahsis CAO)

Cc: John Manson

Village of Tahsis Municipal Office
P.O. Box 219 - 977 South Maquinna Drive
Tahsis, BC. VOP 1X0

REFERENCE: Tahsis Anthropogenic Hazard Development
Permit Area

1 INTRODUCTION

Active Earth is pleased to prepare this proposal for the Village of Tahsis (VoT) to provide environmental consulting services for assessment and investigation of historical waste deposits present in Tahsis and defined within the Anthropogenic Hazard Development Permit Area (AHDPA). The intended outcome is to support communication between the VoT and the BC Ministry of Environment and Parks (ENV) and obtain formal recognition of the AHDPA under the BC Environmental Management Act (EMA). If successful, the regulatory process for property development or redevelopment within this area are sought to be reduced or clarified and provide greater certainty for prospective developers and facilitate a pathway forward for re-development.

2 HISTORY AND CURRENT CHALLENGE

During Tahsis's development history in the early to mid 20th century, areas around the north end of the Tahsis Inlet and estuary of the Tahsis River were infilled with hog fuel and wood waste to create building sites. The composition of wastes is suspected to include primarily sawmill wastes such as bark, wood chips, sludge, chemical byproducts (depending on the era), as well as mineral soils and potentially other wastes which were present at the time.

Currently, the historical deposit of wastes in the AHDPA pose challenges for property development and redevelopment in the area due to the triggering of the Contaminated Sites Regulation's (CSR) site identification process. Properties owners seeking development or redevelopment of a property must first obtain a BC ENV certificate document, e.g. a Certificate of Compliance, prior to being able to obtain municipal development or building permits. Often, the cost, uncertainty, and time associated to obtaining a certificate document is preventative from development occurring.

3 SCOPE OF WORK

We have outlined a number of steps that we foresee could bring the VoT closer to a solution with ENV that could facilitate future regulatory opportunities. Those steps are:

1. **Historical Document Review and Reporting**

Review historical and background information (available records, existing environmental reports, historical information for the area) to confirm extents of infilling, quality of the material (if available), and potential contaminants of concern within the AHDPA.

Prepare a report to summarize and document the history of the AHDPA.

2. **Engagement with Western Forest Products (WFP)**

Support the VoT, where necessary, to engage with WFP in relation to this project. WFP is considered a key stakeholder of the project, and potential benefactor, due to its land ownership in the area and long history of sawmill activity in the community. Correspondence with respect to this project being undertaken by the VoT may include resource sharing in support of objectives which would benefit the desired outcome.

3. **Engagement with BC ENV within Preliminary Project Stages**

Consult with BC ENV and local First Nations.

Engagement with the regulator and local First Nations is recommended during the preliminary project stages due to its unique nature. By engaging early during this project, we seek to obtain ENV 'buy in' as well as learn from their past experiences or success stories with other jurisdictions. In doing so, we anticipate greater clarity with the potential outcomes could be as well as the level of effort required to get there.

4. **In-Situ Field Testing Program**

It is expected that additional field data, including soil, groundwater and soil vapour investigation, will be required to establish quality, extents and composition of the anthropogenic fill material. By obtaining this information, an informed decision for future remediation requirements and ENV approvals can be made.

It is noted that an estimated scope and cost has been prepared for this task and presented below assuming up to 10 drilling locations completed with groundwater and soil vapour monitoring wells and associated sampling of media for potential contaminants of concern (including petroleum hydrocarbons, metals, chlorinated/non-chlorinated phenols, volatile compounds etc.). Following completion of Tasks 1 to 3 this scope will be revisited and refined.

5. Wide Area Study Report

Pending the results of the completed field investigation, the final deliverable is expected to include a wide area study report that could support site specific approvals (i.e. releases) case by case depending on location; and/or support development of a remediation plan that could result in an Approval in Principle for the entire AHDPA; resulting outcome to be determined. The specifics of this report, and the outcome or use by the VoT or ENV will be subject to preliminary discussion results between the VoT, ENV, and First Nations, where applicable.

4 SCHEDULE

An estimated schedule for the work is presented below. Due to the nature of the project, some of the steps can be completed concurrently.

Item	Title	Timeline/Time for Completion
1	Historical Review & Reporting	4-6 weeks following engagement with variance allowed for document retrieval if deemed necessary.
2	Engagement with WFP	On-going during project. Initiated within 2-4 weeks of engagement, or at Clients discretion (TBD)
3	Engagement with ENV and local First Nations	On-going during project. Initiated within 2-4 weeks of engagement, or at Clients discretion (TBD)
4	In-Situ Field Testing Program	Plan for completion during late summer or early fall.
5	Wide Area Study Report	Completion following Field Testing Program

5 ESTIMATED COSTS

Preliminary estimated costs for the individual tasks above are provided in the table below

ESTIMATED COSTS SUMMARY

Task	Fees	Expenses (incl. any subconsultants)	Sub-Total
Task 1 – Historical Review & Reporting	\$5,733	\$500	\$6,233
Task 2 – Engagement with WFP	\$945	\$0	\$945
Task 3 – Engagement with ENV & FN	\$945	\$0	\$945
Task 4a – Utility Locate, Drilling and Soil Sampling	\$7,833	\$32,726	\$40,559
Task 4b - Groundwater Monitoring and Sampling	\$5,618	\$8,492	\$14,109
Task 4c - Soil Vapour Probe Leak Testing and Sampling	\$1,785	\$3,664	\$5,449
Task 5 – Data Analysis and Reporting (Wide Area Study Report)	\$5,733	\$0	\$5,733
Total (excluding taxes)	\$28,592	\$45,381	\$73,972

The estimated costs have been provided based on the following considerations or assumptions:

- a. Budgeted amounts for Task 3 has excluded any potential costs for ENV engagement which may be incurred pending whether engagement occurs via formal meetings or in written correspondence. .
- b. The field-testing program costs are budgeted based on an estimated scope of work which is expected to be refined following the completion of Tasks 1 through 3. Further Task 4 is separated into three components, a, b, and c, to indicate the different components of the field-testing program.
- c. This work is subject to an Administration & Technology Fee of 5% of our professional fees, to offset necessary costs for project administration, software subscriptions, and digital security. These charges are included in the estimated costs presented above.
- d. The costs have excluded the removal/disposal of drilling wastes produced during the installation and development of monitoring wells. Costing of Task 4 will be revisited and refined following the completion of Tasks 1 through 3 and will include details on proposed locations.

6 CLOSURE

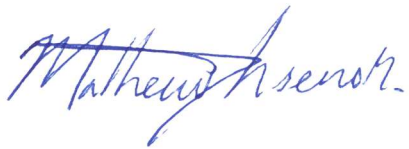
We trust that this provides you with the information you currently require.

For our records, please complete and sign the authorization to proceed and email (meredith.guest@activeearth.ca) it back to us. By signing below, you expressly accept and agree to the attached Terms of Engagement.

Yours truly,

ACTIVE EARTH ENGINEERING LTD.

Prepared By:



Mathew Isenor, P.Chem., P.Ag
Project Manager

Reviewed By:



Meredith Guest, P.Eng, PMP, CSAP
Partner, Sr. Project Manager



L1

Mayor

Ross Siemens

Councillors

Les Barkman

Kelly Chahal

Patricia Driessen

Simon Gibson

Dave Loewen

Patricia Ross

Dave Sidhu

Mark Warkentin

March 3, 2026

File: 0530-003/0400-60

Via Email

UBCM Member Municipalities and Regional Districts

Dear UBCM Members:

Re: Request for Support – 2026 Proposed UBCM Resolutions

I am writing on behalf of Abbotsford City Council to respectfully request your favourable consideration and support for two proposed UBCM resolutions that will be brought forward for consideration at the 2026 Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA) Convention, in advance of the UBCM Convention.

At a recent Council meeting, Abbotsford City Council approved the submission of the following proposed resolutions:

1. Engagement on Pipeline Valuation Changes
2. Exempting Local Governments from Expanded Provincial Sales Tax Requirements

Both resolutions speak to issues of province-wide significance and reflect growing concerns shared by local governments and regional districts across British Columbia regarding financial sustainability, predictability, and intergovernmental fairness.

The first resolution calls on the Province to ensure that any future changes to the valuation methodology for gathering and transmission pipelines, or other major regulated utility properties, are preceded by a robust and transparent engagement process with local governments and regional districts, through UBCM. Stable and predictable assessment practices are essential for long-term financial planning, and changes of this magnitude have the potential to significantly affect taxation equity and local government budgets across the province.

The second resolution addresses the expanded application of the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) to professional and related services relied upon by local governments to deliver essential infrastructure and community services. As public-sector entities with limited revenue tools, local governments are already facing significant cost pressures. The application of expanded PST requirements represents a cost shift within the public sector that further constrains local government fiscal capacity without increasing service value.

Abbotsford believes these resolutions align with shared interests across local governments in advocating for meaningful consultation, fiscal fairness, and sustainable service delivery. We respectfully request your support for these resolutions as they move forward through the UBCM resolution process.

Thank you for your continued collaboration and leadership. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to working together on these important matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ross Siemens".

Ross Siemens
Mayor

cc: Council members
Peter Sparanese, City Manager

Attachments:

- 2026 Proposed Resolution – Engagement on Pipeline Valuation Changes
- 2026 Proposed Resolution – Exempting Local Governments from Expanded Provincial Sales Tax Requirements



ENGAGEMENT ON PIPELINE VALUATION CHANGES

City of Abbotsford

WHEREAS in December 2025, the Province directed BC Assessment to postpone implementation of significant changes to the valuation methodology for Gathering and Transmission Pipelines, which would have resulted in substantial shifts in the tax burden from pipeline operators to residential and business property classes, creating financial impacts for local governments, and;

AND WHEREAS local governments rely on stable, predictable assessment practices for long-term financial planning, and any future changes to regulated rate property valuation methodologies (particularly within the Utilities Tax Class), will have province-wide implications for local government taxation, budgeting, and equity among property classes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Province of British Columbia to direct BC Assessment to undertake a robust and fulsome engagement process with local governments and regional districts, through UBCM, prior to advancing any future changes to the valuation methodology for Gathering and Transmission Pipelines or other major regulated utility properties, including sufficient notice, clear disclosure of financial impacts, and opportunities for local government input before decisions are finalized.



**EXEMPTING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM
EXPANDED PROVINCIAL SALES TAX**

City of Abbotsford

WHEREAS the Government of British Columbia's 2026 Budget expands the application of the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) to a broader range of services, including professional services such as engineering, architectural, and related advisory services that are routinely required by local governments to deliver core infrastructure and services;

AND WHEREAS local governments have limited revenue tools and are already facing significant financial pressures related to infrastructure renewal, climate adaptation, housing delivery, and regulatory compliance, and unmitigated application of the expanded PST further constrains local government fiscal capacity;

AND WHEREAS local governments are public-sector entities that deliver provincially mandated and community-essential services, and the application of PST to local government purchases represents a cost shift within the public sector that does not increase service value but places additional pressure on local government operating and capital budgets;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Government of British Columbia to exempt or eliminate the impact to local governments from the application of the expanded Provincial Sales Tax requirements introduced in the 2026 Budget, including PST applied to professional and related services, to avoid intergovernmental cost downloading and to protect local government financial sustainability and local affordability.



From: Phil Perras <philip_perras@hotmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 9, 2026 11:07 AM

To: ubcm@ubcm.ca

Cc:

Subject: Evidence Before Blame: Structural Questions Following the Tumbler Ridge Tragedy

Dear Mayor and Council,

First, I want to express my sincere sympathy to the families and community members affected by the tragedy in Tumbler Ridge. My thoughts remain especially with the victims who are still recovering from their injuries and with the families navigating unimaginable loss.

At the same time, it has become increasingly difficult for the public to follow developments around this tragedy without encountering a wide range of explanations and policy proposals presented together before the full facts are known. For example, a recent article by Wolfgang Depner and *The Canadian Press* briefly reported encouraging news about one young survivor before quickly pivoting to discussion of new proposals from regional chambers of commerce to restrict youth access to certain online tools.

Notably, during a segment on CFX 1070 AM radio in Victoria this morning with the same author, many of those policy themes were discussed. However, the story of the recovering survivor received no attention at all. When hopeful updates about victims appear alongside policy narratives in written coverage but disappear from the public conversation that immediately follows, it can leave the impression that human stories are being used primarily as a gateway to advance broader debates or agendas.

That perception matters. When tragedies and the experiences of survivors become closely intertwined with emerging policy proposals *before investigations are even complete*, there is a risk that grief and public sympathy can unintentionally steer the conversation toward premature conclusions.

This is not an abstract concern for British Columbians. In this province, survivors and families have already experienced how tragedy can be followed by a **second layer of harm** when institutional responses fail to respect their rights, dignity, and trust.

REVICITIMIZATION AFTER TRAGEDY

After the Lapu-Lapu Day attack in Vancouver, the provincial privacy commissioner found that health-care workers across multiple organizations improperly accessed the medical records of more than a dozen

people who received care after the attack — including the accused. The commissioner described the conduct as an “egregious and intentional invasion” of privacy. For victims, survivors, and the suspect alike, this meant that rights were violated by the very systems entrusted with people’s most sensitive information and dignity. From a public-safety and public-trust standpoint, these optics are deeply troubling.

A similar pattern appears in the case of Sheldon Stamper. His death here in the province while under involuntary psychiatric care was reported as a suicide, and more than a year later his mother from Osoyoos, B.C., is still struggling to obtain the information she needs to understand what happened in the final period of her son’s life. She has described repeated barriers to getting answers after a death that occurred while her son was under the sweeping authority of the provincial mental-health system.

That context clearly matters as British Columbia responds to Tumbler Ridge.

RUSHED CALLS TO REGULATE ONLINE TOOLS

The investigation into the Tumbler Ridge shooting is still underway. Even so, there is already a *rapid push* in media and political debate to ban certain online tools for children, with artificial intelligence and social media being lumped together as if they posed the same kind of risk. The Tumbler Ridge and Prince George chambers of commerce have publicly urged Ottawa and Victoria to ban children under 16 from using AI tools and social media, and to make that resolution part of the BC Chamber’s policy agenda.

The victims in Tumbler Ridge include children under sixteen. That matters in the context of revictimization. When policy is made “for” children in that age range before the investigation is complete, communities are entitled to ask whether those children are being protected — or used to justify a simpler narrative.

It is also notable that some of the earliest public calls for these bans are coming from chambers of commerce, organizations whose usual mandate is economic development, not youth mental-health policy or victim advocacy. Their concerns are not automatically invalid, but the *speed and direction* of this narrative, while core investigations remain incomplete, should give municipal leaders pause. When one explanation gains momentum this quickly, it can become a convenient distraction from deeper structural questions.

Artificial intelligence and social media should not be grouped together under one banner, because they are not the same kind of tool. Educational technologies have long supported learning, memory, and problem-solving. In earlier decades, devices like the Smart Start learning computer helped children develop sequencing and pattern-recognition skills. Administered appropriately, modern AI can serve a similar role — closer to an interactive calculator or tutor than to a broadcast platform.

Communities should be careful not to blame the calculator while ignoring the equation.

The equation here includes mental-health policy, coercive powers, institutional culture, information-sharing practices, treatment decisions, privacy breaches, human rights, and the broader systems that had both authority and time to recognize and interrupt risk. In terms of Tumbler Ridge, it has been reported that there were 7 months between the flagged interaction by OpenAI and the attack — not an imminent interval by any standard, but a substantial period in which systems entrusted with such extraordinary powers over liberty, treatment, and public safety should reasonably be expected to identify, assess, and *reduce* escalating risk.

A blanket ban also sends the wrong message. It leans toward **coercion rather than cooperation** — taking tools away from young people instead of teaching critical use, good judgment, and the habits of inquiry

that help people resist manipulation and understand risk. It also creates a double standard: many ^{L2}adults, institutions, and leaders continue using the same platforms even as they point to harms for youth. If social media is serious enough to justify sweeping restrictions for those sixteen and under, then older users — especially public institutions and leaders — should be prepared to model the same restraint and responsibility they now seek to impose.

This approach also echoes long-standing debates around medications such as Ritalin in classrooms where teachers are managing very large class sizes. When systems lack the time, support, or tools needed to help students learn well, the response can drift toward control instead of cooperation. That same policy instinct should be avoided here. If unity is truly our goal, then the response to tragedy should not be to widen the gap between generations or restrict young people first while adults carry on as usual. It should be to build systems that are transparent enough, humane enough, and trustworthy enough to guide people well.

THREE PRINCIPLES FOR MUNICIPAL LEADERSHIP

In moments like this, municipalities can play an important role by insisting on three basic principles.

Evidence before blame.

Major incidents should be fully investigated before conclusions are drawn or bans proposed.

Transparency before narrative.

Families and communities deserve clear, timely information about institutional decisions, not just fragments after the fact.

Structure before scapegoating.

Preventing future harm requires examining the full system surrounding an event — mental-health policy, oversight, privacy, crisis response, and institutional culture — not simply identifying one visible tool to blame.

These are not partisan values. They are the *basic conditions* for democratic accountability and credible public safety.

CLOSING

The pattern now visible across Lapu-Lapu, Sheldon Stamper's case, Tumbler Ridge and others is not simply that tragedy occurred. It is that powerful systems acted, privacy and liberty were implicated, and afterward families and the public were left with too little clarity and too much haste to redirect blame elsewhere.

That is why this moment requires caution, patience, and transparency — not a scramble to simplify.

I respectfully ask Council to keep these broader structural issues in view as you consider any proposals related to AI, social media, youth safety, and public policy in the wake of Tumbler Ridge.

Communities deserve responses grounded in evidence, transparency, and a **genuine willingness to reform** the systems that wield the greatest power over their lives.

Thank you for your time and for your service to your residents.

Respectfully,

Philip Perras
Student at Camosun College

4674 Stevens Drive
Kamloops BC
V2H1L5
philip_perras@hotmail.com