



MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

June 27, 2019, 9:00 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE

The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees and Esquimalt People

PRESENT: Mayor Helps in the Chair, Councillor Alto, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, Councillor Collins, Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Young

STAFF PRESENT: J. Jenkyns - City Manager, C. Coates - City Clerk, C. Royle – Deputy Fire Chief, S. Thompson - Deputy City Manager / Director of Finance, F. Work - Director of Engineering & Public Works, T. Soulliere - Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities, B. Eisenhauer - Head of Engagement, C. Havelka - Deputy City Clerk, A. Meyer - Assistant Director of Development Services, A. Hudson - Acting Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development, C. Mycroft - Manager of Executive Operations, T. Zworski - City Solicitor, J. Karakas - Senior Urban Designer, N. Reddington - Senior Cultural Planner, P. Bellefontaine - Assistant Director, Transportation, M. Heiser - Committee Secretary, R. Rantucci – Head of Strategic Real Estate

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved By Councillor Collins
Seconded By Councillor Potts

That the agenda be approved.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Potts
Seconded By Councillor Collins

That the Agenda of the June 27, 2019, Committee of the Whole meeting be amended as follows:

Consent Agenda:

C.1 Minutes from the meeting held June 13, 2019

E.1 1661 Burton Avenue – Rezoning Application No. 00692 (Oaklands)

E.4 Application to Change Hours of Licensed Service for Clark & Co. at 1002 Blanshard Street (Downtown)

F.5 License for Use of Federal Property Agreement – Department of National Defense

That item E.2: 1302 Finlayson Street – Rezoning Application No. 00687, Development Permit with Variance Application No. 00546 (Hillside/Quadra) be removed from the agenda as per the Applicant's request.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Main Motion as amended:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. CONSENT AGENDA

That the following items be approved without further debate:

C.1 Minutes from the meeting held June 13, 2019

Moved By Councillor Collins

Seconded By Councillor Potts

That the minutes from the meeting held June 13, 2019 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E.1 1661 Burton Avenue - Rezoning Application No.00692 (Oaklands)

Committee received a report dated June 13, 2019 from the Acting Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development proposing to allow for rezoning from a RB-1 Zone to a site-specific zone in order to permit a daycare for more than eight children within a house conversion.

Moved By Councillor Collins

Seconded By Councillor Potts

That Council instruct staff to prepare the necessary Zoning Regulation Bylaw Amendment that would authorize the proposed development outlined in Rezoning Application No. 00692 for 1661 Burton Avenue, that first and second reading of the Zoning Regulation Bylaw Amendment be considered by Council and a Public Hearing date be set once the following condition is met:

1. Preparation and execution of a Statutory Right-of-Way of 1.21m off Shakespeare Street and 1.17m off the laneway.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E.4 Application to Change Hours of Licensed Service for Clark & Co. at 1002 Blanshard Street (Downtown)

Committee received a report dated May 17, 2019 from the Acting Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development proposing to allow the change hours of licensed service associated with a food primary license.

Moved By Councillor Collins

Seconded By Councillor Potts

That Council direct staff to provide the following response to the Liquor Licensing Agency:

Council, after conducting a review with respect to noise and community impacts, does support the application of Clarke & Co., located at 1002 Blanshard Street, to adjust hours of licensed service to 9:00 am to 1:00 am daily, with an occupant load of 32 persons.

Providing the following comments on the prescribed considerations:

- a. The impact of noise on the community in the vicinity of the establishment has been considered in relation to the request, and assumptions are the noise impacts would be negligible based on experience with the operator, and nature of the request. The requested hours of operation in conjunction with the existing occupant load are not expected to result in negative impacts to the community.
- b. If the application is approved, the impact on the community is expected to be positive economically as the approval supports the business plan and long term viability of the establishment. The business model embraces the combination of small occupant load and high quality of offerings, and provides a unique contribution to the richness, and diversity of offerings in the area.
- c. The views of residents were solicited via a mail out which included 249 letters to neighbouring property owners and occupiers within 100 metres of the licensed location and a notice posted at the property. The City received two letters in response to the request, both of which supported or had no objection to the application.
- d. Council recommends the license be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.5 License for Use of Federal Property Agreement - Department of National Defence

Committee received a report dated June 14, 2019 from the Fire Chief seeking Council approval for a five-year renewal of the original agreement approved by Council at the Governance and Priorities meeting of August 13, 2013.

Moved By Councillor Collins

Seconded By Councillor Potts

That Council authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement with the Department of National Defence to:

1. Access through licence, the property located at Workpoint, Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt, Township of Esquimalt and, permission to use the land for staff training in practical application of structural collapse and technical rescue training. This agreement supersedes the original "property use" agreement approved by Governance and Priorities Committee of August 13, 2013. and;
2. Request authorization from Council for the delegated right to renew or extend this licence after the end of its term on substantially the same terms and conditions, subject to review and approval of the Fire Chief and the City Solicitor.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. LAND USE MATTERS

E.3 2915 Douglas Street - Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00014 (Burnside)

Committee received a report dated June 13, 2019 from the Acting Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development proposing to temporarily permit 25 units of supportive rental housing and a 22-bed substance use treatment facility in the existing building.

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Potts

That Council after giving notice and allowing an opportunity for public comment at a meeting of Council, consider the following motion:

"That Council authorize the issuance of Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00014 for 2915 Douglas Street, in accordance with:

1. Plans date stamped May 17, 2019.
2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements, except for the following variances:
 - i. reduce the required number of parking spaces from 60 to 40.
3. Registration of a Section 219 Covenant on the adjoining properties located at 2905 and 2909 Douglas Street and 720, 730 and 740 Topaz Avenue to secure an additional 20 parking spaces in order to comply with the parking requirement for the proposed uses in the existing building at 2915 Douglas Street, to the satisfaction of the Director of Engineering and Public Works."
4. The Temporary Use Permit lapsing three years from the date of this resolution."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. STAFF REPORTS

F.1 Garden Suite Program Review and Next Steps

Committee received a report dated June 13, 2019 from the Acting Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development providing an update on the Garden Suite Program seeking Council's direction.

Committee discussed:

- The fees and incentives relating to this program.
- How this program is associated with the Housing Strategy

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Mayor Helps

That this matter be referred to the Housing Strategy update.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.2 Project Update: Waterfront Public Realm Initiative

Committee received a report dated June 20, 2019 from the Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities regarding an update on the public realm projects along with waterfront area, associated with the replacement of the Johnson Street Bridge.

Moved By Councillor Thornton-Joe

Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council receive this report for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.3 Johnson Street Bridge and Bastion Square Public Art Report

Committee received a report dated May 9, 2019 from the Head of Business and Community Relations detailing new information received on public art regarding Triangle Island and Bastion Square.

Councillor Collins left the meeting at 10:54 a.m. and returned at 10:56 a.m.

Moved By Councillor Loveday

Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council:

1. Decline proceeding with the Orca Project in Triangle Island.
2. Approve the Welcome Pole request from Bastion Square Revitalization Association funded by the funds held in trust for the Bastion Square Revitalization Association.

3. Direct staff to hold a new design competition funded from the \$250,000 public art budget within the Johnson Street Bridge project.
4. Direct staff to relocate Commerce Canoe to Triangle Island.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Collins left the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

Committee recessed 10:57 a.m. and reconvened at 11:03 a.m.

F.4 709/711 Douglas Street (CityStudio Victoria)

Committee received a report dated June 6, 2019 from the Head of Business and Community Relations regarding the proposal to return 709/711 Douglas Street to the Real Estate portfolio as a new lease opportunity.

Moved By Councillor Young

That Council authorizes the use of 709/711 Douglas Street, known as 'CityStudio Victoria', be returned to the Real Estate revenue portfolio.

Failed to proceed due to no seconder

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Potts

That Council direct staff to report back on options for maintaining 709/711 Douglas Street as a community use space using existing resources or alternate model of delivery.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

That Council direct staff to report back on options for maintaining 709/711 Douglas Street, **or another space**, as a community use space using existing resources or alternate model of delivery.

Mayor helps ruled the above amendment out of order.

On the Motion:

FOR (7): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Potts and Councillor Thornton-Joe

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Young

CARRIED (7 to 1)

E. NEW BUSINESS

H.1 UBCM Motion to Allow Incorporated Municipalities to Institute Safe Speed Zones in Residential Areas

Committee received a report dated June 13, 2019 from the Mayor regarding the UBCM motion to allow incorporated municipalities to institute safer speed zones in residential areas.

Councillor Loveday left the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Potts

That Council, with Vancouver, co-submit the below motion for consideration at UBCM, to be held in September, 2019:

WHEREAS currently, the Motor Vehicle Act ("MVA") stipulates a speed limit of 50 kilometers per hour ("km/h") within city limits;

WHEREAS the probability of pedestrian survival is about 90% if struck by a motor vehicle travelling at 30 km/h, while survival is reduced to 20% if struck by a motor vehicle travelling at 50 km/h;

WHEREAS lower speed limits are more compatible with active transportation, and create safer, better engaged, healthier and more inclusive communities;

WHEREAS in 2015, the BC Road Safety Strategy set out the goal of zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries and discussed safe speeds. In 2016, the Provincial Health Officer's Annual Report also recommended a 30 km/h speed limit in urban areas;

WHEREAS in June 2016, as part of its position paper, Modernizing the BC Motor Vehicle Act, the British Columbia-based Road Safety Law Reform Group recommended: "A default provincial speed limit of 30 km/h for local (no centre line) streets should be included in the Motor Vehicle Act, with municipalities enabled to increase speed limits on local streets in a case by-case basis by by-law and posted signage.";

WHEREAS in 2018, the provincial government's B.C. Community Road Safety Toolkit recommended lower speed limits in downtown areas and residential roads; and under the Motor Vehicle Act, changes to default speed limits require street-by-street, block-by-block posted signage which could otherwise incur significant expense for local governments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure be asked to consider an amendment to the Motor Vehicle Act that would allow incorporated municipalities to institute blanket speed zones in residential areas.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Loveday returned to the meeting at 11:36 a.m.

H.2 Peer Informed Task Force and Mental Health and Addictions Strategy

Committee received a report dated June 20, 2019 from Councillor Alto, Councillor Potts, and Councillor Loveday regarding the proposed initiatives and recommendations of the Peer Informed Task Force and Mental Health and Addictions Strategy.

Moved By Councillor Potts

Seconded By Councillor Alto

1. That Council re-name the Task Force and following Strategy as a 'Community Wellness Peer-Informed Task Force and Strategy' to reflect its evidenced-based emphasis on community wellness related to mental wellness and addictions.
2. That Council appoint Councillor Loveday as a third Councillor member of the Task Force.
3. That Council approve the draft Terms of Reference, attached (Attachment A).
4. That Council approve up to \$25,000 from Contingencies, and as allowed under the City's Purchasing Policy, direct the City Manager to partner with the University of Victoria to undertake a 'scoping rapid review' of comparable jurisdictions' efforts to take meaningful action on a municipal mental wellness and addictions strategy, and that such a review delivers a 'map of the field of program' on which the City can base a local strategy informed by those affected by mental wellness and addictions, their peers and allies.
5. That Council approve up to \$7,500 from Contingencies to accommodate honouraria for community participants in the Task Force.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H.3 Tax Relief for the Royal Canadian Legion Trafalgar Pro Patria Branch 292

Committee received a report dated June 20, 2019 from Councillor Alto and Councillor Thornton-Joe regarding the proposal to provide an immediate grant to the Royal Canadian Legion Trafalgar Pro Patria Branch No. 292 and to consider subsequent grants be included in annual budget considerations.

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

1. That Council provide an immediate grant to the Royal Canadian Legion Trafalgar Pro Patria Branch No. 292, in the amount of \$36,481.12, to be paid from the 2019 contingency.

2. That in future years Council consider, as part of its annual budget deliberations, subsequent grants to the Royal Canadian Legion Trafalgar Pro Patria Branch No. 292 of \$40,000 in 2020, with the annual amount rising by \$5,000 in each subsequent year, until 2025, whereupon this custom will be reviewed.
3. That the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write to the province urging them to consider a province-wide policy and/or legislative change to enable the BC Assessment Authority or other relevant agencies to fully exempt all Legions in British Columbia from payment of property taxes.

Councillor Isitt requested that the motion be separated.

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

1. That Council provide an immediate grant to the Royal Canadian Legion Trafalgar Pro Patria Branch No. 292, in the amount of \$36,481.12, to be paid from the 2019 contingency.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

2. That in future years Council consider, as part of its annual budget deliberations, subsequent grants to the Royal Canadian Legion Trafalgar Pro Patria Branch No. 292 of \$40,000 in 2020, with the annual amount rising by \$5,000 in each subsequent year, until 2025, whereupon this custom will be reviewed.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Dubow

Seconded By Councillor Alto

That Council authorize a grant in aid in an amount equivalent to the taxes payable for the Class 8, Recreation – Non Profit taxable assessment for the property.

Committee discussed the classes of tax under the BC Assessment Authority and tax exemptions.

Motion to Refer:

Moved By Councillor Young

Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That this matter be referred to the Committee meeting when Finance presents the exemptions for 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion Arising:

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

That Council submit the following motion for consideration at UBCM, to be held in September, 2019:

WHEREAS Royal Canadian Legion Branches around British Columbia have a history of community service, neighbourhood social service partnership, and are active contributors to their host municipalities and residents, including those with and without past or current military service;

WHEREAS most BC municipalities in which a Legion branch exists offer a mechanism to relieve tax payment, but do so in a variety of different ways (e.g. grants to offset tax payments, or exemptions based on different classes of assessments as defined and allowed by BC Assessment, or classifications of use etc.);

WHEREAS exemption applications to municipalities depend on widely variable municipal policies and consideration of differential tax assessments;

WHEREAS unexpected increases in property tax assessment jeopardize the future sustainability and operational capacity of Legion branches;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be asked to work with the BC Assessment Authority and any other relevant agencies to consider a province wide policy and/or legislative change needed to fully exempt Legions in British Columbia from payment of property taxes.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Young

Seconded By Councillor Isitt

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be asked to work with the BC Assessment Authority and any other relevant agencies to consider a province wide policy and/or legislative change needed to **fully exempt** Legions in British Columbia from ~~payment of property taxes~~ **paying property taxes in a manner proportionate to the use of the facilities to fulfil public or charitable purposes.**

FOR (3): Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt and Councillor Young

OPPOSED (5): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts and Councillor Thornton-Joe

DEFEATED (3 to 5)

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be asked to work with the BC Assessment Authority and any other relevant agencies to consider a province wide policy and/or legislative change needed to **fully** exempt Legions in British Columbia from payment of property taxes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment:

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Alto

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be asked to work with the BC Assessment Authority and any other relevant agencies to consider a province wide policy and/or legislative change needed to **exempt explore exemptions for** Legions in British Columbia from payment of property taxes.

DEFEATED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Young

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be asked to work with the BC Assessment Authority and any other relevant agencies to consider a province wide policy and/or legislative change needed to **empower local governments to consider exempting** Legions in British Columbia from payment of property taxes.

DEFEATED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Loveday

Seconded By Mayor Helps

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be asked to work with the BC Assessment Authority and any other relevant agencies to consider a province wide policy and/or legislative change needed to **fully provide exemptions to** Legions in British Columbia from payment of property taxes.

Amendment to the amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Young

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be asked to work with the BC Assessment Authority and any other relevant agencies to consider a province wide policy and/or legislative change needed to **fully provide partial or full exemptions to** Legions in British Columbia from payment of property taxes.

FOR (3): Mayor Helps, Councillor Isitt and Councillor Young

OPPOSED (5): Councillor Alto, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts and Councillor Thornton-Joe

DEFEATED (3 to 5)

On the amendment:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Main Motion as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be asked to work with the BC Assessment Authority and any other relevant agencies to consider a province wide policy and/or legislative change needed to provide exemptions to Legions in British Columbia from payment of property taxes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Collins returned to the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Helps recalled the vote to approve Consent Agenda items.

Councillor Isitt requested that item E.1: 1661 Burton Avenue – Rezoning Application No. 00692 (Oaklands) be removed from the Consent Agenda.

That the following items be approved without further debate:

C.1 Minutes from the meeting held June 13, 2019

Moved By Councillor Collins

Seconded By Councillor Potts

That the minutes from the meeting held June 13, 2019 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E.4 Application to Change Hours of Licensed Service for Clark & Co. at 1002 Blanshard Street (Downtown)

Committee received a report dated May 17, 2019 from the Acting Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development proposing to allow the change hours of licensed service associated with a food primary license.

Moved By Councillor Collins

Seconded By Councillor Potts

That Council direct staff to provide the following response to the Liquor Licensing Agency:

Council, after conducting a review with respect to noise and community impacts, does support the application of Clarke & Co., located at 1002 Blanshard Street, to adjust hours of licensed service to 9:00 am to 1:00 am daily, with an occupant load of 32 persons.

Providing the following comments on the prescribed considerations:

- a. The impact of noise on the community in the vicinity of the establishment has been considered in relation to the request, and assumptions are the noise impacts would be negligible based on experience with the operator, and nature of the request. The requested hours of operation in conjunction with the existing occupant load are not expected to result in negative impacts to the community.
- b. If the application is approved, the impact on the community is expected to be positive economically as the approval supports the business plan and long term viability of the establishment. The business model embraces the combination of small occupant load and high quality of offerings, and provides a unique contribution to the richness, and diversity of offerings in the area.
- c. The views of residents were solicited via a mail out which included 249 letters to neighbouring property owners and occupiers within 100 metres of the licensed location and a notice posted at the property. The City received two letters in response to the request, both of which supported or had no objection to the application.
- d. Council recommends the license be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.5 License for Use of Federal Property Agreement - Department of National Defence

Committee received a report dated June 14, 2019 from the Fire Chief seeking Council approval for a five-year renewal of the original agreement approved by Council at the Governance and Priorities meeting of August 13, 2013.

Moved By Councillor Collins

Seconded By Councillor Potts

That Council authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an agreement with the Department of National Defence to:

3. Access through licence, the property located at Workpoint, Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt, Township of Esquimalt and, permission to use the land for staff training in practical application of structural collapse and technical rescue training. This agreement supersedes the original "property use" agreement approved by Governance and Priorities Committee of August 13, 2013. and;
4. Request authorization from Council for the delegated right to renew or extend this licence after the end of its term on substantially the same terms and conditions, subject to review and approval of the Fire Chief and the City Solicitor.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. LAND USE MATTERS

E.1 1661 Burton Avenue - Rezoning Application No.00692 (Oaklands)

Councillor Isitt withdrew from the meeting at 12:54 p.m. due to a pecuniary conflict of interest with the following item, as the applicant is a friend of his.

Committee received a report dated June 13, 2019 from the Acting Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development proposing to allow for rezoning from a RB-1 Zone to a site-specific zone in order to permit a daycare for more than eight children within a house conversion.

Moved By Councillor Loveday

Seconded By Councillor Young

That Council instruct staff to prepare the necessary Zoning Regulation Bylaw Amendment that would authorize the proposed development outlined in Rezoning Application No. 00692 for 1661 Burton Avenue, that first and second reading of the Zoning Regulation Bylaw Amendment be considered by Council and a Public Hearing date be set once the following condition is met:

1. Preparation and execution of a Statutory Right-of-Way of 1.21m off Shakespeare Street and 1.17m off the laneway.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Isitt returned to the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

E. NEW BUSINESS

H.4 Preventing Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault in the City of Victoria

Committee received a report dated June 27, 2019 from Councillor Loveday, Councillor Collins, and Councillor Potts proposing recommended inclusions in the development of the Municipal Liquor Policy and the Late Night Program.

Mayor Helps left the meeting at 1:01 p.m.

Councillor Isitt left the meeting at 1:01 p.m.

Councillor Thornton-Joe assumed the chair at 1:01 p.m.

Mayor Helps returned to the meeting and assumed the chair at 1:03 pm.

Councillor Isitt returned to the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Moved By Councillor Collins

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

1. That Council includes sexualized violence prevention in the mandate of the Municipal Liquor Policy and the Late Night Program.
2. That Council direct staff to report back with implications of and options for mandating sexualized violence prevention training for bar and nightclub staff as part of either the liquor license or business license approval process.
3. That Council request that liquor license applicants submit a sexual harassment and sexual violence prevention plan alongside their liquor license application.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H.5 Library Funding

Committee received a report dated June 25, 2019 from Councillor Loveday regarding a proposed motion to be considered at this year's UBCM Convention.

Moved By Councillor Loveday

Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council submit the following motion for consideration at UBCM, to be held in September, 2019:

WHEREAS libraries are a social justice equalizer that provide universal access to information and learning materials irrespective of income level and are now so much more than books, building community and a sense of inclusion,

AND WHEREAS funding rates have been frozen since 2009 and inflationary costs have increasingly been put on municipal property tax payers which is a regressive approach to funding public libraries. Municipalities face downloading from upper levels of government and have few tools to raise funds. Restoring funding to libraries supports the BC Government's agenda to eliminate poverty, improve access to education, and address social justice in BC.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities call on the Provincial Government to restore library funding to a level that reflects both inflationary cost increases since 2009 and the value of this system to the Province.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F. ADJOURNMENT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Collins

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 1:11 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CITY CLERK

MAYOR