

**MINUTES OF THE  
SPECIAL GOVERNANCE & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2016, 12:00 P.M.**

**1. THE CHAIR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 12:01 P.M.**

**Committee Members Present:** Councillors Alto, Coleman, Lucas, Madoff, and Young.

**Absent for a portion of the meeting:** Mayor Helps (Chair); Councillors Isitt, Loveday and Thornton-Joe.

**Staff Present:** J. Johnson – City Manager; J. Jenkyns – Deputy City Manager; S. Thompson – Director of Finance; J. Tinney – Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development; F. Work – Director of Engineering and Public Works; T. Soulliere – Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities; P. Bruce – Fire Chief; T. Zworski – City Solicitor; S. Olak – Assistant Director of Human Resources; R. Gordon - Information Access and Privacy Analyst; C. Coates – City Clerk; C. Mycroft – Executive Assistant to the City Manager; A. Ferguson – Committee Secretary; P. Martin – Recording Secretary.

**Guest:** D. Loukidelis QC, Associate Counsel – Anderson Young

*Mayor Helps, Councillors Isitt, Loveday, and Thornton-Joe were not present when the meeting was convened.*

**2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**3.1 Approval of the Agenda**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Madoff, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the Agenda of the January 27, 2016, Special Governance & Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 16/GPC

### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#### 3.1 Minutes from the Meeting held on December 3, 2015

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Madoff, that the Minutes of the Meeting held December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 16/GPC

*Mayor Helps, Councillors Isitt, Loveday, and Thornton-Joe joined the meeting at 12:03 p.m.*

### 4. WORKSHOP

#### 4.1 Freedom of Information Presentation

The Governance and Priority Committee took part in a workshop to discuss Freedom of Information and British Columbia's Access and Privacy Laws.

The City Clerk introduced David Loukidelis QC, Associate Counsel from Young Anderson, Barristers and Solicitors.

David Loukidelis provided Committee with a presentation regarding Freedom of Information and British Columbia's Access and Privacy Laws.

The main points presented included:

- An overview of the privacy and Freedom of Information context for local governments in British Columbia.
- A brief history of purposes and policies of the laws.
- A survey of the mechanics of law.

*Councillor Loveday withdrew from the meeting at 12:35 p.m. and returned at 12:37 p.m.*

*Councillor Isitt withdrew from the meeting at 12:51 p.m. and returned at 12:58 p.m.*

*Councillor Thornton-Joe withdrew from the meeting at 1:15 p.m. and returned at 1:18 p.m.*

*Councillor Loveday withdrew from the meeting at 1:19 p.m. and returned at 1:20 p.m.*

*Councillor Young withdrew from the meeting at 1:20 p.m. and returned at 1:27 p.m.*

*Councillor Alto left the meeting at 1:30 p.m.*

Committee discussed the Freedom of Information presentation as follows:

- That the City wants to focus on embracing an open government approach and that while it is important to be cautious when it comes to Freedom of Information requests, it is also important that decisions are made in good faith.
- That Freedom of Information policies and discussions are a top priority for Legislative Services as staff would rather be helpful than prohibitive. Staff are trying to create a process and reinvigorate field level training so that there is clarity of purpose and execution while making the process familiar to everyone.

*Councillor Isitt withdrew from the meeting at 1:44 p.m. and returned at 1:47 p.m.*

*Councillor Loveday withdrew from the meeting at 1:53 p.m. and returned at 1:55 p.m.*

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Madoff, seconded by Councillor Loveday that the Special Governance & Priorities Committee meeting of January 27, 2016, be adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 16/GPC

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA