

**MINUTES OF THE  
SPECIAL GOVERNANCE & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015, 9:00 A.M.**

**1. THE CHAIR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M.**

**Committee Members Present:** Mayor Helps in the Chair; Councillors, Alto, Coleman, Loveday, Lucas, Madoff, Thornton-Joe and Young

**Absent:** Councillor Isitt

**Staff Present:** J. Johnson – City Manager; J. Jenkyns – Deputy City Manager; K. Hamilton – Director of Citizen Engagement & Strategic Planning; P. Bruce – Fire Chief; S. Thompson – Director of Finance; J. Tinney – Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development; T. Soulliere – Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities; C. Coates – City Clerk; Nichola Reddington – Arts & Culture Coordinator; C. Mycroft - Assistant to City Manager; A. Ferguson – Recording Secretary

**Guest:** Dr. Greg Baeker, Director of Cultural Development with MDB Insight

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**2.1 Minutes from the Meeting held on November 19, 2015**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Madoff, that the Minutes of the Meeting held November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**3.1 Approval of the Agenda**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the Agenda of the December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Special Governance & Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

## 4. WORKSHOP

### 4.1 Cultural Planning

The Deputy City Manager introduced Dr. Greg Baeker, Director of Cultural Development at MDB Insight as well as the City's Arts and Culture Coordinator, Nichola Reddington to the Committee.

The Arts & Culture Coordinator provided Committee with a presentation regarding the Arts and Culture Master Plan.

Committee discussed the Arts and Culture Master Plan presentation as follows:

- Comparing benchmarks with other cities.
- The City's built heritage and libraries.
- Informing the public of the various arts and culture contributions to the City.
- The criteria to be eligible for grants.
- Lack of promotion seen for the Victoria Arts & Culture website.
- Receiving a breakdown of the organizations that are receiving permissive tax exemptions.

Dr. Greg Baeker provided Committee with a presentation regarding Cultural Development.

Committee discussed Dr. Baeker's presentation as follows:

- Dr. Baeker's experience with arts and culture steering committees.
- Using lessons learned from past projects to help build the arts and culture master plan.
- The diversity of the cultural world.
- The rich cultural life in the City.
- Providing staff with feedback and ideas on forming the steering committee.
- The funding available from various sources for arts and culture in the City and ensuring the most impactful distribution of the funding.
- The broad range of benefits arts and culture has on the community.
- Concerns about the affordability of housing for artists in the City.

## 5. ADJOURNMENT

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the Special Governance & Priorities Committee meeting of December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015, be adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA