



MINUTES - VICTORIA CITY COUNCIL

February 19, 2026, 1:46 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE

To be held immediately following the Committee of the Whole Meeting

The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees Nation and Xwsepsum Nation

PRESENT: Mayor Alto in the Chair, Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Dell, Councillor Gardiner, Councillor Hammond, Councillor Kim, Councillor Loughton

PRESENT ELECTRONICALLY: Councillor Thompson

STAFF PRESENT: J. Jenkyns - City Manager, S. Thompson - Deputy City Manager / Chief Financial Officer, C. Kingsley - City Clerk, C. Mycroft - Manager of Intergovernmental & Media Relations, P. Rantucci - Director of Community Safety, Wellbeing & Partnerships, S. Webb - Assistant Director of Corporate Planning and Strategic Partnerships, K. Hoese - Director of Planning and Development, A. Johnson, Assistant Director of Development Services, S. Johnson - Director of Communications and Engagement, B. Cranwell – Information Access and Privacy Analyst, M. Haden - Legislative Coordinator

A. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Council acknowledged that the City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees First Nation and Xwsepsum First Nation communities, and acknowledged the city's robust and remarkable relationship with the two Nations and thanked the Nations for their generosity in making those relationships happen.

B. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved and Seconded:

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Council requested that the following item be removed from the Consent Agenda:

- G.2 - Bylaw for Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Administration

Moved and Seconded:

That the following Consent Agenda items be approved:

E.1 Minutes from the Council (to follow COTW) meeting held December 4, 2025

That the minutes from the Council (to follow COTW) meeting held December 4, 2025 be approved.

F.1.a.a Report Back on STEP Program Model (Verbal)

That Council directs staff to work with the CRD, BC Housing, and other partners in developing a potential cost shared STEP-like positive flow pilot and report back to Council in April 2026.

F.1.a.b Council Member Motion: Advocacy to the Federal Government on Environmental Regulations related to Large Marine Vessels around Victoria

That Council directs the Mayor to write to the Federal Minister of Transport, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada, and the local Member of Parliament for Victoria, and request the following:

1. That the Federal government mandate the phase-in of low-sulphur fuel by large marine vessels in Canadian territorial waters;
2. That the Federal government develop regulations to prevent the discharge of scrubber wash water within Canadian territorial waters;
3. That the Federal government ensure that all regulatory emissions requirements are being followed by large marine vessels;
4. And that the Federal government work collaboratively with the marine shipping and transportation industry and related stakeholders, including local communities and First Nations, to ensure that the industry meets both its own decarbonization and environmental objectives and those of Canada.

F.1.a.c Council Member Motion: Safer Motor Vehicle Design Advocacy

That Council request that the Mayor write letters to:

1. Call upon the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia to undertake a comprehensive review of recent motor vehicle design trends and their impacts on the safety of people walking, and using bikes and other mobility devices,.
2. Request that this review include, but not be limited to, examination of:
 - a. increasing hood and front-end heights on pickup trucks and SUVs;
 - b. vertical and box-style front-end designs and their effects on pedestrian injury severity;
 - c. visibility and blind zones created by hood height, hood length, and vehicle structure;

- d. headlight brightness, mounting height, beam pattern, and glare impacts on people walking, and using bikes and other mobility devices,; and
 - e. any other vehicle design changes identified as contributing to increased risk for vulnerable road users.
3. Urge senior governments to consider updates to motor vehicle safety standards, testing protocols, regular vehicle inspections, and other regulations to better protect people walking, and using bikes and other mobility devices, including visibility and impact considerations as being as important as occupant protection.

G.1 Bylaw for 1026 Empress Avenue: Heritage Designation Application No. 000217

That the following bylaw be given first and second readings:

- 1. Heritage Designation (1026 Empress Avenue) Bylaw, No. 26-006

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

E.1 Minutes from the Council (to follow COTW) meeting held December 4, 2025

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

F. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

F.1 Committee of the Whole

F.1.a Report from the February 05, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting

F.1.a.a Report Back on STEP Program Model (Verbal)

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

F.1.a.b Council Member Motion: Advocacy to the Federal Government on Environmental Regulations related to Large Marine Vessels around Victoria

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

F.1.a.c Council Member Motion: Safer Motor Vehicle Design Advocacy

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

G. BYLAWS

G.1 Bylaw for 1026 Empress Avenue: Heritage Designation Application No. 000217

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

G.2 Bylaw for Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Administration

Moved and Seconded:

That the following bylaw be given first, second, and third readings:

1. Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Administration Bylaw, No. 26-027

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

There were no Notices of Motions.

I. NEW BUSINESS

I.1 Report back on AVICC Resolutions

A report requesting that Council provide direction to staff on three resolutions to submit to AVICC for consideration at the 2026 Annual General Meeting and Convention.

Councillor Dell recused himself at 2:01 p.m. due to a perceived conflict on interest.

Council, by unanimous consent, moved and seconded:

That Council direct staff to submit the following resolutions to AVICC for consideration at the 2026 Annual General Meeting and Convention:

1. Enabling Authorities Allowing Local Governments to Regulate Carbon Pollution from Existing Buildings
2. Pursuing a Class-action Lawsuit Against Fossil Fuel Companies
3. \$1.50 Per Student Food Security Grant for Post-Secondary Food Security
4. \$10 Per Day Flat Rate Ferry Fare for Post-Secondary Students
5. Post-Secondary Affordability
6. Wheelchairs and Mobility Scooters in Bike-and-Roll Mobility Lanes and Routes
7. Upholding the North Coast Tanker Ban

Amendment:

Moved and Seconded:

That Council direct staff to submit the following resolutions to AVICC for consideration at the 2026 Annual General Meeting and Convention:

1. Enabling Authorities Allowing Local Governments to Regulate Carbon Pollution from Existing Buildings

2. Pursuing a Class-action Lawsuit Against Fossil Fuel Companies
3. ~~\$1.50 Per Student Food Security Grant for Post-Secondary Food Security~~
4. ~~\$10 Per Day Flat Rate Ferry Fare for Post-Secondary Students~~
5. ~~Post-Secondary Affordability~~
6. Wheelchairs and Mobility Scooters in Bike-and-Roll Mobility Lanes and Routes
7. Upholding the North Coast Tanker Ban

Amendment to the amendment:

Moved and Seconded:

That Council direct staff to submit the following resolutions to AVICC for consideration at the 2026 Annual General Meeting and Convention:

1. Enabling Authorities Allowing Local Governments to Regulate Carbon Pollution from Existing Buildings
2. Pursuing a Class-action Lawsuit Against Fossil Fuel Companies
3. ~~\$1.50 Per Student Food Security Grant for Post-Secondary Food Security~~
4. ~~\$10 Per Day Flat Rate Ferry Fare for Post-Secondary Students~~
5. Post-Secondary Affordability
6. Wheelchairs and Mobility Scooters in Bike-and-Roll Mobility Lanes and Routes
7. Upholding the North Coast Tanker Ban

CONFLICT (1): Councillor Dell

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Caradonna

CARRIED (7 to 1)

On the amendment as amended:

That Council direct staff to submit the following resolutions to AVICC for consideration at the 2026 Annual General Meeting and Convention:

1. Enabling Authorities Allowing Local Governments to Regulate Carbon Pollution from Existing Buildings
2. Pursuing a Class-action Lawsuit Against Fossil Fuel Companies
3. ~~\$1.50 Per Student Food Security Grant for Post-Secondary Food Security~~
4. ~~\$10 Per Day Flat Rate Ferry Fare for Post-Secondary Students~~
5. Post-Secondary Affordability
6. Wheelchairs and Mobility Scooters in Bike-and-Roll Mobility Lanes and Routes
7. Upholding the North Coast Tanker Ban

CONFLICT (1): Councillor Dell

CARRIED (8 to 0)

Council, by unanimous consent, amended the motion as amended:

That Council direct staff to submit the following resolutions to AVICC for consideration at the 2026 Annual General Meeting and Convention:

1. Enabling Authorities Allowing Local Governments to Regulate Carbon Pollution from Existing Buildings
2. Post-Secondary Affordability
3. Wheelchairs and Mobility Scooters in Bike-and-Roll Mobility Lanes and Routes

And request that the following resolutions be distributed to the members of AVICC and that a request for consideration at the convention be made should time allow:

4. Pursuing a Class-action Lawsuit Against Fossil Fuel Companies
5. Upholding the North Coast Tanker Ban

And further direct that resolutions 4 and 5 be submitted directly to UBCM for consideration at their fall convention.

On the main motion as amended:

That Council direct staff to submit the following resolutions to AVICC for consideration at the 2026 Annual General Meeting and Convention:

1. Enabling Authorities Allowing Local Governments to Regulate Carbon Pollution from Existing Buildings
2. Post-Secondary Affordability
3. Wheelchairs and Mobility Scooters in Bike-and-Roll Mobility Lanes and Routes

And request that the following resolutions be distributed to the members of AVICC and that a request for consideration at the convention be made should time allow:

4. Pursuing a Class-action Lawsuit Against Fossil Fuel Companies
5. Upholding the North Coast Tanker Ban

And further direct that resolutions 4 and 5 be submitted directly to UBCM for consideration at their fall convention.

CONFLICT (1): Councillor Dell
OPPOSED (1): Councillor Gardiner

CARRIED (7 to 1)

Councillor Dell rejoined the meeting at 2:18 p.m.

J. CLOSED MEETING

Moved and Seconded:

MOTION TO CLOSE THE FEBRUARY 19, 2026 COUNCIL MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

That Council convene a closed meeting that excludes the public under Section 90 of the *Community Charter* for the reason that the following agenda items deal with matters specified in Sections 90(1) and/or (2) of the *Community Charter*, namely:

Section 90(1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

Section 90(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations;

Section 90(1)(f) law enforcement, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation under or enforcement of an enactment;

Section 90(1)(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; and

Section 90(2) A part of a council meeting must be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to one or more of the following:

Section 90(2)(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The daytime Council meeting was closed to the public at 2:21 p.m.

K. APPROVAL OF CLOSED AGENDA

L. CONSIDERATION OF CLOSED MINUTES

M. NEW BUSINESS

M.3 Legal - Community Charter Section 90(1)(c)

Council discussed a legal matter. The discussion was recorded and kept confidential.

M.2 Law Enforcement/ Intergovernmental Relations - Community Charter Section 90(1)(f) and 90(2)(b)

Council discussed a law enforcement and intergovernmental relations matter. The discussion was recorded and kept confidential.

M.3 Employee Relations - Community Charter Section 90(1)(c)

Council discussed an employee relations matter. The discussion was recorded and kept confidential.

N. CONSIDERATION TO RISE & REPORT

There was no consideration to rise and report.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Moved and Seconded:

That the Council Meeting be adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

DRAFT