



**MINUTES**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ACES)**  
**MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2013-MAR-13 AT 4:30 PM**  
**BOARD ROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE (411 DUNSMUIR STREET)**

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<b>Members Present:</b>	Diane Brennan, Chair Anne Kerr Ted Perry Suzanne Andre	Calvin Tant Wally Wells Sheri DeBoer Shelley Serebrin (alternate)
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Chad Dalrymple Michele Patterson Jan Hastings	Glenda Hunter (alternate) Snuneymuxw First Nation Rep
<b>Staff:</b>	Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner	Rebecca Tubbs, Recording Secretary

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**1. Call to Order**

D. Brennan called the meeting to order at 4:44 pm.

**2. Approval of Agenda & Late Items**

The agenda was approved with the addition of the following late items:

- a) Earth Hour (2013-MAR-23 at 8:30 pm):  
For information. On 2013-MAR-23 at 8:30 pm, the City of Nanaimo will participate in Earth Hour. Mayor Ruttan has been challenged by the Mayor of Kamloops to reduce power consumption. The website will be updated, a press release issued, and the lights turned off at city facilities. More information is available at [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/earthhour](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/earthhour).
- b) Green Solutions Trade Show & Speaker's Forum (2013-APR-6&7) at Beban Park:  
For information. This trade show features over 50 exhibits and eight interactive seminars focused on energy saving and eco-friendly ideas. Admission is free. City staff will be in attendance with an information booth. More information is available at [www.midisland.coop/index.php?page=23](http://www.midisland.coop/index.php?page=23).
- c) City of Nanaimo's Balanced Scorecard:  
For information. The City has recently published a balanced scorecard; a set of performance measures that provides information about the organization through a number of perspectives. There are a number of items contained under the "environmental" category (for example: air quality index, urban forests, water consumption, etc.). The scorecard can be found online at [www.nanaimo.ca/performance/measurements/balancedscorecard](http://www.nanaimo.ca/performance/measurements/balancedscorecard).
- d) Community Mapping Event (2013-MAR-20):  
For information. This event will be held by VIU's Geography Department at in Building 355, Room 211 from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm. Admission is free and refreshments are provided.
- e) News article re: International Composting Corporation (ICC) Group:  
For information. A recent news article suggests there has been a growing concern from residents about the smell in the air, with some people suspecting that the smell is coming from ICC. Because there are a number of things that could be contributing to the smell, it is being investigated. There was a notice of motion made at last night's Regional District (RDN) Board meeting to have RDN staff review scrubbing procedures, measurements, etc. to make a determination of what next steps should be.

- f) Linley Valley Oil Slick:  
For information. There was a recent article in the newspaper regarding an oil slick in the Linley Valley. An investigation has taken place, but the results have not yet been provided. Staff will provide more information to the committee once it becomes available.
- g) Draft Federal Sustainable Development Strategy 2013-2016:  
For information. A draft Federal Sustainable Development Strategy is available online for public viewing and comment at <https://www.ec.gc.ca/dd-sd/default.asp?lang=En&n=F7780ED7-1>
- S. DeBoer left the meeting at 5:36 pm.
- h) Transportation Master Plan – Traffic Report given to Council:  
For information. Engineering staff provided Council with an update on the Transportation Master Plan at the last Council meeting. R. Lawrance has arranged for a staff member to attend the May ACES meeting to provide the Committee with a similar update on the Transportation Master Plan to-date.
- i) UBCM Meeting Regarding Changes to Fisheries Act:  
For information. UBCM has arranged a meeting with the local governments that put forth resolutions at the UBCM regarding the Fisheries Act. A meeting will be held in Vancouver on 2013-MAR-22 with reps from these local governments and Fisheries & Oceans. The meeting will be designed to hear the concerns raised by local governments, and how Fisheries & Oceans plans to respond to the changes. R. Lawrance will attend this meeting on behalf of the City of Nanaimo and will report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

### 3. Adoption of Minutes (2013-FEB-13)

It was moved and seconded that the 2013-FEB-13 Minutes be adopted as amended below.

#### Members Absent:

~~Calvin Tant~~ **Jan Hastings**

#### Item 6a) 2013 Woodstove Changeout Program:

.....As well, workshops have been scheduled throughout the community to demonstrate ~~safe~~ **clean** burning techniques.

#### Item 7c) Green Nanaimo Awards Update:

The following changes were suggested:

- **Remove “no post humous awards”**

#### Item 7d) National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA) Reserve – Meeting with Chamber of Commerce:

**W. Wells reported that** Parks Canada met with the Nanaimo Chamber of commerce and invited.....

The motion was carried.

### 4. Items Arising from Minutes

None.

### 5. Delegations

None.

## 6. Correspondence, Handouts, Notices

- a) Brant Wildlife Festival (March & April, 2013):  
For information. The Brant Wildlife Festival, a celebration of nature organized by the Nature Trust of BC, will be held during March & April of 2013. The festival consists of a variety of lectures, events, tours, etc. held across the island, with a focus on wildlife and nature (see poster for schedule of events). A community celebration and reception is scheduled for 2013-MAR-22 and will include appies, live music, art displays, etc. For more information, visit [www.brantfestival.bc.ca](http://www.brantfestival.bc.ca) or call 1-866-288-7878.
- b) World Water Day (2013-MAR-22):  
The following events are planned in celebration of World Water Day:
- 2013-MAR-22: Team Watersmart will set up a booth at VIREB conference to promote water awareness to realtors re wells, septic, irrigation, rainwater harvesting, etc.
  - 2013-MAR-23: a FREE Team Watersmart Rainwater Harvesting Workshop will be held at the Lantzville Legion from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm.
- c) Conversation on Food Strategy (2013-MAR-09):  
On 2013-MAR-09, the City of Nanaimo hosted a day-long workshop/discussion on a food strategy for Nanaimo. Invitations to this workshop were sent to ACES. Many residents attended the event to learn more about food systems and to provide input on Nanaimo's vision for food. For more information, visit [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/food](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/food).

C. Tant arrived at 5:05 pm.

R. Lawrance reported that staff will be working on a report to send to Council as an update on the food strategy progress to-date. He will share the report with ACES for information at a future meeting. He also suggested inviting a staff member involved in the project to a future ACES meeting to provide an update.

## 7. Ongoing Business

- a) Riparian Setback Variance Policy Review – Update:  
As part of the process review, a workshop has been scheduled for 2013-MAR-20 to discuss and review the City's riparian setback variance policy. The workshop will be held from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm and will include a presentation by City staff followed by roundtable discussions and an opportunity to report back. Representatives have been invited from both the environment and development community. An agenda and background information will be distributed to attendees prior to the meeting.
- Once comments from the workshop have been reviewed, staff will prepare a synopsis of the input received and then prepare recommendations for ACES and DPRC to review and provide comment on.
- Committee members expressed keen interest in meeting between regular committee meetings in order to provide timely input into any policy or process recommendations being considered by staff.
- b) Green Nanaimo Awards - Update:  
As noted at previous meetings, the City is currently accepting nominations for the 2013 Green Nanaimo Awards. The deadline for nominations is 4:30 pm on 2013-MAR-29. Nominations will be reviewed by ACES at the 2013-APR-10 meeting, with their recommendations being forwarded to Council for endorsement. Copies of the nomination form are available at City facilities or online at [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/committeeawards](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/committeeawards).

c) Community Sustainability Action Plan (CSAP) – Update:

- Realtor Energy Efficiency Program (REEP):  
As noted at previous meetings, staff is continuing to work with realtors on the REEP program. They would like to work with the Vancouver Island Real Estate Board (VIREB) to host two focus group sessions with local realtors including energy efficiency on the home buying/selling process. A market research firm will be hired to work with the City to facilitate these sessions.
- Nanaimo Economic Development Corporation Website:  
The Nanaimo Economic Development Corporation has updated their website ([www.investnanaimo.com](http://www.investnanaimo.com)) to include a new section on green business that includes highlights on Nanaimo's green industry, sustainability plan, city initiatives, key industries, etc.

**8. New Business**

- a) Invasive Plant Awareness – Project Planning:  
Parks staff has been working on a number invasive plant focused events for May. They will work with community groups to hold public information sessions and pulling events. As well, the website will be updated. More information is available at [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/invasives](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/invasives).
- b) Bike to Work Week (2013-MAY-28 to 2013-JUN-03):  
For information. Bike to Work Week is approaching and similar to last year, staff will begin working with a number of groups (VIU, SD#68, DNBA, VIHA, etc.) to organize the program. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

**9. Council Update**

None.

**10. Next Meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is 2013-APR-10 at 4:30 pm in the Service and Resource Centre (411 Dunsmuir Street).

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.

APPROVED:

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Chair

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Date