



**MINUTES**  
**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ACES)**  
**MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 2012-JUL-11 AT 4:30 PM**  
**AT THE NANAIMO MUSEUM (100 MUSEUM WAY)**

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<b>Members Present:</b>	Anne Kerr, Designate Chair Calvin Tant Michael Schellinck	Suzanne Andre Ted Perry
<b>Members Absent:</b>	Diane Brennan, Chair Michele Patterson Sheri DeBoer	Snuneymuxw First Nation Rep Shelley Serebrin Wally Wells
<b>Staff:</b>	Rob Lawrance, Environmental Planner	Rebecca Tubbs, Recording Secretary

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**1. Call to Order**

Designate Chair A. Kerr called the meeting to order at 4:37 pm.

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

The agenda was approved as presented.

**3. Adoption of Minutes (2012-MAY-09 & 2012-JUN-13)**

Deferred until the next meeting as no quorum was present.

**4. Items Arising from Minutes**

**5. Budget**

**6. Delegations**

**7. Correspondence, Handouts, Notices**

a) Letters to MPs and MLAs from Mayor Re: Changes to *Fisheries Act*.

For information. On 2012-JUN-25, Council approved the Committee's recommendation that a motion be forwarded to the Federal and Provincial Minister of Fisheries, Nanaimo MPs and MLAs, and to the UBCM for consideration at the 2012 Annual Convention, regarding the proposed changes to the *Fisheries Act*. Letters were sent from the Mayor's office to Doug Routley, MLA; Ron Cantelon, MLA; Leonard Krog, MLA; James Lunney, MP; and Jean Crowder, MP.

b) Report to Council Re: Proposed Changes to *Fisheries Act* and Impact on the City of Nanaimo:

For information. On 2012-JUN-25, the report was approved by Council.

R. Lawrance provided ACES members with copies of West Vancouver's resolution, noting that the wording is based on the Omnibus bill not being passed yet. ACES' resolution was written assuming the bill was to be passed, which will make it more appropriate for UBCM consideration.

In September, Committee members would like to discuss the upcoming UBCM and confirm whether the resolution is on the agenda.

Regarding the second recommendation in the adopted Council report, that "*staff be directed to review the City of Nanaimo's relevant watercourse policies in light of the changes in the Fisheries*

*Act of Canada to confirm whether the City needs to make any adjustments in order to maintain current standards for watercourse protection in Nanaimo*"; the recommendation will not be undertaken until the City has confirmed with DFO what regulation/policy changes have been made, once they are made, to reflect the revised *Fisheries Act*. R. Lawrance will monitor this over the summer and report back to ACES at the September or October meeting.

The above correspondence was received as presented.

## 8. Ongoing Business

### a) Proposed Expansion of National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA) – Update:

R. Lawrance noted that Mr. Gourlay, President of the Mid-Island Sustainability & Stewardship Initiative (MISSI), attended the 2012-JUN-18 meeting of the Committee of the Whole, requesting support to expand the NMCA around Gabriola Island and into the Nanaimo Estuary. Council asked staff to look into the issue and an information report was prepared by Legislative Services, which reviewed past resolutions by Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) regarding the proposed NMCA. A second report from ACES was referenced as coming in the near future.

R. Lawrance reported that some initial meetings have taken place between local governments in the Capital Regional District (CRD), Islands Trust, and Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD). On 2012-MAY-26, Parks Canada hosted an information meeting on the NMCA, inviting communities included in the proposed boundaries. During the meeting, questions were raised about the current boundaries and why Nanaimo and other areas were not included. Parks Canada explained that part of the reason for the current boundary was to avoid areas with a large number of commercial and private tenures. One significant outcome of the meeting was an agreement that more consultation would be done with surrounding communities and local governments.

The Committee agreed that it would be valuable to meet with Parks Canada before making any sort of recommendation. R. Lawrance will look into having a Parks Canada representative come to Nanaimo to meet with ACES members and interested members of Council, to discuss the NMCA proposal. Minutes from Parks Canada's NMCA meeting will be forwarded to ACES for information.

### b) Invasive Plant Management Strategy – Update:

R. Lawrance reported two upcoming workshops scheduled this month regarding invasive plants:

<b>Staff Workshop</b> 2012-JUL-12 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm  By invitation	<b>Public Workshop</b> 2012-JUL-19 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm Rooms 2/3, Beban Park Complex  Everyone is welcome to attend and ACES members are strongly encouraged to attend.
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The meetings will be facilitated by Judith Cullington and will include a short presentation by Ernie Sellentin, Operations Manager for the Coastal Invasive Plant Committee (CIPC). Later in the summer, an online survey will be developed to gather public input (draft survey presented at last meeting). Staff asked that if ACES members have any suggested changes to the survey, to forward them back by 2012-JUL-18.

It was requested that, due to the number of new Committee members, that the CIPC Coordinator, Rachelle McElroy, be invited back to a future meeting to provide information on CIPC.

## 9. New Business

### a) Review of Public Information on Watercourse Bylaws:

R. Lawrance said that a review will be done on the watercourse bylaw information that is currently available from the City. He displayed the City's website to ACES members, showing them a series of information brochures relating to local watersheds that were created many years ago in

partnership with NALT ([www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca) > Departments > Community Planning > Watersheds). In addition to the series of information brochures, there is a brochure that is included in development packages that speaks directly to the watercourse bylaw.

R. Lawrance will review and update the information brochures and bylaw brochure over the summer, and will present revised draft versions for comment at the September/October ACES meeting.

#### **10. Council Update**

#### **11. Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for **2012-SEP-19 at 4:30 pm in the Training Room at the City Annex (238 Franklyn Street).**

**There will be no meeting held in August.**

#### **12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 pm.

APPROVED:

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Chair

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Date