

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR NANAIMO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING
HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL,
ON THURSDAY, 2010-APR-15 COMMENCING AT 3:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor J. R. Ruttan, Chair

Members: Councillor D. K. Johnstone
Councillor M. W. Unger
Chief Douglas White
B. Bennie
J. Green
R. Grey
A.J. Hustins
M. Jenkins
T. Knight
R. Nilson (via telephone)
J. Pink
G. Scobie
D. Slowski

Staff: A. C. Kenning, City Manager
I. Howat, Director of Legislative Services
M. Hutchinson, Economic Development Officer
K. Ferland, Economic Development Coordinator

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Nanaimo Economic Development Commission Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT:

(a) Roundtable Introduction of Commission Members

The Commission members introduced themselves and the following items were discussed as being possible areas of focus of the Nanaimo Economic Development Commission:

- Commuter train
- Passenger ferry between downtown Nanaimo and downtown Vancouver
- Hotel attraction
- Identifying available incentives for SMEs in different sectors
- Business retention and expansion
- Market Nanaimo's competitive advantages
- Improve broadband connectivity

- Ensure suitable building space for technology companies
- Partner with Snuneymuxw First Nation on future opportunities
- Expand aboriginal tourism opportunities on Newcastle Island
- Create a more cooperative approach to tourism in Nanaimo, and reduce silos
- Help Nanaimo/Vancouver Island become more self-sufficient
- Build on Nanaimo as a gateway to Vancouver Island
- Help seek out capital and investors for SMEs
- Better market Nanaimo to international markets
- Properly manage coastal resources
- Maintain support for the housing/construction industry

(b) Determine Future Meeting Dates/Times

It was moved and seconded that the Commission meet on the 2nd Thursday of every month from 3:00 – 5:00 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

(Note that the meeting date has now been changed to the 3rd Thursday of each month).

(c) Determine Alternate Name for Economic Development Commission

It was moved and seconded that the Commission retain the name 'Nanaimo Economic Development Commission'. The motion carried unanimously.

(d) Chair's Introduction of Economic Development Strategy

The Chair asked Staff to provide the Commission with a verbal overview of the Economic Development Strategy review project.

4. STAFF REPORTS:

(a) Update on 2010 Activities of Economic Development Office

It was moved and seconded that the Commission receive the report on the 2010 activities of the Economic Development department. The motion carried unanimously.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 4:26 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

DIRECTOR,
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES