



**MERGED AGENDA  
REGULAR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

Monday, March 11, 2019, 4:30 P.M.

SHAW AUDITORIUM, VANCOUVER ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTRE  
80 COMMERCIAL STREET, NANAIMO, BC

SCHEDULED RECESS AT 6:30 P.M.

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Pages

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

**2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:**

- a. Add Agenda Item 6(e) - Joanne Sales, Director of Broombusters Invasive Plant Society, to provide an overview of Broombuster Invasive Plant Society*
- b. Remove Agenda Item 6(d) - Fernando Fuentes regarding Amrikko's Building at 1400 Wingrove Street*

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

**4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:**

- a. Minutes 4 - 5

Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo on Monday, 2019-FEB-04 at 1:30 p.m.
- b. Minutes 6 - 14

Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo on Monday, 2019-FEB-11 at 1:00 p.m.
- c. Minutes 15 - 19

Minutes of the Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo on Monday, 2019-FEB-11 at 4:30 p.m.
- d. Minutes 20 - 25

**5. PRESENTATIONS:**

**6. DELEGATIONS:**

- a. June Ross regarding Vancouver Island Water Watch Coalition 26  
June Ross, Vancouver Island Water Watch Coalition to speak regarding concerns in our watershed.
- b. John Dacombe regarding Active Transportation Routes 27  
John Dacombe to speak regarding active transportation routes in Nanaimo during February snows.
- c. Roel Coert regarding Next Generation Wireless, the Internet and the City of Nanaimo 28  
Roel Coert to speak regarding next generation wireless, Internet of Things, Knowledge Economy, Big Data and the City of Nanaimo.
- d. Fernando Fuentes regarding Amrikko's Building at 1400 Wingrove Street 29  
Fernando Fuentes to speak regarding concerns with Amrikko's building at 1400 Wingrove Street.
1. *Remove delegation from Fernando Fuentes*
- e. Add - Joanne Sales, Director of Broombusters Invasive Plant Society, to provide an overview of Broombuster Invasive Plant Society 30 - 31  
Joanne Sales, Director of Broombusters Invasive Plant Society, to provide an overview of the Broombusters Invasive Plant Society.

**7. REPORTS:**

- a. Request to Install a Peace Pole in Pirates Park 32 - 38  
To be introduced by Richard Harding, Director, Parks and Recreation.  
Purpose: To obtain Council's approval for the installation of a Peace Pole in Pirates Park.  
Recommendation: That the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve the installation of a peace pole in Pirates Park as requested.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE:**

9. OTHER BUSINESS:
10. QUESTION PERIOD:
11. PROCEDURAL MOTION:
12. ADJOURNMENT:

**MINUTES**  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
BOARDROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE,  
411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC  
MONDAY, 2019-FEB-04, AT 1:30 P.M. TO 3:30 P.M.

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Present: Mayor L. Krog  
Councillor S. D. Armstrong  
Councillor D. Bonner  
Councillor T. Brown  
Councillor B. Geselbracht  
Councillor E. Hemmens  
Councillor Z. Maartman  
Councillor I. W. Thorpe  
Councillor J. Turley

Staff: J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer  
R. J. Harding, Director of Parks and Recreation  
D. Lindsay, Director of Community Development  
B. Sims, Director of Engineering and Public Works  
L. Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community and Cultural Planning  
S. Gurrie, City Clerk  
G. Whitters, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 1:33 p.m.

2. PROCEDURAL MOTION TO PROCEED IN CAMERA:

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be closed to the public in order to deal with agenda items under the *Community Charter*:

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:

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

*Community Charter* 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.

The motion carried unanimously.

The Special Committee of the Whole moved "In Camera" at 1:34 p.m.

The Special Committee of the Whole moved out of "In Camera" at 3:32 p.m.

3. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 3:32 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

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C H A I R

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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CORPORATE OFFICER

**MINUTES**  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
BOARDROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE,  
411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC  
MONDAY, 2019-FEB-11 AT 1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

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Present: Mayor L. Krog  
Councillor S. D. Armstrong  
Councillor D. Bonner  
Councillor T. Brown  
Councillor B. Geselbracht  
Councillor E. Hemmens  
Councillor Z. Maartman  
Councillor I. W. Thorpe  
Councillor J. Turley

Staff: J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer  
R. J. Harding, Director of Parks and Recreation  
D. Lindsay, Director of Community Development  
B. Sims, Director of Engineering and Public Works  
Supt. C. Miller, OIC, Nanaimo Detachment RCMP (entered 1:10 p.m.)  
K. Fry, Fire Chief  
D. LaBerge, Manager of Community Safety  
L. Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community and Cultural Planning  
J. Horn, Social Planner, Community and Cultural Planning  
K. Kronstal, Social Planner, Community and Cultural Planning  
D. Blackwood, Client Support Specialist (vacated 1:09 p.m.)  
S. Gurrie, City Clerk  
J. Vanderhoef, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE SPECIAL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

3. REPORTS:

(a) Housing and Homelessness

Introduced by Dale Lindsay, Director of Community Development.

Presentations:

1. Lisa Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community and Cultural Planning, provided an overview of the presentations.

2. Karin Kronstal, Social Planner, provided a presentation on affordable housing and spoke regarding the following:
  - Nanaimo's affordability challenge
  - The Housing Continuum
  - Federal government investment
  - Homeless Partnering Strategy – federal government allocates \$811,000 annually, agreement has been renewed for another 10 years to be renamed "Reaching Home"
  - Role of provincial government - funding programs, provides legislative framework, BC Housing partners with local governments and agencies to develop supportive housing

D. Blackwood vacated the Boardroom at 1:09 p.m.

Supt. C. Miller entered the Boardroom at 1:10 p.m.

- Current BC Housing projects 2019
- Role of municipal government – adopting growth strategies, housing-friendly zoning bylaws, property tax incentives, providing land/buildings
- City of Nanaimo actions:
  - Participates in Nanaimo Homeless Coalition
  - \$36,000 grant to Homeless Coalition
  - Secondary suites, density bonuses, Development Cost Charge relief for affordable/supported housing
  - Rent supplement to John Howard Society
  - Contribution of works and services costs to supported housing
  - Provided land for supported and affordable housing
  - Social planning grants to address homelessness
  - Provided funding to various shelters in the community
  - Funding for shower program and food bank warehouse
- Affordable housing strategy objectives - increase supply of rentals, support infill in existing neighbourhoods, diversify housing forms, support low income and special needs housing
- Affordable housing strategy update on current projects – rental accommodation regulation, adaptive housing bylaw, mapping of rental stock, affordable housing site acquisition criteria

Committee discussion took place regarding the numbers for rental units presented and if these numbers included all rentals within the community or just supportive housing units.

3. John Horn, Social Planner, provided a presentation regarding homelessness and spoke regarding the following:
  - Homelessness in Canada and the historical homeless demographic versus today
  - On any given night 35,000 people are homeless in Canada
  - Count of homeless people recorded in Nanaimo in 2016 versus 2018

- Historical trends in homelessness

Committee discussion took place regarding a decline in homelessness in 2006-2008 on the graph titled “Historic Trends in Homelessness”. John Horn, Social Planner, noted that this was due to an aggressive program to address homelessness at that time. Discussion took place regarding current developments coming forward and if these could have a similar effect on the rental market.

John Horn, Social Planner, continued his presentation as follows:

- Barriers to housing – discrimination, criminal history, addiction, mental health issues, disabilities, domestic violence, cost of rent, low income
- Nanaimo Housing First Action Plan 2008 - goal was to eliminate chronic homelessness through a “Housing First” approach, target of 160 housing units paid by the provincial government, 153 housing units constructed, City provided majority of the land

Committee discussion took place regarding the following:

- Number of tenants in these housing units, the turn over rate of tenants and success rates
- BC Housing building housing for people who do not need supported/staffed housing. John Horn, Social Planner, responded that BC Housing provides many different types of housing to the community.

John Horn, Social Planner, continued his presentation as follows:

- Impact of municipal actions – supportive housing units have housed many of the chronically homeless population, funding provided to the Unitarian Extreme Weather Shelter, Homeless Partnering Strategy
- Staff are conducting studies to show impact of supportive housing projects on the surrounding neighbourhoods

Committee discussion took place regarding the various shelter programs provided across the City. John Horn, Social Planner, spoke regarding the shelters available within the community. Discussion took place regarding the use of drugs and alcohol within these premises. John Horn, Social Planner, noted that drugs and alcohol are not permitted within the premises but people will not be turned away as long as the situation is safe for all involved.

John Horn, Social Planner, continued his presentation as follows:

- Housing Legacy Reserve – established July 2005 by City Council, reduces Development Cost Charges, site works and services, and renovation costs, could be used for land purchases, suits the left side of the Housing Continuum, annual allocation of \$165,000



Committee discussion took place regarding funding from the Housing Legacy Reserve being provided to people who are about to become homeless as a preventative measure. John Horn, Social Planner, explained that this reserve is designed for construction purposes and has statutory limitations. Discussion took place regarding the \$165,000 annual allocation and the current balance of \$2,270,127.

John Horn, Social Planner, continued his presentation as follows:

- The Homeless Coalition – formed in 2015, members include non-profit agencies, government bodies, faith groups and residents
- Nanaimo's Action Plan to End Homelessness 2018-2023

4. Signy Madden, Executive Director, United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island, spoke regarding the work of the Nanaimo Coalition of Homelessness as follows:

- Snapshot of Nanaimo's Homelessness - 70% of homeless population are men, 30% are women, 1/3 are First Nations, 335 homeless individuals counted in spring 2018 versus previous count of 174 during the winter of 2016, 55% are between 25-44 years old and 22% are 45-54 years old, most have lived here for 5-40 years

Committee discussion took place regarding how Nanaimo's homeless numbers compare to other local communities. John Horn, Social Planner, noted that most comparable communities are in a similar situation.

Signy Madden, Executive Director, United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island, continued her presentation as follows:

- Nanaimo needs more supportive housing to address the homeless crisis
- Reasons for the crisis - lack of affordable housing, addiction and mental health, barriers to housing and gaps in services
- Building on previous work – memorandum of understanding between the City and BC Housing, 2006-2008 plans developed, Federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy funding secured, Island Health implemented various strategies, Homeless Coalition
- The Action Plan - strategies in the Action Plan should be updated based on what was learned through Tent City in Nanaimo
- Members of the Homeless Coalition
- United Way's role on the coalition - community entity for federal funds invested in Nanaimo, inspires donors, invests grants to help vulnerable

Committee discussion took place regarding how the federal funding is spent by the United Way and if it is specifically for homeless. It was noted that federal funding is for homelessness. Discussion continued regarding those funds being used for people on the verge of eviction to avoid homelessness. Signy Madden, Executive Director, United Way Central & Northern Vancouver

Island, noted that there are opportunities for rent subsidies and other options to assist people.

Signy Madden, Executive Director, United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island, continued her presentation:

- United Way is a community entity and a fund raising entity
- City's role on the coalition to date – City staff member co-chaired coalition, participated in creating the Action Plan, part of the Allocation Committee and recommended Homeless Partnering Strategy investments
- The coalition is ready to evolve from a place of information to a place of stronger leadership
- Requested political leadership through implementation of the Action Plan and providing Staff with the resources to act on the plan

Committee discussion took place regarding the following:

- The difference between supportive housing and affordable housing
- Growing frustration of the public surrounding the supportive housing units relate to issues of mental health and drug addiction
- Helping the homeless who want help and addressing the criminal aspect that is causing issues
- City taking a more active leadership role to ensure the concerns of the public in areas surrounding supportive housing units are addressed
- Availability of rental accommodation/housing within the community
- What does support look like in supportive housing
- Need for an array of affordable and supportive housing and a coordinated access system to ensure people are supported through the system
- What would City participation look like? Signy Madden, United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island, suggested that Mayor and Councillors and City Staff work with Island Health, and BC Housing to develop a strategy
- Average room costs in Nanaimo

Jake Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer, spoke regarding the topic of homelessness being part of a series of debriefings for Council and noted that simultaneously Council is working on its Strategic Plan. He noted that there is no pressure for Council to make a decision today and the intent is to provide an overview and understanding of what is going on.

It was moved and seconded that the "Housing and Homelessness" report dated 2019-FEB-11 be received for information. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) BC Housing Temporary Modular Housing Update

Introduced by Dale Lindsay, Director of Community Development.

The Special Committee of the Whole meeting recessed at 2:32 p.m.

The Special Committee of the Whole meeting reconvened at 2:43 p.m.

Councillor Maartman vacated the Boardroom at 2:45 p.m.

Councillor Geselbracht returned to the Boardroom at 2:45 p.m.

Presentations:

1. Lisa Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community and Cultural Planning, provided an update on the BC Housing Temporary Modular Housing Sites, and spoke regarding the following:
  - Provided a timeframe for various events relating to homelessness in 2018 and 2019 - Tent City, 30 shelter beds, 35 emergency beds, construction period for the Temporary Modular Housing, 170 people housed
  - Due to the court order to close Tent City and the impending cold weather, BC Housing decided to move people into the modular housing sites before construction was completed
  - Challenges faced by operators - under construction, incomplete site offices, kitchens, communal areas, issues with building locks, fencing, lighting, cameras, ongoing social issues in neighbourhoods
  - Actions being taken to address issues – regular communication with BC Housing, site operators, RCMP and others
  - Communication – community meetings and advisory committees, City is actively collaborating with several agencies to improve conditions for neighbours and residents
  - Site Safety Improvements – B.C. Housing is working on improvements to security and on-site safety such as: fire safety, security cameras, site entrance security improvements, security personnel strengthened, staff training/protocols, Clean Teams established

Councillor Maartman returned to the Boardroom at 2:54 p.m.

- Neighbourhood Support and Safety – City staff are coordinating garbage and needle pick-ups with School District and Clean Teams from the sites
- Parks Bylaw going to Council for consideration
- Beban Park - increased monitoring safety, increased clean up, safety assessment underway, lighting improvements, communications with leaseholders and user groups to address concerns
- Ongoing support for supportive housing residents - Island Health, Canadian Mental Health and others providing daily on-site support services to residents including: mental health care, addictions support, access to community services, connections to employment and training options, transport to medical appointments

- Next steps for the City:
  - Working with BC Housing to build permanent housing options
  - Collaborate with key agencies to implement plans
  - Staff reviewing resource demands to maintain levels of cleanliness and safety of public spaces
  - March 4, 2019, upcoming discussion of inter-connected social issues and actions to address them
  - Working with the Homelessness Coalition

Committee discussion took place regarding the following:

- The selection process for the 170 people placed in supportive housing
- BC Housing's priority to move people from Tent City specifically
- Providing supportive housing versus nightly shelter beds

2. Dave LaBerge, Manager of Community Safety, spoke regarding the "Parks, Recreation and Culture Regulation Bylaw 2008 No. 7073" and noted the following:

- Amendments to the "Parks, Recreation and Culture Regulation Bylaw 2008 No. 7073" (Parks Bylaw) will be coming to Council
- Various implications to laws and public policies and their enforcement as it relates to homeless individuals
- Amendments to the Parks Bylaw aim to update the bylaw to reflect changes in how municipalities can allow people to shelter in public spaces and use public spaces
- 2005 Victoria and 2015 Abbotsford precedence setting cases shaped how municipalities can respond to people taking shelter in public spaces
- In Abbotsford the Court noted the following:
  - Public spaces are intended for use by all citizens
  - Ruled homeless are allowed to sleep in and set up shelters in public spaces and parks between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m.
  - Noted this constant movement of homeless exhausted their already vulnerable positions and inhibited service providers from locating these individuals to provide help
  - Did not specify how homeless may use parks for the purpose of shelter but said the local governments should decide where those places should be
  - Suggested that local governments designate areas where people can get uninterrupted sleep, eat, and tend to their personal hygiene
- Working with the Parks and Recreation department to draft a bylaw that is consistent with current case law
- Noted that current legislation is not compatible with the case law when stating a complete prohibition on erecting shelter or taking overnight abode within a park. These laws are unconstitutional
- Schedule D of the proposed amendment bylaw will identify parks that are prohibited from overnight camping

Committee discussion took place regarding facility provisions for people seeking shelter within a park or public space.

3. Supt. Cameron Miller, OIC, Nanaimo Detachment RCMP, provided Councillor Armstrong with a long service certificate for her 35 years of service with the RCMP.

Supt. Cameron Miller, OIC, Nanaimo Detachment RCMP, provided a presentation regarding community-wide safety as follows:

- Homelessness is not a crime
- Timeline of events relating to homelessness beginning in March 2018 - December 2018
- Current situation - large homeless population still exists in Nanaimo, various sites throughout the City, RCMP continue to work with all sectors of community to ensure public safety
- Increases in calls for service between 2017 and 2019
- Increases in calls for service surrounding Labieux Place – increased 10% from previous year in 2018, increased 60% from previous year in 2019, not all calls for service are criminal issues
- Increase in calls for service surrounding Newcastle Place – increased 11% from previous year in 2018, increased 53% from previous year in 2019
- Factors that contribute to increased crime - no one cause, changes to legislation, all crimes are seeking financial gain with the exception of crimes of passion, two types of theories - biological theories and sociological theories
- Current police activities - Community Advisory Committees, Block Watch, increased patrols, enhanced bar watch, crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) analysis with City Staff and community, community citizens patrolling, dedicated police officer reviewing all files for each location, ongoing relationships with Island Crisis Care Society, Pacifica Housing, BC Housing
- Pro-active community ideas - improving lighting, concealing or removing targets such as cell phones in cars, unlocked sheds etc., Block Watches

Committee discussion took place regarding the following:

- Have crime statistics declined in the downtown area since the closure of Tent City? Supt. Cameron Miller, OIC, Nanaimo Detachment RCMP, responded that there is an upward trend in the community as a whole, but improvement has been noticed in the downtown area since Tent City closed.
- Statistics regarding the percentage of property crimes that are drug related
- Sharing of information between the RCMP and operators of the housing units. Supt. Cameron Miller, OIC, Nanaimo Detachment RCMP, responded that it would be up to the housing provider to decide how to deal with someone who is arrested by the RCMP.

- BC Housing's process for dealing with someone who is selling drugs out of the housing site. Lisa Bhopalsingh, Manager, Community and Cultural Planning, noted that there are ongoing discussions with housing operators and BC Housing. City staff have been addressing this on behalf of the community; however, do not have a say in how operators handle residents.

J. Rudolph vacated the Boardroom at 3:44 p.m.

- What type of criminal activity is recorded on the crime map available on the City website?

It was moved and seconded that the report titled "BC Housing Temporary Modular Housing Update" dated 2019-FEB-11 be received for information. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Rudolph returned to the Boardroom at 3:48 p.m.

4. QUESTION PERIOD:

- Terry Wagar re: youth drop in centre, increased calls for service and percentage of calls for service relating to criminal activity

5. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 3:51 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

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CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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CORPORATE OFFICER

**MINUTES**  
REGULAR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
SHAW AUDITORIUM, VANCOUVER ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTRE,  
80 COMMERCIAL STREET, NANAIMO, BC  
MONDAY, 2019-FEB-11 AT 4:30 P.M.

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Present: Mayor L. Krog  
Councillor S. D. Armstrong  
Councillor D. Bonner (arrived 4:31 p.m.)  
Councillor T. Brown  
Councillor B. Geselbracht  
Councillor E. Hemmens  
Councillor Z. Maartman  
Councillor I. W. Thorpe  
Councillor J. Turley

Staff: J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer  
R. J. Harding, Director of Parks and Recreation  
D. Lindsay, Director of Community Development  
B. Sims, Director of Engineering and Public Works  
Supt. C. Miller, OIC, Nanaimo Detachment RCMP  
B. Corsan, Deputy Director of Community Development  
J. Rose, Manager, Transportation  
D. Thompson, Manager of Sanitation, Recycling and Public Works  
Administration  
K. Flood, Corporal, Nanaimo Detachment RCMP (vacated 7:00 pm)  
D. Blackwood, Client Support Specialist (arrived 7:00 p.m.)  
S. Gurrie, City Clerk  
S. Snelgrove, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Councillor Bonner entered the Douglas Rispin Room at 4:31 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Sheila Gurrie, City Clerk advised of one late item that falls under *Community Charter* section 90(2)(b).

3. PROCEDURAL MOTION:

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be closed to the public in order to deal with agenda items under the *Community Charter* Section 90(1):

- (c) labour relations or other employee relations;

- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;
- (i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- (n) the consideration of whether a Council meeting should be closed under a provision of this subsection or subsection (2);

*Community Charter* 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.

The motion carried unanimously.

The Committee of the Whole moved into "In Camera" at 4:32 p.m.  
The Committee of the Whole moved out of "In Camera" at 6:56 p.m.

The meeting reconvened in the Shaw Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS: (continued)

- (b) Add Agenda Item 7(h) – delegation from Heather and Edward Ambo regarding property safety costs.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the following Minutes be adopted as circulated:

- Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2019-JAN-28 at 12:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2019-JAN-28 at 4:30 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.



6. DELEGATIONS (not related to a Report to Council):

(a) Delegation from John Dacombe regarding parking

John Dacombe spoke regarding problems with parking, pedestrians and bicycling in Nanaimo's older neighbourhoods. He specifically referenced Chestnut Street in the Brechin Hill area and cars parked on both sides of the street preventing access to homes. He provided a variety of solutions including strengthening bylaws, enforcing existing bylaws and reducing speed limits to 30 km/hr on residential streets.

(b) Delegation from Wanda Thompson regarding safer streets

Wanda Thompson spoke regarding safer streets for people of all abilities and those who walk, bike, drive and take transit. She spoke regarding Nanaimo's fragmented sidewalk network, cycling and pedestrian collisions in Nanaimo between 2013-2017, Nanaimo Transportation Master Plan, street design, complete streets that better integrate active transportation, making streets safer, community benefits and action on multiple levels.

(c) Delegation from Aaron Dixon regarding safe streets in Nanaimo

Aaron Dixon spoke regarding possibilities to make streets in the Brechin Hill area safer and extrapolate solutions to other areas of the City. He spoke regarding the Nanaimo Transportation Master Plan, Newcastle neighbourhood plan for enhanced local streets including pedestrian crossings, sidewalks and street trees. He provided shared street solutions, advised of various ways to implement safe streets including surface treatments, separation of modes and traffic flow using traffic diverters.

(d) Delegation from Janet Ismail regarding Labieux Supportive Housing Security and Crime Concerns

Janet Ismail spoke regarding seniors living in the area surrounding the Labieux Road Temporary Housing site and the personal impact of the site on residents. She requested that Council change the 2-5 year timeline for temporary housing to 1-2 years and provide monthly updates on prospective housing sites.

(e) Delegation from Joanne Sales and Lynn Kropinak regarding Broombusters Invasive Plant Society

Joanne Sales and Lynn Kropinak were not in attendance.

(f) Delegation from Chrissy Forsythe regarding 2020 Labieux Road Temporary Supportive Housing

Chrissy Forsythe spoke regarding the increase in thefts, assaults and break-ins in the area and their consequences. She requested that the City facilitate a meeting between Mayor and Council, RCMP, Crown Counsel, City management and community members. She spoke regarding the problems with the temporary supportive housing site and the need for stronger rules and action. She advised the

neighbourhood is not equipped to deal with this site and her communications with various agencies.

(g) Delegation from Marty Roberts and Hilary Harlow regarding 1400 Wingrove Street

Marty Roberts and Hilary Harlow spoke regarding their appearance before Council last year to request that the building at 1400 Wingrove Street be demolished or repaired. They spoke regarding the criminal element in the area due to the abandoned building, the lack of tax revenue to the City, hardships regarding selling property in the area and that the building has not been secured.

(h) Delegation from Heather and Edward Ambo regarding property safety costs

Heather Ambo spoke regarding security in the neighbourhood surrounding the Labieux Road Temporary Housing site. She spoke regarding the lack of communication from the City, RCMP, Pacifica and BC Housing. She spoke regarding the transfer of drugs in the neighbourhood, starting a block watch for the area, the need for correspondence and transparency and the importance of communication. Ms. Ambo requested that two councillors represent their community group and act in a liaison role.

7. REPORTS:

(a) New Horizons for Seniors Grant

Introduced by Dale Lindsay, Director of Community Development.

It was moved and seconded that the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council support the City of Nanaimo's participation in a collaborative Expression of Interest application to the Human Resources and Skills Development Canada New Horizons for Seniors Program for the purpose of enhancing social connectivity amongst adults 55 years and older. The motion carried unanimously.

(b) Short-Term Rental Accommodation

Introduced by Dale Lindsay, Director of Community Development.

It was moved and seconded that the Short-Term Rental Accommodation report dated 2019-FEB-11 be received for information. The motion carried unanimously.

(c) Consultation Plan - Single Use Checkout Bags Regulation

Introduced by Bill Sims, Director, Engineering and Public Works.

Presentation:

1. David Thompson, Manager of Sanitation, Recycling and Public Works Administration, provided a presentation regarding the communication plan for single-use checkout bags regulation including the objectives to inform, educate and listen.

It was moved and seconded that the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve the consultation plan as attached and add \$15,350 to the 2019 – 2023 Financial Plan, funded from General Taxation. The motion carried unanimously.

(d) Transportation Update 2019

Introduced by Bill Sims, Director, Engineering and Public Works.

Presentation:

1. Jamie Rose, Manager, Transportation, provided a presentation regarding 2019 transportation projects and the functions and duties of the transportation department. He spoke regarding transportation management, transportation challenges and opportunities, past projects and current projects.

It was moved and seconded that the Transportation Update 2019 report, dated 2019-FEB-11 be received for information. The motion carried unanimously.

8. QUESTION PERIOD:

- Ms. Janet Ismail, re: Labieux Road supportive housing site, payment for lease of land and future land acquisition for a permanent site.
- Mr. Wagar, re: Progress Council is making to identify permanent sites for supportive housing.

The Committee of the Whole moved “In Camera” at 8:59 p.m.  
The Committee of the Whole moved out of “In Camera” at 9:39 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 9:40 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

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CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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CORPORATE OFFICER

**MINUTES**  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
BOARDROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE  
411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC  
FRIDAY, 2019-FEB-15 AT 8:30 A.M.

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Present: Mayor L. Krog (vacated 11:00 a.m.)  
Councillor S. D. Armstrong (arrived 8:54 a.m.)  
Councillor D. Bonner  
Councillor T. Brown (vacated 11:05 a.m., returned 11:26 a.m.)  
Councillor B. Geselbracht  
Councillor E. Hemmens  
Councillor I. W. Thorpe  
Councillor J. Turley

Absent: Councillor Z. Maartman

Staff: J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer  
R. J. Harding, Director of Parks and Recreation (vacated 3:37 p.m.)  
D. Lindsay, Director of Community Development  
B. Sims, Director of Engineering and Public Works  
J. Van Horne, Director of Human Resources  
K. Fry, Fire Chief (arrived 12:21 p.m.)  
T. Doyle, Deputy Fire Chief – Operations  
L. Mercer, Acting Director of Financial Services  
D. Blackwood, Client Support Specialist (vacated 8:45 a.m.)  
S. Gurrie, City Clerk  
N. Sponaule, Legislative Services Clerk  
K. Gerard, Recording Secretary (vacated 12:15 p.m.)  
G. Whitters, Recording Secretary (arrived 12:09 p.m.)

1. CALL THE SPECIAL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

3. PRESENTATIONS:

(a) Strategic Planning Session with Tracey Lorenson, Paragon Strategic Services Ltd.

Tracey Lorenson, Paragon Strategic Services Ltd., provided Mayor and Council with a brief review of the last strategic planning meeting and spoke regarding the goals and possible outcomes of this planning session including identifying the priorities and putting the priorities in order of importance and the role of the final strategic plan.

D. Blackwood vacated the Boardroom at 8:45 a.m.

S. Armstrong entered the Boardroom at 8:54 a.m.

Committee discussion took place regarding:

- Implementing a Smart City approach
- Future projects and plans should be included within the adopted strategic plan
- Creating and defining the vision statement
- Ensuring the language of the strategic plan focuses on issues Council can actually influence, within our jurisdiction
- Priorities listed in the strategic plan need to focus on the goals of Council and the community
- Mayor and Council should encourage honest and straightforward feedback from Staff and the public

Tracey Lorenson, Paragon Strategic Services Ltd., led the Committee in a discussion regarding the six themes in the Preliminary Draft, which include:

1. Governance Excellence
2. Service and Management Excellence
3. Environmental Responsibility
4. Economic Health
5. Livability
6. Strong Social Fabric

Committee discussion took place regarding Governance Excellence:

- Implement processes and policies that are transparent to the public
- Organizational structure and systems
- Policies that support relationships with other local governments including Snuneymuxw First Nations and the Regional District of Nanaimo
- Engagement and advocacy are important factors in the strategic plan and should be listed under the Governance Excellence heading
- Saving space in the strategic plan for community engagement
- Risks included in each decision when setting priorities
- Rapport, reputation and trust are key factors in governance excellence and should be listed under this heading
- Strategic plan should show perspective home buyers, investors and job seekers that Nanaimo is a great place to invest, live and work
- Branding Nanaimo as a destination and provide the community with a message of confidence and transparency

- Management and Staff should feel encouraged to suggest items and provide feedback regarding the strategic plan
- Goal of this strategic plan is to create a culture of excellence, strengthen the weakened structures of our organization and create strong and clear fundamental policies

Committee discussion took place regarding Strong Social Fabric:

- Focus on the significant issues to the City of Nanaimo and the issues we can change and manage, that are under our jurisdiction
- Responsibilities and role of the Province of BC regarding homelessness and mental health issues
- Time, budget concerns and effort by City of Nanaimo Staff in dealing with issues such as homelessness and mental health
- Impact of what would happen if City Staff were no longer involved in provincial issues such as homelessness

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting recessed at 10:18 a.m.

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting reconvened at 10:31 a.m.

Committee discussion continued regarding Strong Social Fabric:

- Facilitating meetings with outreach workers, Island Health, BC Housing and other service providers regarding homelessness and what impact this facilitation would have on staff and the community
- Enforcing the message to the community that homelessness is not the City's responsibility and we are doing what we can within our jurisdiction
- City of Nanaimo can provide more affordable housing however that is only part of the issue surrounding homelessness and mental health

Mayor Krog vacated the Boardroom at 11:00 a.m., Councillor Armstrong assumed the Chair.

Councillor Brown vacated the Boardroom at 11:05 a.m.

- How to clearly define Council's role in facilitating meetings and it was suggested that the City hire a designated person to relieve current Staff from these meetings
- Suggested that the heading "Social Issues" be moved under Governance Excellence
- Included under the heading "Livability" should be items such as active health, arts and culture, public safety, community organizations, age friendly, wellness and recreation
- Removing Parks and Recreation from the strategic plan but ensure it is captured under the heading "Strengths"
- A placeholder on the strategic plan that covers Fire, Bylaws and RCMP; could be part of Public Safety under Livability

Tracey Lorensen, Paragon Strategic Services Ltd., provided the Committee with a brief summary of the goals of this strategic planning session and what she hopes to have accomplished by the end of the day, which included:

- Headings and wording of each pillar in the strategic plan and putting pillars in order of importance
- Adding, removing or combining pillars
- Proposed steps once the strategic plan is adopted including releasing the strategic plan to the public

Councillor Brown returned to the Boardroom at 11:26 a.m.

B. Sims vacated the Boardroom at 11:26 p.m.

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting recessed at 11:26 a.m.

G. Whitters entered the Boardroom at 12:09 p.m.

K. Gerard vacated the Boardroom at 12:15 p.m.

K. Fry entered the Boardroom at 12:21 p.m.

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting reconvened at 12:35 p.m.

Mayor Krog returned to the Boardroom at 12:35 p.m. and resumed the Chair.

Staff present: T. Doyle, K. Fry, S. Gurrie, R. Harding, D. Lindsay, J. Rudolph, N. Sponaule, J. Van Horne and G. Whitters.

Committee discussion took place regarding:

- Including risks and priorities in the Strategic Plan
- The Official Community Plan refresh
- Housing

B. Sims returned the boardroom at 12:47 p.m.

- Important features of Nanaimo
- Waterfront Walkway Master Plan
- Climate resilience and preparing citizens for climate change
- City operational impacts
- Making decisions and taking action with a fiscal lens
- Impacts and outlook of climate change including economic opportunities, collaboration, taking an aggressive stance and being proactive
- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report
- Financial implications of climate change initiatives
- Environmental leadership and asset management
- The City's past Environmental Committee and available funds

T. Doyle vacated the Boardroom at 1:33 p.m.

- Economic health including environmental investment
- Providing a summary of IPCC report for Council
- Pros and cons of densification
- A cap on resource availability
- What can be done in the community to attract people and businesses

T. Doyle returned to the Boardroom at 1:51 p.m.

- Community is existing on low paying jobs and how to attract higher paying jobs
- The Green Economy and Circular Economy
- Focus on business retention and expansion
- Improving digital infrastructure
- Economic development plan and incentivising businesses
- Investing in downtown
- Rebranding Nanaimo and refreshing the Economic Development Plan
- Facilitating dialog with stakeholders
- The culture of the City
- Importance of arts, culture and sports tourism
- Attracting businesses that align with strategic direction
- Arts and cultural plan in Nanaimo
- What brings tourists to Nanaimo
- Nanaimo's approachability compared to other communities
- Public consultation on the Strategic Plan

Councillor Armstrong vacated the Boardroom at 2:25 p.m.

J. Van Horne vacated the Boardroom at 2:30 p.m.

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting recessed at 2:30 p.m.

Councillor Armstrong returned to the Boardroom at 2:45 p.m.

Councillor Hemmens vacated the Boardroom at 2:45 p.m.

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting reconvened at 2:50 p.m.

Staff present: T. Doyle, K. Fry, S. Gurrie, R. Harding, D. Lindsay, J. Rudolph, B. Sims, N. Sponaule, J. Van Horne, and G. Whitters.

Councillor Hemmens returned to the Boardroom at 2:52 p.m.

Committee discussion continued regarding:

- Future strategic planning and environment workshop
- Actions to take from here
- The City is actively engaging in waste management, recycling and regulation on single-use plastic bags
- The 2012 Community Sustainability Action Plan
- Climate change and environmental stewardship
- Collaboration between Regional District of Nanaimo and the City of Nanaimo

T. Doyle vacated the Boardroom at 3:07 p.m.

- What role the public should play in selecting strategic plan and how to engage the community
- Ensuring transparency to the public

R. Harding vacated the Boardroom at 3:37 p.m.



4. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 3:42 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

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C H A I R

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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CORPORATE OFFICER

### Delegation Request

June I Ross has requested an appearance before Council.

The requested date is March 11, 2019.

The requested meeting is:  
COW

Presenter's Information:

City: Nanaimo  
Province: BC  
Bringing a presentation: Yes

Details of Presentation:

My presentation is being done on behalf of Vancouver Island Water Watch Coalition and is about concerns in our watershed

### Delegation Request

John Dacombe has requested an appearance before Council.

The requested date is March 11, 2019.

The requested meeting is:  
COW

Presenter's Information:

City: Nanaimo  
Province: BC  
Bringing a presentation: Yes

Details of Presentation:

Lessons Learned: Active Transportation Routes in Nanaimo During February Snows.

### Delegation Request

Roel Coert has requested an appearance before Council.

The requested date is March 11, 2019.

The requested meeting is:  
COW

#### Presenter's Information:

Roel Coert

City: Nanaimo

Province: BC

Bringing a presentation: Yes

Next generation wireless (5G), Internet of Things (IoT), Knowledge Economy, Big Data and your municipality. I had the opportunity to present to Bill Corsan, Tom Rothoehler, Mike Rose and Amrit Manhas, recommending appearing for the committee.

Delegation Request

Fernando Fuentes has requested an appearance before Council.

The requested date is March 11, 2019.

The requested meeting is:  
COW

Presenter's Information:

City: Nanaimo  
Province: BC  
Bringing a presentation: Yes

Details of Presentation:

Concerns regarding AMRIKKOS building 1400 Wingrove.

### Delegation Request

Joanne Sales, Director of Broombusters Invasive Plant Society, has requested an appearance before Council.

The requested date is March 11, 2019.

The requested meeting is:  
COW

Presenter's Information:

City: Nanaimo  
Province: BC  
Bringing a presentation: Yes

Details of Presentation:

To speak regarding Broombusters Invasive Plant Society.

## **BROOMBUSTERS INVASIVE PLANT SOCIETY**

2019 Delegation by Joanne Sales, Director of Broombusters.

March 11, 2019 Presentation to Nanaimo Council [www.broombusters.org](http://www.broombusters.org)

**BACKGROUND.** Volunteers of Nanaimo cut broom for the first time in the city in 2008. In the past 10 years, volunteers have cleared numerous parks and roads of broom.

Broombusters was started in Qualicum Beach in 2006. Other cities adopting the model - Parksville, Qualicum Beach, Lantzville, Port Alberni, Courtenay, Cumberland, Comox, Campbell River, Powell River, Gabriola Island, and other adjacent islands and districts. Broombusters is also supported by MOTI.

**WHY CUT SCOTCH BROOM?** Broom is an aggressive alien non-native invasive plant. It does great damage to the ecosystem, crowds out native plants, takes over farms, pastures and meadows and prevents forest regrowth. It's highly flammable and toxic to animals and the soil. It spreads like wildfire. The 18,000 seeds from a single plant can last in the soil for over 30 years. Broom seriously harms forestry, farming, tourism, our ecosystem and our health. This plant threatens farm and forest land worldwide.

**FIRE HAZARD:** A RDN director told us that the presence of broom made fighting the Nanaimo Lakes fire of summer 2018 more difficult. The Fire Chief of Powell River, Terry Peters, started a chapter of Broombusters in Powell River because of his alarm about the fire dangers. He says, "Scotch Broom is a volatile flash fuel - particularly with the mature plants. The presence of Scotch broom will increase a wildfire's fuel load and escalate the fire's intensity, compromising fire situations and making them more difficult to fight."

### **WHAT MAKES BROOMBUSTERS UNIQUE & EFFECTIVE?**

Broombusters is an umbrella non-profit society. Our goal is to support the efforts of local residents, educating volunteers, providing signs, tools, and handouts, and helping with such work as website, presentations, and media. Volunteers are then free to just cut broom. All ages. It's a community building endeavor!

Broombusters "**Cut Broom in Bloom.**" It works. The majority of mature broom plants die when cut in bloom, at ground level, when the plant's energy is above ground in the flowers, followed by the summer's dry heat. (Pulling, mowing and using poison do not work.)

### **We are asking Nanaimo council for two things:**

The Nanaimo Parks department (especially Deb Beck) has been outstanding; we collaborate with Parks on a few events each year. The Parks department has funding to remove broom cut in parks; however, each year there is stress about removing broom cut by volunteers on Nanaimo roads. We would request additional funding to remove cut broom from roads. The most cost-effective method used by some other regions is to hire a *small* chipping service. (Possibly a cost of \$800-1000/ year.)

We would also like to ask council for permission to post 6 signs for 4 weeks, to inform and invite other residents to join in the efforts of removing broom in Nanaimo. Our website has very useful information about Broombusters and broom removal.

Broombusters would like to **thank** Nanaimo council for its support since 2008!

Contact: Director Joanne Sales, [info@broombusters.org](mailto:info@broombusters.org). [www.broombusters.org](http://www.broombusters.org)

DATE OF MEETING | MARCH 11, 2019 |

AUTHORED BY | RICHARD HARDING, DIRECTOR  
PARKS AND RECREATION |

**SUBJECT                      REQUEST TO INSTALL A PEACE POLE IN PIRATES PARK**

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To obtain Council's approval for the installation of a Peace Pole in Pirates Park. |

### **Recommendation**

That the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approve the installation of a peace pole in Pirates Park as requested.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Parks and Recreation Department have received a request to install a peace pole in Pirates Park on Protection Island. The request is from the group Be More U and Peace Poles are part of a greater worldwide project (see <https://peacepoleproject.org>). A Peace Pole is a hand-crafted monument that displays the message and prayer *May Peace Prevail on Earth* on four or six sides in different languages.

This pole would commemorate the completion of the group's first project. This pole is fabricated from Western Red cedar and will be six feet in height once installed in a concrete footing. The pole will include messaging in English, French and Hul'q'umi'num. There will be no cost to the City for install or maintenance (Attachment A).

Pirates Park is located at 119A Pirates Lane on Protection Island. The park is centrally located on the island and provides access between the ferry dock and homes for residents of the island. The park includes a playground, beach access, picnic area and natural trail. The proposed location of the pole within the park is shown in Attachment B. |

## **OPTIONS**

1. | That the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council approves the installation of a peace pole in Pirates Park as requested.
  - **Budget Implication:** Costs of installation to be funded by the group. No costs for installation or maintenance to be assigned to the budget.
2. That Council deny the request.
  - **Budget Implication:** No impact to budget. |



### **SUMMARY POINTS**

- The group Be More U has requested to install a peace pole in Pirates Park.
- Pirates Park is a centrally located park on Protection Island that provides access between the ferry dock and residences.
- No installation or maintenance costs would be assigned to the City of Nanaimo's budget.
- More information on the international Peace Pole Project can be found here:  
<https://peacepoleproject.org> |

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: Letter of Request dated 2019-FEB-14

Attachment B: Map of Proposed Location

Attachment C: Letter of Support – Protection Island Neighbourhood Association

Attachment D: Letter of Support – Protection Island Lions Club |

### **Submitted by:**

Richard Harding  
Director, Parks and Recreation |



Summer Laurie  
Executive Assistant  
Be More U  
16 Pirate Place  
Nanaimo, BC V9R 6R1  
250-618-8641  
summer.laurie@thepurposeproject.life

February 14, 2019

Richard Harding  
Director, Parks, Recreation & Environment  
City of Nanaimo  
250-755-7516  
richard.harding@nanaimo.ca

Dear Mr. Harding,

We would like to propose the erection of a Peace Pole™ ([https://peacepoleproject.org/ppshopcart/itemPage.php?Product\\_Code=PPsand4sided](https://peacepoleproject.org/ppshopcart/itemPage.php?Product_Code=PPsand4sided)) monument in Pirates Park on Protection Island. A Peace Pole is a hand-crafted monument that displays the message and prayer **"May Peace Prevail on Earth"** and **"May Peace Prevail In Our Communities"** in different languages on each of its four sides. Peace Poles have been installed all over the world, and we would like to install one here on Protection to celebrate the completion of our first Purpose Project™ series of workshops.

The Pole is made of Western Red Cedar and measures 6 feet installed. It will be installed in Pirates Park with a solid concrete footing. Messaging will be in English, French and Hul'q'umi'num (translation provided by a VIU Elder). There will be no cost to the City of Nanaimo to install or maintain the Pole. We hope to install and dedicate the monument with a small ceremony in Pirates Park upon approval from the City of Nanaimo.

Please see attached pictures of a Peace Pole, map of proposed location, and letters of support from the Protection Island Neighbourhood Association President (Kevin Pistor) and Protection Island Lions Club President (Rick Biller).

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Summer Laurie  
Executive Assistant  
Be More U/The Purpose Project





ATTACHMENT B  
PROPOSED LOCATION IN PIRATES PARK



ATTACHMENT C


November 7, 2018

Richard Harding  
Director, Parks, Recreation & Environment  
City of Nanaimo  
250-755-7516  
richard.harding@nanaimo.ca

Dear Mr. Harding,

We have heard and considered the proposal by Summer Laurie to erect an official Rotary Peace Pole™ in Pirates Park on Protection Island, and we support her request.

Sincerely,

	Kevin Pistor
Signature	Name
Nov 7, 2018	President, PINA
Date	Position

Protection Island Neighbourhood Association, Kevin Pistor, President, kpistor@telus.net

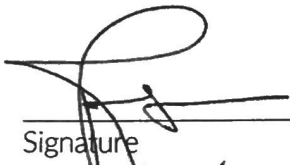
November 6, 2018


Richard Harding  
Director, Parks, Recreation & Environment  
City of Nanaimo  
250-755-7516  
richard.harding@nanaimo.ca

Dear Mr. Harding,

We have heard and considered the proposal by Guy Le Masurier to erect an official Rotary Peace Pole™ in Pirates Park on Protection Island, and we support his request.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
Nov 6 / 18  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name  
PRESIDENT  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Position

Protection Island Lions Club, Rick Biller President r\_biller@telus.net