

# AGENDA SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, April 9, 2020, 8:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. Board Room, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC

Pages

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:
- 2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS
- 3. PROCEDURAL MOTION:

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 the Council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

- (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality;
- (c) labour relations or other employee relations; and,
- (n) the consideration of whether a Council meeting should be closed under a provision of this subsection or subsection (2).
- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:
- 5. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:
- 6. MAYOR'S REPORT:
- 7. PRESENTATIONS:
  - a. Financial Response and Recovery Framework

4 - 10

Shelley Legin, General Manager, Corporate Service, to provide Council with a presentation regarding Financial Response and Recovery Framework.

8. CONSENT ITEMS:

#### 9.

**REPORTS:** 11 - 14 a. User Rate Billing Payment Due Date Extension To be introduced by Shelley Legin, General Manager, Corporate Services. Purpose: To provide Council with information on the City of Nanaimo's user rates billing system. Recommendation: That Council extend the payment due date from 30 to 90 days on user rates billings issued after 2020-MAR-17. 15 - 18 b. 2020 Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Requirements To be introduced by Shelley Legin, General Manager, Corporate Services. Purpose: To introduce "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 No. 7308" for first, second and third readings. Recommendation: 1. That "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 No. 7308" (To provide for temporary borrowing of funds required to meet the current lawful expenditures of the City of Nanaimo) pass first reading; 2. That "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 No. 7308" pass second reading; and, That "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 No. 7308" pass 3. third reading. 19 - 21 C. COVID-19 and Capital Projects To be introduced by Bill Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works. Purpose: The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the City's 2020 Capital Project Plan in light of the Provincial State of Emergency around COVID-19. **BYLAWS:** 

#### 10.

#### 11. NOTICE OF MOTION:

#### 12. OTHER BUSINESS:

Correspondence from the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal a. Communities (AVICC) dated 2020-MAR-20

Correspondence from Councillor Carl Jensen, President, AVICC, to invite the City of Nanaimo to reschedule it's hosting of the AVICC Convention from 2020 22 - 39

to 2021.

[Note: This item was deferred from the Regular Council Meeting held 2020-APR-06. Original report dated 2019-APR-19 attached for information.]

# 13. ADJOURNMENT:



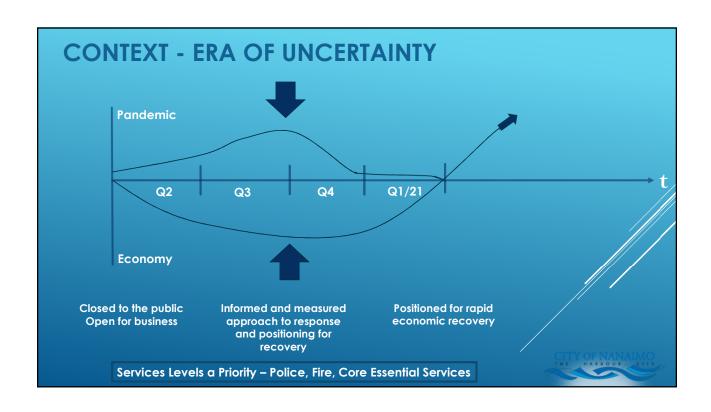
# **COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

# FINANCIAL RESPONSE & RECOVERY FRAMEWORK

**APRIL 9, 2020** 

# **OUTLINE**

- ▶ Context
- ► Guiding Principles
- ► Model Components
- ▶ Scenarios
- ► Major Revenue Loss And Expenditure Reductions
- ► FINANCIAL IMPACT (Assumptions As Of April 3, 2020)
- ► Cash Flow Analysis
- ▶ Information & Decision Report Workplan
  - ▶ Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw Decision
  - ▶ Utility Payment Due Date Motion Decision
  - ▶ Relief Mechanisms And Policy Decisions
  - ▶ 2020 Financial Plan And Tax Bylaws





# **RESPONSE & RECOVERY GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- 1. Closed to the Public; Open for Business
  - Following Health Authority Orders and Guidelines
  - Maintaining service levels the priority
  - Capacity for responsiveness; focus on monitoring critical staff levels for business continuity Council's Strategic Plan

### 2. Informed and Measured Approach

- Fiscal resilience vital impacts will likely persist for years
- Duration uncertainty
- Productivity important; redeployment options

## 3. City, Business Community and Community Positioned for Rapid **Economic Recovery**

- Progress critical and important capital projects (asset maintenance and stewardship)
- Possibly reschedule strategic capital projects to Q3/4 or later

# A MODEL TO INFORM IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

#### **FINANCIAL MODEL INCLUDES:**

- Revenue loss forecast
- Expense reduction / cost avoidance forecast
- Capital projects ability to shift timing?
- Contract review to determine non-essentials and collective agreement alignment
- Grant distribution forecast
- Core essential staffing levels; redeployment planning
- Impact of financial relief policy decisions
- Impacts of multi-level government relief directives and impacts

### **CASH FLOW COMPONENT**

- Cash flow analysis



# **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

> Limited details to date:

**FEDERAL POLICY and RELIEF** 



PROVINCIAL POLICY and RELIEF (informed by UBCM and MFA)



**MUNICIPAL IMPACTS** 

- Duration uncertain
- > Facility (opening) resumption likely incremental
- Fiscal resilience & enduring capacity
- > Future tax implications



# **MODEL of THREE SCENARIOS - FACILITIES REOPEN:**

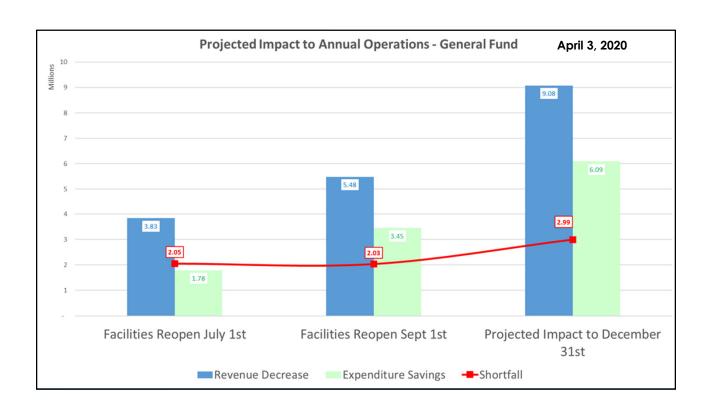
- 1. July 1, 2020
- 2. September 1, 2020
- 3. January 1, 2021; monthly average Sept to Deg

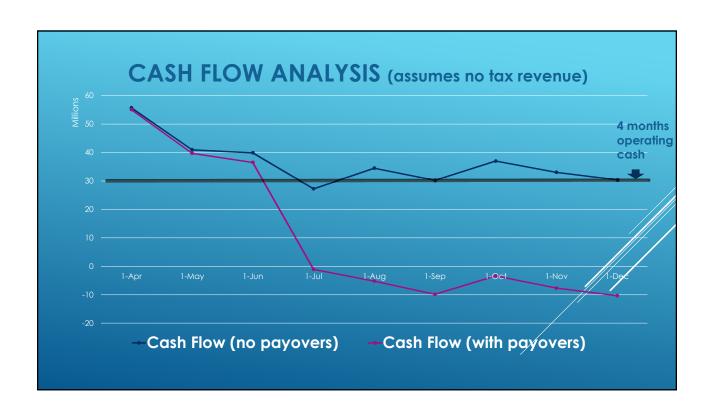
**NOTE:** Point-in-time model limitation as services and facilities (opening) resumption likely incremental.



# MAJOR REVENUE LOSS AND EXPENSE REDUCTIONS

- ▶ Revenue Loss
  - ▶ Casino, investment income and VICC
  - ▶ Building permits & fees
  - ▶ Recreation, aquatics and arenas
  - ► Assumes tax revenue unchanged
- **►** Expense Reductions
  - ▶ VICC (nets to near zero)
  - ▶ Temp, casual and PA labour (non-core essential),
  - ▶ Closed facilities consumables and utilities







# **APPENDIX SLIDES**

# CITY OF NANAIMO CORE ESSENTIAL SERVICES

#### **PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING**

- ▶ Fleet
- Engineering administration, infrastructure planning, transportation & projects

#### DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- ► Engineering and Environment support backlog clearing

#### **CORPORATE SERVICES**

- Information Technology support work from home technology, critical
- Finance purchasing, accounting services & financial planning / reporting

#### PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE

- Infrastructure Planning & Energy

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES**



# **Staff Report for Decision**

DATE OF MEETING APRIL 9, 2020

AUTHORED BY LAURA MERCER, DIRECTOR, FINANCE

SUBJECT USER RATE BILLING PAYMENT DUE DATE EXTENSION

#### **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To provide Council with information on the City of Nanaimo's user rates billing system.

#### Recommendation

That Council extend the payment due date from 30 to 90 days on user rates billings issued after 2020-MAR-17.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The City of Nanaimo issues user rates bills to residents for water, sewer and garbage services three (3) per year. The billings include sixteen (16) categories and each category is billed 3 times per year. This provides for a weekly billing of approximately \$750,000 and smooths the billing and collection process as well as workload.

All rates charged, as outlined in the applicable bylaws, are due and payable when bills are levied and are subject to a 5% discount. The discount is applied provided that the rates for the current billing period are paid in full including all arrears. Each user rate billing is payable thirty (30) days from the invoice date.

The City has two (2) prepayment plans that property owners can sign up for:

- <u>User Rates Installment Plan</u>: equal monthly payment Installments
- <u>User Rates Auto Debit Program</u>: authorizes the City of Nanaimo to automatically withdraw
  the User Rates account balance from the property owner's bank account on each billing
  discount date.

The utility billings are not subject to a late payment penalty. However, if there is an outstanding balance on account at December 31<sup>st</sup>, the balance will be transferred to property tax arrears and are subject to prescribed daily interest until the balance has been paid. If the balance remains outstanding for three (3) years the property could be sold at tax sale.



#### **DISCUSSION**

The user rates levied are needed to fund the infrastructure to provide these essential services. In an effort to provide some immediate financial relief to those property owners who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, Staff are recommending that the payment due date be extended from 30 days to 90 days.

#### **Cash Flows**

The impact of this change will affect cash-flows for the City of Nanaimo. Currently there are monthly inflows of payments for user rates. There will be a two (2) month delay in payments initially. Starting in June, cash flows should start to resume monthly as the revised due dates become payable. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, cash flows would likely be impacted anyway as some property owners would be adversely affected.

#### **Discounts**

Under this recommendation, the discount date on user rate billings would be extended from 30 days to 90 days. The City could experience an increase in the amount of discounts claimed if people take advantage of the delayed due date. Alternately, less discounts could be claimed if the pandemic continues to the end of the year and property owners are unable to pay their bills. At this time, it is difficult to determine what the potential impact will be. If every eligible property received the discount, expenses would increase by \$337,143 based on budgeted revenues for 2020.

#### **Financial Information**

#### 2019 Actuals:

User Rates Utility	_	User Rates Revenue	Discounts Claimed	% of Revenue
Water	\$	20,276,939.00	\$ 862,593.00	
Sewer		7,592,911	316,069	
Garbage		4,875,232	194,334	
Total	\$	32,745,082.00	\$ 1,372,996.00	4.2%



#### 2020 Budget:

User Rates Utility	User Rate Revenue	Discounts Claimed	% of Revenue
Water	\$ 21,129,122.00	\$ 845,405.00	
Sewer	7,682,142	307,446	
Garbage	4,943,097	197,724	
Total	\$ 33,754,361.00	\$ 1,350,575.00	4.0%

#### CONCLUSION

Given the current state of the economy due to the COVID-19 pandemic, staff are recommending extending the payment deadline from 30 to 90 days for user rates billings issued after 2020-MAR-17. This would provide some immediate financial relief to those property owners who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **OPTIONS**

- 1. That Council extend the payment due date from 30 to 90 days on utility bills issued after 2020-MAR-17.
  - The advantages of this option:
    - Provides home owners with some immediate financial relief who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - The disadvantages of this option:
    - o The longer due date could increase the amount of discounts claimed
  - Financial Implications:
    - If all eligible properties received the 5% discount, 2020 expenditures would increase by approximately \$337,143 based on budgeted revenues.
    - Cash flows will be impacted until the revised due date bills come due in June 2020.
- 2. That Council provide alternative direction.

#### **SUMMARY POINTS**

- The City of Nanaimo issues user rates bills for water, sewer and garbage services three
   (3) per year.
- All rates charged, as outlined in the applicable bylaws, are due and payable when bills are levied and are subject to a 5% discount if paid on or before due date.
- In an effort to provide some immediate financial relief to those property owners who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, staff are recommending that the payment due date be extended from 30 days to 90 days.
- Cash flows will initially be affected until the first billings after 2020-MAR-17 come due.



Submitted	bv	:
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Laura Mercer Director, Finance

# Concurrence by:

Shelley Legin General Manager, Corporate Services



# **Staff Report for Decision**

DATE OF MEETING APRIL 9, 2020

AUTHORED BY LAURA MERCER, DIRECTOR, FINANCE

SUBJECT 2020 REVENUE ANTICIPATION BORROWING REQUIREMENTS

#### **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To introduce "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 No. 7308" for first, second and third readings.

#### Recommendation

- 1. That "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 No. 7308" (To provide for temporary borrowing of funds required to meet the current lawful expenditures of the City of Nanaimo) pass first reading;
- That "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 No. 7308" pass second reading; and,
- 3. That "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 No. 7308" pass third reading.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Under Section 177 of the *Community Charter*, municipalities are able to borrow money if necessary to meet current lawful expenditures, and pay amounts required to meet the municipality's taxing obligations in relation to another local government or other public body. This allows municipalities to deal with the cash flow issues that result from the bulk of their revenue being collected over a period of approximately 6 weeks from mid-May to early July.

In the past, the City of Nanaimo has established a Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw but has never needed to use it.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The City is permitted, before the adoption of the annual property tax bylaw in any year, to borrow the taxes that equal 75% of all property taxes imposed for all purposes in the preceding year. When collected, revenue from property taxes must be used as necessary to repay money borrowed under this section. By establishing this bylaw, it will ensure that the City can access funds for cash flow purposes in the event the collection of taxes becomes problematic due to the COVID-19 pandemic or if there are changes to the deadlines imposed by the Province that create cash flow issues for the City.



Staff regularly monitors the City's cash flow position to inform the possibility of having to borrow these funds. This bylaw is a precautionary measure and should property tax collection proceed near usual, no funds would need to be borrowed.

The "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 NO. 7308" provides the authority for the borrowing of up to \$50 Million, which is expected to be sufficient to cover needs in 2020.

#### **OPTIONS**

1. That "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 No. 7308" (To provide for temporary borrowing of funds required to meet the current lawful expenditures of the City of Nanaimo) pass first reading;

That "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 No. 7308" pass second reading; and.

That "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 No. 7308" pass third reading.

- The advantages of this option:
  - Gives the City of Nanaimo temporary cash flow relief if needed.
  - No cost if the borrowing is not needed.
- The disadvantages of this option:
  - o If used, the debt servicing costs of the City of Nanaimo will increase.
  - If used, the borrowing limit for the City of Nanaimo will be reduced until this temporary borrowing is paid back.
- Financial Implications:
  - If used, the debt servicing costs of the City of Nanaimo will increase and could potentially impact future tax increases.
  - o If not used, there are no financial implications.
- 2. That Council table the report and request more information from Staff.

#### **SUMMARY POINTS**

- Section 177 of the Community Charter allows Council, by bylaw, to borrow money if necessary to meet current lawful expenditures, and pay amounts required to meet the municipality's taxing obligations in relation to another local government or other public body.
- This bylaw would ensure that the City could access funds for cash flow purposes in the
  event the collection of taxes becomes problematic due to the COVID-19 pandemic or if
  cash flows are adversely impacted due to the Province making changes to tax payment
  deadlines.
- The City of Nanaimo has established a Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw in the past but has never needed to use it.



### **ATTACHMENTS:**

"Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 NO. 7308"

Submitted by: Concurrence by:

Laura Mercer Shelley Legin

Director, Finance General Manager, Corporate Services

### **CITY OF NANAIMO**

### BYLAW NO. 7308

# A BYLAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE BORROWING OF MONEY IN ANTICIPATION OF REVENUE

for the	WHEREAS under Section 177 of the <i>Community Charter</i> , Council may, by bylaw provide borrowing of money that may be necessary to meet current lawful expenditures.
AS FO	THEREFORE the Council of the City of Nanaimo in open meeting assembled, ENACTS LLOWS:
1.	This Bylaw may be cited as "Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw 2020 No. 7308".
2.	The Council is hereby empowered and authorized to borrow upon the credit of the City of Nanaimo from a financial institution, the sum of up to FIFTY MILLION DOLLARS (\$50,000,000).
3.	The form of obligation to be given as acknowledgment of the liability shall be a promissory note or notes bearing the corporate seal and signed by the authorized Signing Officers.
4.	When collected, revenue from property taxes must be used to repay money borrowed under this bylaw.
PASSE PASSE	ED FIRST READING ED SECOND READING ED THIRD READING TED

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER



# **Information Report**

DATE OF MEETING APRIL 9, 2020

AUTHORED BY BILL SIMS, GENERAL MANAGER, ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC

WORKS

SUBJECT COVID-19 AND CAPITAL PROJECTS

#### **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the City's 2020 Capital Project Plan in light of the Provincial State of Emergency around COVID-19.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The overarching principle that Staff have been approaching our work during the pandemic is to take a measured response to support a strong recovery. We wish to minimize impacts to service delivery, and ensure projects contributing to the City's wellbeing were advanced to the greatest extent possible.

The City's 2020 Capital Plan consists of \$88 Million over hundreds of projects in all areas of the City. Approximately 90% is funded from reserves, and 10% is funded from general taxation. The majority of these are required to sustain critical infrastructure, such as utility and transportation services. A number of projects are already underway or in the process of procurement. Over the course of the year, Staff develop and maintain project scheduling, to time projects to obtain the best value, most efficient prosecution of projects and minimize impacts to the community. Given the current COVID-19 pandemic, Staff revisited the capital project plan to determine whether any changes to project plan should be made. Currently, project management Staff are working in "business continuity" mode, wherein alternate work schedules, working from home and limited-contact meetings are occurring. To date, with small exceptions, little negative impact has been made on capital project execution.

Staff categorized capital projects into three types: Strategic; Important; Critical.

Strategic projects include those that support Council's strategic plan, or are an added amenity, such as the Harewood Skateboard Park, which is currently under construction.

Important projects include upgrades that are part of longer-term asset stewardship, and are generated from the City's Asset Management Plan. An example would be Haliburton Street Watermain Replacement.

Lastly, Critical projects are those which are urgent to complete, due to capacity issues or imminent failures. These would be road repaying program, repairs to the roof at the Aquatic



Centre or the upgrades to the Millstone Trunk Sewer. Projects in the Important category are by far the largest number of capital projects.

#### **DISCUSSION**

As of today, the City has financial and resource capacity to deliver its Capital Project Plan for 2020. Staff have taken the approach that Critical and Important construction projects should proceed as per normal plan and schedule. Planning and design of all projects is proceeding, subject to limitations of public engagement and construction timing certainty. Some of the Strategic projects, which are not currently under construction, could be considered for deferral, for a few months. Staff are in the process of adjusting schedules for these projects in light of the evolving situation. This list of projects is:

Downtown Streetlighting & Wayfinding (Tender already closed)

Haliburton Multi-Use Trail Part 2

LED Streetlight Upgrade Phase 3

Metral Drive Complete Street

Front Street Cycle Track

With the Downtown Streetlighting and Wayfinding project, the tender has closed, but has not been awarded. There are legal considerations to cancelling or delaying this work. Staff propose to award the tender and work with the contractor to determine optimum timing. The last two projects: Metral Drive Complete Street and Front Street Cycle Track have Active Transportation Grant implications. One of the requirements of the grant is projects under \$1 Million be completed by March 21, 2021. Should Front Street be delayed until the fall, it is unlikely that it would be complete in time to comply with the grant's requirements.

Other projects, like Fire Station No. 1, are considered Critical. As yet, there is uncertainty in the marketplace for projects like this. For the Fire Station, Staff will likely delay the tender closing to allow the picture to become clearer for potential bidders and ourselves. It may be an advantageous period to secure a contractor with reasonable prices, in advance of the inevitable acceleration.

Feedback from contractors for the City continuing its Capital Plan have been very positive. Nanaimo continued to issue a solid program through the last quarter of 2019 and first quarter of 2020. It has allowed contractors to avoid layoffs and keep people working here at home. Many of the construction contractors that do business with the City have developed safe work procedures to comply with Provincial Health Orders. We have become the municipality of preference for many contractors here on the mid-island.

Some public messaging around how we are moving forward would be wise, to give the community reassurance that we are building out a robust Capital Plan and approaching projects in a judicial manner. For governments to continue to work during times of (anticipated)



economic downturn, helps support economies, leads to better value, and continues to support employment in the community.

#### **CONCLUSION**

As impacts and implications for the City's capital program continue to evolve, Staff will continue to provide updates and potentially seek direction on major deferrals and consequences of deferring projects to 2021.

#### **SUMMARY POINTS**

- The City is taking a careful approach in building out its 2020 Capital Project Plan in light of the Provincial Health State of Emergency and COVID-19
- Currently, resource capacity is sufficient to continue the Capital Project Plan as it is currently planned.
- Staff is considering whether certain projects would be appropriate to defer for a few months.
- Continuing with the capital program supports the principle that Nanaimo is taking a
  measured approach to its response to the COVID-19 emergency, and positioning the
  organization for a strong recovery.
- The majority of the projects support the City's key objective to be good stewards of our critical infrastructure.

#### Submitted by:

Bill Sims General Manager, Engineering and Public Works

#### Concurrence by:

Richard Harding General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture

Shelley Legin, General Manager Corporate Services



March 20, 2020

City of Nanaimo – Mayor and Council 455 Wallace Street Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J6

Dear Mayor Krog and Council,

Re: AVICC Convention

As President of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities, I am writing to invite the City of Nanaimo to reschedule its hosting of the AVICC Convention from 2020 to 2021.

The City of Nanaimo originally put forward a proposal in 2018 to host the 2020 AVICC Convention at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre. The AVICC Executive enthusiastically supported the proposal, and awarded the 2020 event to the City. In 2019, the Regional District of Nanaimo offered to partner with the City as a joint host. This partnership was supported by the City and the AVICC Executive.

The City and RDN have been excellent and supportive partners, and a great deal of work had gone into preparing for the Convention by both your staff and elected officials. Then COVID-19 began to impact our communities, and concern about mass gatherings led to the AVICC Executive's decision to cancel the 2020 Convention.

Our members have always enjoyed meeting in Nanaimo, and we hope that the City will resolve to host the AVICC Convention in 2021 based on the 2020 proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Carl Jensen, President, AVICC

cc: Chair Ian Thorpe and Board, Regional District of Nanaimo

Item	Details	Estimated Costs
VICC - 2 1/2 days	March 2019 VICC provided detailed venue room rental estimate – unknown if taxes are included (\$1070.40).	\$8,920.00
Colour printer Host community is responsible to provide a printer for the AVICC (Millstone River Room)	Console Multifunction full colour including delivery and pickup. VICC provided estimated cost. *2016 AVICC the City of Nanaimo provided one of their printer's at no cost	\$750.00
Decorations Host community will make arrangement for any special decorating, i.e. table centrepieces, staging, etc.	Estimated 250-350 delegates City could source through Parks Yard tulips/flower decorations for 25 – 35 tables @ \$20.00 per table (not confirmed). These could be used for both nights This does not include any stand-alone arrangements. Another option could be renting through TripleT.	\$700.00
20 Gifts Host community identifies, purchases and wraps local, representative gift for speakers (no more than \$25-30)	Apparently, Tourism Nanaimo has committed to assisting in scouting and contracting the purchase at a suggest price of \$40. per (if taxes are added the cost increases to approximately \$45.00).  This does not include wrapping.	\$900.00
Entertainment for Friday Welcome Reception and Saturday Banquet Host community identifies and pays for potential entertainers for approval by AVICC	VICC noted an option on their estimate of utilizing Wellington High School Jazz Trio for a donated cost to the program of \$200.00 per night but unknown where this cost figure was obtained.  A professional jazz duo or group would be approximately \$1,000.00 per night.  Tourism Nanaimo has connections to local event promoters.	\$2,000.00
20+ Trade Show Booths Host community provides the facility, tables, chairs, linens/skirting and pipe and drape for booths.	VICC indicated linens and skirting had no additional costs as these are included in "meeting facilities". Need to confirm if booths are included. \$85.00 per booth & taxes	\$1,904.00
Wi-Fi Host community to provide	VICC makes no mention of this in their estimate.	No Charge
PA System	AVICC provides all equipment for sound, screens, projectors etc	No Charge
<b>Total Estimated Costs</b>	VICC has estimated between \$11,170.00 - \$11,970.00.	<b>\$15,174.00</b>
Economic Impact	350 people x 3 days x \$315.00	\$330,750.00

2016 Nanaimo hosted AVICC at a cost of \$12,000.00



# **Staff Report for Decision**

File Number: 0230

DATE OF MEETING April 10, 2019

AUTHORED BY SHEILA GURRIE, CORPORATE OFFICER AND CITY CLERK

SUBJECT HOSTING ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND

COASTAL COMMUNITIES ANNUAL CONVENTION

#### **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To provide Council with background information regarding hosting of the Annual Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Convention and receive Council authorization to host this event in 2020.

#### Recommendation

That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend that Council:

- 1. Submit an application to host the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities 2020 Annual Convention; and,
- 2. That if the application is successful, commit up to \$15,174 in the 2020 budget to host this event at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre, with funding to be allocated from general taxation.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Annual Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) is the longest established area association under the umbrella of the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM). The Association deals with issues and concerns that affect all communities in its jurisdiction from large urban areas to small rural communities. AVICC now has a membership of 53 municipalities and regional districts, including the City of Nanaimo. The Annual General Meeting & Convention held in April each year provides members with the opportunity to bring forward issues and concerns from their individual communities through resolutions and debates.

Hosting the annual convention would provide opportunities to showcase, to numerous other Local Governments on Vancouver Island, the many cultural attractions and amenities that Nanaimo has to offer. It would also allow Nanaimo City Councillors to attend the convention without having to travel. As 2020 conference hosts, the City of Nanaimo would be responsible for providing meeting facilities and services for the expected 350 delegates for the AVICC Annual Convention. This influx of delegates would benefit the local economy as noted under "Economic Impact" on the table below. Please refer to "Attachment A" of this report for the Host Community Responsibilities and Requirements for the 2020 Convention.



The following estimated costs and economic impact are based on rental costs of the Vancouver Island Conference Centre (VICC) (Attachment B includes details of VICC's proposal):

ITEM	Estimated Cost
Vancouver Island Conference Centre:	\$8,920
Colour Printer	\$750
Decorations	\$700
20 Speaker Gifts	\$900
Entertainment/Welcome Reception	\$2,000
Booths	\$1,904
Total Estimated Cost	\$15,174
ITEM	Economic Impact
350 people x 3 days x \$315	\$330,750

Staff have provided more details of the estimated cost break downs on "Attachment C" of this report.

#### **OPTIONS**

- 1. That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend that Council:
  - 1. Submit an application to host the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities 2020 Annual Convention; and.
  - 2. That if the application is successful, commit up to \$15,174 in the 2020 budget to host this event at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre, with funding to be allocated from general taxation.
    - **Budget Implication:** That if the application is successful, year 2 (2020) of the 2019 2023 Financial Plan would be amended to add a budget of \$15,174 with funding from general taxation.
    - Political Implication: Demonstrates regional leadership.
- 2. That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend that Council direct Staff not to submit and application to host the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities 2020 Annual Convention.
  - **Political Implication:** Would not encourage regional leadership.
- 3. That the Finance and Audit Committee provide alternate direction.



#### **SUMMARY POINTS**

- The Annual General Meeting & Convention is held in April each year and provides members with the opportunity to bring forward issues and concerns from their individual communities.
- Hosting the Convention would provide opportunities to showcase the City to other Local Governments and would mean Nanaimo City Councillors would not need to travel for the event.
- Staff estimate that hosting the 2020 AVICC Convention will cost \$15,174.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: Distribution of Responsibilities
Attachment B: AVICC 2020 Nanaimo Proposal
Attachment C: AVICC Estimated Costs

Submitted by:	
Sheila Gurrie, Corporate Officer and C	ity Clark

# ATTACHMENT A

# Distribution of Responsibilities – 2020 & 2021 AVICC AGM & Convention

Basic Activity	Who Does What	Who Covers Costs
Facilities – all rental costs plus setup, stage, wheel chair ramp, janitorial and security	Host Community identifies venues, coordinates contract; Host Community works with AVICC Executive Coordinator to work out details for room set up.	Host Community (to standard of a convention centre – round tables, chairs, table cloths, staging, security, janitorial)
Hotel Room Blocks (225 rooms required)	Host Community contacts accommodations providers to obtain rates and availability; AVICC contracts for room blocks; delegate makes their bookings directly; AVICC Executive Coordinator makes arrangements for accommodations for speakers, etc.	Each delegate or their local government or organization. AVICC pays for rooms for speakers, staff and Parliamentarian.
Food and Beverage Services	Host Community provides contacts, references and assists with liaison; AVICC contracts for services and pays for catering.	AVICC
Friday Welcome Reception Entertainment (up to 300)	Welcome reception is typically a come and go without any program; Host Community may enlist local musicians or artists to enhance the environment if desired.	Host Community for space, decorations, entertainment; AVICC for food and drinks.
Saturday Banquet Entertainment (up to 250)	Host Community identifies potential entertainers for approval by AVICC; AVICC will contract and make arrangements. If desired, Host Community will make arrangement for any special decorating, i.e. table centrepieces, staging, etc.	Host Community for room, decorations and reception entertainment; AVICC for food, drinks and banquet entertainment.
Pre-Convention Sessions	Host Community to provide ideas for local study tours or workshops for approval of AVICC, and assist with organizing tours.	AVICC
Business Program	Host Community Mayor and/or Chair provide 2-3 minute welcome during the opening remarks; Host Community can provide other program suggestions to incorporate local content for the approval of AVICC.	AVICC
Partner Program	Host Community will identify tours; AVICC to approve; AVICC Executive Coordinator will publicize and accept registrations; Host Community will coordinate all the arrangements and manage onsite registration	Registration fee for cost recovery; AVICC will transfer registration funds to Host Community for out of pocket costs.
Bus Transportation (tours and shuttle)	Host Community provides contact names of local service providers; AVICC Executive Coordinator contracts for required services.	AVICC

# Distribution of Responsibilities – 2020 & 2021 AVICC AGM & Convention

<b>Basic Activity</b>	Who Does What	Who Covers Costs
Speaker Gifts	Host Community identifies, purchases and wraps local, representative gift for speakers (no more than \$25-30 per gift).	Host Community pays for 20 gifts.
Delegate Door Prizes	Host Community arranges for 10 donated gifts to be available and brought to facility.	Donated by community partners.
Grand Prize	AVICC Executive Coordinator arranges.	AVICC
Registration Desk	Host Community provides 2-3 volunteers to help during Friday and Saturday, and 1-2 volunteers for Sunday.	Host Community
Trade Show (20+ booths)	Host Community provides the facility, tables, chairs, linens/skirting and pipe and drape for booths if suitable for facility; AVICC arranges the exhibitors, their registration and signage. Host Community may host a complimentary Chamber of Commerce/ Tourism related desk (and arrange staffing).	Host Community – facility, tables, chairs, linens, skirting and trade show booths if suitable for facility  AVICC – signage, registration, move in/out
Piper, FN Invocation, O'Canada Singer	Host Community arranges Piper and O'Canada singer; Host Community invites local First Nation representative for invocation/welcome.	AVICC will pay honorariums
Flags and Stands for Canada, BC, Host and First Nation	Host Community arranges for flags to be located on business session stage.	Host Community
Event Liability Insurance	AVICC Executive Coordinator will arrange.	AVICC
Sponsors	Host Community may identify additional local sponsors; AVICC Executive Coordinator will make contacts unless sponsored funds go directly to the Host Community to cover facility or other special costs.	AVICC covers all the recognition costs and sponsor arrangements
Liaison with Local Community	Host Community manages the liaison with local community and will send communications to notify businesses of what may be expected in relationship to delegate arrival, meals, etc.	Host Community
Convention Office	Host Community provides a printer for the AVICC office.	Host Community for printer
WiFi	Host Community to provide.	Host Community



# VANCOUVER ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTRE



Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities AGM & Convention 2020

April 2020

Gina Bethell Sales Manager

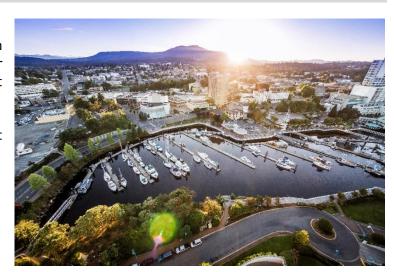


# Your West Coast Meeting and Conference Destination

#### **LOCATION - FACILITIES:**

Just steps away from the scenic Nanaimo Harbour in the heart of a walkable downtown, The Vancouver Island Conference Centre is Vancouver Island's finest full-service conference centre.

For a virtual tour of the Conference Centre please visit www.viconference.com



#### **VENUE SPACE:**

For this convention, we have the following room(s) available which I believe would suit your needs:

Room Rental	Meeting/Event	Size & Capacity
Tuesday April 14 <sup>th</sup>		
Millestone River Room	AVICC Office	770 Sq Ft
Wednesday April 15 <sup>th</sup>		
Millestone River Room	AVICC Office	770 Sq Ft
Thursday April 16 <sup>th</sup>		
Millestone River Room	AVICC Office	770 Sq Ft
Lantzville Room	Executive Pre-Conference Meeting	921 Sq Ft 25 Boardroom Style

Friday April 17 <sup>th</sup>		
Millestone River Room	AVICC Office	770 Sq Ft
Nanaimo River Room A/B	Pre-Conference Session	1,868 Sq Ft 1110 Theatre Style
Mt Benson Ballroom C/D	Business Session	9,153 Sq Ft 300-400 Banquet Style
Newcastle Island Lobby & Mt Benson A/B	Exhibitor Show Refreshment Break Area	11,912 Sq Ft 20 Exhibitor Booths
Mt Benson A/B	Welcome Reception	4,544 Sq Ft 400 Reception Style
Saturday April 18 <sup>th</sup>		
Millestone River Room	AVICC Office	770 Sq Ft
Mt Benson C/D	Business Session & Delegates Luncheon	9,153 Sq Ft 300-400 Banquet Style
Nanaimo River Room A/B	Breakout Session #1	1,868 Sq Ft 120 Theatre Style
Shaw Auditorium	Breakout Session #2	2,598 Sq Ft 189 Tiered Seating
Departure Bay A/B	Breakout Session #3	1,337 Sq Ft 100 Theatre Style
Newcastle Island Lobby & Mt Benson A/B	Exhibitor Show, Refreshment Break Area	11,912 Sq Ft 20 Exhibitor Booths
Mt Benson A/B/C	Annual Banquet & Dance	9,167 Sq Ft 350 Banquet Style
Sunday April 19 <sup>th</sup>		
Millestone River Room	AVICC Office	770 Sq Ft
Mt Benson C/D	Business Sessions	9,153 Sq Ft 300-400 Banquet Style
	<b>Exhibitor Show Refreshment Break</b>	11,912 Sq Ft

City of Nanaimo & Vancouver Island Conference Centre Full Venue Sponsorship

### **CATERING:**

Setting us apart, the cuisine at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre is a key focus, an experience in itself. Our inhouse catering department is managed by Compass Group Canada. Compass Group Canada is a leader in contract food service and hospitality. By combining fresh ideas with the industry's greatest talent, Compass Group continues to set the standards for food and service excellence.

Below, for your convenience, is a sample conference menu to illustrate the quality and variety of cuisine that the Vancouver Island Conference Centre can offer. I have also included a full menu for you to look through. Please note that all meal options are only recommendations. We would be happy to work with you to develop a menu which meets your specifics needs and budget.

DAY 1,

### Hot Breakfast Buffet:

Denver Style Scrambled Eggs, Yukon Gold Hash Brown Potatoes, Bacon, Sausages, Assorted Mini Yogurt Assorted Breakfast Pastries, Croissants, Bagels, Tofu and Vegetable Scramble (20% Gluten Free)

Seasonal Fresh Fruit & Berries

Selection of Chilled Apple, Cranberry, Grapefruit & Orange Juice Freshly Brewed Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee, Selection of Traditional & Herbal Teas

\$20PP

#### AM Break:

Apple, Orange, and Cranberry Juice Freshly brewed regular & decaffeinated coffee, selection of traditional & herbal teas House Made Granola and Fruit Bars

**\$9PP** 

#### Luncheon

GF/DF/ Vegetarian Butternut Squash Apple Bisque Garden salad with house made vinaigrette and creamy dressing Thai Noodle Salad Build Your Own Deli Lunch

Sliced Roast Beef, Real Turkey, Black Forest Ham

Gourmet Sandwich Fillings: Cilantro Shrimp Salad, Egg Salad, Tuna with Sundried Tomato Salad Lettuce, Sliced Tomato, Cucumbers, Condiments Fresh Breads and Wraps to include Gluten Free option

Carrot Cake, Gluten Free Date Squares.

Freshly brewed regular & decaffeinated coffee, selection of traditional & herbal teas

\$23PP

#### PM Break:

Assorted Juices

Freshly brewed regular & decaffeinated coffee, selection of traditional & herbal teas

Jumbo Cookies, (Some Gluten Free)

**\$9PP** 

#### Reception:

CRUDITÉS AND DIP

Fresh Carrots, Celery, Radishes, Snap Peas, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Rutabaga & Cherry Tomato

FRESH SEASONAL FRUIT PLATTERS Assortment of Fresh Fruit & Seasonal Berries

IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC CHEESE PLATTERS
Crackers and Crustini Toasts

#### GRILLED WARM PITA BREAD

Variety of different types of hummus; pesto, roast garlic & red pepper hummus

#### SMOKED SALMON PLATTERS

Pesto cream cheese, toast points, grilled lemon

#### ASSORTED SUSHI AND SASHIMI PLATTERS

#### HOT HORS'DOEVRES STATION:

Spinach Pastries, Tempura Prawns, Chicken Satays, Bacon Wrapped Scallops, Vegetable samosas

DAY 2,

### The Healthy Choice Breakfast:

Freshly Baked Carrot & Bran Muffins
Assortment of Fresh Seasonal Fruit & Berries
House made Granola & Dried Fruits, Assorted Cold Cereals
Selection of Chilled Apple, Cranberry, Grapefruit & Orange Juice
Freshly Brewed Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee, Selection of Traditional & Herbal Teas
\$16PP

#### AM Break:

Apple, Orange, and Cranberry Juice Freshly brewed regular & decaffeinated coffee, selection of traditional & herbal teas Assortment of Miniature French Pastries

**\$9PP** 

#### PM Break:

A Selection of Traditional & Herbal Teas Freshly Baked Whole Wheat Raspberry, Blueberry or Cheddar Cheese Scones Served with Devonshire cream, Butter & Premium Fruit Preserves

#### \$13PP

#### **Plated Dinner:**

Assorted Freshly Baked Breads & Rolls

#### First Course:

Grilled Vegetable Caprese Salad Grilled Red Pepper, Grilled Zucchini, Roma Tomato, Fresh Boccocini & Fresh Basil

#### Main Course:

Sundried Tomato & Island Brie Chicken Chardonnay Chive Cream Chef's Fresh Market Vegetables & Potato or Rice

#### Dessert:

Dessert of your Choice Freshly Brewed Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee Selection of Traditional & Fine Herbal Teas

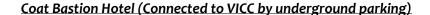
\$41PP

#### **TECHNICAL AND AUDIO VISUAL:**

The Vancouver Island Conference Centre is equipped with one of the most advanced audio-visual and control systems in all of Western Canada. Our built-in sound system, high speed complimentary wireless Internet Access, digital way-finding and global broadcast capabilities are just a few examples of the services offered.

#### **ACCOMMODATION:**

Nanaimo has a total of 793 quality hotel room available within 12 kilometers of the Vancouver Island Conference Centre with 349 of those rooms are located within 1 kilometer of our front door. We are proud to say that we work very closely with all of the hotels in Nanaimo to find the most appropriate accommodations for all our guests.



#### April 202020

Comfort Rooms (2 double beds) – 40 rooms available - \$147.00 Superior Rooms (2 double beds) – 15 rooms available - \$158.00 Superior Queen Room – 10 rooms available - \$158.00 Premium King Room – 30 rooms available - \$175.00 Harbour View Premium (1 King Bed) – 16 rooms available - \$198.00 Harbour View Premium (2 Double Beds) – 2 rooms available - \$198.00 Premium Jacuzzi Suite – 2 rooms available - \$265.00





#### **GREEN MEETINGS AND EVENTS:**

The Vancouver Island Conference Centre is considered a leader in environmental design and sustainability. Demonstrating environmental responsiveness and corporate responsibility in our activities; we try to consider all options to reduce waste and increase efficiency. In addition, planning a green meeting can create many benefits to the event organizer by allowing them to:

- Save money by conserving resources
- Create and enhance competitive advantage and reputation
- Open up new or niche markets
- Present positive opportunities for marketing, improve public relations and demonstrate a commitment to corporate responsibility



#### TRANSPORTATION:

Finding your way to the 'Hub City' of Vancouver Island has never been more convenient. With four different forms of transportation bringing people directly to Nanaimo, you will be amazed at how easy, and affordable it is to get yourself to Nanaimo all year long. Whether coming from West Vancouver (Horseshoe Bay) or Tsawwassen, BC Ferries offers guests a comfortable and reliable options should they be travelling by car. If the guests are not bringing their cars, they can choose between 5 airlines as well Nanaimo's newest transportation option, Helijet.



Both Air Canada and West Jet offer daily flights into

Nanaimo from both Vancouver and Calgary with direct flights from Abbotsford and Victoria also available. If you are already in Vancouver, and you are interested in treating yourself to a short scenic flight, then you may want to explore taking a float plane or helicopter ride. Operating from both Downtown Vancouver as well as the Vancouver International Airport (South Terminal), both of these options will allow your guests to take in the breathtaking landscapes that the West Coast of Canada has to offer.

All of the float plane companies (Harbour Air, Sea Air & Tofino Air), fly into Nanaimo's Harbor leaving you a short 10 minute walk or taxi ride to our front doors. Should you choose Helijet, you will have access to their free shuttle service which will bring you right downtown, just steps from our main entrance.

#### **LOCAL TOURISM & CULTURE:**



The city of Nanaimo is a classic West Coast community, offering natural beauty at every turn, vast recreation potential and is brimming with culture. Stroll along our waterfront, catch a ferry to one of Canada's only floating pubs or enjoy a fresh seafood dinner at one of our many amazing restaurants. Here, you can go from the wilderness to the city center in just a few minutes, and spend more time in the places you want to be.

Located just steps away from our front doors, you will find the crown jewel of culture in the city at the Nanaimo Museum. The museum is home many to permanent exhibits allowing guests to learn about Nanaimo's rich history such as the Snuneymuxw First Nations, Coal Mining and the Forest Industry. Its gift shop is also the perfect place to find that special keepsake to take home with you.

For more information on Tourism & Culture ideas while visiting Nanaimo, check out these links:

<u>Tourism Nanaimo</u> <u>Nanaimo Museum</u> Snuneymuxw First Nations

#### **PARKING:**

Convenient self-paid parking for up to 300 vehicles is available in our underground parkade located below the Vancouver Island Conference Centre along with an additional 300 spaces available at the parkade directly adjacent to the Conference Centre.

### **CONCLUSION:**

Thank you Liz for the opportunity to create a proposal for the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities AGM & Convention in April 2018. Please take a look through the above proposal and attachments. The City of Nanaimo and Tourism Nanaimo is in full support of this convention being hosted in Nanaimo and we are able to offer, with The City of Nanaimo, full sponsorship of the meeting room rental.

Sincerely,

# Gina Bethell

Gina Bethell Sales Manager Office: 250-244-4063

Cell: 250-802-2067

Email: gbethell@viconference.com



February 16, 2018

Ms. Liz Cookson AVICC Executive Coordinator Local Government House Office Manager 525 Government Street Victoria, BC V8V 0A8

Attention: AVICC Board of Directors

Dear Ms. Cookson,

#### Re: 2020 AVICC Conference

On behalf of Council, I would like to invite the members of the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities to Nanaimo, the Traditional Territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nations, for the 2020 Annual AVICC Conference.

We would be honoured to welcome you to our beautiful City and to see the cultural attractions we have to offer. We regard Nanaimo as one of the most beautiful harbourfronts on the West Coast. In addition, our downtown core has the full service Vancouver Island Conference Centre that can accommodate up to 1300 delegates and would meet the needs of this event.

The City of Nanaimo, together with our community partners, welcomes the opportunity to host the 2020 AVICC Conference in our beautiful Harbour City.

Yours very truly,

Bill McKay M A Y O R



#501-65 Front Street Nanaimo, BC V9R 5H9 www.tourismvi.ca NANAIMO DISCOVER YOUR 360°

#501-65 Front Street Nanaimo, BC V9R 5H9

www.tourismnanaimo.com

Gina Bethell
Sales Manager
Vancouver Island Conference Centre
Spectra Venue Management
101 Gordon Street, Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J8

Re: AVICC Conference 2020 Letter of Support

Dear Gina:

Thank you for reaching out to Tourism Vancouver Island and Tourism Nanaimo. While not directly part of our portfolio, the MICE sector (meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions) is an important piece of the tourism puzzle in Nanaimo, and on Vancouver Island. Targeting business professionals, academic institutions, trade organizations and special interest groups, the MICE sector attracts a significant contingent of non-residents who might not have otherwise visited, or even been aware of, Nanaimo and/or the Vancouver Island region.

According to the 2016 Meetings Market Report: Survey Data Summary, the Canadian average of room nights generated by MICE sector events in 2015 equated to 564 – a number that emphasizes this sector's capacity to attract non-residents to new destinations.

Vancouver Island is a 460km island paradise located in the Pacific Ocean, about 97km west of Vancouver, and 117km north of Seattle. The region offers an abundance of activities and experiences to explore, between Port Hardy in the north and Victoria in the south, and Tofino to the west and Campbell River to the east. Nanaimo, situated in the centre of Vancouver Island, is a classic West Coast community, offering natural beauty at every turn, and vast recreation potential. Nanaimo has one of the longest shorelines in Canada, and a forested mountain backdrop just outside downtown; you can go from the wilderness to the city centre in just a few minutes, and spend more time in the places you want to be.

Whether for business or pleasure, we support opportunities that bring visitors to communities on Vancouver Island; these opportunities ultimately align with our goals of familiarizing non-residents with Nanaimo and Vancouver Island, building positive perceptions about our community and region, and generating interest in return holiday/tourism visits.

Sincerely yours,

Anthony Everett, President and CEO

Tourism Vancouver Island

# ATTACHMENT C

Item	Details	Estimated Costs
VICC - 2 1/2 days	March 2019 VICC provided detailed venue room rental estimate – unknown if taxes are included (\$1070.40).	\$8,920.00
Colour printer Host community is responsible to provide a printer for the AVICC (Millstone River Room)	Console Multifunction full colour including delivery and pickup. VICC provided estimated cost. *2016 AVICC the City of Nanaimo provided one of their printer's at no cost	\$750.00
Decorations Host community will make arrangement for any special decorating, i.e. table centrepieces, staging, etc.	Estimated 250-350 delegates City could source through Parks Yard tulips/flower decorations for 25 – 35 tables @ \$20.00 per table (not confirmed). These could be used for both nights This does not include any stand-alone arrangements. Another option could be renting through TripleT.	\$700.00
20 Gifts Host community identifies, purchases and wraps local, representative gift for speakers (no more than \$25-30)	Apparently, Tourism Nanaimo has committed to assisting in scouting and contracting the purchase at a suggest price of \$40. per (if taxes are added the cost increases to approximately \$45.00). This does not include wrapping.	\$900.00
Entertainment for Friday Welcome Reception and Saturday Banquet Host community identifies and pays for potential entertainers for approval by AVICC	VICC noted an option on their estimate of utilizing Wellington High School Jazz Trio for a donated cost to the program of \$200.00 per night but unknown where this cost figure was obtained.  A professional jazz duo or group would be approximately \$1,000.00 per night.  Tourism Nanaimo has connections to local event promoters.	\$2,000.00
20+ Trade Show Booths Host community provides the facility, tables, chairs, linens/skirting and pipe and drape for booths.	VICC indicated linens and skirting had no additional costs as these are included in "meeting facilities". Need to confirm if booths are included. \$85.00 per booth & taxes	\$1,904.00
Wi-Fi Host community to provide	VICC makes no mention of this in their estimate.	No Charge
PA System	AVICC provides all equipment for sound, screens, projectors etc	No Charge
Total Estimated Costs	VICC has estimated between \$11,170.00 - \$11,970.00.	\$15,174.00
Economic Impact	350 people x 3 days x \$315.00	\$330,750.00