

DATE OF MEETING MARCH 22, 2021

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SUBJECT MAYOR'S LEADERS' TABLE

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

Consistent with the Mayor's Task Force on Recovery and Resilience Recommendation, present options to Establish a Mayor's Leaders' Table to Advise, Inform and Collaborate Across the Community to further Nanaimo's opportunities and address challenges. |

### **Recommendation**

That Council establish the **Mayor's Leaders' Table** with representation of: Mayor and two Council members; key social, cultural, educational, healthcare, technology, labour, arts, tourism and business organizations; and, chaired by the Mayor and subject to applicable Legislative Support and oversight.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Mayor's Task Force on Recovery and Resilience (Task Force) was struck in May 2020 as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the community. The Task Force addressed economic impacts, community resiliency and provided recommendations for recovery to be considered by the Mayor and Council.

## **DISCUSSION**

Establishing the Mayor's Leaders' Table is a key recommendation of the 2020 Mayor's Task Force on Recovery and Resilience. The specific recommendation is to:

*Establish a Mayor's Nanaimo Leaders' Table to:*

*a) Immediately:*

*i. Be informed by findings and recommendations from the various task forces and committees and other entities plans to create an aligned approach and collaborate on a multi-levels of government "ask for capital infrastructure" for Nanaimo.*

*ii. Establish a working group/youth council consisting of representatives from SD68, VIU, venture and technology incubators, youth services, cultural organizations and major employers to develop a plan to address youth (18-34 years) attraction and retention.*

*b) Provide input on major issues and opportunities facing the City.*

*c) Build collaboration among key entities.*

## **OPTIONS**

1. That Council establish the **Mayor's Leaders' Table** with representation of: Mayor and two Council members; key social, cultural, educational, healthcare, technology, labour, arts, tourism and business organizations; and, chaired by the Mayor and subject to applicable legislative support and oversight.

In addition to the Mayor and two Council members, convene by invitation, an official advisory forum of the most senior representatives from the following organizations (at a minimum):

- John Howard Society
- Nanaimo Family Life
- United Way
- Nanaimo Ladysmith Schools Foundation
- Nanaimo Regional General Hospital
- Nanaimo Airport Commission
- Port of Nanaimo
- Petroglyph Development Group, SFN
- VIU
- RDN
- SD68
- Innovation Island
- Labour Organizations
- Arts and Culture Organizations
- Tourism and Hospitality Associations
- Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce
- Mid-Island Business Initiative
- Business Improvement Associations
- Major Employers (Businesses)
- Others?

Facilitated by the Mayor, present a draft Terms of Reference including governance structure, alternate chair appointment, agenda management, duration, meeting frequency and logistics, goals and outcomes. Maintain that the Table is a Mayor and Council-driven initiative.

Assign a City staff representative and administrative support to assist Legislative Services to convene and support facilitation of meetings.

- The advantages of this option: Broad community engagement at the Table, leveraging community-wide resources under the leadership of the City. Constructs a forum to align the community strategically for multi-level government capital infrastructure asks, establishment of a youth attraction and retention strategy, builds collaboration across entities, garners timely input, and, creates an opportunity for broader implementation of the Doughnut Economics philosophy.
- The disadvantages of this option: Requirement for Legislative protocols and Legislative Support resources. Challenging logistics as the Table will be large. Reliant on collaboration across autonomous entities.
- Financial Implications: Annual meeting expenses of \$12,000.

2. That Council provide an alternate recommendation. |

**SUMMARY POINTS**

- The Mayor's Task Force on Recovery and Resilience was struck in May 2020 as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the community. The Task Force addressed economic impacts, community resiliency and provided recommendations for recovery to be considered by the Mayor and Council.
- The Mayor's Leaders' Table is one of the key recommendations of the 2020 Mayor's Task Force on Recovery and Resilience.

**Submitted by:**

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