

MINUTES
SPECIAL MAYOR'S LEADERS' TABLE MEETING
ELECTRONIC MEETING
FRIDAY, 2021-DEC-03, AT 9:03 A.M.

- Present:** Mayor L. Krog, Chair
Councillor I. Thorpe
Ashwak Sirri, Board Chair, Nanaimo Hospitality Association
Balraj Mann, President, Young Professionals of Nanaimo
Brian Clemens, President, Board of Directors, Port Theatre
Bruce Halliday, General Manager, Port Theatre
Carolyn Holmes, Executive Director, Nanaimo Art Gallery
Charlene McKay, Board Chair, SD68
Cory Vanderhorst, Board Chair/President, Innovation Island Technology Association
David Witty, Board Chair, Nanaimo Airport Commission
Deborah Hollins, Executive Director, Nanaimo Family Life Association
Deborah Saucier, President and Vice Chancellor, Vancouver Island University
Donna Hais, Board Chair, Nanaimo Port Authority
James Hanson, VP, Clinical Operations, Island Health
John Manning, Board President, Nanaimo Museum
Keith Wilson, CAO, Nanaimo Youth Services Association (joined electronically 9:16 a.m.)
Kim Smythe, President and CEO, Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce
Mikaela Torres, Executive Director, Nanaimo Multi-Cultural Society
Paul Sadler, CEO, Harmac Pacific
Sean Gallagher, Nanaimo Arts Council
Signy Madden, Executive Director, United Way
Tyler Brown, Board Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo
- Absent:** Councillor S. D. Armstrong
Ben Harrack, Vice President of BC Operations, Save On Foods
Chief M. Wyse, Snuneymuxw First Nation
Erralyn Joseph, Petroglyph Development Group
Grace Elliott-Nielsen, Executive Director, Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Society
Jenn MacPherson, President, Nanaimo/Duncan District Labour Council
Susan Clift, President, John Howard Society
- Staff:** J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Lindsay, General Manager, Development Services
B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works
B. Corsan, Director, Community Development
L. Wark, Director, Recreation and Culture
F. Farrokhi, Manager, Communications
K. Kronstal, Social Planner
S. Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services
S. Snelgrove, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE SPECIAL MAYOR'S LEADERS' TABLE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Special Mayor's Leaders' Table Meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

Kim Smythe and Signy Madden joined the meeting electronically at 9:04 a.m.

Sheila Gurrie, City Clerk, advised of the procedures for the meeting and asked members of the Leaders' Table to keep their cameras on.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

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

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Special Mayor's Leaders' Table Meeting held electronically on Friday, 2021-SEP-24 at 9:00 a.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

4. WORKING GROUP REPORTS:

(a) Infrastructure Ask

Donna Hais, Chair, advised:

- The working group has had a productive 3 months and have identified various groups in the region who may have infrastructure projects and asked them to provide feedback on what their infrastructure needs are
- Each group was asked to submit a maximum of two projects and provide details
- Have received formal responses from about half the groups, which included a project information sheet
- Time period for intake of projects has been extended to gather more responses
- Another working group meeting will be held before Christmas
- Have included the Province to find out what is planned for infrastructure in the region
- All projects submitted to date are worthwhile and will benefit the entire region and community which will make the task harder
- Established preliminary intake criteria projects must meet
- Will begin to start narrowing down projects and develop three categories
- Several projects identified will benefit from strategic partnerships within the community and there may be strategic opportunities the group can help facilitate

- Have determined that by submitting the projects through the committee, it will be up to Council to advocate provincially or federally for the projects on behalf of the community as a whole
- Youth Working Group has one project already submitted
- Information is able to be requested through the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOI) and exploring what that means for public consumption

Member and staff discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Information may be subject to FOI legislation but that does not automatically mean it is releasable to the public or will be made available for public consumption
- Organizations which submitted their own projects sheets will need to fill out the working groups project sheet so that only the information the working group needs is shared
- Some infrastructure projects received include RCMP Detachment Building, City Operations Centre, Waterfront Walkway, Black Fibre, Port Theatre projects, Island Health projects, Vancouver Island University projects, Nanaimo Museum projects, Nanaimo Art Gallery projects and Nanaimo Port Authority projects

Keith Wilson joined the meeting electronically at 9:16 a.m.

- Waiting for response from the School District, Tillicum Lelum and Snuneymuxw First Nation (SFN)
- City working towards renewed memorandum of understanding with BC Housing and expect an announcement in the first 3 months of 2022 regarding complex care
- Importance of emergency preparedness and opportunities for reception centres as a part of the infrastructure ask
- Council to receive a briefing on emergency preparedness in the coming weeks
- The City has a robust system and is building a new emergency operations centre in the downtown fire hall which is seismically resilient and will open next summer
- The main emergency reception centre is the Beban Park Recreation Complex which the City has been investing in
- Potential topic for a future Mayor's Leaders' Table meeting could be around emergency response to major events
- United Way flood relief funds and working with SFN to access funds for emergency need

(b) Doughnut Economic Philosophy

Kim Smythe, Chair, advised:

- Several meetings have been held and a list of six recommendations was developed:
 1. Develop awareness program for Council and Staff to embed the concept throughout the organization. Include in Council orientation for 2022/2023

2. Develop an awareness program for City entities
3. Establish Doughnut Economic Coalition within the wider Nanaimo community to support and promote the philosophy
4. Develop Doughnut Economic Business/Non-Profit Recognition Program to recognize those who facilitate doughnut economics and set examples in the larger business community
5. Create Doughnut Economic focussed outcomes based budgeting process for 2023 onwards
6. Advocate the alignment of the Doughnut Economy Principles across the region

Table discussion took place. Highlights included:

- A recognition program is the initial first step to create a business achievement award category for Doughnut Economics and in the future could be created by the Chamber of Commerce
- At the next meeting the working group will expand on recommendations, have draft specifics to present to Council and the Table could put forward a motion for Council to consider
- The process for Council consideration of Table motions is that they are first endorsed by the Mayor's Leaders' Table then forwarded to Council as a recommendation Council can consider
- Have a robust discussion regarding the recommendations prior to them being forwarded to Council

(c) Youth Attraction and Retention Strategy

Keith Wilson, Chair, advised:

- Committee continues to meet with each subcommittee dealing with a different age cohort
- Reviewed REIMAGINE Nanaimo phase two report
- Have developed a schedule for deliverables
- 3 subcommittees are finalizing survey questions to publicize by late January or early February
- Link to survey will be shared with members
- Not many youth at the Table to connect with and challenges reaching all youth in the community
- Final results available in late February and will be shared with Table at the March 2022 meeting
- Final report for June 2022 Table meeting will include recommendations
- Concept of mountain biking trails as a destination for the region and having a robust discussion to further market the attraction to visitors and keep youth in the community
- Organizations working on the Fieldhouse project

Table discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Publishing the survey through the City's channels in order to reach a broad audience

- Legislative Services Department sharing the survey link with members of the Table for them to share the link through their organization's channels and social media
- Youth Working Group has connected with the Infrastructure Working Group regarding infrastructure asks
- Nanaimo Mountain Biking Club/Association spearheading the mountain bike trail project concurrently with Nanaimo Area Land Trust, the Regional District of Nanaimo and the City of Nanaimo
- Marketing Nanaimo as destination for mountain biking and support from the Nanaimo Hospitality Association

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

(a) REIMAGINE Nanaimo – Phase Two key Learning Presentation

Karin Kronstal, Social Planner, provided a presentation. Highlights included:

- REIMAGINE Nanaimo is not just an update to the Official Community Plan but an integration and update of many City planning documents
- Provided an overview of the process and noted phase 2 is ending
- Purpose of phase 2 engagement was to receive feedback on specific scenarios and ideas, to see what people liked and didn't like regarding scenarios and policies
- Transition from gathering ideas to determining specific goals and vision for the community and various pathways to reach goals
- Noted the goals based approach and framework for policy approach
- Nanaimo City Plan will be the output from the process and will act as an overarching guide
- Hoping to have a more holistic approach to show what the City is doing to implement green goals
- Provided an overview of phase 2 engagement including number of people who were engaged, surveys completed and ways the City heard back from the community
- Feedback regarding engagement received was positive
- Noted key learnings such as "Green Nanaimo" having the most support
- Participants top priorities for planning for growth included protecting open space, housing affordability, walk, bike, and transit supported neighborhoods as well as living close to parks
- Preference was noted for central focus as the cost implications are less
- People see potential for downtown Nanaimo
- The full engagement summary is available on the City's website
- Next steps include various workshops with committees and Council
- Pubic engagement to launch in January and is subject to future Council direction

Table discussion took place. Highlights included:

- Compensation for the public who participated in the random sample to determine if sample group was similar to members of the public who

voluntarily participated and if feedback was representative of the general population

(b) Working Group Membership List

Provided for information.

(c) Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be scheduled for Friday, March 4, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The meeting method (Zoom or in person) will be determined closer to the meeting date.

6. QUESTION PERIOD:

There were no members of the public in attendance to ask questions.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Krog spoke regarding the impact of COVID-19 on the public, the positive projects underway in the City of Nanaimo, Nanaimo's perception of having a coal town mentality and the reality of Nanaimo being a wonderful place to live, prosper, raise a family, and experience and access the outdoors. He thanked all the members for the work they are doing and noted by the March meeting there will be a better idea of direction and in June develop solid recommendations to Council. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays and noted he was grateful for all of the members to take the time to participate and volunteer.

It was moved and seconded at 10:12 a.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CORPORATE OFFICER