



MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, 2026-JAN-19, 4:30 P.M.
Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre
80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC

- Members:
- Mayor L. Krog, Chair
 - Councillor S. Armstrong
 - Councillor T. Brown* (joined at 4:32 p.m.)
 - Councillor H. Eastmure
 - Councillor B. Geselbracht* (disconnected at 5:24 p.m., entered at 7:00 p.m.)
 - Councillor P. Manly* (vacated at 5:24 p.m., joined at 7:00 p.m.)
 - Councillor J. Perrino
 - Councillor I. Thorpe
- Absent:
- Councillor E. Hemmens
- Staff:
- D. Lindsay, Chief Administrative Officer
 - L. Bhopalsingh, General Manager, Community Services/Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
 - L. Mercer, General Manager, Corporate Services
 - B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works
 - S. Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services
 - J. Holm, Director, Planning and Development
 - D. Burgos, Manager, Corporate Communications and Community Relation
 - N. Sponaugle, Strategic Initiatives Advisor
 - A. Chanakos, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

* Denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by "Council Procedure Bylaw 2018 No. 7272"

2. 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) A part of a 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;
- (f) law enforcement, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation under or enforcement of an enactment;
- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting 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); and,

Community Charter Section 90(2):

- (b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations
 - (i) 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.

Council moved In Camera at 4:30 p.m.

Council moved out of In Camera at 5:24 p.m.

Councillor Geselbracht disconnected from the meeting at 5:24 p.m.

Councillor Manly vacated the Shaw Auditorium at 5:24 p.m.

Council recessed the Open Meeting at 5:24 p.m.

Councillor Geselbracht entered the Shaw Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

Councillor Manly joined the meeting electronically at 7:00 p.m.

Council reconvened the Open Meeting at 7:01 p.m.

3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Agenda Item 13(b) Rezoning Application No. RA524 – 1100 Maughan Road – Add delegation from Blake Ector.
- (b) Add Agenda Item 15(c)(1) Correspondence dated 2026-JAN-15 from Island North Film Commission re: Letter Regarding 2026 Bridge Funding for Island North Film Commission (Funding Request).

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

5. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:

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

- Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC on Monday, 2025-DEC-08 at 1:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2025-DEC-15 at 7:00 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Krog advised of the following:

- Jennavieve Strub will serve as the Youth Poet Laureate for a two-year term (2026 – 2028)
- The City is seeking feedback during Phase 3 of the Woodgrove Area Plan, and a survey can be found on the City's Get Involved website
- Dog owners are reminded to renew their dog licences, and a 16% discount will apply for any renewal made on or before 2026-FEB-28
- The City is seeking one new member for the Board of Variance. Applications are being accepted until 2026-FEB-06
- The 2026 temporary public art projects have been selected, including "Forest Flowers" by Eliza Gardiner and Isaiah Kingon, and "Encrustation: Barnacles of Belonging" by Twyla Exner
- According to Numbeo, a large, crowd-sourced database, Nanaimo has been rated the second-best city in Canada for livability, and ranked 63rd globally

- Beban Park is celebrating its 50th anniversary of the opening of the pool, arena and social centre. Family Day events will take place on 2026-FEB-16 to commemorate the milestone

7. COMMITTEE MINUTES:

The following Committee minutes were received:

- Minutes of the Public Safety Community Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2025-JUN-11 at 4:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Design Advisory Panel Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Thursday, 2025-NOV-13 at 5:08 p.m.
- Minutes of the Special Finance and Audit Committee Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Friday, 2025-NOV-21 at 9:00 a.m.
- Minutes of the Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Monday, 2025-NOV-24 at 1:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Special Finance and Audit Committee Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2025-DEC-03 at 9:00 a.m.
- Minutes of the Public Safety Committee Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2025-DEC-10 at 4:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Design Advisory Panel Meeting held in the Boardroom, Service and Resource Centre, 411 Dunsmuir Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Thursday, 2025-DEC-11 at 5:00 p.m.
- Minutes of the Finance and Audit Committee Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC, on Wednesday, 2025-DEC-17 at 9:00 a.m.

8. CONSENT ITEMS:

It was moved and seconded that the following items be adopted by consent:

Prior to the vote Councillor Thorpe requested that Agenda Item 10(a)(1) Lost Lake Road Traffic Calming be removed to be voted on separately.

Prior to the vote Councillor Manly requested that Agenda Item 10(c)(2) Culture and Events Grants 2026 Recommendations be removed to be voted on separately.

a. Public Safety Committee Meeting 2025-DEC-10

1. Discussion re: Future Committee Direction

That Council direct Staff to provide regular updates on the Hub to the Public Safety Committee.

b. Finance and Audit Committee Meeting 2025-DEC-17

1. Park Amenity Improvement Requests Under the Partners in Parks Program

That Council approve the allocation of the 2025 Partners in Parks Program funding for amenity improvements at the following locations:

1. \$20,000 for improvements to the Beban BMX Park; and,
2. \$10,000 for storage at Kinette Evergreen Park.

The motion carried unanimously.

c. Separately Addressed Consent Items

1. Lost Lake Road Traffic Calming

That Council direct Staff to complete design and implementation of Lost Lake Road Traffic Calming Phase 2 as outlined in the Staff Report titled "Lost Lake Road Traffic Calming" dated 2025-NOV-24 and include bollards on the outside of the lanes around the Smokey Crescent intersection.

The motion was defeated.

Opposed: *Mayor Krog, Councillors Armstrong, Perrino and Thorpe*

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to complete design and implementation of Lost Lake Road Traffic Calming Phase 2 as outlined in the Staff Report titled "Lost Lake Road Traffic Calming" dated 2025-NOV-24. The motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Manly disconnected from the meeting at 7:17 p.m., declaring a conflict of interest as he sits on the board of the LEAF Festival Society.

2. Culture and Events Grants 2026 Recommendations

That Council approve 2026 Cultural Grant funding (Operating, Project, Downtown Event Revitalization Fund) recommendations of \$705,421 as outlined in Attachment 'D' of the report titled "Culture and Events Grants 2026 Recommendations" dated 2025-DEC-17.

The motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Manly rejoined the meeting electronically at 7:17 p.m.

9. **DELEGATIONS:**

a. Wray Jones re: Cutting Down Mature Trees in Neighbourhoods

Wray Jones spoke regarding the decline of urban forests throughout the City and noted that a growing number of mature trees are being removed or severely topped on private properties. They expressed concern regarding the City's tree protection bylaw not protecting smaller, valuable trees, and urged the City to enforce stronger tree protection measures.

10. **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

a. Woodgrove Area Plan - Phase 2 Engagement Summary and Phase 3 Draft Policies, Actions, Monitoring Framework and Design Guidelines

Introduced by J. Holm, Director, Planning and Development.

Presentation:

1. K. Biegun, Planner, Community Development, provided an on-screen presentation included in the agenda package and advised the following:
 - The project is currently in Phase 3 which looks at policies and actions that will help create a complete community in the Woodgrove area
 - Reviewed the Phase 2 engagement summary results, and the outreach and communication efforts used
 - The majority of respondents preferred Scenario 3, which would accommodate an additional 7,500 residents, relocating the transit exchange to a central location, adding parks and recreation facilities, and upgrading transportation infrastructure
 - Next steps include preparing the Woodgrove Area Plan based on feedback received in Phase 3

- Improvements have been made to the survey on the City's Get Involved webpage based on feedback received in Phase 2 regarding accessibility
- b. Downtown Nanaimo Business Association Business Improvement Area Bylaw 2025, No. 7395
- L. Mercer, General Manager, Corporate Services, provided an overview of the report included in the agenda package.
- c. 2026 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Resolutions
- S. Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services, provided an overview of the report included in the agenda package.

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to submit the following resolutions to the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities for consideration at its 2026 Annual Convention:

- a. The resolution titled "Streamlining the MRDT Renewal Process" as presented in the report titled "2026 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Resolutions".
- b. The resolution titled "Updates to the *BC Motor Vehicle Act*" as presented in the report titled "2026 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Resolutions".

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to submit the following resolution to the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities for consideration at its 2026 Annual Convention:

"The resolution titled 'Raw Log Exports' as presented in the report titled '2026 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Resolutions'".

The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillor Brown*

It was moved and seconded that the Mayor send a letter, on behalf of Council, to the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs requesting immediate action be taken to implement the requests outlined in the resolution "SR3 – Increased Library Funding from the Province is Overdue" which was endorsed at the 2025 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) convention. The motion carried unanimously.

11. DEVELOPMENT REPORTS:

a. Housing Agreement No. HA19 - 3425 Uplands Drive

Councillor Manly disconnected at 7:50 p.m., declaring a conflict of interest as he had a contract with Nanaimo Association for Community Living in the past.

Bylaw 7437 - Phase 2 Housing Agreement – 3425 Uplands Drive:

It was moved and seconded that “Housing Agreement Bylaw 2026 No. 7437” (to secure the terms and conditions of occupancy for a personal care facility at 3425 Uplands Drive) pass first reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “Housing Agreement Bylaw 2026 No. 7437” pass second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “Housing Agreement Bylaw 2026 No. 7437” pass third reading and that Council direct Staff to register a *Land Title Act* Section 219 covenant to reinforce the terms of the Housing Agreement for Phase 2 development, following adoption of the bylaw. The motion carried unanimously.

Bylaw 7446 - Phase 1 Housing Agreement – 3425 Uplands Drive:

It was moved and seconded that “Housing Agreement Bylaw 2026 No. 7446” (to secure the terms and conditions of occupancy for existing multi-family units at 3425 Uplands Drive) pass first reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “Housing Agreement Bylaw 2026 No. 7446” pass second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “Housing Agreement Bylaw 2026 No. 7446” pass third reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to register an amendment to the existing housing agreement and covenant (CA5511139) to amend the terms of the Housing Agreement for Phase 1 development, following adoption of the bylaw. The motion carried unanimously.

Councillor Manly rejoined the meeting electronically at 7:52 p.m.

b. Rezoning Application No. RA524 - 1100 Maughan Road

Delegation:

1. Blake Ector spoke regarding the following:

- In 2022, the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch initiated a producer/retail store program to enable producers to sell product on site
- The operators of 1100 Maughan Road wish to convert a small portion of the existing warehouse into a retail space in order to sell cannabis and merchandise
- Adding a retail space would augment the tours that take place on site and provide fresh products to Nanaimo residents

It was moved and seconded that “Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2026 No. 4500.239” (to rezone 1100 Maughan Road to allow “Cannabis Retail Store” as a site-specific accessory use in the Industrial [I4] zone) pass first reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that “Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2026 No. 4500.239” pass second reading. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to hold a Public Hearing for “Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2026 No. 4500.239”. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to secure BC Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch approval prior to adoption of the bylaw, should Council support the bylaw at third reading. The motion carried unanimously.

12. **BYLAWS:**

a. “Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 4500.242”

It was moved and seconded that “Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 4500.242” be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

b. “Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7336.14”

It was moved and seconded that “Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw 2025, No. 7336.14” be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

c. “Downtown Nanaimo Business Association Business Improvement Area Bylaw 2025, No. 7395”

It was moved and seconded that “Downtown Nanaimo Business Association Business Improvement Area Bylaw 2025, No. 7395” be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

d. “Inter-Community Business Licence Bylaw 2025, No. 7435”

Mayor Krog requested that Council hear anyone wishing to speak with respect to “Inter-Community Business Licence Bylaw 2025, No. 7435”.

No one in attendance wished to speak with respect to “Inter-Community Business Licence Bylaw 2025, No. 7435”.

It was moved and seconded that “Inter-Community Business Licence Bylaw 2025, No. 7435” be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

e. “Financial Plan Bylaw 2025, No. 7436”

It was moved and seconded that “Financial Plan Bylaw 2025, No. 7436” be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

13. CORRESPONDENCE:

a. Correspondence dated 2025-OCT-31 from the BC Ombudsperson Office re: Quarterly Report, July 1 - September 30, 2025

b. Alma Mater Society of UBC Request for Letter of Support re: Discounted Student Rate on BC Ferries

It was moved and seconded that the Mayor, on behalf of Council, provide a letter of support to the Alma Mater Society of UBC regarding the implementation of a discounted student rate with BC Ferries. The motion carried unanimously.

c. Correspondence dated 2026-JAN-05 from Island North Film Commission re: Letter Regarding 2026 Bridge Funding for Island North Film Commission

1. Correspondence dated 2026-JAN-15 from Island North Film Commission re: Letter Regarding 2026 Bridge Funding for Island North Film Commission (Funding Request)

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to provide \$30,000 in service funding to Island North Film Commission for 2026.

It was moved and seconded that the following motion be postponed:

“That Council direct Staff to provide \$30,000 in service funding to Island North Film Commission for 2026.”

The motion to postpone was defeated.

Opposed: *Mayor Krog, Councillors Brown, Geselbracht, and Manly*

The vote was taken on the main motion as follows:

“That Council direct Staff to provide \$30,000 in service funding to Island North Film Commission for 2026.”

The motion carried.

Opposed: *Councillors Perrino and Thorpe*

It was moved and seconded that Council direct Staff to fund the \$30,000 allocated to Island North Film Commission as requested in the correspondence from Island North Film Commission, dated 2026-JAN-15, from the Strategic Infrastructure Reserve. The motion carried unanimously.

14. OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Councillor Manly Motion re: Four Pillar Approach

It was moved and seconded that Council send a letter to the provincial and federal governments which: Reiterates that the ongoing impacts on communities of the addiction, mental health, toxic drug and homelessness crisis is unacceptable. That these senior levels of government must fully engage in a comprehensive four pillar approach of Harm Reduction, Prevention, Treatment, and Enforcement to tackle the illicit drug poisoning, mental health and addictions crisis in our community and communities across BC. That senior levels of government work towards effective long-term solutions that integrate the principles of these four pillars in a unified strategy. The motion was defeated.

Opposed: *Mayor Krog, Councillors Armstrong, Brown, Eastmure, Perrino and Thorpe*

b. Councillor Geselbracht Motion re: Funding for a Daytime Drop In Hub

It was moved and seconded that the Mayor and Council write to the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs requesting a meeting to discuss the urgent need for funding for a daytime drop-in homelessness resource hub, as well as other housing-related priorities. The motion carried unanimously.

15. QUESTION PERIOD:

Council received no questions from the public regarding agenda items.

16. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 8:32 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER