

# Municipality of North Cowichan

## Committee of the Whole

### AGENDA

Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 6:00 p.m.  
Electronically

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting, though electronic, is open to the public. All representations to Council form part of the public record. Proceedings will be streamed live and archived at [www.northcowichan.ca](http://www.northcowichan.ca). Members of the public may join this online meeting and participate virtually during the Public Input and Question Period portions of the agenda.

- To join by computer, smartphone, or tablet, visit [northcowichan.ca/virtualmeeting](http://northcowichan.ca/virtualmeeting) for instructions.
- To join by telephone, dial 1.844.426.4405, enter the meeting ID 171 435 2910, and then press # to join the meeting.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recommendation:

That the Committee of the Whole agenda be adopted as circulated [or as amended].

#### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1. Regular Committee of the Whole meeting minutes from January 12, 2021

3.2. Joint Committee of the Whole meeting minutes from January 21, 2021

3.3. Special Committee of the Whole meeting minutes from January 26, 2021

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meetings held January 12, 2021, January 21, 2021 and January 26, 2021 be adopted, as circulated.

#### 4. PUBLIC INPUT

Public Input is an opportunity for the public to provide their feedback on matters included on the agenda. The maximum number of speakers to be heard during the public input period is limited to five, with a maximum of three minutes allotted to each speaker. To be added to the speakers list, please:

- click on the 'raise your hand' button, if participating by computer, smartphone, or tablet, or
- dial \*3 on your phone

#### 5. BUSINESS

## 5.1. Budget Presentation

Purpose: To present details on the COVID-19 Safe Restart Grant for 2021.

Recommendation:

That the Committee of the Whole recommends that Council allocate the following amounts for 2020 under the COVID-19 Safe Restart Grant:

- the actual revenue shortfalls at the Cowichan Aquatic Centre and Fuller Lake Arena of approximately \$610,00
- the additional operating expenses incurred in 2020 as a result of the pandemic of approximately \$681,000.

Recommendation:

That the Committee of the Whole recommends that Council allocate the following 2021 budget amounts to be claimed under the COVID-19 Safe Restart Grant:

- \$1,128,000 be used to off set decreases in Recreation Revenue in 2021
- up to \$1,308,600 of 2021 expenditures which includes:
  - Additional COVID expenses \$143,300
  - Parks And Recreation \$416,000
  - Two term Bylaw positions \$192,300
  - Information Management/IT \$498,000
  - Vehicle costs – social distancing \$29,000
  - Working from home – Ergo support \$30,000

Recommendation:

That the Committee of the Whole recommends that Council allocate the following 2022 budget amounts to be claimed under the COVID-19 Safe Restart Grant, up to \$463,700:

- Two term Bylaw positions \$196,100
- Information Management/IT \$228,000
- Vehicle costs – social distancing \$29,600
- Working from home – Ergo support \$10,000

Recommendation:

That the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council that any unspent COVID-19 grant funds as of December 31, 2020 be transferred into the COVID-19 Safe Restart Grant reserve fund;

And that COVID-19 grant funds be recognized to offset actual expenditures to a maximum of budget in 2021 and 2022;

And further that the remaining funds in the COVID-19 Restart Reserve as of December 31, 2022 be reallocated for 2023 and future years' budgets.

## 5.2. Automated Trucks for Residential Curbside Collection of Solid Waste

Purpose: To present the current practices and future needs of the North Cowichan solid waste collection program and to consider a public communications and engagement plan for the automation of residential curbside collection of garbage, organics and recyclable materials. This report is supported by a presentation by Carey McIver and Associates on their review of North Cowichan's curbside collection program.

Recommendation:

That the Committee of the Whole recommends that Council direct staff to prepare a public engagement plan and more detailed cost scenarios to assess public interest in pursuing a solid waste collection automation program for Council approval prior to proceeding with any public engagement.

## 5.3. 2021 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) Call for Resolutions

Purpose: To consider submitting resolutions to the AVICC Executive for consideration at the 2021 virtual convention, including proposed resolution (see below under Recommendation) submitted by Councillor Douglas on the De-Centralizing Forest Management on Vancouver Island and Coastal BC. The deadline for submissions to AVICC is February 26, 2021.

Recommendation:

WHEREAS the forest industry in British Columbia has been on a steady decline in recent decades, with mill closures, lost jobs, and once-thriving rural communities experiencing severe economic decline – due in large part to poor mismanagement, misguided policies, and lack of oversight;

AND WHEREAS many communities across British Columbia and globally have demonstrated that when local people are empowered to manage public forests and other resources through community forest licenses, regional trusts and other community-based governance models, they can enhance environmental sustainability, provide stable and fulfilling employment, and improve equity and fairness;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) call on the Province of British Columbia move to establish a de-centralized forest management model for the region of Vancouver Island, Sunshine Coast, Powell River, the North Coast and the Central Coast ("Vancouver Island and the Coast"), and, as a first step, appoint a Forester General for the region who will undertake the following actions:

- Consult with local communities, workers, industry, First Nations and the broader public on current challenges with the forest sector;
- Carry out an analysis of the opportunities to increase employment and value-add, restrict raw log exports, improve environmental sustainability, and advance reconciliation with First Nations;
- Develop a regional land use plan for Vancouver Island and the Coast based on citizen input; and
- Recommend next steps for empowering Vancouver Island and the Coast in the management of forestry and related resources.

## 6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**6.1. Request for Funding from the Cowichan Historical Society**

Purpose: To consider the Cowichan Historical Societies request for \$15,000 that was referred from the January 21, 2021 Joint Committee of the Whole meeting.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**8. QUESTION PERIOD**

Question Period is an opportunity for the public to ask brief questions regarding the business discussed during the meeting. To be added to the speakers list, please:

- click on the 'raise your hand' button, if participating by computer, smartphone, or tablet, or
- dial \*3 on your phone

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Recommendation:

That the meeting be adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.