

**Municipality of North Cowichan  
Environmental Advisory Committee  
MINUTES**

**February 26, 2026, 1:30 p.m.  
Municipal Hall - Large Committee Room**

Members Present           Councillor Mike Caljouw, Chair  
                                  Cam Campbell  
                                  Dianne Hinkley  
                                  Dr. Jana Kotaska  
                                  Jay White  
                                  Sandra McPherson  
                                  William Valentine

Staff Present                Andrea Hainrich, Deputy Corporate Officer  
                                  David Conway, Director, Subdivision and Environmental Services  
                                  Dr. Dave Preikshot, Senior Environmental Specialist  
                                  Jennifer Aldcroft, Climate Change Specialist  
                                  Kayla Reid-Starck, Legislative Coordinator

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

There being a quorum present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was amended so that the Roundtable Introductions takes place upon Jay White's arrival.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the agenda be adopted as amended. CARRIED

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

That the Committee adopt the minutes of the meeting held December 11, 2025. CARRIED

**4. BUSINESS**

**4.1 Roundtable Introductions**

Jay White joined the meeting at 2:23 p.m., at which time Committee members and staff introduced themselves.

Dianne Hinkley entered the meeting at 1:37 p.m.

**4.2 Draft Biodiversity Protection Policy Report**

Dr. Dave Preikshot provided a presentation to the Committee and received feedback and answered questions from the Committee.

Jay White entered the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Environmental Advisory Committee recommends to Council that:

1. Staff work with Diamond Head Staff to incorporate comments and suggestions, recorded at the February 26, 2026 Environmental Advisory Committee meeting, into the Draft Biodiversity Protection Policy and for North Cowichan staff to present the revised version of the draft Biodiversity Protection policy to Council, for adoption.
2. Staff return to the Environmental Advisory Committee to continue to work on developing the implementation plan including quantitative monitoring and evaluation.

CARRIED

#### **4.3 Climate Action and Energy Plan Reserve Fund – 2025 Annual Report**

Jennifer Aldcroft presented this report to the Committee for information and answered questions.

Dr. Jana Kotaska left the meeting at 3:37 p.m.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting ended at 3:40 p.m.

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Certified by Recording Secretary

Signed by Chair;