

Municipality of North Cowichan Environmental Advisory Committee MINUTES

**September 27, 2022, 1:30 p.m.
Electronically**

Members Present	Councillor Kate Marsh, Chair Neil Anderson Cam Campbell Bruce Coates Sandra McPherson Ashley Muckle Dr. Shannon Waters
Members Absent	Dr. Jana Kotaska Per Dahlstrom Dr. Jesse Patterson Bruce Coates David Coulson
Staff Present	George Farkas, Planning Development and Community Services General Manager David Conway, Director, Engineering Projects Dr. Dave Preikshot, Senior Environmental Specialist Jennifer Aldcroft, Climate Change Specialist Shaun Chadburn, Environmental Programs Coordinator Heather Power, Legislative Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The order of the agenda was changed so that item 4.2 [Biodiversity Protection Policy Update] was considered prior to item 4.1. [Options for zero-carbon new buildings].

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 meetings held April 26, 2022 and July 26, 2022.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS

4.1 Options for zero-carbon new buildings

The Committee, by unanimous consent, recessed the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and reconvened at 2:30 p.m.

Jennifer Aldcroft, Climate Change Specialist, provided a presentation on options for zero carbon new buildings in North Cowichan. The Committee considered timelines and what action/s should be taken in anticipation of the Province's next update to the BC Building Code to introduce a carbon pollution standard.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED:

THAT the Environmental Advisory Committee recommend that Council direct staff to conduct a review of Building Bylaw No. 3172 and the BC Energy Step Code Rebate Policy once the BC Building Code update is released, to ensure alignment with the updates and the implementation schedule of the Energy Step Code and Carbon Pollution Standard.

CARRIED

4.2 Biodiversity Protection Policy Update

Dr. Dave Preikshot provided a verbal update on the status of the Biodiversity Policy and shared a schedule from Diamond Head Consulting which includes two parts; an Assessment report and a policy report. The process will include a public engagement portion with residents and separate conversations with First Nations.

4.3 End of Term Recognition of the Environmental Advisory Committee Members

The Chair thanked members of the committee for their service to the community and support for Council, including their contribution to the Master Transportation Plan, the Official Community Plan and the Climate Action and Energy Plan.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 3:19 p.m.

Certified by Recording Secretary

Signed by Chair;