



# City of Pitt Meadows

## Committee Orientation Manual

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**City of Pitt Meadows  
Committee Orientation  
Manual**



# Table of Contents

Welcome .....	2
Definitions .....	3
Guiding Principles .....	4
Relevant Bylaws & Policies .....	5
Terms of Reference .....	6
Other Resources .....	6
Roles & Responsibilities .....	7
Meetings .....	9
Meeting Best Practices.....	12
Conflict of Interest.....	13
Motions .....	13
Engagement and Priorities Committee (EPC) .....	15
List of Appendices.....	16
City Committee Policy C102.....	17
Part 4 of Council Procedure Bylaw [Council Proceedings] No. 2939, 2023.....	33
2023 - 2026 Corporate Strategic Plan .....	61
Respectful Workplace Policy A056 .....	63
Division 6 of the Community Charter [Conflict of Interest] .....	77
Charing a Committee Meeting .....	81
Information Access & Privacy Protection Policy A043 .....	88
Records Management & Privacy Protection Employment Agreement .....	100
Consent to Disclosure of Personal Information .....	102
Fundamental Principles of Debate .....	103

## Welcome

Welcome to your role as a committee member with the City of Pitt Meadows! We are grateful for your willingness to volunteer your time and to provide guidance and advice to Council on key priorities.

This manual is designed to provide you with the basic information required to fulfill your duties as a member of a City committee. You'll find information regarding the City's committee model, roles and responsibilities of committee members, how committee meetings work, how to vote on motions, links to relevant bylaws and policies, and other important information that will guide you in your new role.

If, at any time, you require assistance, clarification, or would like to provide feedback, please feel free to contact us.

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## Definitions

Here is a list of definitions that you might find helpful in your volunteer work with the City.

Term	Definition
AAC	Agricultural Advisory Committee
ADP	Advisory Design Panel
Agenda	The list of items and order of business for a meeting
BoV	Board of Variance
CAO	Chief Administrative Officer (City Manager)
Chair	The person presiding at a meeting
City	The City of Pitt Meadows
City Hall	The City of Pitt Meadows City Hall, located at 12007 Harris Road, Pitt Meadows, BC
Committee	A select committee, statutory committee, advisory committee, task force or round table established by the City of Pitt Meadows
Committee Clerk	The staff member assigned to provide administrative support to a committee
CRC TF	Council Remuneration Citizen Task Force
CSA TF	Community Service Awards Task Force
CSAC	Community Support & Accessibility Committee
Council Liaison	The Council member assigned by the Mayor to participate as a non-voting member of a committee
EPC	The Engagement & Priorities Committee which is a committee of the whole of City Council. City Committees engage with Council through the EPC
EDAC	Economic Development Advisory Committee
Public Notice Posting Places	The notice board located in the lobby area of City Hall, as well as the City's website. This is where notifications and materials pertaining to City committee meetings are posted.
PMDAC	Pitt Meadows Day Advisory Committee
PRC	Parks, Recreation, & Culture Advisory Committee
Quorum	The majority of voting members appointed to a committee
Staff Liaison	The staff member assigned to assist a committee in a non-voting, advisory and resource capacity
Terms of Reference or "TOR"	A guiding document that defines how each City committee operates, their mandate, and the bylaws and policies to which they must adhere.

# Guiding Principles

As committee members, it is expected that you will adhere to the City's Vision, Values, and Mission statements as outlined below. It's our hope that all members assuming a role on a committee will do so with the belief that their role is akin to that of an extended team/staff member.

## Vision, Values & Mission Statement

### Vision

- Pitt Meadows Proud

### Values

- Trust
- Respectful and accountable leadership
- Openness and accessibility
- Community pride and spirit
- Excellence in service
- Environmental stewardship
- Courage

### Mission Statement

- To maintain a friendly, safe and healthy community that values people, honours heritage, where all citizens are welcomed and growth is balanced with the protection of our natural place and quality of life.

## Strategic Priorities

Committees are encouraged to leverage the City's **Corporate Strategic Plan** as a framework for prioritizing projects, allocating budget, and developing short-term goals.

The Strategic Priorities for the 2023-2026 Council Term are:

1. Principled Governance
2. Balanced Economic Prosperity
3. Community Spirit and Wellbeing
4. Infrastructure
5. Corporate Pride
6. Public Safety

A copy of the full Strategic Plan has been included in **Appendix 3**.

## Relevant Bylaws & Policies

While serving on a City committee, you participate in representing the City and its values. As an extension of the City's leadership, committee members are expected to abide by the bylaws and policies of the City, including the following regulations that are particularly relevant to committee work. Please take the time to read these reference documents and familiarize yourself with their governance principles and guidelines for general conduct. Although we've included reference copies of these important documents in the appendices, they are amended from time to time and the most recent versions can always be found on the City's website at [pittmeadows.ca/city-hall/bylaws-policies](http://pittmeadows.ca/city-hall/bylaws-policies).

### 1. City Committees Policy C102 (Appendix 1)

The City Committees Policy outlines the structure and procedures for the governance and function of the City's committees. In this policy, you will find protocol and procedures for the following:

- Types of committees established by the City;
- Process for establishing committees;
- Recruitment procedures;
- General conduct and governance principles;
- Reporting structure and procedures for various committees;
- Orientation and training of committee members; and
- Roles and responsibilities.

### 2. Part 4 [*Council Proceedings*] of the Council Procedure Bylaw (Appendix 2)

Committee meetings will be conducted in a respectful, orderly and business-like manner, following the procedural rules for conduct, motions, debate, and voting as outlined in Part 4 [*Council proceedings*] of Council's Procedure Bylaw.

### 3. Respectful Workplace Policy A056 (Appendix 4)

Committee members must not engage in any behavior that could be reasonably interpreted as discriminatory, bullying, or harassing in nature, or defamatory towards others or the City, in any context including in person, online, through email, or in print. While robust debate and conflicting opinions can be a healthy component of a democratic body, such discussions should occur in a respectful manner that reflects professional conduct. Please familiarize yourself with the main concepts and expectations outlined in the City's Respectful Workplace Policy.

### 4. Information Access & Privacy Protection Policy A043 (Appendix 7)

The City is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the "Act") and is committed to the responsible management of personal and confidential information within the City's custody and control. Policy A043 outlines the policies and procedures in place to prevent the unauthorized collection, use or disclosure of personal information.

Committee members are responsible for reading and understanding this Policy, following the City's individual privacy policies and protocols and contacting the Privacy Officer with any access or privacy questions when necessary.

Additionally, all City committee members are required to read and sign:

- (1) the *Records Management & Privacy Protection Employment Agreement (Appendix 8)* to ensure they understand their roles and responsibilities in the protection of personal information; and
- (2) the *Consent to Disclosure of Personal Information (Appendix 9)* which provides your consent for the recording and livestreaming of electronic committee meetings.

## Terms of Reference

A committee's Terms of Reference ("TOR") is a guiding document unique to that committee that outlines its mandate, authority, operational procedures, membership details, and relevant bylaws and policies for its governance.

When you begin your term on a committee, you will receive a welcome email which will include a copy of your committee's TOR\*, with the exception of round tables. Please familiarize yourself with this important guiding document, as it will help you in your committee role.

Due to their brief nature, round tables do not require TOR's. The mandate of a Round Table will be shared with the public through the advertising process, with the meeting procedures and any other relevant details to be explained at the beginning of the session.

*\* The establishing bylaw of a statutory committee (e.g. Board of Variance) will operate as the committee's Terms of Reference.*

## Other Resources

### Online Tools

General information regarding the City's various committees, including current and past agendas, minutes, and Terms of Reference, can be found on the City's website by visiting [www.pittmeadows.ca/committees](http://www.pittmeadows.ca/committees).

### Committee Contact Lists

As a Committee member, you will have access to **contact information** for members of your committee. Contact information for non-staff committee members is to be treated as "confidential" information and not shared outside of the committee itself. Committee

members will not use the committee member contact list for personal or non-City related business purposes.

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

### **Role of the Committee**

Committees are responsible for undertaking work referred to them by Council and/or Staff, and working within the guidelines and mandate outlined in their TOR. Committees provide information and well-considered recommendations to Council and/or staff on issues of concern that fall within the committee's mandate.

With few exceptions (e.g. Board of Variance and the Community Service Awards Task Force), committees do not have the authority to make decisions on behalf of the City, but instead operate in an advisory capacity to Council and/or staff. Committee recommendations are forwarded to staff and/or Council, as defined in the TOR, for consideration and approval. When a recommendation has been presented, the final decision ultimately falls to Council and/or Staff. Please review your committee's TOR to clearly understand the boundaries of your committee's authority and decision making power.

### **Role of the Committee Member**

Committee members are responsible for:

- attending and actively participating in committee meetings as scheduled;
- preparing for meetings (reading agenda materials prior to meeting);
- engaging in collaborative, respectful discussions relating to topics on the agenda, including sharing thoughts, opinions, and recommendations;
- maintaining an open mind and allowing for a variety of opinions to be heard;
- voting on motions that are put forward by committee members;
- notifying the Chair, Staff Liaison and Committee Clerk if they're unable to attend a scheduled meeting; and
- other duties as outlined in the specific committee's TOR.

Committee members are reminded that attendance is vital to ensure quorum during meetings. Without quorum, the committee is unable to have an official meeting and cannot pass recommendations to Council or Staff.

Committee members will maintain a standard of professional and respectful communication in all their interactions associated with the City. This includes in person conversations, online interactions and social media posts, and all written correspondence. Committee members will not post derogatory, defamatory, or otherwise inappropriate comments about the City, its work, or any persons associated with or employed by the City. Committee members are not designated spokespersons for the City and will therefore not speak on behalf of the City.

### **Role of the Chair**

The Chair of a committee meeting is responsible for:

- facilitating the meeting and maintaining proper proceedings;
- ensuring the committee sticks to the agenda;
- maintaining decorum and respectful discussion;
- encouraging participation in discussion topics and questions;
- being open-minded and allowing for a variety of opinions to be heard;
- calling for votes and/or seeking consensus as applicable; and
- other duties as outlined in the committee's TOR.

### **Role of the Staff Liaison**

Committees are often assigned a Staff Liaison to provide information, professional or technical advice and support as required. A Staff Liaison will support the Chair in their facilitation of committee meetings, including the wording of motions and determining next steps on various agenda items. The Staff Liaison may also provide updates to Council and the CAO on committee activity from time to time.

If your committee has a Staff Liaison, it will be outlined in your TOR with specific details pertaining to their role. Some Staff Liaisons, for example, will chair the committee meetings and be responsible for compiling staff reports for Council's review and approval.

If your committee does not have a Staff Liaison, the Corporate Officer will be your main point of contact for questions or concerns, and will receive any submissions of reports from your committee for Council's or the CAO's review.

### **Role of the Committee Clerk**

Committees are often assigned a Committee Clerk to help with administrative tasks. The Committee Clerk's role typically includes:

- preparing and distributing agendas and minutes to committee members;
- attending meetings and recording minutes;
- posting agendas and minutes to the City's website;
- maintaining the committee's member contact list; and
- various meeting logistics including room bookings and public notices of committee meetings.

If your committee does not have a Committee Clerk assigned by the City, this role will be designated to a committee member at the first committee meeting. Responsibilities of the Clerk will include correspondence with the Corporate Officer to inform the City of the dates and times of meetings, capturing minutes during committee meetings, and other duties as outlined in the TOR.

## Role of the Council Liaison

A Council Liaison may be appointed to your committee as a non-voting member. The Council Liaison serves as a communication channel between Council and the committee to deliver information, both to and from Council, and to provide clarification as required. A Council Liaison's role is not to assess or align with the decisions of a committee, but to act as a conduit of information.

Although the Council Liaison may have ideas and suggestions to share with the committee, and committee members are certainly welcome to ask them questions, their role is often observatory in nature and their engagement during committee meetings will often be less robust than that of voting members of the committee.

# Meetings

## Public Meetings

City committees are held to the same standard of transparency as City Council meetings. As such, committee meetings are open to the public, unless the meeting has been closed in accordance with section 90 [*meetings that may or must be closed to the public*] of the *Community Charter*. An example of a closed meeting would be an Awards Task Force meeting where personal information about individuals is being considered (closed under section 90.1.b).\*

Notification of committee meetings is posted at the public notice posting places as defined through Council's Procedure Bylaw, which are the bulletin board in the City Hall foyer and the City's website.

*\*Any closed committee meetings must be approved in advance by the City's Corporate Officer to ensure legislation is followed and the meeting is properly closed.*

## Schedule of Meetings

Unless otherwise outlined in your committee's TOR, the annual meeting schedule for your committee will be determined by the committee members at the end of each year for the next calendar year.\*

Legislative Services will compile the schedule of all City committees into the annual 'Committee Calendar' which will be shared with all City committee members and posted online at [www.pittmeadows.ca/committees](http://www.pittmeadows.ca/committees) for the public.

*\*As Council and staff members will often sit on more than one committee, Legislative Services will help to coordinate the various committee meeting schedules to limit conflicts.*

## Agendas & Minutes

Agendas will be prepared by the Committee Clerk, in consultation with the Staff Liaison and Committee Chair (*if your committee has not been assigned staff support, please see the highlighted paragraph at the end of this section\**). The goal is to have digital copies of the agenda package to each committee member 72 hours prior to the meeting, and earlier if work schedules allow. Printed copies of the agenda package will be brought to the meeting for each committee member. If you'd like a printed copy in advance, please email your Committee Clerk who will leave a copy at the front Counter at City Hall for you to pick up.

Limited printed copies of agenda packages will be made available to the public on the table below the notice board at City Hall. All committee agendas and minutes (with the exception of closed meetings) will also be made available on the City website at [www.pittmeadows.ca/committees](http://www.pittmeadows.ca/committees).

Minutes from all committee meetings are submitted to Council for review and receipt at the next Engagement and Priorities Committee meeting. This helps to ensure that Council and the public are kept apprised of the activities and recommendations of City committees. In order to ensure a timely delivery of information to Council, the minutes are included on the EPC agenda in draft form, before they are reviewed and adopted by the respective committee. Should there be significant changes to the minutes upon review by the committee, an amended copy will be provided to Council with notes on the changes made.

*\*If your committee does not have staff support, a committee member will be assigned the role of 'Clerk' and will be responsible for preparing and distributing the agendas and minutes for the committee. The Clerk will copy the Corporate Officer on all correspondence, including the distribution of agendas and minutes, to ensure that Council and staff are kept apprised of committee activity. The Corporate Officer will provide the Clerk with templates for drafting agendas and taking minutes.*

## Quorum

A quorum is a simple majority of the voting members appointed to a committee, and is necessary to pass any motions. Specific requirements sometimes apply to certain committees in order to achieve quorum; please see your committee's TOR to confirm. In the event of a lack of quorum after 15 minutes of the start of the meeting, or if quorum is lost during a committee meeting, the committee's official business will cease, staff support will excuse themselves, and committee members will have the choice to leave. The remaining committee members are welcome to continue to engage in discussion, but it will not constitute an official committee meeting and voting cannot take place.

## Chairing a Meeting

The Chair of a committee meeting is the host and facilitator of the meeting. They are responsible for ensuring that the committee sticks to the agenda, remains respectful and professional throughout the meeting, and follows appropriate procedures pertaining to motions and voting. Council members will follow the lead and direction of the Chair, deferring

to their leadership and decisions regarding meeting procedures. The Staff Liaison and Committee Clerk are there to provide support to the Chair as needed.

See **Appendix 6** for the “**Chairing a Committee Meeting**” handout which will provide further specifics around the flow of the meeting, putting motions on the floor, and calling for votes.

## **Agenda Items**

The agenda for most committee meetings will contain the following items, unless otherwise indicated in your committee’s TOR:

- (1) **Call to Order** (formal vote not required)  
The Chair will call the meeting to order as soon after the advertised start time as there is quorum in the room. If quorum has not been reached after 15 minutes, the meeting will be canceled. The committee members present are welcome to still meet for discussion purposes, but it will not constitute an official committee meeting and voting cannot take place.
- (2) **Late Items** (formal vote optional)  
The committee can choose to add late items to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting. The addition of late items requires the general consent of all committee members present. If the Chair is unsure of the consent of all members, they may choose to call for a formal vote on the addition of the late items.
- (3) **Approval of Agenda** (formal vote optional)  
The committee will approve the agenda at the beginning of each meeting either through general consent or a formal vote.
- (4) **Adoption of Minutes** (formal vote optional)  
The committee will review and vote to adopt the draft minutes from their previous meeting. The draft minutes can be approved either through general consent or a formal vote and will be included in the agenda package for the committee’s review in advance of the meeting. If you identify any errors or omissions, please feel free to inform the Committee Clerk in advance of the meeting via email to simplify the process during the actual meeting.
- (5) **New Business** (formal votes may be required)  
The bulk of the agenda will fall under the ‘New Business’ category. If there are decisions or recommendations that come out these business items, a formal vote may be required.
- (6) **Round Table** (formal vote not required)  
This is an opportunity for each committee member to share information that is relevant to the mandate of the committee. Voting is not typically required during Round Table.
- (7) **Adjournment** (formal vote not required)  
The chair will adjourn the meeting once all business items have been addressed.

Committee meetings typically last two (2) hours. If the meeting becomes lengthy, the committee may have the option to defer agenda items until the following committee meeting, unless the agenda items are time sensitive. Your Staff Liaison will be able to provide you information on any time sensitive items.

## Meeting Best Practices

The following points identify best practices to consider when participating on a committee:

(1) **Read agenda packages before the meeting.**

Reviewing the materials in your agenda package in advance of each meeting is crucial. It will give you a sense of the potential impacts that recommended actions may have on the community, and any potential issues surrounding those actions. Understanding the background of an issue will allow you to better represent your community, make informed decisions, and explain your position with confidence.

(2) **Ask questions in advance.**

If you have a question about a matter that is not on the agenda (or perhaps it's regarding an agenda item but it relates to technical details), connect with the Committee Chair or Staff Liaison before the meeting. If you ask your questions during the meeting without prior notice, staff may not have the resources on hand to provide a clear and concise answer. Asking questions in advance of the meeting will provide Staff with the necessary time to do their homework and better prepare for the conversation.

(3) **Be respectful of time.**

Time is precious. Make every effort to follow and stick to the agenda provided. Treat the agenda as a contract between you and the rest of the committee members.

(4) **Make clear and precise motions.**

In most cases, your motion will be directing some type of action to be taken. Therefore, the wording for a motion should be clear and concise. Take a minute before the meeting or during the discussion to write down your motion. If you cannot easily repeat your motion, there is a good chance that Staff cannot either. If you are not comfortable with the wording of a motion, ask the Staff Liaison to suggest some alternate wording.

*For more information on motions, please refer to the section below titled 'Motions'.*

(5) **Not able to make the meeting?**

Please let the Committee Clerk know when you are going to be absent from a meeting. This will allow for better scheduling of agenda items and will help ensure that quorum can be met. Unless otherwise indicated in the committee's TOR, any member who is absent from three (3) consecutive scheduled meetings, without permission or satisfactory reason, will cease to be a member of the committee.

## Conflict of Interest

Committee members are expected to comply with Division 6 [*conflict of interest*] of the *Community Charter*, pertaining to Conflict of Interest. A copy of this section of the Community Charter is included in **Appendix 5**. Any member who believes that they have a conflict of interest (financial or otherwise) in a matter on the committee agenda will inform the Chair, Staff Liaison, and Committee Clerk of the conflict, either before the meeting commences or before the respective item on the agenda is addressed. The member shall then leave the room for the duration of time taken to consider that item.

There will be items of discussion that impact all committee members (e.g. the Agricultural Advisory Committee, which is comprised of farmers, may be asked to consider City practices pertaining to dike maintenance or invasive species). Such an item would be excused from the definition of 'conflict of interest' in light of the intention of s. 104 of the Community Charter [*exceptions from conflict restrictions*], which recognizes and excuses issues that have a broad community impact.

No member shall use their involvement as a committee member to profit from advance knowledge of City business.

## Motions

There are six main steps to a motion:

- 1. Move.** A member will move the motion by stating,
  - "I move that <inserting motion details>", or
  - "So moved" if the recommended motion was already stated.
- 2. Second.** Another member raises their hand to second the motion by stating
  - "I'll second the motion", or simply
  - "Second".
- 3. State.** The Chair states the motion and confirms what has been moved/seconded (e.g. "It is moved and seconded that <repeat motion>").
- 4. Debate.** The Chair then opens the floor for discussion and debate. Raise your hand to signal to the Chair that you would like to speak. The Chair will call on committee members in the order in which they raise their hands. You can share your thoughts for or against the motion.
- 5. Vote.** Once everyone has shared their thoughts, the Chair will then put the motion to a vote by stating,
  - "I will now call the question on the motion: All in favour?" [Those voting in the affirmative will raise their hands]

- “Opposed?” [Those voting in the negative will raise their hands]

*\*It is important that all members clearly indicate their vote by raising their hand. Those who do not raise their hands are counted as voting in the affirmative.*

6. **Declare.** The Chair will then declare the results of the vote by stating,
  - “That carries”, or
  - “The motion is defeated”.

## Main Committee Motions

The two most common committee motions are to ‘recommend’ and to ‘support’.

- (1) **Motion to Recommend.** If you wish to make a recommendation to Council, your motion would begin as follows:

*I move that the Committee recommend to Council that...*

- (2) **Motion to Support.** If a committee wishes to convey their support of a project or initiative, your motion would begin as follows:

*I move that the Committee support the...*

## Voting

All voting members of a committee are expected to vote on all motions called by the Chair, as per section 21 [voting at meetings] of the Council Procedure Bylaw. If a member chooses to abstain from voting, they are counted as if voting in the affirmative.

Unless otherwise stipulated in your committee’s TOR, a majority of members must vote in the affirmative for a motion to be carried. If less than half the members present vote in the affirmative, the motion is considered defeated. Tie votes (i.e. exactly 50% of members in attendance) are also considered defeated.

## Engagement and Priorities Committee (EPC)

The Engagement and Priorities Committee (“EPC”) is a standing committee of the whole of Council. EPC meetings provide Council with the opportunity to have a direct connection with City committees to hear recommendations and to discuss matters that are aligned with Council’s strategic priorities.

City committees engage with the EPC in the following ways:

- (1) **Committee Minutes.** Draft minutes from all committee meetings are submitted for Council’s review and receipt through an EPC agenda. The minutes will be included under section F – Committee Minutes and Reports. This ensures that Council stays apprised of the activities and initiatives of all City committees.
- (2) **Community Engagement.** Committee members are welcome to attend EPC meetings to engage Council on any of the items on the EPC agenda, including committee minutes. The Committee Chair, for instance, may choose to attend an EPC to give a verbal explanation, or to promote any resolutions or recommendations that were passed by the Committee.

For each agenda item, once Council and Staff have had the opportunity to discuss the topic as presented, the Chair of the meeting will open the floor for community dialogue. Each guest has the opportunity to engage Council for a maximum of three (3) minutes. Questions or comments must pertain to the current agenda item and will not be permitted on items not yet presented or not on the agenda.

Further guidelines pertaining to Community Engagement during EPC meetings can be found online at <https://www.pittmeadows.ca/city-hall/council/council-meetings> by clicking on ‘Engagement & Priorities Committee Meetings’.

- (3) **Annual Reports.** City committees will also have the opportunity to present to Council at an Engagement and Priorities Committee meeting each year, providing an update on the committee’s accomplishments, activities, upcoming initiatives, and recommendations. If the committee or Staff Liaison think there’s value in such a presentation, the Staff Liaison will work with the Chair to coordinate the presentation.
- (4) **Business Planning.** Committees with a financial impact will also have the opportunity to present to Council during the annual business planning process at a regular meeting of Council. This will most likely occur through the Staff Liaison as part of their departmental presentation, but committee members may choose to attend and contribute to the presentation as well. A summary of each City Committee’s plans and initiatives for the upcoming year will be incorporated into the annual business planning process, with financial impacts reflected in the respective departmental budgets.

## List of Appendices

- 1) City Committees Policy C102
- 2) Part 4 of Council Procedure Bylaw [Council Proceedings] No. 2939, 2023
- 3) 2023-2026 Corporate Strategic Plan
- 4) Respectful Workplace Policy A056
- 5) Division 6 of Community Charter [Conflict of Interest]
- 6) Chairing a Committee Meeting
- 7) Information Access & Privacy Protection Policy A043
- 8) Records Management & Privacy Protection Employment Agreement
- 9) Consent to Disclosure of Personal Information
- 10) Fundamental Principles of Debate

## City Committees

Effective Date: September 10, 2019

Last Revised: September 26, 2023

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### 1. Policy Statement

As part of its commitment to open government and citizen engagement, the City of Pitt Meadows establishes committees to provide expert and/or community advice to Council and Staff on a variety of topics, issues, and initiatives.

### 2. Purpose

This Policy provides a framework and protocol for the appropriate governance and function of the City's committees, including: an overview of the types of committees established by the City; how committees are established; standardized terms of reference; recruitment procedures; orientation and training for committee members; and annual acknowledgement of committee members.

### 3. Scope

This Policy applies to all select committees, statutory committees, advisory committees, task forces, and round tables established by the City.

### 4. Exclusions

This Policy does not apply to Council's standing committees, committees of the whole of Council, working groups established by City departments, or staff committees.

### 5. Policy

#### 5.1 Definitions

- a) "CAO" means the Chief Administrative Officer for the City.
- b) "City" means the City of Pitt Meadows.
- c) "Committee Clerk" means the person assigned by the Corporate Officer to provide clerical support to a committee including the production and maintenance of agenda and minutes, and other administrative support.



- d) “**Corporate Officer**” means the Corporate Officer for the City of Pitt Meadows or their designate.
- e) “**Council Liaison**” means a member of the Pitt Meadows City Council appointed as a member to a committee by the Mayor, to attend committee meetings and provide updates to Council on committee activities and recommendations.
- f) “**EPC**” means the Engagement and Priorities Committee which is a committee of the whole of Council, with the mandate to facilitate two-way dialogue between Council, the community and City committees, while focusing on the City’s strategic priorities.
- g) “**Establishing body**” means the role or group that is responsible for making the decision to establish a new City committee, typically Council or the CAO.
- h) “**Policy**” means the City Committees Council Policy C102.
- i) “**Staff Liaison**” means the staff member assigned by the CAO to assist a committee in a non-voting, advisory and resource capacity.
- j) “**Terms of Reference**” or “**TOR**” means a guiding document that defines how each City committee operates, including their mandate, membership, and terms.

## 5.2 Establishment of a Committee

- a) The City may establish the following types of committees:
  - (1) **Select Committee**

In accordance with s. 142 of the *Community Charter*, a select committee is established by Council to consider or inquire into any matter and to report its findings and opinions to Council. At least one member of Council must sit on a select committee.

Established by: Council.

Appointments: Recommended by the CAO and confirmed by Council.



(2) **Statutory Committee**

A statutory committee is a committee required by, or prescribed by, legislation (e.g. Board of Variance).

Established by: Council.

Appointments: Recommended by the CAO and confirmed by Council.

(3) **Advisory Committee**

An advisory committee is formed when Council or Staff identify issues or processes that require ongoing community input, or where input, guidance, or feedback is deemed necessary or desirable for the improved delivery of a City service.

Established by: Council or the CAO. Often determined by whether the committee's focus is at a policy or operational level.

Appointments: Approved by the CAO, regardless of establishing body.

(4) **Task Force**

A Task Force is formed when Council or Staff identify a specific issue or initiative and seek input from a cross-section of residents. Task Forces exist for a limited time period sufficient to complete the assigned task.

Established by: Council or the CAO.

Appointments: Approved by the CAO, regardless of establishing body.

(5) **Round Table**

A Round Table is an open forum to which all members of the community are invited to provide input and feedback on a specific topic. Round Tables can be scheduled by Council, the CAO, or staff as deemed necessary and/or helpful for the improved delivery of a municipal service. Round Tables typically meet once to fulfill their mandate.

Established by: Council, CAO, or other staff.

Appointments: Open to the public; no appointments necessary.



### 5.3 Committee List

- a) A list of all current City committees is contained in Appendix B and will be updated by the Corporate Officer as required.

### 5.4 Terms of Reference

- a) Subject to subsections (e) and (f), Terms of Reference (TOR) will be established for all committees which will outline the committee's mandate, operating procedures, and key roles and responsibilities.
- b) A committee's TOR will be in a standardized form as approved by the CAO and will typically include the following sections:
  - (1) Name of the committee;
  - (2) Establishment & Quorum;
  - (3) Mandate;
  - (4) Membership;
  - (5) Term;
  - (6) Budget; and
  - (7) Technical Recommendations.
- c) For select and statutory committees, TOR's will be recommended by the CAO and approved by Council. For all other committees, TOR's will be recommended by the relevant staff involved with the committee, and approved by the CAO. A summary of the establishing and approving bodies for the various types of City committees is included in Appendix A.
- d) The requirements and conditions outlined in a committee's TOR will take precedence over any discrepant provisions of this Policy.
- e) Due to their brief nature, Round Tables do not require a TOR. The mandate of a Round Table will be shared with the public through the advertising process, with the meeting procedures and any other relevant details to be explained at the beginning of the session.
- f) The establishing bylaw of a statutory committee (e.g. Board of Variance) will operate as the committee's TOR and will vary from the standardized TOR form as approved by the CAO.

## 5.5 Recruitment Procedures

The Committee Clerk will conduct an annual recruitment process for all City committees, which may include, but is not limited to the following steps:

- a) **Membership Review.** A review of all committees will be initiated in the first quarter of each year to identify committee members whose terms are coming due that calendar year. The respective committee members will be advised by email of their term end date and provided instructions on how to reapply to the committee should they be interested.
- b) **Advertising.** Opportunities for committee involvement will be broadly advertised so that any citizen who is interested may apply. Advertisements will run in the local newspaper with relevant details provided, including committee vacancies and the application process. Advertising will also occur on the City's website and through the City's social media channels.
- c) **Application Form.** Interested community members will be directed to the City's committee webpage where they can apply for vacant positions using the online application form. If requested, printed copies of the application form will be provided. The application form will gather pertinent information to the recruitment process (e.g. name, contact information, interest in the committee, experience related to the committee, confirmation of time commitment and availability, and brief summary of relevant experience). A standard 'Notice of Collection' will appear on the application form in accordance with FIPPA S.26.
- d) **Compilation of Applications.** All committee applications will be compiled by the Committee Clerk and provided to the CAO and relevant staff for initial deliberations. Where Council is the approving body for a committee's membership (see Appendix A), recommendations will be forwarded to Council through a closed staff report (as per section 90.1.a of the Community Charter) for review and approval.
- e) **Letters of Acceptance and Declination.** Once member appointments are approved by the appropriate authority, the Committee Clerk will prepare and distribute letters of acceptance and declination to all committee applicants as appropriate.



- f) **Referrals.** At times, appointments to committees are made by an external organization (e.g. the Architecture Institute of BC may appoint members to the Advisory Design Panel).
- g) **FIPPA.** All applications received by the City for committee membership, and materials related to the appointment process, including deliberations and discussions regarding appointments, are protected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The names of the individuals appointed to City committees will be public information and published from time to time, including in committee minutes and shared with Council through consent agenda updates, as required.
- h) **Mid-Year Recruitment.** If a new committee is established mid-year, or committee vacancies arise that require immediate attention, additional recruitment cycles may be initiated throughout the year.

## 5.6 Appointments and Terms

- a) The appointing authority for the various committees is outlined in Appendix A and confirmed in each committee's TOR.
- b) The number of positions and the length of member terms will vary between committees and will be outlined in each committee's TOR.
- c) Appointment of membership will strive to reflect the diversity of the community with experience, knowledge, and expertise applicable to each committee taken into consideration.
- d) Committee stability and membership continuity will be taken into account when considering re-appointments of committee members for consecutive terms, and weighed against the value of recruiting new members with diverse and fresh perspectives.

## 5.7 Authority of a Committee

- a) With few exceptions (e.g. Board of Variance and Community Service Awards Task Force), committees do not have the authority to make decisions on behalf of the City, but instead operate in an advisory capacity to Council and/or staff.



- b) Members will not misrepresent themselves as having any authority beyond that delegated to them through their TOR and this policy.
- c) Committees will not advise on any matter outside their scope and mandate as outlined in their TOR.
- d) Unless otherwise indicated in their TOR, City committees do not have the authority to communicate with other levels of government, to pledge the credit of the City, or to authorize any expenditure to be charged against the City.

## 5.8 General Conduct & Governance Principles

- a) Committee members will:
  - (1) reside in the City of Pitt Meadows, except as provided in their TOR or bylaw;
  - (2) adhere to the City's values, policies and procedures as relevant and applicable, including but not limited to the:
    - i. Council Strategic Plan;
    - ii. Respectful Workplace Policy (A056);
    - iii. Information Access & Privacy Protection Policy (A043);
    - iv. Records Management Policy (A014);
  - (3) act in an ethical manner in the conduct of their duties;
  - (4) act in a manner which reflects respect for other members, those appearing before the committee, and any staff members in attendance;
  - (5) obtain pre-authorization from their committee's Staff Liaison prior to submitting expense items to the City; and
  - (6) serve without remuneration on a voluntary basis.
- b) Committee meetings will be conducted in a respectful, orderly and business-like manner, following the procedural rules for conduct, motions, debate, and voting as outlined in Part 4 [*Council Proceedings*] of Council's Procedure Bylaw No. 2939, 2023.



- c) Committee members will comply with Division 6 [*conflict of interest*] of the *Community Charter*, as applicable.
- d) Any member who believes that they have a conflict of interest (pecuniary or otherwise) in a matter on the committee agenda will inform the Chair, Staff Liaison, and Committee Clerk of the conflict, either before the meeting commences or before the respective item on the agenda is addressed. The member will then leave the room for the duration of time taken to consider that item.
- e) Committee members will not use the committee member contact list for personal or non-City related business purposes.
- f) Issues and/or concerns from committee members are to be relayed through the committee's Staff Liaison.
- g) No individual shall use their involvement as a committee member to profit from any advance knowledge of a proposed development or sale of land involving the City and its business.
- h) No committee member is authorized to speak directly to the media on any topic under consideration by any committee.

## 5.9 Orientation and Training

- a) The City will coordinate and provide training to all committee members to assist them in their committee roles.
- b) Training will include the following:
  - (1) Provision of a Committee Orientation Manual
  - (2) Overview of the City's governance and committee structure;
  - (3) Information on the basics of how committees operate (e.g. agendas, minutes, recommendations to Council, interface with Engagement and Priorities Committee; motions, voting, etc.)
  - (4) Overview of roles and responsibilities;
  - (5) Overview of available staff support;
  - (6) Review of relevant bylaws, policies, and TOR; and



- (7) Specialized training pertaining to chairing a meeting will be provided to the Chair.

#### **5.10 Dissolution of City Committees**

- a) Committees may be dissolved by their establishing body.

#### **5.11 Committee Member Attendance**

- a) Any member who is absent from three (3) consecutive scheduled meetings, without permission or satisfactory reason, will cease to be a member of the committee.
- b) The Staff Liaison will work with the Committee Clerk to undertake the appropriate process to fill the vacancy.

#### **5.12 Resignation of a Member**

- a) Any member(s) of a committee wishing to resign from the committee is requested to provide the resignation in writing to the Staff Liaison.
- b) The Staff Liaison will work with the Communications department and the Committee Clerk to undertake the appropriate process to fill the vacancy.

#### **5.13 Removal of a Committee Member**

- a) The role or group responsible for approving appointments to a committee (see Appendix A) may remove a committee member for inappropriate conduct, unethical behaviour, lack of attendance, or any other sufficient cause.
- b) The Staff Liaison will work with the Committee Clerk to undertake the appropriate process to fill the vacancy.

#### **5.14 Reporting Procedures**

- a) The Engagement and Priorities Committee (“EPC”) is the body through which City committees may interact with Council.
- b) To ensure Council and the public are kept apprised of the activities and recommendations of City committees, all minutes of committees established by Council or the CAO will be submitted to Council for



information through an EPC agenda. These minutes may be in draft or adopted form.

- c) Committee minutes may be added to a Council meeting agenda instead of an EPC agenda if an EPC meeting has been canceled or the receipt by Council of the committee minutes is of a timely matter and should not wait until the next EPC meeting.
- d) As per section 33 of Council's Procedure Bylaw [*reports from committees*], recommendations put forward by a committee to Council or the EPC may be addressed in a number of ways. For example, Council may:
  - (1) agree or disagree with the recommendation;
  - (2) refer the recommendation back to the committee or staff for further research, analysis, or reconsideration;
  - (3) postpone consideration of the recommendation; or
  - (4) address the recommendation in an alternate matter, as resolved by the EPC.
- e) Select committees and advisory committees established by Council or the CAO will have the opportunity, as deemed valuable or appropriate by the committee and/or the Staff Liaison, to present to Council at an Engagement and Priorities Committee meeting each year, providing an update on their accomplishments, activities, upcoming initiatives, and recommendations. The Staff Liaison will work with the committee to coordinate the presentation.
- f) A summary of each City Committee's plans and initiatives for the upcoming year will be incorporated into the annual business planning process, with financial impacts reflected in the respective departmental budgets. Committees will be given the opportunity, where desired, to address Council during the annual budget presentations.
- g) Task Forces will submit a report to their establishing body upon completion of their mandate.

### 5.15 Committee Meetings

- a) City Committees will meet in accordance with the annual committee calendar distributed each year.



- b) Agendas and minutes will be coordinated and managed by the Committee Clerk.
- c) In the event that a committee meeting does not achieve or has lost quorum, the Committee meeting will be adjourned. If desired, the committee members may continue with an informal discussion with or without the Staff Liaison.
- d) The following agenda outline is generally prescribed for City committees, with modifications as approved by the committee Chair:
  - (1) Call to Order;
  - (2) Late Items;
  - (3) Approval of Agenda;
  - (4) Adoption of Minutes;
  - (5) New Business;
  - (6) Round Table; and
  - (7) Adjournment.
- e) With the approval of the Staff Liaison, a committee member may propose a delegation by an external agency or persons in order to benefit from additional expertise. While these individuals are able to participate in discussion, they are not considered a voting member.
- f) Committee meetings are open to the public unless the meeting has been closed in accordance with section 90 of the *Community Charter*.
- g) Public participation is permitted during open committee meetings at the discretion of the Chair. Guests must adhere to the topics presented on the agenda.
- h) The Chair is responsible for preserving order during the meeting. If the Chair considers that another person at the meeting is acting improperly or disrupting the meeting, that person's behavior will be addressed. The Chair may order the person expelled and excluded from the meeting should the person choose to not adhere to the decisions of the Chair.

### 5.16 Committee Recognition

The City appreciates and respects the time and dedication required of all committee members. Volunteers will be recognized for their contributions

annually at an appreciation event, as determined appropriate and coordinated by the City.

### 5.17 Roles and Responsibilities

- a) **Council** and the **CAO** are responsible for the establishment of committees and the appointment of committee members as defined in Appendix A.
- b) The **Mayor** is an ex-officio, non-voting member of all committees and is not obligated to attend meetings.
- c) **Council Liaisons** may be appointed by the Mayor as voting or non-voting members of a committee. The Council Liaison serves as a communication channel between Council and the committee to deliver information and provide clarification as required.
- d) The **Corporate Officer** is responsible for the overall maintenance of this Policy and the operational oversight of City committees, including: recruitment processes; production and management of committee agendas, minutes and other official records; annual volunteer recognition event; and orientation and training of committee members.
- e) The **Chair** will be appointed by the CAO for all City committees with the exception of the Board of Variance which will be voted on by the Board of Variance members themselves and is responsible for:
  - (1) facilitating the meeting and maintaining proper proceedings;
  - (2) ensuring the committee adheres to the agenda;
  - (3) maintaining decorum and respectful discussion;
  - (4) encouraging participation in discussion topics and questions;
  - (5) being open-minded and allowing for a variety of opinions to be heard;
  - (6) calling for votes and/or seeking consensus as applicable.
  - (7) other duties as outlined in the committee's TOR.
- f) **Committee Members** are responsible for:
  - (1) attending and actively participating in committee meetings as scheduled;

- (2) being prepared for meetings (reading agenda materials prior to meeting);
  - (3) engaging in collaborative, respectful discussions relating to topics on the agenda, including sharing thoughts, opinions, and recommendations;
  - (4) maintaining an open mind and allowing for a variety of opinions to be heard;
  - (5) voting on motions that are put forward by committee members;
  - (6) familiarize themselves with the Committee's Terms of Reference and other pertinent City bylaws and policies;
  - (7) notifying the Chair, Staff Liaison and Committee Clerk if they are unable to attend a scheduled meeting.
- g) A **Staff Liaison** may be appointed by the CAO as a non-voting member of a committee. The Staff Liaison will provide information, professional advice and support to the committee as required. The Staff Liaison may be assigned the role of Chair for a committee.
- h) A **Committee Clerk** may be assigned by the CAO, in consultation with the Corporate Officer, as a non-voting member of a committee. The Committee Clerk will act as the recording secretary and provide clerical support, including production and maintenance of agendas and minutes, and other administrative support.

## 6. Related Policies and Bylaws

Council Strategic Plan

Council Procedure Bylaw No. 2939, 2023

Respectful Workplace Policy (A056)

Records Management Policy (C014)

Information Access & Privacy Protection Policy (A043)

Establishing & Appointing Authorities

Committee	Committee Established by	TOR Recommended by	TOR Approved by	Appointments Recommended by	Appointments Approved by
Select Committees	Council	CAO	Council	CAO	Council
Statutory Committees	Council	CAO	Council	CAO	Council
Advisory Committees	Council or CAO	Staff	CAO	Staff	CAO
Task Forces	Council or CAO	Staff	CAO	Staff	CAO
Round Tables	Council, CAO or Staff	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

**List of City Committees\***

As of May 6, 2025

Committee	Type	End Date	# Voting Seats	Length of Terms
Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC)	Advisory	Ongoing	Up to 11	3 years
Advisory Design Panel (ADP)	Advisory	Ongoing	5 – 11	2 years
Board of Variance (BOV)	Statutory	Ongoing	3	3 years
Community Service Awards Task Force (CSA TF)	Task Force	Ongoing	Up to 5	3 years
Community Support & Accessibility Committee (CSAC)	Advisory	Ongoing	*Please refer to TOR	*Please refer to TOR
Council Remuneration Citizen Task Force	Task Force	February 2026	Up to 7	5 months
Economic Development Advisory Committee [EDAC]	Advisory	Ongoing	Up to 11	1 or 2 years
Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee [PRC]	Advisory	Ongoing	Up to 7	2 or 3 years
Pitt Meadows Day Advisory Committee	Advisory	Ongoing	Up to 11	2 or 3 years

\* For a listing of all Committees inclusive of time-durated Task Forces and Round Tables, please visit [pittmeadows.ca/committees](http://pittmeadows.ca/committees)

**CITY OF PITT MEADOWS**  
**COUNCIL PROCEDURE BYLAW**  
**Bylaw No. 2939, 2023**

A bylaw to establish the rules of procedure for City Council, its standing and select committees, and other advisory committees of the City.

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**PART 1 – INTRODUCTION**

1.	Citation/Title .....	3
2.	Repeal .....	3
3.	Definitions .....	3
4.	Application of Rules of Procedure.....	4
5.	Suspension of Rules .....	5

**PART 2 - COUNCIL MEETINGS**

6.	Inaugural Meeting.....	5
7.	Time and Location of Meetings .....	5
8.	Notice of Council Meetings .....	6
9.	Notice of Special Meetings.....	7
10.	Electronic Meetings .....	7
11.	Electronic Participation at Hybrid Meetings.....	7

**PART 3 - DESIGNATION OF MEMBER TO ACT IN PLACE OF MAYOR**

12.	Acting Mayor.....	8
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**PART 4 - COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

13.	Community Charter Provisions.....	9
14.	Public Meetings .....	9
15.	Calling Meeting to Order.....	10
16.	No Quorum .....	10
17.	Agenda .....	10
18.	Notice of Motion.....	11
19.	Order of Business.....	11
20.	Late Items.....	13
21.	Public Engagement.....	13
22.	Consent Agenda .....	13
23.	Voting at Meetings.....	14
24.	Delegations.....	15
25.	Points of Order.....	15
26.	Conduct and Debate .....	15
27.	Conflict of Interest.....	17
28.	Motions Generally.....	17
29.	Motion for Main Question.....	18
30.	Amendments Generally .....	19

31. Reconsideration ..... 20  
32. Privilege ..... 20  
33. Reports from Committees ..... 21  
34. Adjournment ..... 21  
35. Minutes ..... 21  
36. Minutes of Other Committees ..... 22

**PART 5 – BYLAWS**

37. Copies to Council Members ..... 22  
38. Form of Bylaws ..... 22  
39. Consideration Separately or Jointly ..... 23  
40. Reading and Adopting Bylaws ..... 23  
41. Signing of Bylaws ..... 24

**PART 6 – ENGAGEMENT & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE**

42. EPC Terms of Reference ..... 24  
43. EPC Meetings ..... 25  
44. Notice of EPC Meeting ..... 25  
45. Chair of EPC Meeting ..... 25  
46. EPC Meeting Conduct and Debate ..... 25

**PART 7 – OTHER COMMITTEES**

47. Standing Committees ..... 26  
48. Select and Other Advisory Committees ..... 26  
49. Attendance, Debate and Voting ..... 27

**WHEREAS** Council is required to enact a Procedure Bylaw, pursuant to the *Community Charter*, to establish the general procedures to be followed by Council and their committees in conducting their business;

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the City of Pitt Meadows enacts as follows:

## **PART I – INTRODUCTION**

### **1. Citation/Title**

- 1.1 This bylaw may be cited as the ‘Council Procedure Bylaw No. 2939, 2023.’

### **2. Repeal**

- 2.1 Council Procedure Bylaw No. 2834, 2019 and its amendments are repealed.

### **3. Definitions**

- 3.1 In this bylaw:

- a) **“Acting Mayor”** means the member appointed or selected by Council to act in the absence of the Mayor.
- b) **“Agenda”** means the list of items and order of business for a meeting.
- c) **“CAO”** means the Chief Administrative Officer for the City.
- d) **“Chair”** means the person presiding at a meeting.
- e) **“City”** means the City of Pitt Meadows.
- f) **“City Hall”** means Pitt Meadows City Hall located at 12007 Harris Road, Pitt Meadows, British Columbia.
- g) **“City website”** means the information resource found at an internet address provided by the City.
- h) **“Committee”** means a standing, select or other committee of Council, excluding the Engagement and Priorities Committee.
- i) **“Corporate Officer”** means the Corporate Officer for the City.
- j) **“Council”** means the Council of the City of Pitt Meadows.
- k) **“Electronic meeting”** means a meeting where all attendees participate electronically. (Bylaw No. 2904, 2021)

- l) **“Electronic participation”** means the electronic participation of one or more attendees at an in-person meeting. (Bylaw No. 2904, 2021)
- m) **“EPC”** means Engagement and Priorities Committee, which is a committee of the whole of Council.
- n) **“General consent”** means an informal way of taking a vote, used only for routine and non-controversial decisions, usually of a procedural nature, e.g. “Is there any objection to extending the time for this speaker by two minutes? Seeing no objection, the time is so extended.”
- o) **“Hybrid meeting”** means a meeting where some members are attending in-person and some members are attending electronically. (Bylaw No. 2904, 2021)
- p) **“Mayor”** means the Mayor of the City.
- q) **“Member”** means a member of Council.
- r) **“Meeting schedule”** means the annually published schedule of regular Council meetings and EPC meetings.
- s) **“Point of order”** is the raising of a question by a member to call attention to any departure from procedures established in the Procedure Bylaw.
- t) **“Public notice posting places”** means the notice board located in the City Hall lobby area and the City website.
- u) **“Quorum”** means:
  - (i) For a meeting of Council, the EPC or a standing committee, a majority of its members;
  - (ii) For all other committee meetings, as defined within that committee’s Terms of Reference.
- v) **“Unanimous”** means all members of Council.

#### 4. Application of Rules of Procedure

- 4.1 The provisions of this bylaw govern the proceedings of Council, the Engagement and Priorities Committee (“EPC”), and all other standing, select, and advisory committees of Council, as applicable.
- 4.2 In cases not provided for under this bylaw, the most recently published edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR) applies to the proceedings of Council, EPC, standing committees, and other advisory committees to the extent that those rules are:
  - a) applicable in the circumstances;

- b) not inconsistent with provisions of this bylaw; and
  - c) not inconsistent with the *Community Charter* or other applicable enactments.
- 4.3 The failure of Council to observe the provisions of this bylaw will not affect the validity of resolutions passed or bylaws enacted by Council as long as they are not contrary to any Act or other statute.
- 4.4 If any portion of this bylaw is held to be invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity does not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this bylaw.
- 4.5 A reference to any statute, regulation, bylaw or other enactment refers to that enactment as it may be amended or replaced from time to time.

## 5. Suspension of Rules

- 5.1 Any one or more of these procedures may be temporarily suspended by general consent or a majority vote of members present, except procedures which:
- a) require a unanimous vote of Council; or
  - b) cannot be suspended without violating the provisions of the *Community Charter* or the *Local Government Act*.

## PART 2 – COUNCIL MEETINGS

### 6. Inaugural Meeting

- 6.1 Following a general local election, the first Council meeting will be held on the first Tuesday in November in the year of the election.
- 6.2 In accordance with section 125(2) of the *Community Charter [Council meetings]*, if a quorum of Council members elected at the general local election has not taken office by the date of the meeting referred to in section 6.1, the first Council meeting must be called by the Corporate Officer and held as soon as reasonably possible after a quorum has taken office.

### 7. Time and Location of Meetings

- 7.1 Subject to section 7.2, Council meetings will take place within City Hall.

- 7.2 Council may meet at a location other than City Hall, provided that notice of the alternate location is posted at the public notice posting places in accordance with this bylaw.
- 7.3 Regular Council meetings will:
- a) be held on Tuesday evenings in accordance with the annual meeting schedule as approved by Council each year;
  - b) be held approximately twice monthly, except during the month of August;
  - c) begin at 7:00 P.M.; and
  - d) be adjourned by 11:00 P.M. on the day scheduled for the meeting, unless Council resolves to proceed beyond that time as per section 34.
- 7.4 Despite section 7.3, the Mayor or Chair of a Council meeting, in consultation with the CAO, may:
- a) cancel a regular Council meeting if they determine there is insufficient business to convene the meeting, provided that two consecutive meetings are not canceled; or
  - b) reschedule a regular Council meeting to a different day, time and/or place.

## **8. Notice of Council Meetings**

- 8.1 In accordance with section 127 of the *Community Charter [notice of Council meetings]*, Council will:
- a) prepare annually, on or before January 31 of each year, a meeting schedule of the dates and times of regular Council and EPC meetings;
  - b) make the meeting schedule available to the public by posting it at the public notice posting places; and
  - c) give notice of the availability of the meeting schedule on or before January 31 of each year, in accordance with section 94 of the *Community Charter [requirements for public notice]*.
- 8.2 Where revisions are necessary to the annual schedule of regular Council meetings, the Corporate Officer will, as soon as possible, post a notice at the public notice posting places which indicates any revisions to the date, time and place or cancellation of a regular Council meeting.

**9. Notice of Special Meetings**

- 9.1 Except where notice of a special meeting is waived by unanimous vote of all Council members under section 127(4) of the *Community Charter [notice of Council meeting]*, the Corporate Officer will give notice of the date, time, and place of a special Council meeting at least 24 hours before the time of the meeting, by:
- a) posting a copy of the notice at the public notice posting places; and
  - b) providing notice to each Council member via email.
- 9.2 The notice under section 9.1 must describe in general terms the purpose of the meeting and be signed by the Mayor or the Corporate Officer.

**10. Electronic Meetings**

- 10.1 A regular or special Council meeting or an EPC or other committee meeting may be conducted by electronic means.
- 10.2 Electronic meetings will be held in accordance with the rules established by the *Community Charter and Council Policy C106 'Electronic Council Meetings'*.
- 10.3 Advance public notice of
- a) the way in which the electronic meeting will be conducted, and
  - b) where applicable, the place where the public may attend to hear, or watch and hear, the proceedings that are open to the public,
- will be posted in the public notice posting places according to the procedures established in this bylaw for giving notice.

**11. Electronic Participation at Hybrid Meetings**

- 11.1 A member may attend an in-person Council, EPC or other Council committee meeting by electronic means or other communication facilities, as available.
- 11.2 The following rules apply to electronic participation referred to in section 11.1:
- a) A member may not participate electronically in an in-person meeting more than ten (10) times per calendar year without the approval of the Chair;
  - b) A member who wishes to attend an in-person meeting via electronic

- means must provide notice to the Chair and Corporate Officer of their intent no less than four hours in advance of the meeting;
- c) No more than three (3) members of Council at one time may participate electronically at an in-person Council or EPC meeting, unless approved by the Chair;
  - d) Priority for electronic participation will be granted in order based on notification date and time;
  - e) Electronic participants will be noted in the meeting minutes as having participated electronically; and
  - f) Electronic participants who lose connectivity with the electronic platform for more than two (2) consecutive minutes during the meeting will be noted in the minutes as having left the meeting;
  - g) Electronic participants will abide by the rules established by Council Policy C106 'Electronic Council Meetings'.

### **PART 3 - DESIGNATION OF MEMBER TO ACT IN PLACE OF MAYOR**

#### **12. Acting Mayor**

- 12.1 At the inaugural Council meeting following an election, Council must by resolution appoint councillors to serve on a rotating basis, in two month increments and in alphabetical order by last name, as the member responsible for acting in the place of the Mayor when the Mayor is absent or otherwise unable to act or when the office of the Mayor is vacant.
- 12.2 The Acting Mayor must fulfill the responsibilities of the Mayor in their absence.
- 12.3 If both the Mayor and the Acting Mayor are absent from the Council meeting, the Council members present must choose a councillor to preside at the Council meeting.
- 12.4 The Acting Mayor or member chosen under section 12.1 has the same powers and duties as the Mayor in relation to the applicable matter.
- 12.5 The Acting Mayor may also serve as the chair for the EPC meetings held during that member's rotation.
- 12.6 A Council member may trade their rotation as Acting Mayor, or a portion of their rotation, with another member of Council, subject to the following conditions:
  - a) both Council members concerned must be amenable to the change in the schedule;

- b) the request must be made in writing;
- c) the Mayor must approve the substitution; and
- d) the Corporate Officer must be informed of the change in schedule.

12.7 Despite paragraph 12.6(c), a request to adjust the Acting Mayor schedule will not be unreasonably withheld.

## **PART 4 – COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

### **13. Community Charter Provisions**

13.1 Matters pertaining to Council proceedings are governed by the *Community Charter* including those provisions found in Division 3 of Part 4 [*Open Meetings*] and Division 2 of Part 5 [*Council Proceedings*].

### **14. Public Meetings**

14.1 This section applies to all meetings of Council, as well as meetings of the bodies referred to in section 93 of the *Community Charter* [*application of rules to other bodies*], including without limitation:

- a) Engagement and Priorities Committee;
- b) standing and select committees of Council;
- c) Board of Variance; and
- d) other advisory bodies established by Council.

14.2 Except where the provisions of section 90 of the *Community Charter* [*meetings that may or must be closed to the public*] apply, all Council meetings must be open to the public.

14.3 Before closing a Council meeting or part of a Council meeting to the public, Council must pass a resolution in a public meeting in accordance with section 92 of the *Community Charter* [*requirements before Council meeting is closed*] which requires the resolution to state:

- a) the fact that the meeting or part is to be closed; and
- b) the basis for closing the meeting under section 90 of the *Community Charter*.

14.4 Despite section 14.2, the Chair may expel or exclude from a Council meeting a person if the person's behaviour is deemed improper by the Chair, in accordance with section 133 of the *Community Charter* [*expulsion from meetings*].

**15. Calling Meeting to Order**

- 15.1 As soon after the time specified for a Council meeting as there is a quorum present, the Mayor, if present, will take the chair and call the meeting to order. Where the Mayor is absent, the Acting Mayor will take the chair and call the meeting to order.
- 15.2 If a quorum of Council is present but the Mayor or the Acting Mayor does not attend within 15 minutes of the scheduled time for a Council meeting:
- a) the Corporate Officer will call the meeting to order, and
  - b) the members present will choose a member to preside over the meeting.

**16. No Quorum**

- 16.1 If there is no quorum of Council present within 15 minutes of the scheduled time for a Council meeting, the Corporate Officer must:
- a) record the names of the members present, and those absent; and
  - b) adjourn the meeting until the next scheduled meeting unless a special meeting is called in the meantime.

**17. Agenda**

- 17.1 Prior to each Council or EPC meeting, the Corporate Officer, in consultation with the Mayor and CAO, will prepare an agenda setting out all the items for consideration at that meeting, noting in short form a summary for each item on the agenda.
- 17.2 The Corporate Officer will make the agenda available to members of Council and the public as follows:
- a) for regular Council meetings and EPC meetings, on the Friday afternoon prior to the meeting;
  - b) for special meetings, except those meetings closed to the public, as soon as is practical at the discretion of the Corporate Officer;
  - c) in accordance with Council Policy C039 'Distribution of Agendas and Minutes', as amended from time to time.
- 17.3 Upon approval from the Mayor and/or CAO, the Corporate Officer may revise an agenda up to 24 hours before the scheduled start of the respective meeting. Any additions required after this deadline will be dealt with as late items as per section 20 of this bylaw [Late Items].

- 17.4 The Corporate Officer must provide a copy of a revised agenda to all Council members as soon as reasonably possible.
- 17.5 Council must not consider any matters not listed on the agenda unless a new matter for consideration is properly introduced as an amendment to the agenda pursuant to section 20 [Late Items].

## **18. Notice of Motion**

- 18.1 A councillor may submit a recommended motion for inclusion on a future agenda.
- 18.2 A motion as described in section 18.1 will:
  - a) be submitted in writing to the Mayor and CAO;
  - b) be contained within a report written by the councillor, using the form prescribed by the Corporate Officer, and will include relevant background and explanatory information;
  - c) make a clear recommendation for Council action;
  - d) be signed by the mover and seconder of the recommended motion; and
  - e) be placed on an agenda by the CAO as soon as reasonably possible.
- 18.3 At the meeting at which a notice of motion is scheduled for consideration:
  - a) only the mover or seconder of the motion may make introductory remarks; and
  - b) after the motion is moved and seconded, it may be debated and voted on by Council.
- 18.4 At the CAO's discretion, a staff report may be included to supplement the Councillor report.

## **19. Order of Business**

- 19.1 The agenda for all regular Council meetings will contain the following sections, as applicable, in the order in which they are listed below:
  - a) Call to Order
  - b) Late Items
  - c) Approval of Agenda
  - d) Announcements

- e) Public Hearings
- f) Question and Comment Period
- g) Adoption of Minutes
- h) Celebrate Pitt Meadows
- i) Delegations and Presentations
- j) Consent Agenda
- k) Reports
- l) Bylaws and Permits
- m) Council Liaison Reports
- n) Notice of Closed Meeting
- o) Question and Comment Period
- p) Adjournment

19.2 The agenda for all regular EPC meetings will contain the following sections, as applicable, in the order in which they are listed below:

- a) Call to Order
- b) Late Items
- c) Approval of Agenda
- d) Adoption of Minutes
- e) Delegations and Presentations
- f) Committee Minutes and Reports
- g) Current Priorities
- h) Emerging Strategies/Issues
- i) Adjournment

19.3 At their discretion, the Corporate Officer may delete a section from an agenda where there are no business matters to discuss under that section.

19.4 Particular business at a Council or EPC meeting will be taken up in the order in which it is listed on the agenda unless otherwise determined by Council, by general consent or resolution.

19.5 The agenda will include all correspondence, reports and background information pertinent to the topics listed on the agenda.

## **20. Late Items**

- 20.1 An item of business not included on the agenda must not be considered at a Council or EPC meeting unless introduction of the late item is approved by a majority vote of members present at the time allocated on the agenda for such matters.
- 20.2 If Council makes a resolution under section 20.1, information pertaining to the late item(s) must be distributed to the members and the public.
- 20.3 The Corporate Officer will inform Council, during the time allocated on the agenda for Late Items, of any agenda items that have been canceled or postponed, with a brief explanation provided.

## **21. Public Engagement**

- 21.1 Opportunities for public engagement will be provided:
- a) at every regular Council meeting during each 'Question & Comment Period'; and
  - b) at every EPC meeting as part of each agenda item, not including Call to Order, Late Items, Approval of Agenda, or Adoption of Minutes.
- 21.2 Protocol for public engagement at Council and EPC meetings is established by Council Policy C107 'Public Engagement at Council Meetings'.

## **22. Consent Agenda**

- 22.1 Items will be grouped together under the Consent Agenda section that, in the opinion of the Mayor and/or CAO, require little or no discussion or debate.
- 22.2 Items which may be included in the Consent Agenda are:
- a) minutes;
  - b) correspondence;
  - c) reports for information; and
  - d) other items for which debate is not expected.
- 22.3 Consent Agenda items will be dealt with through one resolution of Council to receive the items into the record, unless a member wishes to

comment, debate, and/or register a vote against an item, and therefore requests that it be pulled.

22.4 If a member requests that an item be pulled from the Consent Agenda, it must be pulled.

22.5 Pulled items will be discussed, debated, and voted on separately.

### **23. Voting at Meetings**

23.1 The following procedures apply to voting at Council meetings:

- a) When debate on a matter is closed, the Chair must put the matter to a vote of Council members;
- b) When Council is ready to vote, the Chair will put the matter to a vote by calling the question by saying:
  - (i) "Those in favour?" and then,
  - (ii) "Those opposed?"
- c) When the Chair is putting the matter to a vote, a member must not:
  - (i) cross or leave the room;
  - (ii) make a noise or other disturbance; or
  - (iii) interrupt the voting procedure under paragraph (b) unless the interrupting member is raising a point of order;
- d) After the Chair puts the question to a vote, a member must not speak to the question or make a motion concerning it;
- e) The Chair's decision about whether a question has been finally put is conclusive;
- f) Whenever a vote of Council on a matter is taken, each member present will signify their vote by raising their hand;
- g) The Chair must declare the result of the voting by stating that the motion was carried or defeated;
- h) Should a member refrain from voting when a question is put, the member will be regarded as having voted in the affirmative and the member's vote will be counted accordingly;
- i) The Corporate Officer must record all dissenting votes either for or against a question.

**24. Delegations**

24.1 Delegations will be scheduled in accordance with the '*Delegations Before Council*' Policy C010, as amended from time to time.

**25. Points of Order**

25.1 The Chair must preserve order and, subject to an appeal, decide points of order that may arise.

25.2 Without limiting the Chair's duty under section 132(1) of the *Community Charter [authority of Chair]*, the Chair must apply the correct procedure to a motion:

- a) if the motion is contrary to the rules of procedure in this bylaw; and
- b) whether or not another Council member has raised a point of order in connection with the motion.

25.3 When the Chair is required to decide a point of order:

- a) the Chair must cite the applicable rule or authority if requested by another Council member; and
- b) another member must not question or comment on the rule or authority cited by the Chair under section 25.3(a).

**26. Conduct and Debate**

26.1 A member may speak to a question or motion at a meeting only if that member is first given the floor by the Chair.

26.2 Members must address the Chair by that person's title of Mayor, Acting Mayor, or Chair.

26.3 Members must address other non-chairs by the title of Councillor or Mayor, as applicable.

26.4 A member must not interrupt another member who is speaking, except:

- a) to raise a point of order, as per section 25; or
- b) to raise a matter of privilege, as per section 32.

26.5 If more than one member requests the floor, the Chair must call on the member who, in the Chair's opinion, requests the floor first.

26.6 When debating a motion, the Chair will speak last, other than opening or preliminary comments to introduce the motion.

26.7 Members who are called to order by the Chair:

- a) must immediately stop speaking;
- b) may explain their position on the point of order; and
- c) may appeal to Council for its decision on the point of order in accordance with section 132 of the *Community Charter [authority of Chair]*.

26.8 Members speaking at a Council meeting:

- a) must use respectful language;
- b) must not use offensive gestures or signs;
- c) must speak only in connection with the matter being debated;
- d) must adhere to:
  - (i) the rules of procedure established under this bylaw;
  - (ii) the Council Code of Conduct Policy C100; and
  - (iii) the decisions of the Chair and Council pertaining to the rules and points of order.

26.9 If a member does not adhere to section 26.8, the Chair may order the member to leave the member's seat; and

- a) if the member refuses to leave, the Chair may cause the member to be removed from their seat by a peace officer; and
- b) if the member apologizes to Council, Council may, by general consent or resolution, allow the member to retake their seat.

26.10 A member may require the question being debated at a Council meeting to be read at any time during the debate if that does not interrupt another member who is speaking.

26.11 The following rules apply to limit speech on matters being considered at a Council meeting:

- a) a member may speak more than once in connection with the same question only:
  - (i) with the permission of the Chair; and
  - (ii) after all members have been given the opportunity to speak for the first time;
- b) a member who has made a substantive motion to Council may reply to the debate; and
- c) the Chair may set a time limit and the number of times that a member may speak on the same question or motion.

26.12 When a member wishes to leave the Council Chamber:

- a) they will advise the Chair and be excused; and
- b) their absence and return, if applicable, will be noted by the Corporate Officer, or designate, in the minutes.

26.13 The Chair may make a motion, second a motion and/or debate a motion while presiding during the meeting.

## **27. Conflict of Interest**

27.1 In accordance with section 100 of the *Community Charter [disclosure of conflict]*, if a member attending a meeting considers that they have a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in a matter, or another interest in a matter that constitutes a conflict of interest, the member must declare this and state in general terms the reason why they consider this to be the case.

27.2 After making the declaration, it is the member's responsibility to ensure that they do not:

- a) remain at or attend any part of a meeting when the matter is under consideration;
- b) participate in any discussion of the matter at such meeting;
- c) vote on a question in respect of the matter at such meeting; or
- d) attempt in any way, whether before, during or after such meeting, to influence the voting on any question in respect of the matter.

27.3 When a declaration is made, the Corporate Officer will record the member's declaration or statement, the reasons given, the time of the member's departure from the meeting, and, if applicable, the time of the member's return.

## **28. Motions Generally**

28.1 A motion may only be debated and voted on if it is first moved by a member and then seconded by another member.

28.2 At the discretion of the Chair, a motion may be prefaced by a short explanation of the matter or a member can first request information or advice from the Chair in crafting a potential motion with respect to the matter.

28.3 A member may make only the following subsidiary motions when a main motion is on the floor:

- a) to lay on the table (postpone the question to later in the meeting) in order to consider a more urgent item;
- b) to call for the vote on the main question or main question as amended;
- c) to adjourn the debate;
- d) to defer (postpone) indefinitely or to a certain time;
- e) to refer to staff, a committee or another person or group for consideration or further information; or
- f) to amend the main motion.

28.4 A subsidiary motion listed in section 28.3 has precedence over those subsidiary motions listed after it, and always has precedence over the main motion.

28.5 A subsidiary motion made under sections 28.3(a) to (d) is not amendable or debatable, with the exception that a motion to defer (postpone) to a certain time is debatable only as to the time and reasons for the deferral, and is amendable only as to the time to which the deferral refers.

28.6 If requested by a member, Council must vote separately on each distinct part of a motion that is under consideration at a Council meeting, and in such circumstances a new mover and seconder are not required.

28.7 A member may propose a motion to refer or defer with respect to either:

- a) a matter which is on the agenda of a Council meeting but on which a motion has not yet been made; or
- b) a motion which is on the floor.

28.8 When a motion has been moved by a member and seconded by another member, it is deemed to be in the possession of Council, and such a motion:

- a) may only be withdrawn with the general consent of the members present; and
- b) may not be withdrawn after it has been voted on by Council.

28.9 Motions that have been withdrawn by Council will not be recorded in the minutes.

## **29. Motion for Main Question**

29.1 In this section, "main question", in relation to a matter, refers to the motion that first brought the matter before Council.

- 29.2 At a Council meeting, the following rules apply to a motion for the main question, or for the main question as amended:
- a) if a member of Council moves to put the main question, or the main question as amended, to a vote, that motion must be dealt with before any other amendments are made to the motion on the main question; and
  - b) if the motion for the main question, or for the main question as amended, is decided in the negative, Council may again debate the question, or proceed to other business.

### **30. Amendments Generally**

- 30.1 A Council member may, without notice, move to amend a motion that is being considered at a Council meeting.
- 30.2 The amendments permitted may take the form of deletion, addition, or substitution of words or figures, provided such deletions, additions or substitutions do not, in the opinion of the Chair, affect the intent of the original motion.
- 30.3 A proposed amendment must be reproduced in writing by the mover if requested by the Chair.
- 30.4 A proposed amendment must be decided, or withdrawn by the mover, before the main motion being considered is put to a vote, unless there is a call for the main question.
- 30.5 An amendment may be amended once only.
- 30.6 An amendment that has been defeated by a vote of Council cannot be proposed again.
- 30.7 A member may propose an amendment to an adopted amendment.
- 30.8 The Chair must call the question on a motion which has been amended in the following order:
- a) a sub-amendment;
  - b) an amendment to the original motion;
  - c) the original motion.
- 30.9 A 'friendly amendment', which is an amendment that changes the main motion in an insignificant way and does not change the intent, need not be voted on separately from the main motion, but rather will be incorporated into the main question with the general consent of Council.

### **31. Reconsideration**

- 31.1 In accordance with section 131 of the *Community Charter [Mayor may require Council reconsideration of a matter]*, the Mayor may at any time within 30 days of the vote, require Council to reconsider and vote again on a matter that was the subject of a vote.
- 31.2 A member who voted with the majority either for or against a motion, may, at any time within one month of the vote, introduce a motion to reconsider the matter, following the procedures established in section 18 [Notice of Motion].
- 31.3 A motion under section 31.2 must be introduced as a scheduled agenda item.
- 31.4 Council must not discuss the main matter referred to in section 31.2 unless a motion to reconsider that matter is adopted by a majority vote.
- 31.5 Council may only reconsider a matter that has not:
- a) had the approval or assent of the electors and been adopted;
  - b) been already reconsidered pursuant to this section or section 131 of the *Community Charter [mayor may require Council reconsideration of a matter]*; or
  - c) been acted on by an officer, employee, or agent of the City.
- 31.6 If a motion to reconsider is defeated, the subject matter of the motion may not be open for consideration by Council within six months except by way of a new and substantially different motion, subject to the Mayor's authority to require Council's reconsideration of a matter under the *Community Charter*.

### **32. Privilege**

- 32.1 In this section, a matter of privilege refers to any of the following motions:
- a) fix the time at which to adjourn;
  - b) adjourn;
  - c) recess;
  - d) raise a question of privilege of Council; or
  - e) raise a question of privilege of a member.
- 32.2 A matter of privilege must be immediately considered when it arises at a Council meeting.

32.3 A matter of privilege listed in section 32.1 takes precedence over those matters listed after it.

### **33. Reports from Committees**

33.1 Council may take any of the following actions in connection with a resolution it receives from a committee:

- a) agree or disagree with the resolution;
- b) amend the resolution;
- c) refer the resolution back to the committee or to staff; or
- d) postpone consideration of the resolution.

### **34. Adjournment**

34.1 A Council or EPC meeting must be adjourned by 11:00 p.m. unless Council passes a resolution by majority vote of members present to proceed beyond that time.

### **35. Minutes**

35.1 This section applies to the minutes of the meetings of Council, the EPC, and standing committees.

35.2 Minutes of a meeting must be:

- a) legibly recorded;
- b) certified as correct by the Corporate Officer; and
- c) signed by the Mayor or Chair of the respective meeting, or by the member chairing the meeting at which the minutes are adopted.

35.3 The Corporate Officer may make minor amendments to approved minutes including, but not limited to:

- a) typographical errors;
- b) sequential numbering errors;
- c) grammatical errors; or
- d) completing missing information.

35.4 The names of the members who moved and seconded a motion will not be recorded in the minutes.

35.5 All votes on motions will be recorded as either carried or defeated, as applicable, with the names of members who voted on the non-prevailing side, recorded in the minutes.

**36. Minutes of Other Committees**

36.1 This section applies to the minutes of the meetings of select and other advisory committees.

36.2 Minutes of a committee meeting must be:

- a) legibly recorded; and
- b) certified as correct by the Corporate Officer or their designate upon adoption by the committee.

36.3 The Corporate Officer or their designate may make minor amendments to approved minutes including, but not limited to:

- a) typographical errors;
- b) sequential numbering errors;
- c) grammatical errors; or
- d) completing missing information.

36.4 The names of the members who moved and seconded a motion will not be recorded in the minutes.

36.5 All votes on motions will be recorded as either carried or defeated, as applicable, with the names of members who voted on the non-prevailing side recorded in the minutes.

**PART 5 – BYLAWS**

**37. Copies to Council Members**

37.1 A proposed bylaw may be introduced at a Council meeting only if a copy of it has been delivered to each Council member at least 24 hours before the Council meeting, or all Council members unanimously agree to waive this requirement.

**38. Form of Bylaws**

38.1 A bylaw introduced at a Council meeting must:

- a) be printed or circulated electronically;

- b) have a distinguishing name and number;
- c) contain an introductory statement of purpose; and
- d) be divided into sections.

### **39. Consideration Separately or Jointly**

- 39.1 Council must consider a proposed bylaw at a Council meeting either:
- a) separately when directed by the Chair or requested by another Council member; or
  - b) jointly with other proposed bylaws in the sequence determined by the Chair.

### **40. Reading and Adopting Bylaws**

- 40.1 The Chair of a Council meeting may:
- a) have the Corporate Officer, or designate, read a synopsis of each proposed bylaw or group of proposed bylaws; and then
  - b) request a motion that the proposed bylaw or group of bylaws be read.
- 40.2 The readings of the bylaw may be given by stating its title and number.
- 40.3 A proposed bylaw may be debated and amended at any time during the first three readings, subject to any statutory restrictions.
- 40.4 Subject to section 40.5, each reading of a proposed bylaw must receive the affirmative vote of a majority of the Council members present.
- 40.5 In accordance with section 477 of the *Local Government Act [adoption procedures for official community plan]*, each reading of an official community plan bylaw must receive an affirmative vote of a majority of all Council members.
- 40.6 In accordance with section 135 of the *Community Charter [requirements for passing bylaws]*, and subject to section 465 of the *Local Government Act [public hearing procedures]*, Council may give up to three readings to a proposed bylaw at the same Council meeting.
- 40.7 Bylaws that require statutory public hearings prior to their adoption will only be read for the first time, or the first and second time, prior to the holding of the public hearing.

- 40.8 In accordance with section 135(3) of the *Community Charter [requirements for passing bylaws]*, there must be at least one day between the third reading and the adoption of the bylaw unless otherwise provided by provincial legislation.
- 40.9 Despite section 40.8, and in accordance with sections 477 *[adoption procedures for official community plan]* and 480 *[adoption of municipal zoning bylaw]* of the *Local Government Act*, Council may adopt a proposed official community plan or zoning bylaw at the same meeting at which the plan or bylaw passed third reading.

#### **41. Signing of Bylaws**

- 41.1 After a bylaw is adopted:
- a) the Corporate Officer will record on the last page:
    - (i) the dates of its readings and adoption;
    - (ii) the dates of required public notice, if applicable;
    - (iii) the date of a required public hearing, if applicable; and
    - (iv) the date of Ministerial approval or approval of the electorate, if applicable;
  - b) it must be signed by the Corporate Officer and the Chair of the Council meeting at which it was adopted (as per section 135 of the *Community Charter [requirements for passing bylaws]*); and
  - c) the Corporate Officer must place it in the City's records for safekeeping.

### **PART 6 – ENGAGEMENT & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE**

#### **42. EPC Terms of Reference**

- 42.1 The Engagement and Priorities Committee ("EPC") is a committee of the whole of Council, established to:
- a) provide an informal environment in which Council, staff and invited guests can discuss current and emerging priorities in a more in-depth and iterative manner;
  - b) create a place for advisory committees to have direct access, engagement and dialogue with Council and staff; and
  - c) broaden public engagement opportunities on current and emerging priorities.

**43. EPC Meetings**

- 43.1 Unless otherwise stated, all proceedings related to Council meetings as detailed in PART 4 [Council proceedings] of this bylaw apply to EPC meetings, as applicable.
- 43.2 Regular EPC meetings will be:
- a) scheduled approximately once monthly, except for August, between regular Council meetings;
  - b) typically held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm at City Hall; and
  - c) held in accordance with the annual meeting schedule as approved by Council each year.
- 43.3 Despite section 43.2, the Mayor or Chair of an EPC meeting, in consultation with the CAO, may cancel, postpone, or reschedule an EPC meeting, or change the location of an EPC meeting, from time to time, as required.

**44. Notice of EPC Meeting**

- 44.1 Notice of regular EPC meetings will be given annually as per section 8 [Notice of Council meetings] of the bylaw.
- 44.2 Notice of special EPC meetings will be given as per section 9 [Notice of special meetings] of this bylaw.
- 44.3 Where changes are made to the date, time or place of a scheduled EPC meeting, or if an EPC meeting is canceled, the Corporate Officer will, as soon as possible, post a notice at the public notice posting places indicating the changes.

**45. Chair of EPC Meeting**

- 45.1 Any Council member may chair an EPC at the discretion of the Mayor.

**46. EPC Meeting Conduct and Debate**

- 46.1 A member may speak any number of times on the same question as long as they are presenting new information, questions or perspectives.
- 46.2 A member should not speak longer than a total of 5 minutes on any one question.

- 46.3 The EPC cannot make decisions on City business but may direct staff, refer to a committee or other body, or make recommendations to Council for consideration at a regular or special Council meeting.

## **PART 7 – OTHER COMMITTEES**

### **47. Standing Committees**

- 47.1 In accordance with section 141 of the *Community Charter [standing committees of Council]*, the Mayor may:
- a) establish standing committees for matters they consider would be better regulated and managed by a committee; and
  - b) appoint the members of the standing committee, including a Chair and Vice-Chair.
- 47.2 When established, standing committees must consider, inquire into, report and make recommendations to Council about all of the following matters:
- a) matters that are related to the general subject indicated by the name of the committee;
  - b) matters that are assigned by Council; and
  - c) matters that are assigned by the Mayor.
- 47.3 Standing committees must report and make recommendations to Council at all of the following times:
- a) in accordance with the schedule of the committee's meetings; and
  - b) on matters that are assigned by Council or the Mayor,
  - c) as required by Council or the Mayor; or
  - d) at the next Council meeting if the Council or Mayor does not specify a time.
- 47.4 All proceedings related to Council meetings as detailed in PART 4 [Council proceedings] of this bylaw apply to standing committees, as applicable.

### **48. Select and Other Advisory Committees**

- 48.1 Council may establish and appoint select or other advisory committees in accordance with the City Committees Policy C102 and section 142 of the *Community Charter [select committees of council]*.

- 48.2 All proceedings related to Council meetings as detailed in PART 4 [Council proceedings] of this bylaw apply to select and other advisory committee meetings, as applicable.
- 48.3 Select and other advisory committees established by Council will:
- a) consider, inquire into, report to, and make recommendations to Council about the matters referred to the committee by Council; and
  - b) operate within their established Terms of Reference and in accordance with the City Committees Policy C102.

**49. Attendance, Debate and Voting**

- 49.1 Council members who are not members of a standing, select or other advisory committee of Council may attend the meetings of such committees.
- 49.2 Council members attending a meeting of a standing, select or other advisory committee, of which they are not a member may participate in the discussion only with the permission of the committee Chair.
- 49.3 Council members attending a meeting of a standing, select or other advisory committee of which they are not a member must not vote on a question.

**READ** a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time on March 7, 2023.

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ADOPT** published on March 24 and 31, 2023.

**ADOPTED** on April 4, 2023.

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Nicole MacDonald  
Mayor

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Kate Barchard  
Corporate Officer

# City of Pitt Meadows

## Strategic Plan 2023-2026



### Mission

To maintain a friendly, safe and healthy community that values people, honours heritage, where all citizens are welcomed and growth is balanced with the protection of our natural place and quality of life.



### Vision

Pitt Meadows Proud™



## Principled Governance

Decisions will be approached in an open, respectful and balanced manner that promotes social, economic, and environmental health.

- **First Nations Relationship**  
Prioritize and seek opportunities to advance Reconciliation and strengthen our relationship with the q̓ičəy̓ (Katzie) First Nation and the urban Indigenous population.
- **Meaningful Engagement**  
Engage community groups in meaningful discussions about impactful topics.
- **Advocacy**  
Proactively advocate for issues of importance to our community.
- **Regional Partnerships**  
Proactively connect, collaborate and build strong relationships with our regional partners.
- **Fiscal Stewardship and Accountability**  
Strive to maintain an informed balance between taxation levels and the delivery of quality services.
- **Environmental/Climate Stewardship**  
Proactively prepare and plan for a growing probability of extreme weather by incorporating climate change adaptation measures.



## Balanced Economic Prosperity

Develop appropriate mechanisms focused on long-term prosperity and employment opportunities, as we strive to foster a thriving economy.

- **Agriculture**  
Advocate for the viability of the agricultural industry and food security through innovation and reducing regulatory barriers.
- **Business Vitality**  
Cultivate a vibrant and diverse economy where local businesses prosper by attracting visitors and businesses.
- **Airport**  
Encourage economic development initiatives for the Pitt Meadows Regional Airport. Recognizing the partnership with the City of Maple Ridge and strengthen sustainability and interface with the City and region.
- **Affordability**  
Promote accessible and affordable transportation, daycare and a variety of housing opportunities to help families and businesses thrive.



## Community Spirit and Wellbeing

Foster a strong sense of pride, place and belonging that celebrates the distinct identity of Pitt Meadows.

- **Pride and Spirit**  
Create opportunities for residents to gather through arts, culture, and community events.
- **Active Wellness**  
Provide and encourage a community conducive to healthy, inclusive and accessible living.
- **Natural Environment**  
Conserve and enhance our natural assets for the benefit of current and future generations.
- **Housing Diversity**  
Encourage diversity in housing types to foster an inclusive, affordable and multi-generational community.
- **Recreation**  
Provide facilities and affordable programs and services that empower residents to access and participate in leisure activities for enjoyment and overall wellness.



## Infrastructure

Ensure roads, facilities and other infrastructure promotes innovation, transformation and sustainability.

- **Investments**  
Proactively plan for infrastructure and invest tax dollars to ensure the long-term viability and resiliency.
- **Transportation**  
Reduce congestion and improve connectivity throughout our city and region.
- **Active Transportation**  
Encourage active modes and alternate forms of transportation that support a livable, healthy and environmentally responsible community.
- **Facilities**  
Maintain and plan for long-term replacement of City facilities and equipment.
- **Preparedness**  
Advocate for dike infrastructure upgrades and strengthen partnerships with external agencies and senior levels of governments to ensure the community is protected and safe.



## Corporate Pride

Respect public trust and confidence through open communication, balanced decision-making, responsible financial management, and excellence in service.

- **Employee Excellence**  
Recognize the critical role of staff in achieving corporate excellence, and prioritizing necessary resources, training, and support to improve their skills, knowledge, and performance.
- **Corporate Culture**  
Foster a diverse, equitable and inclusive culture where everyone feel respected and valued for their unique backgrounds and perspectives, and empowered to do their best work.
- **Service Excellence**  
Foster a culture that is focused on customer service excellence and accountability.
- **Resources**  
Ensure high-quality and sustainable resources are available to meet the needs of the community.
- **Desirable Employer**  
Establish our organization as a preferred employer by implementing strategies to attract, retain and develop top talent by supporting employees' growth, development, and well-being.



## Public Safety

Deliver high-quality and effective protective services to ensure safety and well-being.

- **Police**  
Working together with RCMP to maintain strong communication regarding community needs, increased police visibility and enhanced engagement with a focus on crime prevention.
- **Fire**  
Protect life, property and the environment from fire and other risks.
- **Emergency Preparedness**  
Ensure the City is prepared and able to respond to small and major catastrophic events, whether manmade or natural disasters.
- **Bylaws**  
Resolve complaints through education and voluntary compliance and implement enforcement measures.
- **Regulatory**  
Ensure the health and safety of persons and property by confirming that buildings and their systems conform to bylaws, the Building Code and applicable standards.



## Respectful Workplace

Effective Date: February 18, 2025

Last Revised:

CAO Signature:



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### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is:

- To protect the right of employees to a safe workplace, free of harassment and bullying.
- To promote a respectful workplace by addressing the factors that contribute to its creation, development, and maintenance at the City of Pitt Meadows. This includes raising awareness of appropriate behavior and addressing and/or preventing workplace bullying, discrimination, harassment, and/or incivility.
- To establish clear procedures for reporting complaints, conducting investigations, and resolving related concerns to workplace conduct.
- To specify that this policy is in addition to, and not in substitution for, rights all individuals have under the *British Columbia Human Rights Code*, or that workers have under the *Workers' Compensation Act* or provisions of the *Collective Agreement*.

### 2. Scope

This policy applies to all City of Pitt Meadows employees as well as to those at the worksite with whom City employees conduct business with and where a work relationship exists. This includes, but not limited to, exempt and union employees, elected officials or alternates, students, committee members, volunteers, contractors or other service providers engaged by the City of Pitt Meadows, and to members of the general public.

This policy applies to all sites where business activities are undertaken by employees for the City. It applies to all situations where activities are connected to

work with City employees and could impact employment during and outside of regular business hours, at and away from the workplace.

This includes:

- activities on City premises;
- work assignments outside City premises;
- work-related conferences, training sessions and seminars;
- work performed via online or digital means, including remote communication, virtual collaboration, cloud-based systems, and social media platforms used for business-related activities;
- work-related travel; and
- work-related social functions that are sponsored or organized by the City.

### 3. Exclusions

- In instances where an external investigation is approved by the CAO for a complaint made by an employee against a Council member, the Council Code of Conduct Policy and its investigative protocols will prevail.
- This policy is not intended to include conduct that a reasonable person would find to be welcome or neutral, including, but not limited to, social invitations, mutually consensual relationships, or other appropriate workplace interactions.

### 4. Definitions

In this policy,

- (1) ***British Columbia Human Rights Code***: prohibits discrimination including harassment on the basis of prohibited ground as outlined in Section 13. The prohibited grounds include race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, political belief, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, age, and conviction of a criminal or summary offence that is unrelated to the employment or the intended employment of that person.
- (2) ***Workers Compensation Act***: This policy is developed in accordance with Sections 115, 116, and 117 of the Workers Compensation Act which sets out the general duties of employers, workers, and supervisors respectively, and Guideline G-D3-115(1)-3 Bullying and Harassment, of the Workers Compensation Act.



- (3) ***Bullying and Harassment:*** means a person's persistent use of inappropriate comment or conduct, which gradually undermines a worker's self-esteem and confidence where the person either knew or reasonably ought to have known would cause humiliation or intimidation. Bullying and harassment excludes any reasonable action taken by an employer or supervisor relating to the management and direction of workers or the place of employment. Bullying and harassment includes, but is not limited to:
- a. Any objectionable comment, act or display that demeans, belittles, compromises or causes personal humiliation or embarrassment and any act of intimidation or threat.
  - b. Actions or comments that are directed at no person in particular but that create an intimidating, demeaning or offensive work environment.
- (4) ***Bullying:*** consists of treating abusively and affecting by means of force or coercion that could hurt or isolate a person in the workplace. Bullying can involve the use of negative physical contact or the use of superior strength or influence to intimidate someone, typically to force them to do something. It usually presents a pattern of behaviour that is intended to offend, degrade or humiliate a person or group of people, which has been described as the assertion of power through aggression.
- (5) ***Harassment:*** one or a series of incidents of objectionable conduct, comment or act of tormenting by continued persistent attacks and criticism towards a group or individual. Harassment on prohibited grounds includes sexual harassment and personal harassment. In line with this policy, harassment also means any form of retaliation undertaken as a result of an individual having invoked, or in any way been involved with a complaint lodged pursuant to this policy where:
- a. such conduct might reasonably be expected to cause insecurity, discomfort, offence or humiliation to another person or group;
  - b. submission to such conduct is made either implicitly or explicitly a condition of employment;
  - c. submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as a basis for any employment decision including, but not limited to matters of promotion, increases in salary, job security or benefits affecting the employee; or
  - d. such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with a person's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.
- (6) ***Sexual Harassment:*** is illegal and is a form of discriminatory harassment that may include, but is not limited to, the following actions and/or behaviours:



- a. unwanted and/or unwelcome sexual advances or attention such as remarks about appearance, conduct or personal life.
  - b. display of offensive or pornographic pictures, objects or written material.
  - c. requests for sexual favours, persistent unwelcome invitations.
  - d. comments made by e-mail, voice mail, or other conduct, comment, gesture or unwelcome behaviour of a sexual nature that is likely to cause offense or humiliation to an employee.
- (7) ***Personal Harassment:*** means a disruptive, work-related objectionable conduct towards a specific person, which serves no legitimate work purpose and has the effect of creating an intimidating, humiliating, hostile or offensive work environment that threatens dignity, respect and job performance. Personal harassment may include but is not limited to bullying, threats, coercion, malicious or intimidating gestures or actions, verbal assault or ostracizing, taunting, threatened or actual physical assault, humiliation, insults, rudeness, gossip, or slander.
- (8) ***Discrimination:*** is illegal and includes any comments or conduct that would constitute a contravention of the BC Human Rights Code. This code currently protects against discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age of that person or that group or class of persons
- (9) ***Workplace Incivility:*** behaviours that may lack clear, harmful intent but are considered to be discourteous, impolite, abrasive, rude, or otherwise consisting of a lack of regard for others.
- (10) ***Disrespectful Conduct:*** conduct or comment that is objectionable or unprofessional and serves no legitimate work purpose and has the effect of creating an intimidating, humiliating, hostile or disrespectful work environment. Such conduct, which may be physical or psychological in nature, is prohibited by this policy and by the Code if it is based on one of the prohibited grounds.
- (11) ***Complainant:*** an individual who believes that he or she has a complaint of conduct contrary to the policy and is bringing forward the complaint.
- (12) ***Respondent:*** an individual against whom an allegation(s) of conduct contrary to the policy has been made and who is responding to the allegation(s) made in the complaint.

- (13) *Investigator*: the person assigned to investigate the complaint. The Investigator may be the Director of Corporate Services, the Manager of Human Resources or their delegate, or, an external third party.

## 5. Policy Statements

The City of Pitt Meadows recognizes the obligation to have a respectful workplace that is free of bullying, discrimination, harassment, and incivility. All individuals are responsible for their own personal conduct and are expected to behave in a professional, respectful manner in the workplace and at activities where a work relationship exists.

The City of Pitt Meadows does not tolerate bullying, discrimination, harassment, or workplace incivility, nor will it tolerate any false complaints or complaints made in bad faith, or any reprisals towards those who report a concern or file a complaint in good faith.

Disrespectful conduct contrary to this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. Complaints under the policy will be addressed in an impartial, timely and confidential matter.

### 5.1. Roles and Responsibilities

- (a) **All Employees are expected to:**
- comply with the Respectful Workplace Policy and conduct themselves appropriately, within the spirit and intent of this policy, contributing towards a safe, welcoming and inclusive work environment;
  - interact with others in a civil manner that must be free of bullying, harassment, and/or discrimination;
  - if experiencing or witnessing behaviour that would reasonably constitute a policy violation, address such behaviour as appropriate, such as by speaking directly to the individual(s) involved, and/or reporting the behaviour to the Human Resources (HR) department, or if preferred, to a Union Representative, Manager, or member of the Corporate Leadership Team;
  - be knowledgeable of, and abide by, Policy Guidelines D3-116-1, (Workers Duties) of the Workers Compensation Act;



- ensure they understand the Policy; lack of awareness of the Policy is not a defense for discriminatory or harassing behaviour; and
- attend scheduled training sessions designed to familiarize them with the policy.

**(b) Managers and Supervisors are expected to:**

- ensure the principles of the Policy are reflected in the execution of duties, operational policies and practices within their area of responsibility;
- model inclusive and professional behaviour and not participate in discriminatory or harassing behaviour;
- communicate and support this Policy by ensuring all workers under their supervision are provided with a copy of the Policy including knowledge of their rights and responsibilities;
- participate actively and take necessary action in the resolution and investigation of complaints and implement required remedial action;
- report incidents of bullying and harassment; and
- be knowledgeable of section 115 and 117 of the Worker's Compensation Act that summarizes the employers' and supervisors' responsibility in providing a safe work environment, and educating employees on safe work procedures.

**(c) Members of the union executives and shop stewards are expected to:**

- ensure enhanced employee awareness of respectful conduct in the workplace through appropriate support of City initiatives; and
- assist and support members with the complaint resolution process.

**(d) Human Resources is expected to:**

- Facilitate the complaint resolution process, including acting as investigator if required;
- review investigation reports to determine the outcome of complaints;
- inform complainants and respondents, in writing, of the outcomes of investigations;
- impose discipline or take other action, such as providing education, to improve employees' understanding of respectful workplaces; and
- ensure this Policy and related procedures are reviewed annually.

## 5.2. Prohibitions

### (a) Confidentiality:

All persons involved in a complaint under this policy will ensure the matter is kept confidential in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation. Any unwarranted breach of confidentiality may result in disciplinary action against those responsible. The release of information will only be on a need to know basis during the investigation after due consultation with Human Resources.

### (b) Malicious Reports:

An investigation may determine that a complaint is not supported and that there is no breach of this policy. Such a finding does not necessarily mean that the complaint was malicious.

Malicious complaints are those where the complainant or others know there is no foundation to the complaint and where the complaint is filed for the purpose of bringing an adverse consequence to the respondent or another employee of the City. Such complaints are a breach of this policy and any employee engaged in presentation or filing of such a complaint may be subject to discipline, up to and including dismissal.

Decisions made under this process are considered final. A decision made under this process does not affect the rights of an individual to seek recourse through the collective agreement, if applicable, or through the BC Human Rights Tribunal.

## 5.3. Procedures and Guidelines

The following procedures provide guidance and direction in responding to, and resolving, complaints that are submitted in accordance with this Policy.

### Objectives

The objectives of the procedures are to:

- Provide direction to all staff in the implementation of the Respectful Workplace Policy;
- Provide a consistent time sensitive process that is efficient and fair in resolving complaints/allegations in relation to respectful workplace issues; and



- Ensure that complaints of violations of this Policy are taken seriously, are dealt with objectively, and that every reasonable effort is made to maintain confidentiality throughout the process.

### **Complaint Handling**

This Policy supports both a formal and informal approach to complaint resolution. Where appropriate, employees involved in a complaint are encouraged to utilize the informal approach to the resolution process.

In all complaint resolutions, the identity of the complainant and the nature of the complaint will be made known to the individual alleged to have engaged in disrespectful behaviour (the Respondent). The respondent will be provided an opportunity to explain their behaviour and to have such explanations properly considered.

#### **(a) Informal Complaint Resolution**

Before a formal process becomes necessary, an employee who believes that they have been subjected to discrimination, harassment or bullying may be encouraged, if comfortable, to bring the matter to the attention of the individual responsible and advise them that the conduct is unwelcome, describing the behaviours or actions that were considered inappropriate and unwelcome, and communicate that the behaviour should cease immediately and not be repeated. The employee may also consider seeking assistance from their supervisor/manager, union representative or a Health and Safety Committee member.

If the conduct persists, or if the individual does not feel comfortable dealing with the person responsible for the conduct, the individual may submit their concern in writing to either their Manager or Human Resources who will review with the individual the options for resolution.

The Manager or Human Resources, as applicable, will meet with the parties (either separately or together) and attempt to mediate a resolution that is acceptable to both parties. If a solution is reached, the complaint will be deemed resolved.

#### **(b) Formal Complaint Resolution**

Should the employee feel the informal complaint resolution process was unsuccessful or not possible; the employee may proceed with filing a formal



complaint. This should be done within ten (10) calendar days from the date of incident or date resolution was attempted, using the Respectful Workplace Complaint Form as established by the Manager of Human Resources.

**The Respectful Workplace Complaint Form will be forwarded to individual(s) designated for the management of formal complaints as follows:**

- Human Resources, for all complaints involving individuals of the level of Managers and below except for those employees in the Human Resources Department;
- The CAO, for complaints involving Directors and all staff in the Human Resources Department;
- The Director of Corporate Services, for all complaints involving the CAO;
- The CAO, for all complaints involving a member of Council.

Upon receipt of the Respectful Workplace Complaint Form, Human Resources and the individual(s) designated for the management of the complaint will do a preliminary review of the Complaint Form and this Policy to assess whether the complaint falls within the scope of this Policy. They will also review the substance of the allegation(s) in the complaint to determine whether the subject matter in the complaint is something that, if true, constitutes bullying and harassment, as defined under this Policy.

The complaint will then either be investigated within fifteen (15) calendar days or be dismissed if it would not constitute a violation of this Policy or the Human Rights Code.

If the complaint is dismissed, Human Resources or designated individual will inform the complainant of the reasons in writing.

If the complaint progresses to a formal investigation, the individual(s) designated for the management of the complaint will have the discretion to conduct the investigation internally through Human Resources or externally by appointing a neutral third party. If it is determined that an investigation is warranted, the Investigator will follow the procedures as outlined below. Time limits provided in the Code prevail where an individual wishes to file a formal complaint with the BC Human Rights Tribunal.



### When the Respondent is a Council Member

Where the CAO approves a formal investigation to be conducted on a complaint where the respondent is a Council member, the CAO will appoint an external investigator and the Council Code of Conduct Policy and its established protocols will prevail.

### Steps of Formal Investigative Process:

- a. The investigators (Human Resources or External Investigator) are to act as fact finders and will not be responsible for determining if there is a breach of this Policy or any outcomes of the investigation. These investigators will be appropriately trained.
- b. The investigation will be conducted as quickly as possible. The complainant will be contacted by an investigator within two working days of the complaint being accepted for investigation.
- c. The respondent will be provided with the complainant's name and information on the particulars of the complaint and offered an opportunity to respond.
- d. The complainant, the respondent, and any individuals who may be able to provide relevant information will be interviewed individually and their responses summarized. Each party has the right to be accompanied by, or represented by, a person of their choice.
- e. When the investigation is complete, the investigators will file a report, which will summarize the allegations, responses and findings. The report will not contain a recommendation on findings.
- f. The decision-maker of the complaint may find one, the other, or both parties in contravention of this Policy. Making the final decision and determining culpability and discipline will be the sole responsibility of these designated individual(s).
  - Director of Corporate Services, for all complaints involving individuals of the level of employees and managers (except for those employees and managers in the Human Resources Department);
  - The CAO, for all complaints involving Directors and all staff in the Human Resources Department;
  - The Director of Corporate Services, for all complaints involving the CAO; and



- City Council, for all complaints where the respondent is a member of Council, as per the Council Code of Conduct Policy which will prevail in these instances.
- g. Both the complainant and respondent will be informed in writing of the decision. Human Resources will meet with the respondent, his or her Manager and any other parties deemed relevant to the proceedings to discuss the findings of the investigator's report, to review this Policy, and to outline the actions to be taken to remedy the situation. The respondent will be invited to involve a support person.
- h. The decision-maker will consider remedy or discipline options including but not limited to individual or group education, job site or position transfer, training, mediation counselling, no contact for a period of time, temporary or permanent changes to reporting structures or work assignments, and discipline up to and including termination of appointment.
- i. Where appropriate, such determination will be reviewed with the CAO. The approved decision by the CAO is considered final.

#### 5.4. Grievance/Appeal Process

If a complaint or respondent is not satisfied with the final decision in respect to the complaint, the following avenues may be considered:

- a. Bargaining Unit employees – decisions relating to a respectful workplace complaint may be grieved by a member of the bargaining unit;
- b. Management and Exempt employees – see the Manager of Human Resources for more information;
- c. A WorkSafe BC complaint; or
- d. Complaint to the BC Human Rights Tribunal.

#### 5.5. Documentation

- a. Human Resources will maintain all documentation pertaining to the complaint in a confidential manner.
- b. When the allegations are not proven and there is no disciplinary action, there will be no records of the complaint placed in the personnel files of the complainant, the witnesses or the respondent.

- c. Where a complaint is substantiated, the incident will be recorded in the respondent's file.

## 5.6 Training

Training will occur as required and policy review will be included in orientation. Training for all staff will include the following:

- a. How to recognize bullying, harassment and discrimination;
- b. How staff who experience or witness bullying and harassment should respond;
- c. Procedures for reporting and how the employer follows up with incidents and complaints;
- d. Documentation/forms review.

## 5.7 Annual Review

This program and these procedures will be reviewed annually. All workers will be advised and educated on this Policy when they are hired through the employee orientation process.

## 6. Related Policies

Other related policies include:

- a. Employee Code of Conduct Policy A020
- b. Customer Service Policy A038
- c. Council Code of Conduct Policy C100

# COMMUNITY CHARTER

## [SBC 2003] CHAPTER 26

### Part 4 — Public Participation and Council Accountability

#### Division 6 — Conflict of Interest

##### Disclosure of conflict

**100** (1) This section applies to council members in relation to

- (a) council meetings,
- (b) council committee meetings, and
- (c) meetings of any other body referred to in section 93 [*application of open meeting rules to other bodies*].

(2) If a council member attending a meeting considers that he or she is not entitled to participate in the discussion of a matter, or to vote on a question in respect of a matter, because the member has

- (a) a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the matter, or
  - (b) another interest in the matter that constitutes a conflict of interest,
- the member must declare this and state in general terms the reason why the member considers this to be the case.

(3) After making a declaration under subsection (2), the council member must not do anything referred to in section 101 (2) [*restrictions on participation*].

(4) As an exception to subsection (3), if a council member has made a declaration under subsection (2) and, after receiving legal advice on the issue, determines that he or she was wrong respecting his or her entitlement to participate in respect of the matter, the member may

- (a) return to the meeting or attend another meeting of the same body,
- (b) withdraw the declaration by stating in general terms the basis on which the member has determined that he or she is entitled to participate, and
- (c) after this, participate and vote in relation to the matter.

(5) For certainty, a council member who makes a statement under subsection (4) remains subject to section 101 [*restrictions on participation if in conflict*].

(6) When a declaration under subsection (2) or a statement under subsection (4) is made,

- (a) the person recording the minutes of the meeting must record
  - (i) the member's declaration or statement,
  - (ii) the reasons given for it, and
  - (iii) the time of the member's departure from the meeting room and, if applicable, of the member's return, and
- (b) unless a statement is made under subsection (4), the person presiding at that meeting or any following meeting in respect of the matter must ensure that the member is not present at any part of the meeting during which the matter is under consideration.

### **Restrictions on participation if in conflict**

- 101** (1) This section applies if a council member has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in a matter, whether or not the member has made a declaration under section 100.
- (2) The council member must not
- (a) remain or attend at any part of a meeting referred to in section 100 (1) during which the matter is under consideration,
  - (b) participate in any discussion of the matter at such a meeting,
  - (c) vote on a question in respect of the matter at such a meeting, or
  - (d) attempt in any way, whether before, during or after such a meeting, to influence the voting on any question in respect of the matter.
- (3) A person who contravenes this section is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

### **Restrictions on inside influence**

- 102** (1) A council member must not use his or her office to attempt to influence in any way a decision, recommendation or other action to be made or taken
- (a) at a meeting referred to in section 100 (1) [*disclosure of conflict*],
  - (b) by an officer or an employee of the municipality, or
  - (c) by a delegate under section 154 [*delegation of council authority*],
- if the member has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the matter to which the decision, recommendation or other action relates.

(2)A person who contravenes this section is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

### **Restrictions on outside influence**

**103** (1)In addition to the restriction under section 102, a council member must not use his or her office to attempt to influence in any way a decision, recommendation or action to be made or taken by any other person or body, if the member has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the matter to which the decision, recommendation or other action relates.

(2)A person who contravenes this section is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

### **Exceptions from conflict restrictions**

**104** (1)Sections 100 to 103 do not apply if one or more of the following circumstances applies:

- (a)the pecuniary interest of the council member is a pecuniary interest in common with electors of the municipality generally;
- (b)in the case of a matter that relates to a local service, the pecuniary interest of the council member is in common with other persons who are or would be liable for the local service tax;
- (c)the matter relates to remuneration, expenses or benefits payable to one or more council members in relation to their duties as council members;
- (d)the pecuniary interest is so remote or insignificant that it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to influence the member in relation to the matter;
- (e)the pecuniary interest is of a nature prescribed by regulation.

(2)Despite sections 100 to 103, if a council member

- (a)has a legal right to be heard in respect of a matter or to make representations to council, and
- (b)is restricted by one or more of those sections from exercising that right in relation to the matter,

the council member may appoint another person as a representative to exercise the member's right on his or her behalf.

### **Restrictions on accepting gifts**

**105** (1)A council member must not, directly or indirectly, accept a fee, gift or personal benefit that is connected with the member's performance of the duties of office.

(2)Subsection (1) does not apply to

(a)a gift or personal benefit that is received as an incident of the protocol or social obligations that normally accompany the responsibilities of office,

(b)compensation authorized by law, or

(c)a lawful contribution made to a member who is a candidate for election to a local government.

(3)A person who contravenes this section is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

### **Disclosure of gifts**

**106** (1)This section applies if

(a)a council member receives a gift or personal benefit referred to in section 105

(2) (a) that exceeds \$250 in value, or

(b)the total value of such gifts and benefits, received directly or indirectly from one source in any 12 month period, exceeds \$250.

(2)In the circumstances described in subsection (1), the council member must file with the corporate officer, as soon as reasonably practicable, a disclosure statement indicating

(a)the nature of the gift or benefit,

(b)its source, including, if it is from a corporation, the full names and addresses of at least 2 individuals who are directors of the corporation,

(c)when it was received, and

(d)the circumstances under which it was given and accepted.

(3)A person who contravenes this section is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the

contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

### **Disclosure of contracts with council members and former council members**

107 (1) If a municipality enters into a contract in which

(a) a council member, or

(b) a person who was a council member at any time during the previous 6 months,

has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest, this must be reported as soon as reasonably practicable at a council meeting that is open to the public.

(2) In addition to the obligation under section 100 [*disclosure of conflict*], a council member or former council member must advise the corporate officer, as soon as reasonably practicable, of any contracts that must be reported under subsection (1) in relation to that person.

(3) A person who contravenes subsection (2) is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

### **Restrictions on use of insider information**

108 (1) A council member or former council member must not use information or a record that

(a) was obtained in the performance of the member's office, and

(b) is not available to the general public,

for the purpose of gaining or furthering a direct or indirect pecuniary interest of the council member or former council member.

(2) A person who contravenes this section is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

### **Disqualification from office for contravening conflict rules**

108.1 A person disqualified from holding office under this Division is disqualified from holding office

(a) on a local government,

- (b) on the council of the City of Vancouver or on the Park Board established under section 485 of the *Vancouver Charter*, or
  - (c) as a trustee under the *Islands Trust Act*
- until the next general local election.

**Court order for person to give up financial gain**

- 109** (1) If a council member or former council member has
- (a) contravened this Division, and
  - (b) realized financial gain in relation to that contravention,
- the municipality or an elector may apply to the Supreme Court for an order under this section.
- (2) Within 7 days after the petition commencing an application under this section is filed, it must be served on
- (a) the council member or former council member, and
  - (b) in the case of an application brought by an elector, the municipality.
- (3) On an application under this section, the Supreme Court may order the council member or former council member to pay to the municipality an amount equal to all or part of the person's financial gain as specified by the court.
- (4) In the case of an application made by an elector, if the court makes an order under subsection (3), the municipality must promptly pay the elector's costs within the meaning of the Supreme Court Civil Rules.
- (5) The court may order that costs to be paid under subsection (4) may be recovered by the municipality from any other person as directed by the court in the same manner as a judgment of the Supreme Court.
- (6) Except as provided in subsection (4), the costs of an application are in the discretion of the court.



Helpful Info	Speaking Notes
	<i>have been stewards of this land since time immemorial."</i>
<b>Late Items</b>	
<p>Late items are permissible with unanimous consent from all voting members. Look to your other committee members to ensure there are no concerns.</p> <p>IF there are concerns re: adding late items (<i>this may happen if people feel unprepared to discuss the topic</i>), then you can recommend to the Staff Liaison that the item be added to the next meeting agenda.</p> <p>In the event that a committee meeting does not achieve or has <b>lost quorum</b>, the Committee meeting will be adjourned. If desired, the committee members may continue with an informal discussion with or without the Staff Liaison. (in accordance w/ City Committees Policy C102 s. 5.15 (c))</p>	<p><i>"Are there any late items to include on tonight's agenda?"</i></p> <p><b>If yes...</b></p> <p><i>"Are there any concerns with the late additions? Seeing none, we'll move to adoption of the agenda as amended."</i></p>
<b>Approval of Agenda</b>	
	<p><i>"Are there any objections to the agenda being adopted as circulated (or "as amended" if a Late Item has been added or a change has been made)." [pause]</i></p> <p><i>"Hearing no objections, the agenda is adopted."</i></p>
<b>Adoption of Minutes</b>	
	<p><i>"Are there any objections to the minutes?" [pause for any errors/omissions]</i></p> <p><i>"Hearing no objections, the minutes are adopted."</i></p>

Helpful Info	Speaking Notes
	<p>OR</p> <p><i>“Are there any objections to the proposed amendments? [pause] Hearing none, the minutes are adopted as amended.”</i></p>
<b>Delegations or Presentations</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduce presenter and topic.</li> <li>2. Once the presentation is complete, thank the presenter and invite questions from committee members.</li> <li>3. The presenter is welcome to stay for the remainder of the minutes (if it’s an open meeting), or may leave once their presentation is complete.</li> </ol>	
<b>New Business</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This section holds the bulk of the agenda items.</li> <li>2. You will introduce each item individually.</li> <li>3. If the Committee wishes to make a recommendation to Council on a particular item, you will ask for someone to move/second a motion.</li> <li>4. Always check with the Committee Clerk to ensure they have properly captured the motion.</li> <li>5. It is helpful to provide motions to the Clerk in writing if they are pre-planned.</li> </ol>	<p><i>“Our next agenda item is &lt;INSERT NAME&gt;, presented by &lt;Name&gt;.”</i></p> <p>After the presentation...</p> <p><i>“Thank you, &lt;Name&gt;. Does the committee have any questions for &lt;Name&gt;?”</i></p> <p>Optional:</p> <p><i>“Does the committee wish to entertain a motion?”</i></p> <p>Two of the most common motions for committees:</p> <p><b>Recommend</b> – <i>“I move that the Committee recommend to Council that...”</i></p> <p><b>Support</b> – <i>“I move that the Committee support the...”</i></p>

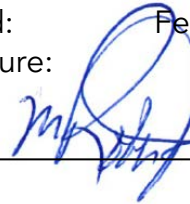
Helpful Info	Speaking Notes
Round Table	
	<i>"We'll do a round table discussion for those that may have items to share. Starting to my right...."</i>
Adjournment	
	<i>"Thank you everyone. Our next meeting is scheduled for &lt;DATE/TIME&gt; at &lt;LOCATION&gt;. This meeting is now adjourned."</i>

### Main Steps of a Motion:

1. **Move.** A member will move the motion by stating,
  - "I move that <inserting motion details>", or
  - "So moved" if the recommended motion was already stated.
  
2. **Second.** Another member raises their hand to second the motion by stating
  - "I'll second the motion", or simply
  - "Second".
  
3. **State.** The Chair states the motion and confirms what has been moved/seconded (e.g. "It is moved and seconded that <repeat motion>").
  
4. **Debate.** The Chair then opens the floor for discussion and debate. Raise your hand to signal to the Chair that you would like to speak. The Chair will call on committee members in the order in which they raise their hands. You can share your thoughts for or against the motion.
  
5. **Vote.** Once everyone has shared their thoughts, the Chair will then put the motion to a vote by stating,
  - "I will now call the question on the motion: All in favour?" [Those voting in the affirmative will raise their hands]
  - "Opposed?" [Those voting in the negative will raise their hands]
  
6. **Declare.** The Chair will then declare the results of the vote by stating,
  - "That carries", or
  - "The motion is defeated".

## Privacy Program

Effective Date: January 25, 2021  
Last Revised: February 18, 2025  
CAO Signature:



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### PART 1 – INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

#### Policy Statement

1. The City of Pitt Meadows (the “City”) is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the “Act”) and is committed to the responsible management of personal and confidential information within the City’s custody and/or control.
2. The Act was proclaimed in 1993 and provides for information access and privacy rights in British Columbia. The purpose of the legislation is to provide the public with the right to request access to the records of public bodies, including a right of access to and a right to request correction of personal information about themselves. The Act also provides for a list of exceptions to the right of access, to balance the right of access with a need for confidentiality. The Act prevents the unauthorized collection, use or disclosure of personal information by public bodies and provides for an independent review of all City decisions made under the Act by the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC).
3. The Act covers all public bodies including: provincial ministries; crown corporations; provincial agencies, boards, and commissions; and local public bodies **including municipalities**, health care bodies, social services bodies, educational bodies, and governing bodies of a profession or occupation.

#### Purpose

4. The purpose of this administrative policy, along with the individual protocol documents noted throughout this document, is to:
  - (a) establish the structure for the City’s Privacy Management Program, which was authorized by Council through the Freedom of Information Bylaw No. 2877, 2021; and

- (b) outline the City's requirements for, and procedures related to, the access to records under the custody and/or control of the City, and the protection of personal and confidential information.

## Scope

- 5. This policy applies to all City employees, Council members, City committee members and other volunteers, and contracted service providers while performing their duties under contract to the City, **collectively referred to as 'Staff' throughout this Policy.**
- 6. The privacy obligations of the City equally apply and flow down to all service providers where collection, use, disclosure, security and access to personal information may be required while performing services under contract to the City.

## Definitions

- 7. In this policy,
  - (a) **Act** means the Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act;
  - (b) **Applicant** means a person who submits a request for access to City records in accordance with section 5 of the Act;
  - (c) **Confidential Information** means a category of information with strict confidentiality requirements including but not limited to:
    - (i) economic or financial information;
    - (ii) third party business information, where its disclosure could harm the third party;
    - (iii) legal advice;
    - (iv) law enforcement information;
    - (v) the substance of deliberations of a Closed Council meeting;
    - (vi) personal information as defined in section 7(i); and
    - (vii) other proprietary information of the City.
  - (d) **Contact Information** means information to enable an individual at a place of business to be contacted and includes the name, position name or title, business telephone number, business address, business email or business fax number of the individual;
  - (e) **Control** means the authority to manage a record throughout its life cycle;

- (f) **Custody** means having physical possession of a record, including responsibility for access, managing, maintaining, preserving, disposing, and providing security;
- (g) **FOI request** means a 'Freedom of Information' request for access to records pursuant to section 5 of the Act;
- (h) **FOI Coordinator** means the Deputy Corporate Officer of the City;
- (i) **Personal information** means recorded information about an identifiable individual other than contact information;
- (j) **Privacy Department** means the Privacy Officer, the FOI Coordinator, and other City employees who support the City's Privacy Program;
- (k) **Privacy Officer** means the Corporate Officer, who is the Head as per the Act and as appointed by Council through the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Bylaw No. 2877, 2021;
- (l) **Reference Sheet** means a process document included within the Records Management & Privacy Program Manual, managed by and available from the Privacy Department;
- (m) **Record** includes books, documents, maps, drawings, letters, papers, and any other mechanism on which information is recorded or stored by mechanical, graphic, electronic, or other means;
- (n) **Responsive Record** means a record that fits within the scope of an FOI request;
- (o) **Staff** includes City employees, Council members, City committee members, other City volunteers, and contracted service providers.

## Roles and Responsibilities

- 8. The **Privacy Officer** is responsible for:
  - (a) the development, maintenance, and oversight of the Privacy Program for the City, which establishes the necessary policies and procedures (collectively referred to as the "Privacy Management Program Manual") to ensure the responsible management of information within the City's custody and control;
  - (b) all matters related to the City's access and privacy obligations under the Act;

- (c) privacy-related awareness and training among Staff; and
  - (d) monitoring program compliance, investigating and tracking privacy incidents and breaches, and ensuring individuals' rights in compliance with privacy law.
9. The **FOI Coordinator** is responsible for the following aspects of the Privacy Program:
- (a) Preparation of responses to, and main point of contact for, FOI requests;
  - (b) Maintenance of records and files related to FOI requests;
  - (c) Compilation of City records in response to FOI requests;
  - (d) Drafting Privacy Breach Reports;
  - (e) Supporting departments when drafting Privacy Impact Assessments; and
  - (f) Other tasks as appointed by the Privacy Officer.
10. **Employees, Council members, City committee members and other volunteers** are responsible for reading and understanding this Policy, following the City's individual privacy policies and protocols, and contacting the Privacy Officer with any access or privacy questions when necessary.
11. **Service Providers** are responsible for understanding their responsibilities to protect personal information as described within the *'Records Management & Privacy Protection Schedule'* which is to be appended to all service agreements.

## **PART 2 – PRIVACY PROTECTION**

### **Protection of Personal Information**

12. All Staff will observe and ensure the following standards established by the Act regarding the collection, use, disclosure, and security of personal information:
- (a) Personal information within the City's custody and/or control will be protected at all times;
  - (b) Personal information will only be collected if the collection is authorized by legislation, is necessary for law enforcement, or is necessary for the operation of a program or activity of the City;
  - (c) Whenever possible, personal information will be collected directly from the individual the information is about;

- (d) If personal information will be collected indirectly, Staff will consult the Privacy Officer first to ensure the collection is authorized under the Act;
  - (e) When collecting personal information, Staff will inform the individual of the specific use(s) of their information, the legal authority for the collection of that information, and the contact information of someone in the organization who can answer their questions about the collection;
  - (f) When collecting personal information from citizens who call the City, employees must advise the citizen what their personal information will be used for, that the personal information may be retained for future communications with the citizen, and that the citizen may contact the Privacy Officer if they have any questions regarding the collection, use or disclosure of their personal information;
  - (g) Staff will include a *Notice of Collection* on all City forms used to collect personal information; the notice will conform to the legal requirements outlined in the '*Collecting Personal Information*' Reference Sheet;
  - (h) Staff will only use personal information for the purpose for which it was collected or for a purpose consistent with that initial purpose, meaning the use has a reasonable and direct connection to the original stated purpose;
  - (i) Staff will not store or access personal information outside of Canada, including the use of cloud storage services such as Dropbox, unless previously approved by the Privacy Officer.
13. Staff must attend the City's **Privacy Training**. Annual refresher training must also be attended to ensure their knowledge on privacy processes and practices is current.
14. All City employees, Council members, City committee members, and other City volunteers will read and sign the ***Records Management & Privacy Protection Employment Agreement*** (the "Agreement") to ensure they understand their role and responsibilities in the protection of personal information under the custody and/or control of the City.
15. A **Personal Information Bank**, which is a record of the types and sensitivities of personal information being held by each department, will be maintained by the Privacy Officer. This enables the City to ensure all personal information in its custody and/or control is properly secured and protected from inappropriate use or disclosure.

16. The City's '*Verification of Identification Protocol*' Reference Sheet will be used by all Staff to verify the identity of an individual before discussing or releasing any personal information with that individual.
17. Employees and Council members will use their City-assigned corporate email accounts when conducting City business, including when working remotely. Personal email accounts must never be used to conduct City business. Staff will follow the policies and procedures outlined in the City's '*Acceptable Use of Information Technology Administrative Policy A009*' to ensure that:
  - (a) the City is compliant with the Act;
  - (b) corporate email is being used appropriately; and
  - (c) unnecessary business risks to the City by misuse of corporate email is avoided.
18. When travelling with personal/confidential information or working offsite at another location, Staff will take measures to protect electronic and paper records, especially those containing personal or confidential information, from risks such as unauthorized collection, use, disclosure, access, and destruction. Staff will observe the standards of care established in the '*Records Management & Privacy Protection When Working Remotely*' Reference Sheet to safeguard personal and confidential information while travelling or working remotely.
19. Where disclosures of personal information are occurring on a regular basis with an external third party, an **Information Sharing Agreement** (ISA) will be developed to document the expectations of the City and the third party regarding the security and protection of the personal information being disclosed or exchanged. Staff will contact the Privacy Officer to determine whether an ISA is required and for direction on the completion of an ISA.

### **Correction of Personal Information**

20. Under the Act, an individual whose information is in a public body's custody and/or control, and who believes there is an error or omission in their personal information, can make a request to the public body to correct the information. Staff who receive a request from an individual for their personal information to be revised will follow the '*Correction of Personal Information*' Reference Sheet which outlines the steps to be taken and the timeframe to follow.

### **Disclosure of Personal Information to Law Enforcement, Government Bodies, or Emergency Personnel**

21. Under the Act, the City is authorized to disclose personal information to Canadian law enforcement agencies to assist in a law enforcement investigation. Non-emergency requests for personal information will be referred to the Privacy Officer for response.

22. In emergency situations where there is not enough time to refer the matter to the Privacy Officer, Staff may disclose personal information directly to law enforcement agencies if it is necessary to avert a risk of significant harm to health or safety. There must be a danger to a person's physical or mental health or a threat to a person's life for the disclosure to fall under this provision.
23. Under the Act, Staff may disclose personal information to Canadian government bodies in accordance with an enactment (law) of BC or Canada that authorizes or requires its disclosure. The government body must make the request in writing and must specify the reason for the request, and the section of the enactment that authorizes or requires the disclosure.
24. Staff will follow the processes outlined in the '*Disclosure of Personal Information to Law Enforcement, Government Bodies, and in Emergency Situations*' Reference Sheet when releasing personal information in these respective circumstances.

### Privacy Breaches

25. A privacy breach occurs when personal information is collected, retained, used, disclosed, accessed, or disposed of in ways that do not comply with the provisions of the Act. For example, losing an unencrypted USB drive which contains personnel files, or accidentally sending an email or confidential document to the wrong recipient, would potentially expose personal information to unauthorized sources.
26. All Staff have a duty to report suspected privacy breaches (accidental or intentional) to their supervisor or manager, or to the Privacy Office directly. Staff will follow the procedures outlined in the '*What is a Privacy Breach and How to Report It*' Reference Sheet.
27. The FOI Coordinator will work with the department where the privacy breach originated to complete a **Privacy Breach Report** using the report template established by the Privacy Officer and in accordance with the privacy breach procedures established by the Privacy Department.

### Privacy Complaints

28. A privacy complaint is a complaint from an individual about a breach of their own personal information.
- 28.1 Privacy complaints that are received by the City will be referred to the Privacy Officer who will investigate the complaint in accordance with established privacy breach protocol.

## Privacy Impact Assessments

29. A Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) is a mandatory tool for assessing new technologies, programs and processes involving personal information to ensure the collection, use, disclosure, and/or security of the personal information is compliant with the Act.
30. Before initiating a new system or process involving personal information, Staff will contact the Privacy Officer who will confirm whether a PIA is required.
31. If a PIA is required, the respective department will work with the Privacy Department to draft the PIA, using the report template established by the Privacy Officer, and in accordance with the procedures outlined in the *'Privacy Impact Assessments'* Reference Sheet.

## Video Surveillance

32. The City may implement video surveillance on City owned or occupied property or buildings where safety or property security matters warrant.
33. As video surveillance may be considered an unreasonable invasion of personal privacy, the installation of video surveillance equipment will only be considered in unique and exceptional circumstances.
34. The deployment of video surveillance by the City is not intended to infringe on individuals' rights and is intended only to safeguard city owned assets and the individuals who use those assets.
35. The **Video Surveillance Policy C042** details the procedures for implementing Video Surveillance, and guidelines for the access and disclosure of stored video images.

## Online Privacy Statement

36. The Privacy Officer, in collaboration with the Manager of Communications, will maintain the **Online Privacy Statement** posted on the City's website, which provides information to the public on how the City collects, uses, discloses, and secures individuals' personal information. It is located at <https://www.pittmeadows.ca/privacy-statement>.

## Compliance and Auditing

37. The Privacy Officer will annually review and update as required the Privacy Management Program and its established policies and protocols to ensure compliance with the Act and to ensure the necessary processes and tools are in

place to appropriately support information access and privacy protection as it relates to the activities of the City.

38. The Privacy Officer may audit the use of City records or systems by Staff to ensure the City is in compliance with the Act and that City policies and protocols regarding the management of personal information are being followed.

## **PART 3 – INFORMATION ACCESS**

### **Freedom of Information**

39. The Act provides individuals with a right of access to certain records and personal information under the custody or control of the City.
40. The Privacy Officer will ensure the City is responsive and accountable to its access obligations under the Act.

### **Routine Requests vs FOI Requests**

41. Most requests received by the City are for information that is not sensitive or confidential; these are called **routine requests** and can be responded to by Staff who have access to the respective records.
42. Requests for records that may contain sensitive or confidential information are called Freedom of Information or **FOI requests**. These requests are processed by the Privacy Department in accordance with procedures set out in the Act.

### **Duty to Assist**

43. In accordance with the Act, Staff will make every reasonable effort to assist applicants and to respond without delay to each applicant openly, accurately, and completely.
44. To ensure responses to FOI requests are made within the 30 working day timeframe imposed by the Act (i.e. not including Saturdays, Sundays or holidays):
  - (a) Staff will forward immediately to the Privacy Department any FOI requests received;
  - (b) Staff will prioritize and respond within 5 working days to requests from the Privacy Department for responsive records;
  - (c) Staff will perform a thorough search of all records, including email, for any responsive records within their department;

- (d) Staff will follow search protocols established in the *'Searching for Records in Response to an FOI Request'* Reference Sheet; and
- (e) During retrieval of records, Staff will immediately notify the Privacy Department if a large volume of records (100+ pages) is anticipated.

### **FOI Response Process**

- 45. The Privacy Department will respond to all FOI requests in accordance with the Act.
- 46. The Privacy Officer will establish the necessary operating procedures to ensure legislated requirements are met.

### **Application of Exceptions**

- 47. The Privacy Department may seek insight and advice from subject matter experts within various departments on issues of particular concern or sensitivity when determining which exceptions to apply to responsive records while processing an FOI request.

### **Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) Updates**

- 48. The Privacy Officer will provide regular updates as needed to the CLT on contentious or sensitive FOI files.
- 49. The Privacy Officer will bring to the attention of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) any FOI requests related to potentially sensitive, political information, or requests with a significant volume of responsive records.

### **Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner**

- 50. The Privacy Department is the main point of contact for the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC), an independent body that provides oversight and enforcement of BC's access and privacy laws.

### **PART 4 – RELATED POLICIES**

- 51. Other related policies include:
  - (a) Policy A009 - Acceptable Use of Information Technology
  - (b) Policy C042 - Video Surveillance
  - (c) Policy A014 – Records Management

## Records Management & Privacy Protection EMPLOYEE AGREEMENT

The City of Pitt Meadows (the “City”) is committed to the security, confidentiality and management of records in its custody and/or control (including records containing personal information). These terms and conditions document the required, ongoing compliance of City employees with regard to provincial, legislative and regulatory obligations.

### Definitions

For the purposes of this agreement, the term “**employee**” will extend to and include Council members, Committee members and other volunteers, and third-party service providers.

**Contact Information** is defined as any information that would enable an individual to be contacted at their place of work.

**Personal Information** is defined as recorded information about an identifiable individual excluding contact information. Examples include: name, residential address and telephone number, ethnic origin, sex, marital status, employment history, financial information (including financial history), health care history, etc.

**Record** is defined as any recorded information. Examples include: books, documents, maps, drawings, photographs, letters, vouchers, papers and any other medium on which information is recorded or stored by any means whether graphic, electronic, mechanical or otherwise.

**Confidential Information** is defined as non-public information that contains administrative, operational or proprietary information requiring protection against unauthorized access or disclosure. It includes anything that has been acquired by, or made available to an individual or other legal entity in the course of the relationship between parties.

### Terms and Conditions

While employed by the City, employees will abide by all provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) including appropriate use, disclosure, access, and security of personal and confidential information. Employees are responsible for the protection and security of information and records in their custody to prevent unauthorized access, modification, use, disclosure, theft, or disposal of such records. Employees must not share, show, or discuss such records, or the personal or confidential information contained therein, except as appropriate and required in order to perform their operational duties for the City or as required by FIPPA and/or City policies.

Records created, maintained and used during the course of employment to meet the City's administrative and operational objectives remain the property of the City and will be retained and disposed of per approved retention and disposition schedules. City employees are accountable and responsible for records at all times which are the exclusive and confidential property of the City.

Within 24 hours of termination of employment, all records in the custody and/or control of employees must be returned to the City.

All standards, guidelines, procedures, and protocols related to these terms and conditions are documented and reflected in the City's Records Management & Privacy Program Manual.

I have read and agree to the above terms and conditions:

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Employee Signature

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Print Name

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Date

## Committee Member - Consent to Disclosure of Personal Information

### Definition:

For the purposes of this consent form, 'personal information' means the following recorded information about a City Committee member: a video recording or screen capture of their face; their name as displayed in the Zoom Video Conferencing platform; and their personal opinions, comments or views.

### Overview:

As part of your work on a City committee, you will be attending committee meetings that may be:

- hosted electronically through Zoom video conferencing;
- livestreamed and available for viewing online by members of the public; and
- recorded for archival or administrative purposes.

Because of the various online platforms required to administer, livestream and record electronic meetings as above, your personal information may be disclosed both inside and outside Canada as part of the electronic process.

Section 33.1 of the Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act (the "Act") states that a public body must seek express consent from an individual before disclosing their information as above.

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### CONSENT:

By signing below:

- a) I acknowledge and understand that my personal information is being collected under the authority of section 26(c) of the Act to administer an advisory committee of the City of Pitt Meadows;
- b) I consent to the disclosure of my personal information both inside and outside Canada as described above for the purposes of conducting, livestreaming and recording City Committee meetings and administering the City Committees Program; and
- c) I understand that, should I have questions, I can contact the Privacy Officer, City of Pitt Meadows, 12007 Harris Road, 604.465.2462, [kbarchard@pittmeadows.ca](mailto:kbarchard@pittmeadows.ca).

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Meeting Process: Tips & Techniques

Adapted from materials by Eli Mina, Parliamentarian, [www.elimina.com](http://www.elimina.com)

Fundamental Principles for Debate - OFEEDS	
<b>O</b>	
1. Order	One person speaks at a time; Chair or designated person keeps the speakers' lineup; speakers wait until they're called upon
<b>F</b>	
2. Focus	Focus on the group's core mandate; stay on topic; members hold each other accountable and bring the conversation back on topic when it strays.
<b>E</b>	
3. Efficiency	Focus on one topic at a time; stick to the agenda; be concise with your words and recommendations; avoid long explanation and 'Yes but' statements.
<b>E</b>	
4. Equality	Ensure equal opportunities are given to each member to speak and share insights; more verbose members work on saying less, and quieter members work on sharing more.
<b>D</b>	
5. Decorum	All members will remain civilized and respectful with their words, body language, actions and intentions; focus on the issues at hand, not on people or personalities in the room.
<b>S</b>	
6. Safe Environment	Everyone should feel welcome, included and safe in the room; this makes it possible for members to share unpopular but necessary points without fear...a key component of democracy and informed decision making.

## Fundamental Principles for Debate - OFEEDS

### Habits That Can Negatively Affect Debate:

1. Speaking or making motions without being recognized by the Chair to do so.
2. Rambling, going in circles, repeating oneself.
3. Digressing from the agenda and discussing matters unrelated to your committee's key mandate.
4. Not enforcing time limits on public presenters.
5. Dominating a meeting with follow up questions and rebuttals.
6. Publicly insulting or questioning the honesty, integrity or competence of others (members, staff, residents, etc.).
7. Aggressively clapping, heckling or booing someone or something.
8. No allocation of time for agenda items.

### The Process is Your Friend:

Following an effective meeting process will ensure a productive and collaborative meeting with impactful results.

1. The process is your friend.
2. Learn how the process works and follow it willingly.
3. Ensure others know the process and follow it willingly.
4. When the process is broken, defend it.
5. If you defend the process, it will defend you.

### Raising a Point of Order

Every committee member is responsible for defending the meeting process. This is done by calling a 'point of order' when things aren't going according to the established process (i.e. OFEEDS):

1. The member interrupts another member by saying 'point of order';
2. The interrupted member stops talking;
3. The Chair recognizes the interrupting member who then states their concern;
4. The concern is addressed (sometimes with the help of the Chair).

## Defending the Process – “Cheat Sheet”

<i>If this Occurs:</i>	<i>You Can Say This:</i>
<b>Digression</b>	<p><i>“Point of order.”</i></p> <p>When recognized: <i>“Can we please get back on topic?”</i></p>
<b>Interruptions</b>	<p><i>“Point of order.”</i></p> <p>When recognized: <i>“Can we have one person speaking at a time?” Or “Can we wait to be recognized by the Chair before we speak?” Or “Can we please hear people out without interruptions?”</i></p>
<b>Last Minute Motion</b>	<p><i>“Point of order.”</i></p> <p>When recognized: <i>“I move that this motion be referred to_____ for input and assessment.” Or “Given that it’s late, I suggest we discuss this motion informally now, and then postpone it until the next meeting.”</i></p>
<b>Personal Attacks</b>	<p><i>“Point of order.”</i></p> <p>When recognized: <i>“We should be focusing on issues, not people.”</i></p>
<b>Rambling</b>	<p><i>“Point of order.”</i></p> <p>When recognized: <i>“Can we please keep our comments brief? I’m concerned that we may run out of time for significant issues later on.”</i></p>
<b>Repetitive Debate</b>	<p><i>“Point of order.”</i></p> <p>When recognized: <i>“Are we ready to close debate and vote on this motion?” Or: “I move to close debate.” Or “I move the previous question.”</i></p>
<b>Side Conversations</b>	<p><i>“Point of order.”</i></p> <p>When recognized: <i>“Can we please have one conversation at time?”</i></p>
<b>Unbalanced Participation</b>	<p><i>“Point of order.”</i></p> <p>When recognized: <i>“I am wondering if we could hear from members who have not spoken on this item.”</i></p>
<b>Unclear Motion</b>	<p><i>“Point of order.”</i></p> <p>When recognized: <i>“Can we please have the motion repeated?” Or “I move to amend the motion by_____” (You may propose to replace, add, insert or delete text.)</i></p>