



## CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting – Tuesday, October 26, 2021  
6:30 pm - BY MS TEAMS

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**Present:** Ken Ashley  
Keegan Casidy  
Jennifer Johnson  
Eleanor Gill  
Diana Leung  
Irwin Oostindie  
Lorna Pelly  
Mariko Michasiw  
Oliver Ng  
Councillor Megan Curren

**Guest:** Cheeying Ho, Whistler Centre for Sustainability Engagement and Planning

**Staff:** Caroline Jackson, Manager, Climate Action, Natural Systems and Biodiversity  
Adam Wright, Sustainability Planner  
Bo Ocampo, Sustainability Specialist  
Mary Jukich, Committee Clerk

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### 1. Welcome and Call to Order

Councillor Curren called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

Members were welcomed to the first meeting of the Climate Action Advisory Committee.

### 2. Territorial Acknowledgement

Councillor Curren provided the Territorial Acknowledgement.

### 3. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by Irwin Oostindie and seconded by Oliver Ng  
To adopt the agenda.

**CARRIED**

### 4. Review Committee Terms of Reference, Purpose and Roles

Caroline Jackson, Manager, Climate Action, Natural Systems and Biodiversity, Adam Wright, Sustainability Planner, Bo Ocampo, Sustainability Specialist and Mary Jukich, Committee Clerk were introduced as the staff members on the Committee.

Caroline Jackson provided an overview of the Committee's terms of reference, highlighting that the purpose of the committee was to provide input and advice to staff in the development and implementation of policy.

The Committee is comprised of nine members with an appointment term of one year. At the end of the term, Council will be provided with a report which will be prepared with the assistance of the Committee.

As per the Committee terms of reference, the frequency of the meetings will be a minimum of four times per year, however, there may be an opportunity for additional meetings.

With respect to the Chair of the Committee, members were requested to consider whether they wished a rotating Chair wherein a Chair would be selected at the end of each meeting. In terms of the role, in addition to leading the meetings, the Chair would be responsible for reviewing meeting agendas.

Members were provided with a brief orientation on the function of MS Teams.

A question was raised around the frequency of the meetings as four meetings may not be enough for efficiency or impact. Information was provided that there may be a possibility for additional meetings; however, staff would have to determine capacity to support more meetings.

A further question was raised if subcommittees could be formed. Information was provided that subcommittees could be created; however, staff would have to determine the resources to support the subcommittee.

## **5. Introductions**

Cheeying Ho from the Whistler Centre for Sustainability Engagement and Planning advised members this was an introductory meeting, focussing mainly on members' roles, terms of reference and the District's work on climate and biodiversity. As an introductory exercise, members were invited to share some personal information, and what they wished to learn, and contribute, to the Committee.

## **6. Break**

Members took a short break and the meeting resumed at approximately 7:40 pm.

## **7. Overview of the District's Climate and Biodiversity Planning Context and Key Pathways Moving Forward**

Caroline Jackson provided some background and history, and foundational work that has occurred at the District and the general approach to implementing this work. It was noted that the District has taken a leadership role in declaring a climate and ecological emergency and resourcing a response at the municipal level. Staff are charged at looking across the organization to advance the District's response to the climate and ecological emergency.

Work will be guided by two key plans that address climate change mitigation (2019 Community and Emissions Plan or CEEP), and climate adaptation (2017 Climate Change

Adaptation Strategy or CCAS) in the District, and Council has recently directed staff to develop a Biodiversity Action Plan which will also guide the work.

The approach and principles guiding this work is as follows:

- Communicate and engage to create internal and external awareness and drive further action
- Focus on people through an equity-based and indigenous reconciliation-centred approach
- Provide accountability through annual metrics and reporting

A summary of the key pathways is as follows:

- Corporate leadership
- Low carbon buildings
- Active transportation and electric vehicles
- Healthy ecosystems
- Climate Change
- Zero Waste

Future meetings will be centred on one or more of the above pathways with plans, policies and programs being brought forward for the Committee's advice and input.

Members stressed the need to integrate climate action with other priorities such as housing, transportation and affordability and to ensure climate action is integrated into other DNV committee agendas. Continually seeking opportunities to advance climate and social justice was emphasized. Community gardens and food security was mentioned as a topic that could be incorporated.

Members requested that agenda topics be provided prior to the meetings so that members can solicit feedback on topics and come prepared for discussion. Staff indicated that whenever possible, materials will be sent out to the Committee in advance of meetings.

## **8. Next Steps, Next Meetings and Topics**

The next meeting will be scheduled for early January and the topic will be zero waste.

Staff will look at the guidelines around in-person meetings as well as the potential for a hybrid format.

## **9. Election of Chair for Next Meeting**

Prior to the election of the Chair, it was suggested that members may wish to serve as Chair at the meeting wherein their area of expertise is discussed.

Eleanor Gill volunteered to serve as the Chair for the January meeting and as there were no further volunteers, Eleanor Gill was acclaimed as the Chair.

Mariko Michasiw volunteered to serve as the Vice Chair at the January meeting and as there were no further volunteers, Mariko Michasiw was acclaimed as the Vice Chair.

In an effort to streamline process, the Chair and Vice Chair positions for all subsequent meetings will be elected at the January meeting.

Further information around the meeting schedule will also be provided at the next meeting.

#### **10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.