

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
FINANCE AND INTERGOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) Finance and Intergovernment Committee held at 1:09 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 in the 28th Floor Committee Room, 4730 Kingsway, Burnaby, British Columbia.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair, Councillor Raymond Louie, Vancouver
Vice Chair, Mayor Greg Moore, Port Coquitlam (arrived at 1:11 p.m.)
Mayor Malcolm Brodie, Richmond
Mayor Mike Clay, Port Moody
Mayor Derek Corrigan, Burnaby
Councillor Heather Deal, Vancouver
Mayor Darrell Mussatto, North Vancouver City
Councillor Barbara Steele, Surrey
Mayor Richard Stewart, Coquitlam
Mayor Richard Walton, North Vancouver District

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None.

STAFF PRESENT:

Carol Mason, Chief Administrative Officer
Janis Knaupp, Legislative Services Coordinator, Board and Information Services

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1 February 14, 2018 Regular Meeting Agenda

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee adopt the agenda for its regular meeting scheduled for February 14, 2018 as circulated.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

2.1 November 8, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee adopt the minutes of its regular meeting held November 8, 2017 as circulated.

CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS

No items presented.

1:11 p.m. Vice Chair Moore arrived at the meeting.

4. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Municipal Taxation and Revenue Sources

Patrice Impey, Chief Financial Officer/General Manager of Finance, Risk, and Supply Chain Management and Grace Cheng, Long-Term Financial Sustainability and Resilience, Capital Planning, Debt Strategy, Property Tax, Strategic Support, City of Vancouver, provided members with a presentation on options the City of Vancouver is considering to support small business through provincial tax reform highlighting challenges with property assessment related to site redevelopment, tax apportionment between landlord and tenants, taxes levied by other taxing authorities, policy options being considered, and next steps.

In response to questions, members were informed about:

- tax averaging not mitigating significant increases in property tax assessments
- feedback from the development community, owners, and tenants
- property redevelopment and sales opportunities impacting tenants
- Regional Administrators Advisory Committee and Regional Finance Advisory Committee consideration of broad taxation issues and plans to develop local government communications to address these concerns with the Province

Presentation material titled “Supporting Small Business Through Provincial Tax Reform” is retained with the February 14, 2018 Finance and Intergovernment Committee agenda.

5. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR STAFF

5.1 School Tax Implementations for Small Businesses

Report dated February 7, 2018 from Dean Rear, Deputy Corporate Financial Officer/Director, Financial Planning and Operations, Financial Services, providing the analysis of the impact of provincial school tax on small business in the region, and requesting that the MVRD Board write a letter to the Province seeking a change in school tax rates setting variable non-residential rates by school district, with lower rates in areas with higher assessed values to achieve an equitable alignment of non-residential school tax revenue and school expenditures across school districts.

John Merkley, Partner, Cascadia Partners, and Dean Rear, Deputy Corporate Financial Officer/Director, Financial Planning and Operations, Financial Services, provided members with a presentation on school tax implementations for small business highlighting objectives, an overview of small business in Metro

Vancouver, single school tax rate for all non-residential properties in BC, business tax ratios by region, summary of small business scenarios, and recommendations.

Presentation material titled "School Tax Implications for Small Business in Metro Vancouver" is retained with the February 14, 2018 Finance and Intergovernment Committee agenda.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the MVRD Board:

- a) Receive for information the report dated February 7, 2018, titled "Provincial School Tax implications for Small Business"; and
- b) Write a letter to the Province of British Columbia requesting that it set variable non-residential school tax rates by school district, with lower rates in areas with higher assessed values, as is done currently for residential school tax rates, to achieve an equitable alignment of non-residential school tax revenue and school expenditures across school districts.

CARRIED

Agenda Varied

The order of the agenda was varied to consider a resolution to close meeting at this point.

9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee close its regular meeting scheduled for February 14, 2018 pursuant to the *Community Charter* provisions, Section 90 (1) (e) and (g) as follows:

- "90 (1) A part of the meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:
- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the board or committee considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the regional district; and
 - (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the regional district."

CARRIED

Adjournment

The Finance and Intergovernment Committee adjourned its regular meeting of February 14, 2018 at 1:56 p.m. to convene a closed meeting.

Reconvene

The Finance and Intergovernment Committee reconvened its regular meeting of February 14, 2018 at 2:53 p.m. with the same members being in attendance.

Agenda Order Resumed

The order of the agenda resumed with Item 5.2 being before the Committee at this point.

5.2 2018 Finance and Intergovernment Committee Priorities and Work Plan

Report dated February 6, 2018 from Carol Mason, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer, providing the Finance and Intergovernment Committee with the priorities and work plan for the year 2018.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee endorse the work plan as presented in the report dated February 6, 2018 titled "2018 Finance and Intergovernment Committee Priorities and Work Plan".

CARRIED

5.3 Authorization to Attend 2018 Standing Committee Events

Report dated February 2, 2018 from Chris Plagnol, Corporate Officer, seeking the Committee's approval of the 2018 events and conferences, that were identified as part of the board approved budget, authorizing remuneration for those members approved to attend each event.

Main Motion

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee approve attendance at the following events within the 2018 Leadership and Engagement program budget:

- Aboriginal Relations Seminar 2018
- American Planning Association National Planning Conference 2018
- American Water Works Association Annual 2018 Conference and Exposition
- BioCycle West Coast Conference 2018
- Canadian Housing and Renewal Association Congress 2018
- City Age 2018: Build the Future
- Electric Vehicle Roadmap Conference 2018
- Globe Forum 2018
- Housing Central Conference 2018
- ICLEI World Congress 2018
- International Economic Development Council 2018 Annual Conference
- Quality Urban Energy Systems of Tomorrow QUEST 2018 Conference
- Rail-Volution 2018
- Recycling Council of British Columbia 2018 Conference and Trade Show
- Solid Waste Association of North America Wastecon Conference 2018
- Special Park Districts Forum 2018
- Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference 2018

Members considered a request to add the National Recreation and Parks Association 2018 Annual Conference in Indianapolis to the list of approved events.

Amendment to the Main Motion

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Finance and Intergovernment amend the Main Motion by adding to the bulleted list, in alphabetical order, “National Recreation and Parks Association 2018 Annual Conference”.

CARRIED

Members considered a request to send an additional representative to Globe Forum 2018 who is not a member of the Climate Action Committee.

Amendment to the Main Motion

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Finance and Intergovernment amend the Main Motion, after “Globe Forum 2018”, by adding the Phrase “(including 1 additional attendee for a total of 3)”.

CARRIED

Question on the Main Motion as Amended

Question was then called on the Main Motion as amended and it was

CARRIED

The Main Motion as amended now reads as follows:

“That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee approve attendance at the following events within the 2018 Leadership and Engagement program budget:

- *Aboriginal Relations Seminar 2018*
- *American Planning Association National Planning Conference 2018*
- *American Water Works Association Annual 2018 Conference and Exposition*
- *BioCycle West Coast Conference 2018*
- *Canadian Housing and Renewal Association Congress 2018*
- *City Age 2018: Build the Future*
- *Electric Vehicle Roadmap Conference 2018*
- *Globe Forum 2018 (including 1 additional attendee for a total of 3)*
- *Housing Central Conference 2018*
- *ICLEI World Congress 2018*
- *International Economic Development Council 2018 Annual Conference*
- *Quality Urban Energy Systems of Tomorrow QUEST 2018 Conference*
- *National Recreation and Parks Association 2018 Annual Conference*
- *Rail-Volution 2018*
- *Recycling Council of British Columbia 2018 Conference and Trade Show*
- *Solid Waste Association of North America Wastecon Conference 2018*
- *Special Park Districts Forum 2018*
- *Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference 2018”*

5.4 Authorization to Attend 2018 International Events

Report dated February 6, 2018 from Heather Schoemaker, General Manager, External Relations, seeking Committee approval for attendance and remuneration of board members to attend events that are within the mandate of Metro Vancouver’s international engagement objectives and to make recommendations to the Board Chair.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee approves attendance at the following international events within the 2018 Leadership and Engagement program budget:

- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) - World Council 2018
- ICLEI Resilient Cities 2018
- ICLEI World Congress 2018
- 2018 Study Tour - Knowledge sharing and collaboration - Council of Mayors, South East Queensland, Australia
- Additional international conferences identified by the Chair that align with the priorities of the Leadership and Engagement Program

CARRIED

5.5 Regional Prosperity Initiative (RPI) Update

Report dated February 6, 2018 from Heather Schoemaker, General Manager and Ann Rowan, Collaboration Initiatives Manager, External Relations, providing an update on the progress of the Regional Prosperity Initiative.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated February 6, 2018 titled “Regional Prosperity Initiative Update”.

CARRIED

5.6 Fraser Basin Council - Contribution Agreement

Report dated February 6, 2018 from Neal Carley, General Manager, Parks, Planning and Environment, seeking MVRD Board approval of a three-year contribution agreement with the Fraser Basin Council, in the amount of \$300,000 annually, for the term commencing January 1, 2018 and ending December 31, 2020.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the MVRD Board approve a three-year Contribution Agreement with the Fraser Basin Council for an annual amount of \$300,000 for the term January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2020, as presented in the report dated February 6, 2018, titled “Fraser Basin Council – Contribution Agreement”.

CARRIED

5.7 Metro Vancouver’s 2017 Zero Waste Conference

Report dated February 2, 2018 from Heather Schoemaker, General Manager, External Relations, providing an overview of Metro Vancouver’s Seventh Annual Zero Waste Conference - *“A Future without Waste: A Circular Economy within Reach”* held on Wednesday, November 1, 2017 at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee receive for information the report dated February 2, 2018 and titled “Metro Vancouver’s 2017 Zero Waste Conference”.

CARRIED

5.8 National Zero Waste Council 2017 Update

Report dated February 1, 2018 from Heather Schoemaker, General Manager and Ann Rowan, Manager, Collaboration Initiatives, External Relations, providing an update on the 2017 activities and initiatives of the National Zero Waste Council.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated February 1, 2018 titled “National Zero Waste Council 2017 Update”.

CARRIED

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

No items presented.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

No items presented.

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATIONS

No items presented.

9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

This item was previously considered.

10. ADJOURNMENT/CONCLUSION

That the Finance and Intergovernment Committee conclude its regular meeting of February 14, 2018.

CARRIED

(Time: 3:10 p.m.)

Janis Knaupp,
Legislative Services Coordinator

Raymond Louie, Chair