



MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held at City Hall in Conference Room A
141 West 14th Street, North Vancouver, BC on September 27, 2023

The City of North Vancouver respectfully acknowledges that this meeting is held on the traditional and unceded territories of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and Səlilwətał (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.

Members Present

Kathy McGrenera, Acting Chair
Farnoosh Fallah
Olga Kens
Tim Page
Zeyus Spenta

Tony Valente, Councillor

Absent

Anna Boltenko, Chair
Liza Feris
Kate Galicz, Vice-Chair
Catherine Kingfisher
Edytha Barker, Administrative Coordinator II

Staff Present

Heather Evans, Community Planner
Renee de St. Croix, Manager, Long Range &
Community Planning

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, K. McGrenera agreed to act as Chair for the meeting.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the June 28, 2023 meeting were tabled to the September meeting.

3. UPDATES

a) Councillor

- The Council Strategic Plan was approved by Council at their September 25, 2023 meeting. This plan will guide the work for the Council term and provides some detailed focus for what Council intends to accomplish.
 - SPAC inquired about how success of the Strategic Plan is measured; it was acknowledged that there can be challenges with aligning adequate resources to match expectations of achievable outcomes. It is also

acknowledged that the City's outcomes and success depends in part on the role of other orders of government.

- The Strategic Plan can be viewed in the September 25, 2023 Council Agenda Package (<https://www.cnv.org/City-Hall/Council-Meetings/Council-Agendas,-Minutes>)
- At the September 25, 2023 meeting, North Vancouver City Library and North Vancouver Recreation Commission provided updates to Council as well, and the presentations can be viewed at the link above.

b) Staff

- Planning staff are engaging the community for input on the draft Community Wellbeing Strategy and the Climate and Environment Strategy. Surveys are available here: <https://letstalk.cnv.org/>
- The City applied to the CMHC Housing Accelerator Fund. The Housing Accelerator Fund provides incentive funding to local governments encouraging initiatives aimed at increasing housing supply. It also supports the development of complete, low-carbon and climate-resilient communities that are affordable, inclusive, equitable and diverse. The City expects to hear the outcome of the application this fall.
- There was a question about feedback on Round One grant applications. Staff confirmed that they provided feedback to some applicants that did not receive funding as requested by SPAC.

4. UPDATE AND INPUT ON DRAFT COMMUNITY WELLBEING STRATEGY

The Community Planner provided an overview of the draft Community Wellbeing Strategy:

- The City of North Vancouver Draft Community Wellbeing Strategy aims to create a community where everyone belongs and has opportunities to thrive.
- Three focus areas include: 1. Connection - connecting people with each other and with daily needs close to where we live; 2. Equity - shaping out the city by a diverse and inclusive representation of voices, experiences and contributions; and 3. Investment - social infrastructure (spaces, places, services, programs) is consistently invested in and maintained over time, to benefit both the economy and society.
- The Draft Strategy includes six pathways with directions and objectives: 1. Complete Communities; 2. Housing for All, 3. City for all Ages; 4. Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility; 5. Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Economy; and 6. Partnerships, Advocacy and Financial Supports.
- This is a 10 year strategy and it is intended that the directions and objectives will be delivered in this timeframe. Delivery and timing of the work will be dependent on the City of North Vancouver Council's objectives and priorities, along with the community needs, annual budgets, and capacity. Much of the work will require partnerships with other governments, organizations, stakeholders and the community.

Members presented the following notable questions and comments:

- Complete Communities: While it may be possible to get to health care facilities within 15 minutes, it is impossible to access health care and mental health care services without a significant wait. The committee discussed the challenges of wait times and

accessibility of services. While this is under provincial jurisdiction what can we do as a community to improve the access to services and wellbeing of citizens? Examples discussed were the PACT program for mental health, and mental health services provided by non-profits (e.g. Family Services of the North Shore). The role of Fire Services in responding to medical emergencies was discussed.

- General: In the Community Wellbeing Strategies the six pathways are separate, yet they overlap and relate to one another in practice. The City's action and implementation needs to make connections between the six pathways.
- General: It was noted that there is no pathway in the Community Wellbeing Strategy on climate and the environment, and that the linkage to the Climate and Environment Strategy should be made clear and explicit.
- General: Many of the topics in the Strategy are broad systemic issues, and the strategy is not particularly grounded in action. What can an individual person do to affect change? How do we become confident that the strategy will result in deliverable actions? Who will ensure that Council does this work?
- There is an opportunity to tell stories in the Strategy about what the broad pathways and objectives mean in reality (e.g. the Navigators Program that assists people experiencing poverty).
- Will there be an opportunity to include an action plan with the presentation of the final strategy to Council?
- Housing: There was a discussion that stratas can pass bylaws to restrict the number of people who live in a unit. This has a significant impact on housing availability and supply in the City, and the City should consider advocating for change to provincial strata regulations.
- City for All Ages: Observation that kindergarten children are having difficulty with accessing school spaces. The Councillor will inquire and report back to the Committee.
- SPAC would like to include the Community Wellbeing Strategy on the agenda in October for further discussion.

5. COMMUNITY GRANTS ROUND TWO

The deadline for Round Two 2023 Community Grant Applications was September 15. The City received approximately 30 applications and staff are reviewing the applications received for eligibility and completeness.

Staff will circulate the grant applications in early October to SPAC members for review, with a spreadsheet list of grants and a worksheet for reviewing the applications.

Each group will be assigned approximately one-third of the Round Two applications for review. Prior to the October meeting members are asked to review the assigned applications and be ready to discuss their comments, questions and preliminary suggested allocations at the October meeting. If time permits, members are asked to connect with one another to discuss the applications prior to the October meeting; this is optional.

6. ROUNDTABLE

No discussion.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:16 pm.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 25 at 6 pm.



Kathy McGreenera, Acting Chair