FRASER VALLEY ABORIGINAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 19, 2018
10:00 am
FVRD Boardroom, 45950 Cheam Avenue, Chilliwack, BC

Members Present:	Councillor Brenda Falk, City of Abbotsford, Vice Chair Director Sam Waddington, City of Chilliwack Director Alec Niemi, Electoral Area C Director Wilfried Vicktor, District of Hope Director Jim Hinds, District of Mission Councillor Sylvia Pranger, District of Kent Madeline McDonald, CAO, Village of Harrison Hot Springs Commissioner David Renwick, Cultus Lake Park Board
Regrets:	Director Al Stobbart, Electoral Area G, Chair Councillor Samantha Piper, Village of Harrison Hot Springs Councillor Bonita Zarrillo, City of Coquitlam, Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Relations Committee Observer Member Chris Crosman, Deputy CAO, City of Chilliwack Katherine Treloar, General Manager ISIR, City of Abbotsford John Fortolozky, CAO, District of Hope Wallace Mah, CAO, District of Kent Bonny Bryant, CAO, Cultus Lake Park Board Ron Poole, CAO, District of Mission Marino Piombini, Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Relations Committee
Staff Present:	Barclay Pitkethly, Director of Regional Programs/FVARC Administrator Alison Stewart, Manager of Strategic Planning Jaime Schween, Manager of Corporate Administration Jessica Morrison, Policy Analyst – First Nations Relations Graham Daneluz, Deputy Director of Planning & Development Christina Vugteveen, Manager of Parks *(part)* Jamie Benton, Environmental Services Coordinator *(part)* Amanda Molloy, Executive Assistant to CAO and Board Tina Mooney, Executive Assistant Chris Lee, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Falk called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

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2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, ADDENDA AND LATE ITEMS

Moved By WADDINGTON
Seconded By NIEMI

THAT the Agenda, Addenda and Late Items for the Fraser Valley Aboriginal Relations Committee Open Meeting of June 19, 2018 be amended to include a Halq'eméylem/Sxwōxwiyam lesson by Albert 'Sonny' McHalsie, Historian/Cultural Advisor, Stó:lō Management Centre Narrator/Tour Guide, Bad Rock Tours (SRRMC/Stó:lō Tourism) and that the Agenda, as amended, be approved;

AND THAT all delegations, reports, correspondence and other information set to the Agenda be received for information.

CARRIED

3. MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Minutes of the Fraser Valley Aboriginal Relations Committee Open Meeting - February 20, 2018

Moved By WADDINGTON
Seconded By HINDS

THAT the Minutes of the Fraser Valley Aboriginal Relations Committee Open Meeting of February 20, 2018 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Albert 'Sonny' McHalsie, Historian/Cultural Advisor, Stó:lō Management Centre Narrator/Tour Guide, Bad Rock Tours (SRRMC/Stó:lō Tourism)

Albert 'Sonny' McHalsie, Historian/Cultural Advisor, Stó:lō Management Centre Narrator/Tour Guide, Bad Rock Tours (SRRMC/Stó:lō Tourism) provided a Halq'eméylem/Sxwōxwiyam lesson on Sxwoxwiyam (Mythical Account) of the origin of the Sts'iyaq (Siyak) taken from *The Salish People: Volume III: The Mainland Halkomelem by Charles Hill-Tout.*

4.2 First Nations Engagement for FVARC Visioning

Jessica Morrison, Policy Analyst – First Nations Relations reported that as part of the next stage of the visioning process, the FVRD is now prepared to reach out to First Nations organizations in the region to begin the engagement process to see if they would like to be represented and how they would like to be represented. The FVRD will reach out to organizations to include bands, tribes, tribal councils and treaty associations in the region. She advised that a staff-level

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discussion with interested parties is proposed for the late summer or early fall of 2018.

Committee members provided suggestions for discussion with interested parties. It was also noted that recent attendance at the FVARC meeting was low and that it was necessary to get the whole Committee involved as we may be missing out on valuable input.

Barclay Pitkethly, FVARC Administrator reported that the staff report on *'First Nations Engagement for FVARC Visioning*' will be brought forward to the June Board agenda to keep Board members apprised of the direction that the FVARC is taking. It was noted that as the visioning process evolves and issues arise, substantial changes will be made in the near future and engagement will be very important at all levels. He envisaged that workshops will be carried out in the fall.

4.3 FVRD Projects Review

Mr. Pitkethly reported that staff have engaged with First Nations communities and organizations within the region on FVRD projects and initiatives. He noted that this Committee may become the forum for member municipalities to report out on their projects with First Nations.

Ms. Morrison provided an organizational snapshot of the projects that the Environmental, Parks, Planning and Engineering Departments in the FVRD had with First Nations involvement. Positive feedback was received from Committee members on these initiatives.

It was noted that in the Harrison area staff meets quarterly with their surrounding First Nations communities and this has been very effective and valuable in relationship building. It was noted that an overview of proactive steps taken by other communities to foster First Nations relationships would be beneficial to all communities and staff was directed to provide such a report at the next meeting.

It was highlighted that for the first time the Sts'ailes First Nation flag was raised for Sasquatch Day in the Village of Harrison Hot Springs during the recent Sasquatch Days event, June 16-17, 2018.

4.4 FVRD Transit Services - First Nations Participation

Alison Stewart provided a PowerPoint presentation pertaining to FVRD regional transit and the participation of First Nations in these services. She noted that the FVRD's regional service is primarily one of connecting communities within the FVRD.

The following key points were noted in the presentation:

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- Transit is a growing service;
- Prior to 2012 we had no direct involvement in Transit;
- In 2012 the FVRD assumed responsibility for the Agassiz-Harrison (AGH) transit route 11 from the District of Kent;
- In 2015 expansion of the Fraser Valley Express (FVX) route 66 connecting the Cities of Chilliwack and Abbotsford to TransLink services at the Carvolth Exchange in Langley;
- In 2017 the introduction of route 22 Hope transit service between the District of Hope and Agassiz;
- Route 22 provides limited local service within the District of Hope's boundaries;
- FVRD has service agreements in place to serve Cheam First Nation and Seabird Island Band;
- FVRD are currently in discussion with Chawathil First Nation;
- Introduction of the Hope service provided an opportunity to engage First Nations participation in the new service;
- Challenge in providing transit in rural areas due to the long distances between communities and sparse populations in between;
- Future proposed route is to connect Agassiz to the District of Mission on the north side of the Fraser River;
- Currently transit facilities in both Chilliwack and Abbotsford are at capacity.

In response to a question on projected timeline for future transit services, it was noted that the timing issue would be dependent on transit facilities expansion.

Staff was commended on the work done on transit.

4.5 Community to Community Forum between Sema:th First Nation, the City of Abbotsford and the Fraser Valley Regional District - October 17, 2017 - Report Form

The Community to Community Forum between Sema:th First Nation, the City of Abbotsford and the Fraser Valley Regional District, October 17, 2017 - Report Form was provided for information. It was noted that the Forum was well attended and it was a positive experience for those who attended.

5. ADDENDA ITEMS/LATE ITEMS

No items.

6. REPORTS BY STAFF

None

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7. REPORT BY DIRECTORS

Director Hinds reported that the District of Mission and the Kwantlen First Nation signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the operation of the Stave West camp sites and also that staff are in the process of discussion with Leq'e:mal First Nation regarding the St. Mary's residential school location.

Director Niemi requested that staff provide a summary of what local First Nations communities in the region are doing if they are not in treaty. Staff reported that a report on this will be provided at the next FVARC meeting. Director Niemi also reported that the Sts'ailes First Nation and Scowlitz First Nation are now working together on mutual issues.

8. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD FOR ITEMS RELEVANT TO AGENDA

None

9. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

Moved By PRANGER
Seconded By HINDS

THAT the FVARC meeting be closed to the public except for senior staff and Executive Assistant, for the purpose of receiving and adopting Closed Meeting Minutes convened in accordance with Section 90 of the *Community Charter* and to consider matters pursuant to:

- Section 90(2)(b) of the *Community Charter* - the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the regional district and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

CARRIED

The Open Meeting recessed at 10:58 a.m.

10. RECONVENE OPEN MEETING

The Open Meeting reconvened at 11:15 a.m.

Discussion ensued and comments were made with respect to the recent freshet, noting that there were inadequate flood protection measures in place. It was noted that it is imperative that First Nations be included when advocating the provincial and federal governments for funding to address mitigation of flood risks. Mr. Pitkethly reported that

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the FVRD will be writing a letter to Prime Minister Trudeau regarding funding for flood protection. He also advised that during the recent freshet the FVRD EOC also engaged with First Nations communities. It was noted that an overall flood management plan for the entire region is of paramount importance. The significance of dike protection was highlighted. The ramification to the economy caused by flooding was also emphasized. It was pointed out that the Fraser Valley is the corridor for all hydro transmission lines, rail roads, pipelines and that we are one of the largest agriculture producer in Canada. It was reported that disaster mitigation planning was a topic on the recent BC Caucus agenda, with emphasis on floods. It was noted that this subject will also be discussed at FCM.

Staff was also requested to provide a report on what local First Nations plans are with respect to marijuana sales on reserves.

11. RISE AND REPORT OUT OF CLOSED MEETING

None

12. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By WADDINGTON
Seconded By NIEMI

THAT the Fraser Valley Aboriginal Relations Committee Open Meeting of June 19, 2018 be adjourned.

CARRIED

The Fraser Valley Aboriginal Relations Committee Open Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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Councillor Brenda Falk, Vice Chair

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