

**VILLAGE OF PEMBERTON
-COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING AGENDA-**

Agenda for the **Committee of the Whole** of Council of the Village of Pemberton to be held Tuesday, June 26, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 7400 Prospect Street. This is Meeting No. 178.

“This meeting is being recorded on audio tape for minute-taking purposes as authorized by the Village of Pemberton Audio recording of Meetings Policy dated September 14, 2010.”

Item of Business	Page No.
1. CALL TO ORDER	
In honour of the Lil'wat7ul, the Village of Pemberton acknowledges that we are meeting within the unceded territory of the Lil'wat Nation.	
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA	1
Recommendation: THAT the Agenda be approved as presented.	
3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES	2
a) Committee of the Whole No. 177, Tuesday, May 29, 2018	
Recommendation: THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting No. 177, held Tuesday, May 29, 2018 adopted as circulated.	
4. DELEGATIONS	
a) Men's Shed – Derek Walton	
5. UBCM Minister Meetings – Topics Discussion	4
6. ADJOURNMENT	

**VILLAGE OF PEMBERTON
-COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES-**

Minutes for the **Committee of the Whole** of Council of the Village of Pemberton held Tuesday, May 29, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. in Council Chamber, 7400 Prospect Street. This is Meeting No. 177.

ATTENDING: Mayor Mike Richman
Councillor Jennie Helmer
Councillor James Linklater
Councillor Karen Ross

REGRETS: Councillor Ted Craddock

STAFF: Nikki Gilmore, Chief Administrative Officer
Sheena Fraser, Manager of Corporate & Legislative Services
Wendy Olsson, Executive Assistant
Gwendolyn Kennedy, Legislative Assistant

Public: 0

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 12:57 p.m. Mayor Richman called the May 29, 2018 Committee of Whole meeting to order.

In honour of the Lil'wat7ul, the Village of Pemberton acknowledges that we are meeting within the unceded territory of the Lil'wat Nation.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved/Seconded
THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.
CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

a) Committee of the Whole No. 176, Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Moved/Seconded
THAT the minutes of Committee of the Whole Meeting No. 176, held Tuesday, May 8, 2018, be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

4. UBCM Minister Meeting Discussion

The Committee of the Whole discussed issues to be presented at the UBCM Minister Meetings. Issues to be included are:

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

- Pemberton Creek Bridge;
- Cycling Lanes/Shoulder upgrades

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- Boundary extension, should the project proceed to the next step.

Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

- Joffre Lakes/Recreation Site Management - adequate staffing for trails and parks as use increases;

Minister of Finance

- Farm Status Exemption for municipal properties;

Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

- Monitoring and gathering information on Mount Currie landslide risk;

Moved/Seconded

THAT Staff begin preparation of briefs on the issues identified at this meeting for the UBCM Minister Meetings in September.

CARRIED

5. ADJOURNMENT

At 1:11 p.m. the Committee of the Whole Meeting was adjourned.

Mike Richman
Mayor

Sheena Fraser
Corporate Officer

To: Honourable Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure (MOTI)

From: Mayor Mike Richman

Key Topic of Discussion: Infrastructure Improvements to Pemberton Creek Bridge

Background: The Village of Pemberton would like to express appreciation and gratitude for the continued improvements to Highway 99, including the resurfacing work that was undertaken by MOTI between Whistler and Pemberton.

Discussion: The Pemberton Creek Bridge is situated in close proximity to multiple housing complexes within the Village of Pemberton; however it is owned and falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. The safety of residents as well as the preservation of infrastructure to ensure access to Pemberton is not impeded is of utmost concern and priority for Village Council:

- 1) **Resident Safety:** The low height of the Pemberton Creek Bridge that spans Highway 99 represents a public safety hazard during high water events, as there is insufficient clearance for the creek beneath when the water level rises. Due to seasonal weather trends, there is at minimum an annual occurrence of flooding due to the lack of clearance between the bridge and the creek, posing a severe risk to residents of nearby housing complexes. As such, the Village of Pemberton requests that the Bridge be raised to a level where it no longer represents a public safety hazard during high water events.
- 2) **Protection of Infrastructure:** The insufficient clearance between Pemberton Creek and the bridge that spans Highway 99 represents a hazard during high water events, as there is at minimum an annual occurrence of road flooding in this area when the water level rises. As such, this portion of the Sea to Sky highway is at risk of damage, posing a safety hazard on a high traffic area and the potential for deterioration to the bridge infrastructure. The Village of Pemberton requests that the Bridge be raised to a level where it no longer represents a hazard to the bridge infrastructure during high water events.

Request:

- 1) **Resident Safety:** Pemberton requests that MOTI continue to make public safety improvements along Highway 99 including raising the height of the Pemberton Creek Bridge to mitigate risk of flooding to nearby housing complexes during high water events.
- 2) **Protection of Infrastructure:** The Village of Pemberton requests that MOTI continue to execute asset management of Sea to Sky infrastructure by raising the height of the Pemberton Creek Bridge to mitigate the risk of detrimental highway flooding during high water events.

Contact

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UBCM BRIEFING NOTES

PO Box 100, 7400 Prospect Street, Pemberton, British Columbia
CANADA V0N 2L0

To: Honourable Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure (MOTI)

From: Mayor Mike Richman

Key Topics of Discussion: Road Safety Improvements for Bike Tourism

Background: Bike tourism has become very popular in the Sea to Sky Corridor. However, many areas along this route do not have permanent bike lanes or sufficient road shoulders, presenting a public safety hazard for both cyclists and motorists. The safety of our residents and visitors is of the utmost importance to the Village of Pemberton Council.

Discussion: With the increase in popularity of road cycling, the cyclist/vehicular traffic conflicts on the Sea to Sky highway have grown exponentially. The Village of Pemberton supports bike tourism as it brings both financial and environmental benefits to the Sea to Sky Corridor. Unfortunately, due to the lack of adequate bike lanes/shoulders on Highway 99 from Whistler through to the Pemberton Meadows, road cycling has the potential for incidents that may result in serious injuries and even fatalities.

The Village aims to encourage events that promote tourism in the Corridor and as such support the economy in the Province. However, in 2017, Council was in the unfortunate position of denying such support to the renewal of the IRONMAN Canada Whistler event, due to overwhelming concern of the community over public safety. There are simply too many vehicle (Transport, Resource, Farming, Commuter) conflicts with cyclists: residents are frustrated and share Council's concern with the potential for serious incidents as a result of these conflicts.

Pemberton itself is growing in population; the residents and visitors that we attract are passionate about active lifestyle. The health benefits of cycling are numerous, but ironically, due to a lack of bike lanes and road shoulders along the Sea to Sky route, this activity that promotes health also puts people at a risk of bodily harm, including loss of life.

To mitigate the risk of such tragic incidents and allow the Village to support the Bike Tourism industry without concern for cyclist safety, the Village of Pemberton requests that funding be allocated towards the creation of adequate and permanent bike lanes and/or road shoulders along this route.

Request: The Village of Pemberton requests that MOTI allocate funds for the creation of adequate and permanent bike lanes and/or road shoulders on the Pemberton Meadows Road as well as throughout the Sea to Sky Highway.

Contact

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To: Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

From: Mayor Mike Richman

Key Topics of Discussion: Impacts of increased tourism in the Pemberton area

Background: The Village of Pemberton appreciates the investment that the Province has made towards the promotion of tourism in the Sea to Sky area. The increase in popularity of outdoor recreation has brought positive economic impacts to our community as well as to the Province. Sadly, the increase in visitors has also brought negative impacts, such as human/wildlife conflicts, the closures of popular destinations due to unmanageable volume, and increased risk of wildfire in remote areas.

Discussion: The rapidly increasing popularity of adventure tourism has brought, ironically, threats to the natural environment that draws visitors to our area, as well as to the safety of the highway used to access it. Events such as the closure by the Province of Keyhole Falls hot springs due to increased human/wildlife conflicts and the safety challenges presented by the shocking parking overflow at Joffre Lakes in 2016 and again in 2017 serves to highlight the problem. We appreciate the Province's acknowledgement of the concerns at Joffre with the imposition of a no dog rule in the Park and look forward to further action being taken.

The additional volume without adequate resources to supervise and maintain the popular areas mentioned above, as well as camping areas down the In-SHUCK-ch highway along Lillooet Lake, including the popular Strawberry Point, pose equally great concerns such as overflowing garbage receptacles, inadequate restroom facilities and most importantly campfires that are not properly extinguished and pose a serious risk of wildfire, given the remote forest areas where sites such as this exist. Given the wildfire state of emergency that the Province experienced last summer season, the fact that climate change indicates our environment's susceptibility to wildfire is unlikely to decrease, and the astronomical cost to the Province to manage wildfires, it is crucial that additional resources be allocated to patrol, monitor and enforce Provincial regulations in the backcountry.

Though strongly supportive of economic benefits generated by adventure tourism, the Village of Pemberton Council is equally committed to the preservation of our environment. While our surrounding natural area has the capacity to draw a significant boost to the tourism industry in British Columbia, such a draw will not continue if the very environment is threatened.

As such, we request that the Province match the investment made in tourism marketing with an investment in mitigating the resulting challenges of increased visitor volume.

Request:

That the Province match the investment made in tourism marketing with the allocation of funds for improvements to infrastructure and for additional patrols of remote recreation areas to ensure the protection of the environment that supports the local and Provincial tourism industry.

Contact

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To: Honourable Carole James, Minister of Finance

From: Mayor Mike Richman

Key Topics of Discussion: Farm Status Exemption for properties within a municipality

Background: Agriculture is a critical part of the sustainable economy and the overall culture of Pemberton. Historically an agricultural community, the Pemberton Valley is home to over 70 farming units and the Village is committed to supporting the industry and the ability of local farm operators to derive sufficient income from their land.

Discussion: In the spring of 2018, the Village commissioned a study to explore the potential impacts of a Boundary Extension, to address such issues as community identity, elected representation, land use planning control, and improved service delivery.

One of the deliverables of the study was to determine tax implications for properties being brought into the municipal boundary. When considering the tax implications for farm properties, the availability of tax exemptions differs depending on whether the farm is located within a municipal boundary or a rural area. The Statutory Farm Tax Exemptions for a farm in a Provincial rural area include a full exemption for both Class 1 Farmers' dwellings and Farm improvements (specifically outbuildings), whereas those same Farmers' dwellings located in a municipality are fully taxable, and the exemption for Farm improvements is capped to a maximum of \$50,000 as opposed to fully exempt.

The study found the potential difference in property taxes to a sample farm property with an assessed value of \$600,000 (land and improvements) resulted in an estimated 33% increase in taxation should it become part of a municipality.

Boundary Extension is a common method for municipalities to increase their economic vitality and as such their ability to provide improved services to their residents. However, the Village supports the agricultural industry and has no interest in imposing a potential financial hardship on farm owners. Indeed, members of the farming community were the most outspoken in opposition to the Boundary Extension, and Council respects their reasoning.

It is the Village's understanding that the Province is committed to reducing barriers that may prevent the growth of communities and supporting the sustainability of the agricultural industry in British Columbia. Economic vitality and improved service delivery remain priorities of Council, therefore although the Village will not be pursuing the Boundary Extension in 2018, it is expected that it will be pursued in the future, at which time we hope that the farms within a municipality are recognized as equally deserving of the Farm Status tax exemptions provided to rural area farms.

Request: That the Province extend the Farm Status tax exemption provided to rural area farms to farms located within a municipality.

Contact

Nikki Gilmore

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To: Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and the Solicitor General

From: Mayor Mike Richman

Key Topics of Discussion: Mount Currie Mountain Rock Avalanche Risk Mitigation

Background: The Village of Pemberton would like to extend our gratitude to the Province for funding the Mount Currie Landslide Risk Assessment (the Assessment) completed in early 2018 by BGC Engineering Inc. The Assessment found that there is the potential for rare but large-scale rock avalanches, the probability of which will likely increase as climate change affects slope stability.

Discussion: The provincially-funded Assessment (**Appendix A**) determined that though the likelihood of a large-scale rock avalanche was low, the impact would be catastrophic for the communities in the Pemberton Valley: Village of Pemberton, Lil'wat Nation and Electoral Area C of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD). A large-scale rock avalanche would generate extreme volumes of material moving at such a speed as to destroy everything in their path. Human lives, homes, businesses and critical infrastructure (such as the airport) are in the identified potential paths of the rock avalanches, which would also dam the Green and Lillooet Rivers, causing severe flooding in the entire valley.

While the Assessment also determined that we cannot remove or mitigate the hazard, it recommended measures to mitigate the risk. The recommendations include the installation of a geohazard monitoring system to gather data over time, allowing us to detect the precursor signs of a large-scale event. The implementation of the monitoring system requires several steps to be met: the scoping of monitoring systems to determine the most cost-effective solution, the purchase of specialized equipment, and the retention of individuals with the expertise to interpret the data.

Unfortunately, none of the three at-risk jurisdictions have the resources to carry out these steps (see **Appendix B**, letter from Lil'wat Nation, and **Appendix C**, letter from the SLRD). Council is therefore requesting the Province's support in implementing the recommendations of the assessment, to provide for the public safety of all residents of the Pemberton Valley.

Request: That the Province provide funding solutions for the installation, operation and ongoing data analysis of a geohazard monitoring system for Mount Currie mountain.

Contact

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To: Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and the Solicitor General

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June 11, 2018

Dear Mayors and Regional District Chairs:

I am pleased to provide you with the following information regarding the process for requesting a meeting with me, or with provincial government, agency, commission and corporation staff, during the upcoming annual UBCM Convention taking place in Whistler, September 10 to 14, 2018.

You will also receive a letter from the Honourable John Horgan, Premier, containing information about the online process for requesting a meeting with Premier Horgan and other Cabinet Ministers.

If you would like to meet with me at the Convention, please complete the online request form at: [MAH Minister's Meeting](#) and submit it to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing before **July 13, 2018**. Meeting arrangements will be confirmed by mid -August. I will do my best to accommodate as many meeting requests as possible.

To get the most out of your delegation’s meeting with me, it would be helpful if you would fill out the online form with detailed topic information. By providing this information in advance of the meeting, I will have a better understanding of your delegation’s interests and it will allow for discussions that are more productive.

Ministry staff will email the Provincial Appointment Book (PAB). This PAB lists all government, agency, commission and corporation staff expected to be available to meet with delegates at the Convention, as well as details on how to request a meeting with staff online.

As I approach my second Convention as Minister responsible for local government, I look forward to hearing more about your communities, to identifying opportunities to work together with you in partnership, and to growing our relationships in the spirit of collaboration.

Sincerely,

Selina Robinson
Minister

pc: Honourable John Horgan, Premier
Wendy Booth, President, Union of British Columbia Municipalities



June 11, 2018

Dear Mayors and Regional District Chairs:

My caucus colleagues and I are looking forward to seeing you all again at this year's Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention in Whistler from September 10-14.

Communication, Collaboration, Cooperation, the theme for the 2018 Convention, is indeed an appropriate focus as we engage in dialogue around local, provincial, federal, and First Nations governments working together to build strong and vibrant communities throughout our province. We all have a part to play in finding solutions and developing ideas that will ensure our communities thrive, and UBCM provides us with a wonderful opportunity to listen to one another, share ideas, and work together to build a better BC.

If you would like to request a meeting with a Cabinet Minister or with me during this year's convention, please register online at <https://UBCMreg.gov.bc.ca> (live, as of today). Please note that this year's invitation code is **MeetingRequest2018** and it is case sensitive. If you have any questions, please contact UBCM.Meetings@gov.bc.ca or phone 250-213-3856.

I look forward to being part of your convention, meeting with many of you, and exploring ways that we can partner together to address common issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John J. Horgan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John Horgan
Premier