

**INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LADYSMITH
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2018
CALL TO ORDER 7:01 P.M.
LADYSMITH SENIORS' CENTRE, 630 2ND AVENUE**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Aaron Stone	Councillor Amanda Jacobson
Councillor Robert Johnson	Councillor Tricia McKay
Councillor Duck Paterson	Councillor Marsh Stevens
Councillor Jeff Virtanen	

STAFF PRESENT:

Guillermo Ferrero	Felicity Adams	Erin Anderson
Kim Fowler	Geoff Goodall	Donna Smith
Joanna Winter	Sue Bouma	

CALL TO ORDER

Joanna Winter, Corporate Officer, called the Inaugural Meeting of Council to order at 7:01 p.m.

OATHS OF OFFICE

The Corporate Officer administered the oaths of office to the Mayor and Councillors and congratulated them on their Council positions.

Mayor Stone assumed the Chair.

**MAYOR'S
INAUGURAL
ADDRESS**

Mayor Stone presented his inaugural address:

Welcome and thank you for joining us this evening. I would like to begin by recognizing that this meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Stz'uminus First Nation. I am thankful to be here and for the growing relationships between all of us in our shared home around Ladysmith harbour.

I am so happy to be here tonight, joined by our new council team, so many important pillars of our community, our amazing staff and all of these friends and family. I am looking forward to tonight and a great four-year term ahead.

I initially explored a few themes when approaching this speech. I thought I might present a vision for our future, looking excitedly to all of the challenges and opportunities ahead. I considered presenting a celebration of where we are right now, and how thankful I am for the amazing community we live in. I could also focus on the value of our heritage, and what has made our community so great over the many decades before. In the end, I have decided to do all of these things - as briefly as possible, of course.

Before I get into all of that, I want to give thanks to our outgoing councillors, including Councillors Henderson, Fradin, Arnett and Friesenhan. They have all provided so much leadership and perspective, and have helped shape the amazing community Ladysmith is today. Thank you all so much.

I need to give a special thanks to retiring councillor, and 21-year former mayor Rob Hutchins. In your more than 25 years of service to Ladysmith, so much has been accomplished. I have often remarked how fortunate I have felt to follow you in the role of mayor. So much of what Ladysmith is today, is thanks to you and all of your efforts. Thank you so much on behalf of all of us.

We will be having a special recognition ceremony for our retiring councillors at an upcoming event, so stay tuned for that. Tonight is about looking forward and celebrating our new council team.

Honour our past. Celebrate our present. Embrace our future. These words were my guide in developing my vision and campaign for re-election as Mayor (also known as the campaign that never was). After watching the election for council unfold, however, I believe in these words more than ever before. So what do these words mean to me?

Honour Our Past

Our heritage and history is such an important part of what makes Ladysmith so special. The Stz'uminus presence on these lands and waters goes back more than 5,000 years. Our Ladysmith community history spans more than 110 years and recognizes Ladysmith's role in the industrialization of western Canada through mining and forestry, and as a pioneer in the Labour movement that has helped shape our nation. Ladysmith has a rich and storied past. Today, more than ever, we are working to restore and preserve our history and tell these stories because our past helps inform our future. The

story of Ladysmith is still being written and every insight we can take from the chapters before, will make us stronger in the future.

Celebrate Our Present

We have a lot to be proud of in Ladysmith, right here, today. We are consistently recognized for the high quality of life and opportunity Ladysmith offers. We have world-class, award-winning infrastructure in place that will serve our community for generations to come. We have a great mix of facilities, parks, trails and natural spaces that capture the motivation and imagination of all who come to visit and those who call Ladysmith home. We have Canada's Great Street, First Avenue, the living room of our community, where folks gather for celebrations and for quiet evening strolls. We have a growing bond with the Stz'uminus people, whose collaboration and cooperation with the Town has led to unprecedented investment in our shared community. We have all of this and so much more. Ladysmith is one of the best small towns in the world and I am confident that we will only continue to do better.

Embrace Our Future

This brings me to our future. This is an exciting time for Ladysmith. We have been discovered (or rediscovered as it may be). The word is out. In 2017, Ladysmith was the fastest growing community on Vancouver Island and the third fastest in BC. This is a testament to all of the work so many have contributed to Ladysmith over the years - over the decades. Ladysmith is truly a wonderful place to be.

So where do we go from here?

Many of the issues we are dealing with today are very different than they were 4 years ago. We now face the problems of being "found". Some of these problems are predictable (parking, traffic, new development pressures), yet still many more are new challenges created by all of this recent success. We have affordability issues. Attainable housing for first time buyers, growing families and seniors are all in short supply. We are also desperately low on affordable rental homes. We need to ensure that people starting out - young families wanting to grow here, and our seniors looking to remain in Ladysmith long term - all have an opportunity to live and thrive in Ladysmith.

We have other pressures, shared by all local governments, as well. We face challenges with new regulations, ageing infrastructure, as

well as increasing capital and operational costs, that are not always under our own control. The need to create new sources of revenue and broaden and diversify our tax base is critical to our future sustainability. We need to continue to attract investment from our senior government partners and the private sector, to grow employment in our community while continuing to assert our strength as a leader in the region and on Vancouver Island.

The right place to invest, and the best place to build your business: that opportunity is here. Through our Partnership for a Vibrant Local Economy, and our funding partners throughout the region, we have an economic development strategy that will continue to drive the economic growth we so desperately need. This growth will help share the burden of future costs while creating employment that will further enhance local opportunities. We have the plans, the council and staff team and the community to turn all of these challenges into our greatest successes.

Our new council brings a great understanding of the different issues, and captures the different perspectives that are in Ladysmith. This broad range of perspectives will only enhance the decisions and policies we make moving forward. We will take a thoughtful, pragmatic approach to decision-making, and a strong, decisive approach to action. I believe we have the council, staff and community team to do what needs to be done in these four years ahead.

We have more functioning and productive partnerships and collaboration than ever before. We have continued to build on our solid reputation with the federal and provincial governments as a smart place to invest. We have direction from our communities on drinking water and watershed protection as well as affordable housing development. We will tackle those challenges head-on this term. We have our growing bond with Stz'uminus that holds so much promise in all that we have achieved so far, and with the even bigger opportunities that are ahead. We have all of this and so much more working in our favour, and we can only go forward from here. I see even more engagement and collaboration in our future, further cultivating and strengthening relationships with all of our partners and our community.

So, these are only a few reasons I am so excited about tonight, and the beginning of this next chapter in Ladysmith's history. I am so excited about our future, and you should be, too. We have

challenges ahead, but within those challenges are so many opportunities. We have been blessed with a great foundation to build on, and I am confident that this council, staff and community TEAM can continue to maximize the quality of life and potential still contained in Ladysmith.

Celebrate our present. Embrace our future. Honour our past.

Thank you all again for being here tonight. I am more positive than ever about the future of this beautiful place that we all call home. Thank you.

AGENDA APPROVAL

CS 2018-426

Moved and seconded:

That Council approve the agenda for this Inaugural Meeting of Council for November 5, 2018.

Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS

Deputy Mayor

Mayor Stone made the following appointments for Deputy Mayor in 2019:

November 5, 2018 to April 30, 2019: Councillor Paterson

May 1, 2019 to October 31, 2019: Councillor Virtanen

Parcel Tax Review Panel

CS 2018-427

Moved and seconded:

That Council appoint the following members to the 2019 Parcel Tax Review Panel:

Councillor McKay

Councillor Jacobson

Councillor Johnson

Motion carried.

Cowichan Valley Regional District Director

CS 2018-428

Moved and seconded:

That Mayor Stone be appointed as Director to the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board.

Motion carried.

Cowichan Valley Regional District Alternate Director

CS 2018-429

Moved and seconded:

That Councillor McKay be appointed as Alternate Director to the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board.

Motion carried.

CS 2018-430 **Vancouver Island Regional Library Board Director**
Moved and seconded:
That Councillor Johnson be appointed as Director to the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board.
Motion carried.

CS 2018-431 **Vancouver Island Regional Library Board Alternate Director**
Moved and seconded:
That Councillor Virtanen be appointed as Alternate Director to the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board.
Motion carried.

CS 2018-432 **Municipal Services Committee (Committee of the Whole)**
Moved and seconded:
That Council make the following appointments to the Municipal Services Committee of which all councillors are members:
Chair: Councillor Paterson
Vice Chair: Councillor Virtanen
Motion carried.

CS 2018-433 **Waterfront Implementation Committee**
Moved and seconded:
That Council make the following appointments to the Waterfront Implementation Committee:
Representative: Mayor Stone
Representative: Councillor Stevens
Representative: Councillor Paterson
Motion carried.

Standing and Community Committee Representatives

Mayor Stone made the following appointments to Council Advisory Commissions and Committees:

Advisory Planning Commission
Council Liaison: Councillor Jacobson
Alternate: Councillor McKay

Advisory Design Panel
Council Liaison: Councillor McKay
Alternate: Councillor Jacobson

Heritage Revitalization Advisory Commission
Council Liaison: Councillor Stevens

Alternate: Councillor Jacobson

Protective Services Committee

Chair: Councillor Stevens

Council Liaison: Councillor Paterson

Alternate: Councillor Jacobson

Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee

Council Liaison: Councillor Paterson

Alternate: Councillor McKay

Liquid Waste Management Committee

Council Liaison: Councillor Johnson

Council Liaison: Councillor Virtanen

Council Liaison: Councillor Stevens

Stocking Lake Advisory Committee

Chair: Mayor Stone

Council Liaison: Councillor Virtanen

Mayor Stone made the following liaison appointments to community organizations:

Celebrations Committee

Council Liaison: Councillor Johnson

Alternate: Councillor Jacobson

Ladysmith Festival of Lights

Council Liaison: Councillor Paterson

Alternate: Councillor Virtanen

Ladysmith Chamber of Commerce

Council Liaison: Mayor Stone

Alternate: Councillor McKay

Ladysmith Downtown Business Association

Council Liaison: Councillor Stevens

Alternate: Councillor Johnson

Ladysmith Interagency Committee

Council Liaison: Councillor Johnson

Alternate: Councillor Stevens

Ladysmith Early Years Partnership
Council Liaison: Mayor Stone
Alternate: Councillor McKay

Social Planning Cowichan
Council Liaison: Councillor Jacobson
Alternate: Councillor McKay

Ladysmith Community Justice Program
Council Liaison: Councillor McKay

Signing Authorities 2018-2022

Moved and seconded:

CS 2018-434

That Council appoint the following members of Council, as recommended by Mayor Stone, for payment signing authority at Ladysmith & District Credit Union, RBC and Municipal Finance Authority:

- Mayor Stone
- Councillor Tricia McKay
- Councillor Duck Paterson
- Councillor Rob Johnson

Motion carried.

REPORTS

Official Results – October 20, 2018 Local Government Election

Moved and seconded:

CS 2018-435

That Council receive the report from the Chief Election Officer on the official results of the October 20, 2018 Local Election for the Town of Ladysmith.

Motion carried.

2018-2022 Town's Auditors

Moved and seconded:

CS 2018-436

That Council award the External Audit Service contract to MNP and appoint MNP as the Town's auditor for the year-ends 2018 through 2022.

Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED
BUSINESS**

Two Lot Boundary Extension Proposal – South Ladysmith

Moved and seconded:

CS 2018-437

That Council confirm that they have been advised of the two lot boundary extension proposal in south Ladysmith submitted to the Province as approved by the previous Council on June 18, 2018.

Motion carried

QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

CS 2018-438

Moved and seconded:

That this Inaugural Meeting of Council adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Motion carried.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Mayor (A. Stone)

Corporate Officer (J. Winter)