MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, November 3, 2026
7:00 P.M.
Ladysmith Seniors Centre
630 2nd Avenue

Council Members Present:

Mayor Deena Beeston
Councillor Lynn Hansen
Councillor Renée Hutchinson
Councillor April Marrington
Councillor John Scott
Councillor Eva Vincent
Councillor Jeff Virtanen

Staff Present:

Allison McCarrick
Erin Anderson
Chris Barfoot
Iain Bourhill
Matt Foster
Trish McConnell
Tim Tanton
Julie Tierney
Sue Bouma
Hayley Young

---

1. WELCOME

The Master of Ceremonies welcomed attendees and invited those present to rise for the procession of Council members-elect.

2. PROCESSION

Council-elect entered the meeting, led by piper Darcy Cowan and Staff Sergeant Trevor Busch in Red Serge.

3. O CANADA

Vanessa Izon led the singing of our National Anthem.

4. CALL TO ORDER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Hayley Young, Deputy Corporate Officer, called the Inaugural Meeting of Council to order at 7:09 p.m. and acknowledged with gratitude that the meeting was taking place on the traditional territory of the Stz'uminus First Nation.

Subject to Approval

5. OATHS OF OFFICE - 2026-2030 COUNCIL

The Deputy Corporate Officer administered the Oaths of Office to the Mayor and Councillors and welcomed them to their respective offices. The Deputy Corporate Officer then presented Mayor Beeston with the Chain of Office as a symbol of office. Mayor Beeston subsequently assumed the Chair.

6. MAYOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Mayor Beeston welcomed those in attendance and invited Councillor Leona Smith of Stz'uminus First Nation to provide remarks. Councillor Smith offered congratulations to the Mayor and Council on the commencement of their term of office.

Mayor Beeston thanked Councillor Smith for her remarks and expressed her appreciation for the continuing relationship between the Town and Stz'uminus First Nation. She then reflected on the importance of community, collaboration, and responsible governance as Council begins its 2026-2030 term.

7. AGENDA APPROVAL

CS 2026-229
That Council approve the agenda for this Inaugural Meeting of Council for November 3, 2026.
Motion Carried

8. APPOINTMENTS

8.1 Deputy Mayor

Mayor Beeston made the following appointments for Deputy Mayor in 2027:
November 2026 to April 2027: Councillor Virtanen.
May 2027 to October 2027: Councillor Hansen.

8.2 Parcel Tax Review Panel

CS 2026-230
That Council appoint Councillors Hutchinson, Scott, and Vincent to the 2027 Parcel Tax Review Panel.
Motion Carried

Subject to adoption

8.3 Cowichan Valley Regional District Director

CS 2026-231
That Council appoint Mayor Beeston as the Town of Ladysmith Director on the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board for the 2026/27 term.
Motion Carried

8.4 Cowichan Valley Regional District Alternate Director

CS 2026-232
That Council appoint Councillor Marrington as the Town of Ladysmith Alternate Director on the Cowichan Valley Regional District Board for the 2026/27 term.
Motion Carried

8.5 Vancouver Island Regional Library Board Director

CS 2026-233
That Council appoint Mayor Beeston as Director to the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board for the 2027 term.
Motion Carried

8.6 Vancouver Island Regional Library Board Alternate Director

CS 2026-234
That Council appoint Councillor Marrington as Alternate Director to the Vancouver Island Regional Library Board for the 2027 term.
Motion Carried

8.7 Standing and Community Committee Representatives

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

Committee of the Whole
November 2026 to April 2027

- Chair: Councillor Virtanen.
- Vice Chair: Councillor Hansen.

May 2027 to October 2027

- Chair: Councillor Hansen.
- Vice Chair: Councillor Virtanen.

All Members of Council are Members of Committee of the Whole.

Subject to adoption

Waterfront Implementation Committee

- Council Liaison: Councillor Hansen.
- Council Liaison: Councillor Hutchinson.
- Council Liaison: Councillor Marrington.

Cowichan North Recreation Commission

- Council Liaison: Councillor Hansen.
- Council Liaison: Councillor Vincent.
- Alternate: Councillor Scott.
- Alternate: Councillor Hutchinson.

Community Planning Advisory Committee

- Council Liaison: Councillor Marrington.
- Alternate: Councillor Vincent.

Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee

- Council Liaison: Councillor Vincent.
- Alternate: Councillor Hansen.

Accessibility Advisory Committee

- Council Liaison: Councillor Hutchinson.
- Alternate: Councillor Scott.

Liquid Waste Management Committee

- Council Liaison: Councillor Hansen.
- Council Liaison: Councillor Hutchinson.
- Council Liaison: Councillor Scott.

Public Art Committee

- Council Liaison: Councillor Hutchinson.
- Alternate: Councillor Marrington.

Celebrations Committee

- Council Liaison: Councillor Virtanen.
- Alternate: Councillor Marrington.

Ladysmith Festival of Lights

- Council Liaison: Councillor Marrington.
- Alternate: Councillor Hutchinson.

Subject to adoption

Ladysmith Chamber of Commerce

- Council Liaison: Councillor Hutchinson.
- Alternate: Councillor Hansen.

Ladysmith Downtown Business Association

- Council Liaison: Councillor Vincent.
- Alternate: Councillor Scott.

Social Planning Cowichan

- Council Liaison: Councillor Hansen.
- Alternate: Councillor Marrington.

Our Cowichan Community Health Network

- Council Liaison: Councillor Scott.
- Alternate: Councillor Vincent.

CS 2026-235
That Council appoint Councillor Scott as Council Liaison, and Councillor Vincent as Alternate Council Liaison, to the Ladysmith Resources Centre Association Board.
Motion Carried

CS 2026-236
That Council appoint Councillor Virtanen as Council Liaison, and Mayor Beeston as Alternate Council Liaison, to the Ladysmith Downtown Business Association and Ladysmith Chamber of Commerce Safety Committee.
Motion Carried

8.8 Signing Authorities

CS 2026-237
That Council appoint the following members of Council for payment signing authority at Ladysmith & District Credit Union and Municipal Finance Authority:

- Mayor Deena Beeston
- Councillor Lynn Hansen
- Councillor Renée Hutchinson
- Councillor April Marrington

Motion Carried

Subject to adoption

9. REPORTS

9.1 Official Results of the 2026 General Local Election

CS 2026-238
That Council receive the report from the Chief Election Officer dated November 3, 2026, regarding the Official Results of the Town of Ladysmith 2026 General Local Election held October 17, 2026.
Motion Carried

10. QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions from the public.

11. ADJOURNMENT

CS 2026-239
That this Inaugural Meeting of Council be adjourned at 7:30 p.m.
Motion Carried

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Mayor (D. Beeston)

Corporate Officer (S. Bouma)

Subject to adoption