

District of Metchosin

Minutes

**Healthy Community Advisory Select Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.**

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**Present:** Shari Rourke (Chair), Councillor Sharie Epp, Sarah Anthony, Ted White, Shannon Carman, Sharie Epp, Barrett Fullerton, Jim Macpherson, Shannon Carman (Recorder)

**Regrets:** Peter Havers, Chris Pratt, Fire Chief Stephanie Dunlop

The meeting was called to order at 4:37 p.m.

**1. Agenda, Additions and Approval**

**Moved and Seconded** by Jim M. and Councillor Epp. that the Committee approve the agenda as amended.

**Carried**

**2. Presentations**

None.

**3. Public Participation**

Councillor Donaldson presented on the topic of accessibility, discussing the new role of Capital West Accessibility Advisory Committee (Capital West) and the role the Intermunicipal Advisory Committee on Disability Issues (IACDI) has served to date. With the District's new involvement with Capital West there is a transition period where CAO's will be representing each local government and eventually people with lived experience will be appointed to the committee, along with representatives from municipal government.

Councillor Donaldson shared that as she is the liaison to IACDI that she should remain a conduit to go through for accessibility issues, including any grants around accessibility. Jim M. is going to check over the article he wrote for the Muse on the subject of accessibility with Councillor Donaldson to make sure it is accurate.

Councillor Epp noted that there was some uncertainty around IACDI's continued function with the transition of the Capital West change over and asked for clarification on the committee's scope. Councillor Donaldson explained that it's used as an information and expertise resource on all things to do with accessibility for local governments to use as a resource.

Tamara Ballard, Wootton Rd. - Found the issue around accessibility confusing, and was curious as to why the topic of accessibility doesn't fall under Healthy Communities, and why the issue was not brought to the Council liaison.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

**Moved and Seconded** by Ted W. And Councillor Epp that the Committee approve the minutes of the Healthy Community Advisory Select Committee meeting held on February 27, 2024.

**Carried**

**5. Receipt of Minutes**

**a) DRAFT Public Works and Protective Services Committee (not adopted), March 11, 2024**

**Moved and Seconded** by Jim M. and Shannon C. that the Committee receive the minutes of the DRAFT Public Works and Protective Services Committee (not adopted), March 11, 2024.

**6. Business Arising from the Minutes**

**a) Accessibility Committee Update**

Councillor Epp would like to know more about how Access West Shore works, and how that links in with the District. Jim noted that clearer communication on those workings is probably needed. Councillor Epp to speak with Bob Payette to discuss how to utilize proper channels for accessibility issues.

**b) Dark Sky**

Waiting on the International Dark Skies organization to get back to him; they have no live email or phone so just waiting for a reply to the website email. It is a volunteer-run organization, so waiting is to be expected. The District can apparently get 25% off from BC Hydro on any light units they replace. There could also be money available through Clean BC or BC Hydro to grant to ppl who upgrade their lights - Ted W. To investigate.

**c) Committee Priorities Discussion**

**Jim M.** would like to be able to identify assists for individuals - things not covered under pharmacare. Are there ways and means by which we can reduce poverty among those individuals that need assistance? Also - encouraging people and groups to work together, and not fight over “turf”.

**Shannon C.** feels that a lot of Metchosin is physically healthy, but is it emotionally/socially healthy? She would like to see more emphasis being placed on events and spaces that bring people of different ages and backgrounds together, who would not normally meet.

**Sarah A.** Promoting small businesses in Metchosin. Barrett F. said in the past the Muse highlighted farms - could they start highlighting businesses? Shari R. This could link in with capacity building, and help with poverty issue by linking willing businesses with folks in need of upgrades? Tool library, using the kitchens to cook communally. Promoting general activities (like creating t community calendar). Sarah agreed we do have some crossover with agriculture, like creating something similar to “farm bucks” that you spend at farmers markets? Information sessions about things related to housing (sanitation, tiny homes, etc.) would also be of benefit.

**Councillor Epp** - Suggested sponsoring a community lunch with our \$500 budget, perhaps with an educational component? Maybe ask questions around what people think of at a healthy community?

**Barrett F.** - Getting students together with community members to make food.

**Shari R.** - Community Kitchen, Ag plan, Community Garden, Housing and living spaces, helping seniors renovate to make housing safe/compliant (Capacity Building!).

**7. Reports**

**a) Council Liaison**

Councillor Epp - To meet with Health Minister soon, please email any questions we have for the minister to Councillor Epp. Metchosin got grant for an Active Transportation Plan, which enables the District to access more money, similar to Agricultural plan. There will be consultation with the community. Look at Master plan of trails, etc.

**b) Fire Chief**

Chief Dunlop absent.

**d) Seniors Information Resource Centre (SIRC) Liaison**

Still have not heard on their grant application to subsidize incoming Manager's wage; good response to ad for new manager, though, with four applications received. Pearson College home visits are in process, hoping to happen April 5. Soup kitchen meeting tomorrow (March 27), this event has to happen soon before they leave, or kickstart next year. The MCA has agreed to sponsor this. Hoping for a bigger event in the fall.

**d) Poverty Subcommittee**

Chief Dunlop has met with consultants; the group will meet in the next couple weeks.

**c) Health and Safety Subcommittee**

Nothing to report.

**8. Correspondence**

None.

**9. Other Business**

None.

**10. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date**

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m. The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.