



**REGULAR MEETING OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

Tuesday, April 7, 2020, 5:30 p.m.

Remote Meeting

<https://www.whistler.ca/municipal-gov/council/watch-council-meetings>

PRESENT: Mayor J. Crompton  
Councillor A. De Jong  
Councillor R. Forsyth  
Councillor J. Ford  
Councillor J. Grills  
Councillor D. Jackson  
Councillor C. Jewett

STAFF PRESENT: Chief Administrative Officer, M. Furey  
General Manager of Corporate and Community Services, T. Battiston  
General Manager of Infrastructure Services, J. Hallisey  
Interim General Manager of Resort Experience, T. Metcalf  
Director of Planning, M. Kirkegaard  
Director of Finance, C. Price  
Manager of Communications, M. Comeau  
Municipal Clerk, A. Banman  
Capital Projects Manager, T. Shore  
Manager of Environmental Stewardship, H. Beresford  
Acting Senior Planner, R. Licko  
Senior Communications Officer, G. Robinson  
Council Coordinator, N. Cooper

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*Mayor J. Crompton recognized that the Meeting is being held on the traditional territories of the Lil'wat Nation and the Squamish Nation.*

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved By Councillor A. De Jong

Seconded By Councillor R. Forsyth

**That** Council adopt the Regular Council Meeting Agenda of April 7, 2020.

CARRIED

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved By Councillor C. Jewett

Seconded By Councillor R. Forsyth

**That** Council adopt the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2020.

CARRIED

#### **4. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

##### **4.1 Emergency Operations Centre, COVID-19 Update**

A presentation was given by Chief Administrative Officer Mike Furey, regarding the Emergency Operations Centre, COVID-19 Update.

##### **a. New Provincial Council Meeting Procedures**

A presentation was given by General Manager of Corporate and Community Services Ted Battiston, regarding the New Provincial Council Meeting Procedures

##### **b. Overview of Federal and Provincial COVID-19 Support Programs**

A presentation was given by Interim General Manager of Resort Experience Toni Metcalf, regarding the Overview of Federal and Provincial COVID-19 Support Programs.

##### **c. Community Communication During COVID-19**

A presentation was given by Senior Communications Officer Gillian Robinson, regarding Community Communication During COVID-19.

##### **d. Municipal Finance Forecast - COVID-19 Emergency**

A presentation was given by Director of Finance Carlee Price, regarding the Municipal Finance Forecast - COVID-19 Emergency.

#### **5. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD**

*Questions were submitted in advance of the meeting by email:*

##### **Renee Dupuis, re: 5G Installation**

Renee Dupuis asked if Mayor and Council know about the proposed 5G installation in Whistler.

Mayor J. Crompton responded that he is not aware of any plans for 5G installations at this time.

##### **Alan Sailer, Re Highway Traffic and Valley Trail**

Alan Sailer asked if Whistler has requested that the Province restrict northbound traffic to only allow essential traffic as the Mayor of Squamish has done. He also noted that people are ignoring distancing protocols on the Valley Trail, and asked if some prominent signage could be installed to mandate proper practices, such as walking in single file when there is traffic coming from the opposite direction.

##### **Martin Benoit, re: Tourists and safety**

Martin Benoit noted concern about staying safe in Whistler when visitors can be seen arriving with bike racks. He noted that Gibsons has asked tourists to stay away. He also raised concern over those people with cabins who come and go.

**Marie Pupo, re: Valley Trail**

Marie Pupo noted concerns about social distancing on the Valley Trail with large groups of people walking together and not moving aside, and about cyclists. She suggested that cyclists should be asked to use the road to allow more space on the Valley Trail.

Mayor J. Crompton responded to all three comments. He noted that Highway 99 is under provincial jurisdiction, and it would be up to the Province to make a decision to limit traffic using the highway.

Mayor J. Crompton noted that the Valley Trail is a critical community asset to preserve mental and physical health. He added that RMOW staff have been out clearing snow on some parts of the trails. He noted that the community must use that asset responsibly, and added that the RMOW is working on improving signage to encourage people to stand apart, and that Bylaw, Fire and Police are educating people when necessary.

**Nikki Best, re: Community Enrichment Program**

Nikki Best asked what is happening with the 2020 Community Enrichment Program (CEP) grants, and if the application deadline can be extended to allow us to apply for funding. She noted that she is seeking funding on behalf of the Restaurant Association of Whistler to help support its members.

Mayor J. Crompton responded that the CEP will not be re-opened for another round of funding. He added that there will be some thought to reallocate some of the funding to social services and supporting organizations that will be helping the Whistler community through this time.

**6. MAYOR'S REPORT**

**COVID-19 pandemic**

Mayor J. Crompton noted that the last three weeks have been unprecedented and the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the lives of many members of the community, impacted businesses, and continues to evolve by the day. He added that it is not known how long this new reality will last, but in these uncertain times, the community must follow the advice of public health officials, and work together as a community to help flatten the curve.

Mayor J. Crompton noted that the focus right now is on the health and safety of the community, especially healthcare workers and other essential workers including those in our grocery stores, food services, select municipal services and pharmacies. He noted that parks, playgrounds, tennis courts and basketball courts have been closed until further notice. All of the non-essential facilities have been closed. The Resort Municipality of Whistler continues to deliver essential services such as roads, water supply and Whistler Fire Rescue Services, as well as some adjusted services such as building inspections, development permit and other land planning services, remote library services and events and more.

Mayor J. Crompton asked the community to take social distancing recommendations from public health officials very seriously, and this means telling residents to only leave their home for essential trips, avoiding gatherings, and staying at least two metres (six feet) away from others when going out. For up-to date information from the Municipality, please visit [Whistler.ca/covid19](http://Whistler.ca/covid19).

### **Property tax deferral**

Mayor J. Crompton noted that there has been a lot of talk about what may happen with property taxes this year. Taxes are typically due by July 2 each year. He sympathizes that residents and businesses may have significant concern about paying their 2020 property taxes, and expects the Province of British Columbia to provide guidance on the timing of property taxes in the near future, and will act accordingly once provincial direction is available. He noted that any updates related to property tax payments will be shared online at [www.whistler.ca](http://www.whistler.ca). He added that for homeowners, the Province of British Columbia has a property tax deferral program that some residents may qualify for.

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Mayor J. Crompton noted that [property taxes are the RMOW's primary source of revenue and are critical to providing key services in our municipality as is the case with all municipalities across the province. The money raised by property taxes are critical to funding local programs and services, including, but not limited to:

- Police and fire protection
- Emergency rescue services
- Road maintenance
- Garbage services
- Water supply
- Sewer and waste water

Municipalities also collect taxes on behalf of the Province of B.C., including School Tax, the amounts of which are designated by the Province each year. The Province has reduced (by 50 per cent) these School Taxes for 2020 for all commercial properties (classes 4, 5 and 6).

Mayor J. Crompton thanked the community for their understanding as the RMOW continues to provide these essential services and programs in Whistler.

### **Food Bank**

Mayor J. Crompton announced that the Food Bank is moving to the Whistler Conference Centre. He noted that the Whistler Community Services Society, which operates the Whistler Food Bank, is collaborating with resort partners to prepare for a further increase in demand from those experiencing sudden food insecurity. He added that as of Monday April 6, 2020, the Food Bank has moved from its location on Nesters Road and is operating out of The Whistler Conference Centre with additional front-line support staff from the Resort Municipality of Whistler. Ten RMOW Staff have been redeployed to assist in the foodbank operations. Mayor J. Crompton noted that these measures are being put in place as a precaution for WCSS to manage the possible influx of new demand for emergency food during the COVID-19 crisis. He added that donations to the food bank should be cash rather than food, and advised that anyone needing food bank services

should come to the Whistler Conference Centre (at the door closest to the Royal Bank) between 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

### **Whistler Transit**

Mayor J. Crompton noted that Whistler Transit is now operating on the spring/summer/fall schedule and fare payment has been suspended to allow passengers to board using the rear bus doors. He added that BC Transit is taking further steps to better enable physical distancing on buses effective Monday, March 30, 2020, and there is now a twenty passenger limit on buses. This will be in effect until further notice. The NextRide app has been updated to reflect the new passenger load restrictions. He asked that riders please leave extra time for their trip, and if a bus passes by, the driver has reached the passenger limit.

### **Bear Season**

Mayor J. Crompton noted that it is bear season in Whistler, and the bears are waking up and emerging from their dens. He advised that this means attractants should be removed. Common attractants are garbage, bird feeders, compost and pet food. Even recycling, paint cans, citronella, and sunscreen have strong enough smells to attract bears. He noted that keeping bears safe – and wild – means everyone has to do their part.

### **2010 Olympic Games Anniversary**

Mayor J. Crompton thanked all those who celebrated the ten-year anniversary of the 2010 Games in February and March. He noted that a series of more than thirty-three events were held in honour of the anniversary, and added that his highlight was chatting with Nancy Green-Raine and Ashleigh McIvor at the GLC.

### **Poet's Pause poetry competition**

Mayor J. Crompton noted that this year marks the 12th annual Poet's Pause poetry competition. Each year the Resort Municipality of Whistler invites the public to submit original, unpublished poems for the themes of Togetherness and Listening. The program is part of a public art concept created by the late Joan Baron, an artist who developed the two Alta Lake Park sculpture sites with the intention of inspiring creativity. Mayor J. Crompton noted that this year's competition received 26 poems from 24 poets. The jury selected the winning poems through an anonymous judging process.

Mayor J. Crompton announced the following winners:

- Kate Heskett's "Meet Me at the Lake" was selected for the theme Togetherness.
- Vicki Crompton's "The Eve of Destruction: December 26<sup>th</sup>, 1980" was selected for the theme Listening.

Mayor J. Crompton noted that the two winning poems will be displayed at the Poet's Pause sculpture sites in Alta Lake Park over the upcoming year. To watch the winning poets read their poems and read the poems, visit [whistler.ca/poetrycompetition](http://whistler.ca/poetrycompetition).

### **GO Fest**

Mayor J. Crompton noted that as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, the RMOW has made the decision to cancel Whistler's Great Outdoor Festival (GO Fest), originally scheduled for May 15 to 18, 2020. He noted that the RMOW's top priority is protecting the health and safety of the Whistler community. He advised that the RMOW will continue to

monitor the situation and determine the next appropriate steps based on advice from health authorities.

### **Condolences**

On behalf of Council and the Resort Municipality of Whistler, Mayor J. Crompton shared his condolences with the family and friends of Eric Lomas. Eric was one of the eight founding members of the Association of Canadian Mountain Guides (ACMG) in 1963. He worked with Garibaldi Lifts Limited as Whistler's ski hill manager in 1965. His contributions to the mountain community will not be forgotten.

Mayor J. Crompton shared condolences with the family and friends of Jason Koehler.

Mayor J. Crompton shared condolences with the family and friends of Gil Pinette, who was an optician at the Whistler Eye Clinic for almost fifteen years.

Mayor J. Crompton shared condolences with the Gnanaprakasam family following the sudden and tragic passing of their two-year old daughter Ava Grace. The family lives in Squamish, and has strong ties to the Whistler community, where many friends and colleagues grieve with them.

### **Councillor C. Jewett**

Councillor C. Jewett noted that even though the arts venues are closed, many are providing content online. The Audain Museum is providing Flashlight Tours, Arts Whistler is keeping their website current with ideas of things to do, especially for those with children at home. Whistler Museum has an historical alphabet, and trivia.

### **Councillor J. Grills**

Councillor J. Grills noted that landlords have been reaching out to businesses and tenants, and he thanked those who were helping small businesses survive through this crisis.

### **Councillor J. Ford**

Councillor J. Ford noted that the Whistler Housing Authority is seeking a new board member, and those interested should apply via the WHA website.

Mayor J. Crompton thanked CAO Mike Furey for his commitment to the RMOW, and the community of Whistler. He noted that this is Mike Furey's last meeting.

Mayor J. Crompton asked the community to maintain civility, goodwill and kindness to each other through this time.

## **7. INFORMATION REPORTS**

### **7.1 Fourth Quarter Financial Report - 2019 Report No. 20-037 File No. 4530**

Moved By Councillor D. Jackson

Seconded By Councillor R. Forsyth

**That** Council receive Information Report No. 20-037 Quarterly Financial Report for the year ended December 31, 2019.

CARRIED

## 8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

### 8.1 DP1731 - 4365 Northlands Blvd. - Pool Area and Office Renovations Report No. 20-032 File No. DP1731

Moved By Councillor D. Jackson

Seconded By Councillor C. Jewett

**That** Council approve the issuance of Development Permit 1731 for the proposed Twin Peaks Resort exterior renovations at 4365 Northlands Blvd. as illustrated on Architectural Plans Revision J A001, A002, A101, A102, A103, A104, A201, A701, A901, A902, A903 dated March 3, 2020 prepared by DVAD Inc. and attached as Appendix "B" to Administrative Report No. 20-032.

CARRIED

### 8.2 Human-Grizzly Bear Conflict Mitigation Strategy Report No. 20-035 File No. 8396

Moved By Councillor A. De Jong

Seconded By Councillor C. Jewett

**That** Council endorse the Human-Grizzly Bear Conflict Mitigation Strategy.

CARRIED

### 8.3 Alta Vista Services Upgrade Project - Phase 1 Contract Award Report No. 20-036 File No. E32004-E20507-T001

Moved By Councillor R. Forsyth

Seconded By Councillor J. Grills

**That** Council award the contract for the first phase of the Alta Vista Services Upgrade Project in the amount of \$2,719,093.00 (exclusive of GST) to Capilano Highway Services in accordance with their tender proposal dated February 13, 2020.

CARRIED

## 9. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

### 9.1 Recreation and Leisure Advisory Committee

**That** Council receive the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Recreation and Leisure Advisory Committee of December 12, 2019.

Moved By Councillor R. Forsyth

Seconded By Councillor J. Ford

CARRIED

## 10. OTHER BUSINESS

*There was none.*

## 11. CORRESPONDENCE

### 11.1 Alpine Trails Grizzly Bear Conflict Mitigation Strategy File No. 8396

Moved By Councillor A. De Jong

Seconded By Councillor J. Ford

**That** correspondence from Johnny Mikes, Field Director, Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative, regarding the Alpine Trails Grizzly Bear Conflict Mitigation Strategy be received and referred to staff.

CARRIED

### 11.2 Bylaws for Snow Removal in Whistler File No. 3009

Moved By Councillor C. Jewett

Seconded By Councillor J. Ford

**That** correspondence from Jay Gray, regarding Bylaws for Snow Removal in Whistler be received and referred to staff.

CARRIED

### 11.3 Overnight Parking Bylaws File No. 3009

Moved By Councillor C. Jewett

Seconded By Councillor J. Ford

**That** correspondence from Jay Gray, regarding overnight parking bylaws be received and referred to staff.

CARRIED

### 11.4 Parking Fee Increase File No. 3009

Moved By Councillor C. Jewett

Seconded By Councillor J. Grills

**That** correspondence from Georges Payrastre, regarding the parking fee increase be received and referred to staff.

CARRIED

### 11.5 Family Après Thank You File No. 3009

Moved By Councillor A. De Jong

Seconded By Councillor C. Jewett

**That** correspondence from Patrick Smyth thanking the RMOW for the Family Après be received and referred to staff.

CARRIED

**11.6 Outdoor Chin Up Bar at Meadow Park**

Moved By Councillor C. Jewett

Seconded By Councillor J. Grills

**That** correspondence from Flynn Trotter regarding an outdoor chin up bar at Meadow Park be received and referred to staff.

CARRIED

**11.7 Annual Conference on Circular Economy File No. 3009**

Moved By Councillor A. De Jong

Seconded By Councillor C. Jewett

**That** correspondence from Brock Macdonald, Chief Executive Officer, Recycling Council of British Columbia, regarding the Annual Conference on Circular Economy be received and referred to staff.

CARRIED

**11.8 Forest Enhancement Society of BC Accomplishments Update File No. 3009**

Moved By Councillor J. Grills

Seconded By Councillor C. Jewett

**That** correspondence from Wayne Clogg, Board Chair, Forest Enhancement Society of BC, regarding the BC Accomplishments Update be received and referred to staff.

CARRIED

**11.9 Pique Newsmagazine Communication Plan File No. 3009**

Moved By Councillor J. Ford

Seconded By Councillor C. Jewett

**That** correspondence from Sarah Strother, President and Publisher, Pique Newsmagazine, regarding the Pique Newsmagazine Communication Plan be received and referred to staff.

CARRIED

**11.10 UBCM Resolutions Process File No. 2014**

Moved By Councillor J. Ford

Seconded By Councillor J. Grills

**That** correspondence from Maja Tait, UBCM President and Claire Moglove, Chair, Resolutions Committee, regarding the UBCM Resolutions Process be received and referred to staff.

CARRIED

**11.11 Request for support for a National Pharmacare Program File No. 2014**

Moved By Councillor C. Jewett

Seconded By Councillor J. Ford

**That** correspondence from Gillian Day, Agenda Secretary, City of New Westminster, regarding a request for support for a National Pharmacare Program be received and referred to staff.

CARRIED

**11.12 Proclamation Request - Melanoma Awareness Month File No. 3009.1**

Moved By Councillor J. Grills

Seconded By Councillor D. Jackson

**That** correspondence from Kathleen Barnard, Founder and President, Save Your Skin Foundation, requesting that May 2020 be proclaimed Melanoma Awareness Month in Whistler be received and so proclaimed.

CARRIED

**11.13 Light Up Requests**

**a. PMDD Awareness File No. 3009.1**

Moved By Councillor C. Jewett

Seconded By Councillor J. Ford

**That** correspondence from Brett Buchert, Peer Support Coordinator, International Association for Premenstrual Disorders, requesting that on April 26, 2020 the Fitzsimmons Bridge be lit teal in support of PMDD Awareness Month be received and the bridge lit.

CARRIED

**b. Food Allergy Awareness File No. 3009.1**

Moved By Councillor C. Jewett

Seconded By Councillor A. De Jong

**That** correspondence from Michelle DeFacendis, Food Allergy Canada, requesting that on May 1, 2020 the Fitzsimmons Bridge be lit teal in support of Food Allergy Awareness be received and the bridge lit.

CARRIED

**c. International Recovery Day File No. 3009.1**

Moved By Councillor J. Ford

Seconded By Councillor C. Jewett

**That** correspondence from Alex Bond, International Recovery Day Inc., requesting that on September 30, 2020 the Fitzsimmons Bridge be lit purple in support of International Recovery Day be received and the bridge lit.

CARRIED

**d. World Diabetes Day File No. 3009.1**

Moved By Councillor C. Jewett

Seconded By Councillor J. Ford

**That** correspondence from Glenda Morin, Diabetes Canada, BC and Yukon and Sarah Kinsman, JDRF, BC and Yukon Chapter requesting that on November 14, 2020 the Fitzsimmons Bridge be lit blue in support of World Diabetes Day be received and the bridge lit.

CARRIED

**e. National Children's Grief Awareness Day File No. 3009.1**

Moved By Councillor C. Jewett

Seconded By Councillor D. Jackson

**That** correspondence from Kimberly Thomson, National Director, Rainbows for All Children Canada Inc., requesting that on November 19, 2020 the Fitzsimmons Bridge be lit blue in support of Children's Grief Awareness Day be received and the bridge lit.

CARRIED

**12. TERMINATION**

Moved By Councillor C. Jewett

Seconded By Councillor A. De Jong

**That** the Regular Council Meeting of April 7, 2020 be terminated at 8:23 p.m.

CARRIED

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Mayor, J. Crompton

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Municipal Clerk, A. Banman