

**CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF COURTENAY  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING AGENDA**

**Date:** March 29, 2021  
**Time:** 4:00 p.m.  
**Location:** City Hall Council Chambers

We respectfully acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the *unceded traditional territory of the K'ómoks First Nation*

Due to the Coronavirus COVID-19 emergency, the City of Courtenay with the authority of Ministerial Order No. M192 Local Government Meetings & Bylaw Process (COVID-19) Order No. 3 implemented changes to its open Council meetings.

In the interest of public health and safety, and in accordance with section 3(1) of Ministerial Order No. 3 M192, in-person attendance by members of the public at Council meetings will not be permitted until further notice. Council meetings are presided over by the Mayor or Acting Mayor with electronic participation by Council and staff via live web streaming.

**K'OMOKS FIRST NATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**Pages**

**1. DELEGATIONS**

1.1. Tourism Vancouver Island - Guiding Principles and Services that Support Visitors, Businesses and Communities

Presentation facilitated by:

- Anthony Everett, President and CEO
- Karen Bannister, Director - Destination Marketing

## 2. EXTERNAL REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

- 2.1. BC Association of Farmers' Markets - Results of the 2020 BC Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program - Courtenay 5
- 2.2. Comox Valley Coalition to End Homelessness (CVCEH) and Comox Valley Transition Society (CVTS) - Request to Expand Temporary Emergency Shelter Operations and Extend Licence to Occupy Agreement - Connect Warming Centre, 685 Cliffe Avenue 7
1. To temporarily extend the current Temporary Emergency Shelter License to Occupy agreement between the CVTS and the City of Courtenay at 685 Cliffe Avenue; to continue essential overnight (7pm-7am) emergency shelter services until approved to utilize the proposed location at #2-239 Puntledge Road (May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 potential occupancy).
  2. Allow CVTS to provide overnight shelter services at #2-239 Puntledge Road throughout the duration of the Provincial State of Emergency; review and amend current zoning to allow for overnight occupancy as permitted use for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.
  3. To consider #2-239 Puntledge Road as a future potential site to operate the Connect Warming Centre.
- 2.3. City of Prince George - Letter to Minister of Health - Opioid Crisis and Call for Overdose Action Plan 9
- 2.4. City of Prince George - Letter to BC Utilities Commission - BC Hydro Proposed 2020 Street Lighting Rate Application (Increase) 11

## 3. INTERNAL REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

- 3.1. 2021-2022 Comox Valley RCMP Annual Performance Plan Consultation
- 3.1.1. 2021-2022 RCMP Annual Performance Plan Priorities 13
- 3.1.2. 2020-2021 Comox Valley RCMP Annual Performance Plan Acknowledgement of Consultation 15

Staff Note: Previous year's Community Policing Priorities provided for Council's reference.

#### 4. RESOLUTIONS OF COUNCIL

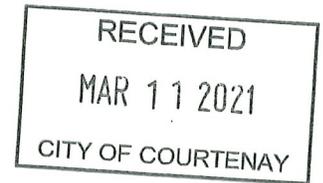
##### 4.1. In Camera Meeting

THAT a Special In-Camera meeting closed to the public will be held March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the conclusion of the Committee of the Whole Meeting pursuant to the following sub-sections of the *Community Charter*:

- 90 (1) (c) labour relations or other employee relations;
- 90 (1) (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;
- 90 (1) (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public.

#### 5. ADJOURNMENT





Bob Wells  
Mayor, City of Courtenay  
830 Cliffe Avenue  
Courtenay, BC V9N 2J7

Dear Mayor Wells & Council,

We would like to share with you the exciting results of the 2020 BC Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program in Courtenay. BC Association of Farmers Markets (BCAFM) delivers this provincial program and is extremely proud of its deep impact on both people and farmers across BC, particularly at this time during the COVID pandemic.

Over the last year, this valued program connected with 75 communities making fresh, healthy, local foods more accessible to 15,890 British Columbians and directly benefited 940 farmers across British Columbia.

In 2020, a total of **\$27,405** was invested directly in **Courtenay** through the Program.

Our partner in your community, the **Comox Valley Family Services Association - Healthy Families Program** provided lower-income pregnant women, families and seniors with coupons to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables, cheese, eggs, nuts, fish, meat and herbs direct from farmers at your local farmers' market.

As a result, program participants from Courtenay ate more local foods, learned about healthy eating, and felt connected to their community. At the same time, the local food system was strengthened with farmers in your community benefitting from additional revenue to sustain their farms.

#### **Our Request To You**

Our community partners, participants and farmers are grateful for this Program in your community. If you agree, we kindly ask you to send a thank you letter to the Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health. Your encouragement and feedback can strengthen support for ongoing funding for the Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program and ensure we continue to build healthier BC communities together.

#### **Opportunity to Meet?**

If you were like to learn more about the Program, the work of your local farmers market and community partners, we would be pleased to organize an online meeting. Please contact the program manager, Peter Leblanc at [peter@bcfarmersmarket.org](mailto:peter@bcfarmersmarket.org) set this up.

We look forward to working with your community again in 2021!

With gratitude,

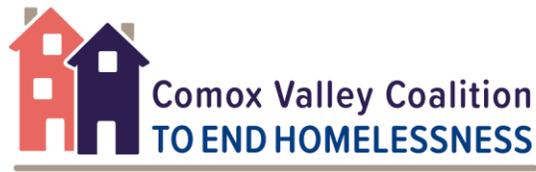
Heather O'Hara  
Executive Director  
BC Association of Farmers' Markets

Vickey Brown  
President, Board of Directors  
BC Association of Farmers' Markets

#### **BC Association of Farmers' Markets**

208 - 1089 West Broadway Vancouver, BC V6H 1E5  
604-734-9797 | [bcfarmersmarket.org](http://bcfarmersmarket.org) | [bcfarmersmarkettrail.com](http://bcfarmersmarkettrail.com)





City of Courtenay  
830 Cliffe Ave  
Courtenay, BC V9N 2J7

March 22, 2021

**Re: Connect Shelter Extension and Relocation Approval**

Dear City of Courtenay Mayor and Council,

I am writing on behalf of the Comox Valley Coalition to End Homelessness (Coalition) in partnership with the Comox Valley Transition Society (CVTS) to inform you of current opportunities to expand emergency shelter for people experiencing homelessness and to increase Connect's operational capacity.

**Opportunity to Increase Operational Capacity at Connect:**

Currently, the License to Occupy agreement for Connect (685 Cliffe Avenue) is set to expire in October 2021. It is our understanding that this building was identified as one of the potential sites of future co-op housing and that we may not be able to renew our License to Occupy if construction on the site occurs.

The Coalition and CVTS have identified #2, 239 Puntledge Rd. (beside CVTS' Too Good to Be Threw thrift store) as a potential site to operate Connect and a temporary emergency shelter. The site is available to lease starting May 2021 and has plenty of open, bright space, a kitchen, 2 washrooms, a shower, office space, an outdoor patio, and plenty of storage for personal belongings. The space is larger than 685 Cliffe Ave meaning we would be able to safely serve more individuals and could double our temporary shelter capacity from 8 to 16 beds. It is situated across from the Lewis Centre, down the street from the bottle depot, and a short walking distance to services downtown. The current landlord has an excellent relationship with CVTS and is willing to rent to them for the purposes of a day program and shelter with approval from the City of Courtenay. Our preliminary conversations with City of Courtenay staff reveal that this location is zoned appropriately as C-2 and wouldn't need to be rezoned for the purposes of a day-program. If this opportunity works out, we will begin community engagement with neighbouring businesses and the Chamber of Commerce as soon as possible to ensure that we build relationships as good neighbours. We have potential funding opportunities lined up to cover the cost of rent and operations.

**Temporary Emergency Shelter Opportunities:**

CVTS has been providing emergency shelter beds at 685 Cliffe Ave as part of BC Housing's Emergency Weather Response program. Since opening on February 12<sup>th</sup>, all 8 temporary shelter beds have been at capacity every single evening and there has been a total of 302 stays. While we do not have specific 'turn-away' data (this will be tracked going forward) many evenings we have had people sleep outside the building when the shelter is full.

Funding from BC Housing and the City of Courtenay License to Occupy amendment to utilize 685 Cliffe Ave as an overnight shelter are both set to expire on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

Due to the high demand of this service, BC Housing is currently reviewing the request for the extension to fund additional spaces as a Temporary Emergency Shelter for as long as the Provincial State of Emergency is activated. The need for these emergency shelter spaces was identified in the Coalition's recent Housing Proposal which was endorsed by the City of Courtenay in January 2021. The Coalition acknowledges that through BC Housing we have a rare opportunity to ensure our community's most vulnerable have safe and supportive additional emergency shelter beds, to keep them and our community

at large safer during the pandemic. Therefore, we are looking for approval and support from City Council on the following.

1. To temporarily extend the current License to Occupy agreement at 685 Cliffe to continue to offer essential overnight (7pm-7am) emergency shelter services until we can move into the proposed location at #2, 239 Puntledge Rd (May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 potential occupancy).
2. To allow CVTS to provide overnight shelter at #2, 239 Puntledge Rd throughout the duration of the Provincial State of Emergency. Our understanding is that current zoning does not allow for overnight occupancy, but that there is ability to temporarily approve this use during the duration of the pandemic.

Being able to provide additional emergency shelter has made a significant impact on the well-being of those who access the beds. Staff have been able to build positive relationships with guests and refer them to support services, medical care, food, living supports, a safety net, and sense of community. Connect continues to have a similar positive impact in our community and we are excited to have the opportunity to move to a larger more suitable space.

The Coalition and CVTS extend our sincere gratitude to the City of Courtenay council and staff for all your support of these essential services that keep our community's most vulnerable safe and connected during the pandemic, including our other most recent request to temporarily place a storage container at 685 Cliffe Ave. We recognize the time and effort that City staff put into these requests and operations and we enjoy working in partnership with all of you to provide these services.

We have an incredible opportunity to expand our support in partnership with BC Housing and our hope is for your support in our requests. Please do not hesitate to reach out should you require any additional information.

Thank you for your consideration,



Andrea Cupelli  
Coordinator for the Comox Valley Coalition to End Homelessness



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

1100 Patricia Blvd. | Prince George, BC, Canada V2L 3V9  
p: 250.561.7600 | [www.princegeorge.ca](http://www.princegeorge.ca)

March 17, 2021

Transmitted via email: [patty.hajdu@parl.gc.ca](mailto:patty.hajdu@parl.gc.ca)

The Honourable Patty Hajdu, P.C. M.P.  
Minister of Health  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

**RE: Opioid Crisis and Call for Overdose Action Plan**

Dear Minister,

The City of Prince George Council and Staff have taken part in conversations with many stakeholders across our community regarding the impact of the opioid crisis on local health and policing resources. We acknowledge the steps taken by the Government of Canada thus far in addressing the need to improve access to treatment and harm reduction services, legal protection for individuals seeking emergency services during an overdose by way of the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act, awareness and prevention around the use of opioids, and the continued work to reduce the illegal and often tainted opioid supply.

To further support the country's effort in addressing the opioid crisis, the City of Prince George calls upon the Government of Canada to further its work through the implementation of a National Overdose Action Plan. As such, the City supports the following resolution shared by other municipal councils across the province:

*WHEREAS the opioid crisis is one of the largest public health emergencies of our lifetime, with a death about every two hours on average and a death toll of over 16,360 since 2016 (January 2016 to March 2020);*

*AND WHEREAS other countries have significantly reduced drug-related fatalities with reforms such as legal regulation of illicit drugs to ensure safe supply and decriminalization for personal use;*

*AND WHEREAS the federal government has indicated it is premature to discuss these measures until there are comprehensive supports for people to get well;*

*AND WHEREAS supports are needed, but measures that save lives are essential if people are to survive and access supports;*

*AND WHEREAS the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police has stated that they agree the evidence suggests “decriminalization for simple possession as an effective way to reduce the public health and public safety harms associated with substance use”;*

*AND WHEREAS the overdose crisis rages, showing few signs of abating;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council:*

- a) *request that the Government of Canada:*

  - i) *declare the overdose crisis a national public health; and*
  - ii) *immediately seek input from the people most affected by this crisis and meet with provinces and territories to develop a comprehensive, Pan-Canadian overdose action plan, which includes comprehensive supports and full consideration of reforms that other countries have used to significantly reduce drug-related fatalities and stigma.*

On behalf of Council, thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Mayor Lyn Hall  
City of Prince George

cc: All UBCM Member Local Governments  
Todd Doherty, MP for Cariboo-Prince George  
Bob Zimmer, MP for Prince George-Peace River-Northern Rockies



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

1100 Patricia Blvd. | Prince George, BC, Canada V2L 3V9  
p: 250.561.7600 | [www.princegeorge.ca](http://www.princegeorge.ca)

March 17, 2021

By email: [commission.secretary@bcuc.com](mailto:commission.secretary@bcuc.com)

BC Utilities Commission  
Suite 401, 900 Howe Street  
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3

**RE: British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro): 2020 Street Lighting Rate Application**

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the City of Prince George Council, please accept this letter in opposition to BC Hydro's proposed 2020 Street Lighting Rate Application (Application).

The Application, submitted by BC Hydro in November 2020, seeks approval for an increase in the monthly rate charged per street light which includes a surcharge to recover the costs incurred by BC Hydro to convert existing High Pressure Sodium (HPS) light fixtures to LED fixtures.

While the City of Prince George supports the environmental benefits that will result from the conversion to LED technology, we are not in support of a surcharge rate downloaded to municipalities to cover the disposal of existing lights and their associated depreciation costs.

As such, we respectfully request that the City's concerns be considered in the evaluation of BC Hydro's Street Lighting Rate Application.

Sincerely,

Mayor Lyn Hall

cc: All UBCM Member Local Governments





**Acknowledgement of Consultation**

**Attestation de la consultation**

**District / Detachment Information - Renseignements sur le district ou le détachement**

Fiscal Year - Année financière 2021 - 2022

RCMP COST CENTRE STANDARD HIERARCHY

C

ISLAND DISTRICT

COMOX VALLEY DETACHMENT

COMOX VALLEY DETACHMENT P

Comox Valley Detachment

**Community Name(s) - Nom(s) de la(des) collectivité(s)**

1. City of Courtenay

This letter acknowledges that the stakeholders of the above-noted detachment / district / unit area or community(ies) and the RCMP have consulted and discussed our progress against last year's priority issues. Further it has been agreed that over the coming year we will collectively focus on the following priority issues.

La présente lettre atteste que les responsables de la région du détachement/district/service ou de la ou des collectivités susmentionnées et de la GRC se sont consultés et ont discuté des progrès accomplis par rapport aux enjeux prioritaires de l'année dernière. Il a aussi été convenu que les enjeux suivants constituent les enjeux prioritaires sur lesquels nous concentrerons conjointement nos efforts au cours de l'année à venir.

**Community Priority Issue(s) - Enjeu(x) prioritaire(s) pour la collectivité**

1. Traffic - Road Safety
2. Crime Reduction - Prolific Offenders/strategies
3. Organized Crime - Drug Trafficking
4. Violence - Domestic violence
5. Violence - Sexual assault
6. Bylaw - Homeless encampments

**District / Detachment Commander - Chef de district / détachement**

Michael Kurvers

District / Detachment Commander

Signature - Signature

Date

**Community Representative - Représentant(e) de la collectivité**

Mayor Bob Wells

Name - Nom

Signature - Signature

Date



# THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF COURTENAY

Legislative and Corporate Services  
Department  
Phone: (250) 334-4441  
Fax: (250) 334-4241



830 Cliffe Avenue  
Courtenay, BC, V9N 2J7  
E-mail: [info@courtenay.ca](mailto:info@courtenay.ca)  
Website: [www.courtenay.ca](http://www.courtenay.ca)

File No: 7400-01

June 08, 2020

Comox Valley RCMP  
800 Ryan Road  
Courtenay, BC, V9N 7T1

Dear Inspector Kurvers:

## **RE: RCMP Annual Performance Plan Acknowledgement of Consultation 2020 - 2021**

The 2020 - 2021 RCMP Annual Performance Plan acknowledgement of consultation was received by Council at the April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 regular Council meeting.

Discussion followed regarding community policing priorities and Council raised additional areas of concern beyond the two items identified in the 2020 - 2021 RCMP Annual Performance Plan.

Council deemed that a more fulsome summary of policing priorities be included with the Comox Valley RCMP community priority issues identified in the acknowledgment of consultation; below is an excerpt taken from the April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 regular Council meeting minutes summarizing Council's discussion for inclusion with the Annual Performance Plan.

**.01**

RCMP ANNUAL  
PERFORMANCE PLAN,  
2020-2021,  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
OF CONSULTATION

*“That the correspondence from Inspector Michael Kurvers, Comox Valley RCMP, related to the “RCMP Annual Performance Plan Acknowledgement of Consultation for the fiscal year 2020 - 2021”, be received for information.”*

General discussion followed regarding community policing priorities and areas of concern raised by Council with a focus on traffic road safety, crime reduction strategies, homeless encampments, domestic violence, sexual assault, organized crime linked to drug trade and opioid use; and the impact of Coronavirus Covid-19 in relation to the above and potential release of offenders due exposure risk and spread of Covid-19 in correctional facilities.

Council agreed to invite Inspector Michael Kurvers to a future Council meeting to continue discussions related to community policing priorities, and; that the additional items identified at the April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 regular Council meeting be submitted to Inspector Kurvers for inclusion in the 2020 - 2021 Comox Valley RCMP community priority issues acknowledgment of consultation.

The City of Courtenay values strong relationships between the RCMP and the communities it serves and looks forward to continued stakeholder engagement; enclosed is the 2020 - 2021 RCMP Annual Performance Plan acknowledgement of consultation signed by Mayor Wells.

Yours truly,

City of Courtenay



Wendy Sorichta,  
Corporate Officer

Encl.

cc: Bob Wells, Mayor, City of Courtenay  
D. Allen, Chief Administrative Officer



**Acknowledgement of Consultation**

**Attestation de la consultation**

**District / Detachment Information - Renseignements sur le district ou le détachement**

Fiscal Year - Année financière 2020 - 2021

RCMP COST CENTRE STANDARD HIERARCHY

C

ISLAND DISTRICT

COMOX VALLEY DETACHMENT

COMOX VALLEY DETACHMENT P

Comox Valley Detachment

**Community Name(s) - Nom(s) de la(des) collectivité(s)**

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**Community Priority Issue(s) - Enjeu(x) prioritaire(s) pour la collectivité**

1. Traffic - Road Safety
2. Crime Reduction - Prolific Offenders (See Addendum note below)

**District / Detachment Commander - Chef de district / détachement**

Michael Kurvers

District / Detachment Commander

Signature - Signature

Date

**Community Representative - Représentant(e) de la collectivité**

Mayor Bob Wells

Name - Nom

Signature - Signature

Date

JUN 09 2020

With the following addendum to the Community Priority Issues:

2. Crime Reduction - Prolific Offenders (to include crime reduction strategies)

NEW:

3. Homeless encampments
4. Domestic violence, sexual assault
5. Organized crime linked to drug trade and opioid use
6. The impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in relation to the above; and,
7. Potential release of offenders due to exposure risk re: the spread of COVID-19 in correctional facilities.

