

# Terms of Reference Environment & Natural Areas Advisory Committee

The purpose of the Environment and Natural Areas Advisory Committee is to advise Council and recommend policies on urban forestry including Significant Trees, natural parks, climate change, green technology, energy efficiency and environmental sustainability.

## Mandate

The Environment and Natural Areas Advisory Committee will, consistent with the purpose described above, undertake the following:

- Develop and recommend policies to Council and respond to Council requests for advice and information.
- Review and provide feedback on the Strategic Plan.
- Provide a community perspective on services, programs, events and capital projects related to urban forestry, natural parks (P-4N zone), climate change, green technology, energy efficiency, and environmental sustainability.
- Foster public awareness, recognition and support for a healthy and sustainable natural environment.
- Make recommendations to Council on the designation of Significant Trees due to their community importance for environmental, heritage or landmark value, or as wildlife habitat.

## Meetings

The Committee will meet a minimum of four times per year in accordance with its regular schedule of meetings established annually at the first meeting of the year. No meetings are held during the summer and winter breaks (July, August and December). Special meetings may be held at the call of the Chair. The meeting rules and procedures will be in accordance with the Council Procedure Bylaw.

## Membership

The Committee will consist of nine (9) members including:

- One member of Council to serve as Chair, appointed by the Mayor; and,
- Eight community representatives appointed by the Council.

The Saanich Youth Council may assign a member to the Committee as a non-voting liaison.

## Staff Support

The Planning Department will be the primary contact and together with the Parks Division will provide the required professional support. The Legislative Division will provide secretarial and administrative support.