

**MINUTES**  
**HEALTHY SAANICH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Held electronically via MS Teams  
**June 2, 2021 at 6:24 p.m.**

Present: Councillor Ned Taylor (Chair), Jasmine Noble, Clare Attwell, Ryan Henderson, Liz Miller (SCAN), Silvia Mangué Alene (6:15 p.m.)

Guests: Trevor Hancock, President, One Planet Region Saanich

Staff: Cristina Caravaca, Senior Manager Community Services; and Megan MacDonald, Committee Clerk

Absent: Kam Judge, Nadia Rajan, Jasindra Jawanda and Carren Dujela

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**MINUTES**

**MOVED by L. Miller, and seconded by C. Attwell: “That the minutes of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee meeting held May 5, 2021 be adopted as distributed.”**

**CARRIED**

**CHAIRS REMARKS**

The Chair provided an update on items of interest to the committee, the following was noted:

- Abigail Toledo (youth representative) has recently resigned from the committee.
- Committee recommendations related to adding mental health to the Strategic Plan have been forwarded by Council to the next Strategic Plan Check-in meeting.
- The next Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee meeting will take place in September.

\*\*\* S. Mangué Alene entered the meeting at 6:15 \*\*\*

**CONVERSATIONS FOR A ONE PLANET REGION**

Trevor Hancock, President of Conversations for a One Planet Region, presented information on Conversations for a One Planet Region initiatives. The following was noted:

- The United Nations Secretary General made concerning comments related to the climate at the Columbia University’s World Leaders Forum on December 2, 2020.
- Humans depend on ecosystems for survival, including air, water, food, fuel, protection from UV radiation, waste recycling and a relatively stable climate.
- A healthy community must be an ecologically sustainable community. We undermine determinates of health when we harm the ecosystem.
- We have entered a new geological age, which has been termed the Anthropocene. The human caused ecological components of the Anthropocene are climate change, ocean acidification, ozone layer depletion, resource depletion (renewable and non-renewable), pollution, eco toxicity and species extinctions, all at the same time.
- Global economic growth and population have grown significantly. We are using much more than our fair share of the Earth’s bio capacity and resources.

- To get to a One Planet Region means a 70% reduction in our ecological footprint.
- The One Planet Cities pilot is aimed at helping cities drive down their ecological and carbon footprint through collaborative action planning. They are building a local and international network to share ideas, support each other and learn together.
- There are many local supporters and stakeholders, including the District of Saanich.
- The vision of COPR is that the Greater Victoria Region achieves social and ecological sustainability, with a high quality of life and a long life in good health for all its citizens, while reducing its ecological footprint to be equivalent to one planet's worth of bio-capacity. The Mission of The Conversations is to establish and maintain community-wide conversations on One Planet living and a One Planet Region.
- First we need to learn about this concept, talk about it with family, friends and neighbors. Then we can begin to imagine, design and build physical social, economic and cultural change. As part of a 'Great Reconnect' after Covid, it would be great to establish a program of inclusive, neighbourhood-based Kitchen Table Conversations.
- A community charrette could be created at the neighborhood level for a one planet design to support the wellbeing of people, wellbeing of communities and the planet.

In response to questions and comments from the Committee, the following was noted:

- Committee members expressed their gratitude and appreciation for the presentation.
- There is a need to have face to face conversations around the community to promote the goals and visions of One Planet Region. As the environmental concerns worsen, the urgency of these goals increases.
- Kitchen table conversations are an important part of progressing goals, it is important to have these conversations with those around us to raise awareness.

**MOVED by L. Miller and seconded by S. Mangue Alene:**

**“Whereas, the District of Saanich is supporting the One Planet Saanich initiative as part of an international network, and;**

**Whereas, this initiative is about the wellbeing of people, communities and the planet, community connection and engagement, inclusion and social justice;**

**Therefore, be it resolved that the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee recommend that Saanich Council broaden their existing commitment to a Climate Action Plan and build on their ongoing work on a Resilient Saanich initiative and related issues (including Healthy Saanich itself) by expanding their scope of action and creating a One Planet Saanich Action Plan.”**

**CARRIED**

**\*\*\* T. Hancock exited the meeting at 7:05 p.m. \*\*\***

## **CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON GAS POWERED LEAF BLOWERS IN SAANICH**

The Chair provided an update on the possibility of banning gas powered leaf blowers in Saanich. The Mayor recently presented a Notice of Motion to direct staff to prepare a report for a staged approach to banning the use of gas powered leaf blowers in Saanich at its next Strategic Plan check in; the motion did not pass. Leaf blowers are a part of the larger concerns of noise pollution. It would be beneficial to review the noise bylaws from a more general point of view. Subsequently, a Council motion to refer the issue of noise pollution to the next Strategic Plan check-in was passed.

## UPDATE ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION STRATEGY

C. Caravaca, Senior Manager Community Services provided an update on the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategy, the following was noted:

- Small celebrations for the Lunar New Year and Diwali were held, including decorations in Saanich facilities, education through posters and social media awareness.
- The Hearts Together Project was featured in The Philanthropist Journal.
- The exhibition gallery at the Hall included a display for Black History Month.
- The Moose Hide Campaign was held virtually, Saanich was able to promote this event.
- A red dress was hung at Municipal Hall in support of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and two spirited peoples in Canada, along with an article in the Times Columnist to raise awareness of this issue.
- Small group art and music programs have been taking place in a COVID safe manner.
- Applications have opened for the WYLD (Willing Youth Leading Diverse Communities) 2021 Summer Placement Program.
- There is new support staff in place for one on one inclusion at summer camps.
- Pride month celebrations will take place in June, including a proclamation from the Mayor, a flag raising ceremony and decorations at Saanich facilities.
- The Diversity Equity and Inclusion Strategic Plan was paused in 2020 due to COVID. The request for proposal process is now in progress, a consultant will be hired in 2021.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

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Councillor Taylor, Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

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Committee Secretary