

**MINUTES**  
**RESILIENT SAANICH TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**  
To be Held in Council Chambers  
Saanich Municipal Hall, 770 Vernon Avenue  
**Tuesday, November 23, 2021, 7 p.m.**

Present: Councillor Rebecca Mersereau (Council Liaison), Kevin Brown, Tim Ennis, Purnima Govindarajulu, Chris Lowe, Stewart Guy, Kear Porttris, Tory Stevens (Chair), Brian Wilkes, Bev Windjack

Staff: Eva Riccius, Senior Manager, Parks; Thomas Munson, Senior Environmental Planner, Adriane Pollard, Manager of Environmental Services; Carolyn Richman, Environmental Education Officer; Lynn Merry, Senior Committee Clerk

Guests: Alex Nelson, Nella Nelson, Sebastian Silva, First Nations Elders and Kim Walker, consultant

Regrets: Jeremy Gye

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT**

Councillor Mersereau read the Territorial Acknowledgement and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOVED by S. Guy and Seconded by B. Windjack: "That the Agenda for the November 23, 2021 Resilient Saanich Technical Committee be approved, as amended."**

The agenda was amended to include an update on the Biodiversity work.

**CARRIED**

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**MOVED by C. Lowe and Seconded by B. Windjack: "That the minutes of the October 26, 2021 Resilient Saanich Technical Committee be adopted."**

**CARRIED**

5. **RECEIPT OF CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence was received for information.

**6. CULTURAL SAFETY INTRODUCTION WITH FIRST NATIONS ELDERS**

Roundtable introductions took place in preparation for the upcoming learning session.

Committee members brought forward ideas for items to be considered at the learning session including:

- It would be helpful to learn how to not be “colonial”.
- Where are the special harvesting lands and how do First Nations feel when non-First Nations people are on that land?
- Can First Nations provide knowledge on how to stop the loss of biodiversity?
- What did the lands look like prior to colonization and are there types of stewardship opportunities that First Nations can recommend.
- How can First Nations support the committee?
- What does “reconciliation” mean to First Nations people and to settlers?

**7. DISCUSSION OF RESILIENT SAANICH PRINCIPLES, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

K. Walker, consultant, presented to the committee and made the following comments:

- The Vision, Principles, Goals and Objectives (VPGO) will be revised to add clarity and provide substance.
- The thematic areas will be included.
- First Nations feedback will be considered.
- The deadline for the revisions is January 7, 2022.
- The illustration could be done by Saanich’s graphic designer.
- There is a need to streamline the principles; there are 2-3 additional principles that have been added.
- There will be principles that will be stand alone.
- Test scenarios will be run.
- The documents will be sent out as soon as possible to ensure that the committee can review prior to the workshop.

Councillor Mersereau stated:

- A presentation will take place with the WLC and they may possibly be attending a future meeting.

**8. DISCUSSION OF RFQ’S FOR STATE OF BIODIVERSITY REPORT AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION STRATEGY**

The Manager of Environmental Services stated:

- Purchasing has everything needed to move forward with the Request for Quotation (RFQ).
- If there are organizations that are recommended by the committee, they can be notified that the bid opportunity is available.
- The RFQ will be sent to the committee to forward to their contacts.

9. **REPORT OF BIODIVERSITY WORKING GROUP**

The Manager of Environmental Services and the Senior Manager, Parks made the following comments:

- The Biodiversity Brief has been reviewed and there are some suggestions recommended.
- Content has been copied into the Glossary.
- The document should be provided to the consultant, when hired.
- Who the audience is should be considered.

10. **REPORT OF MAPPING/STEWARDSHIP WORKING GROUP**

B. Wilkes made the following comments:

- The next step is to have a meeting with staff to review the map layers.
- Stewardship opportunities are being reviewed.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED by K. Brown and Seconded by B. Windjack: "That the meeting of the Resilient Saanich Technical Committee be adjourned."**

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING**

December 16, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Workshop – December 11, 2021, 9 a.m. to Noon

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Tory Stevens, Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

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Committee Secretary