

DISTRICT OF SAANICH
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
FINANCIAL PLAN
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SAANICH MUNICIPAL HALL, 770 VERNON AVENUE
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014 AT 7:30 P.M.

Present: **Chair:** Councillor Wergeland
 Council: Councillors Brice, Brownoff, Derman, Gerrard, Murdock, Sanders and Wade
 Staff: P. Murray, Administrator; V. Tinney, Director of Finance; P. Arslan, Senior Manager, Financial Services; and A. Park, Senior Committee Clerk.

PUBLIC INPUT

Nil

5660-25
Greater Victoria
Public Library Board

GREATER VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD – 2014 BUDGET PRESENTATION

Letter from the Chair, Greater Victoria Public Library Board, dated February 28, 2014 submitting their 2014 budget request in the amount of \$5,122,315.

Mr. G. Bunyan, Chair, Greater Victoria Public Library (GVPL) Board, Ms. M. Sawa, CEO, and Ms. D. Phillips, Director of Finance, Greater Victoria Library, highlighted the following:

- The GVPL has the second highest per-capita circulation rates in the country, with ebook usage skyrocketing.
- The successful opening of the new Emily Carr Branch at Uptown has been a recent accomplishment.
- The final operating budget for the library system for 2014 has been limited to a 2.81% increase over 2013; the Saanich funding request for 2014 represents a 3.71% increase over the previous year or \$1.61 per capita.
- Libraries play a role in building strong, healthy communities but are challenged with decreasing revenues, aging infrastructure, and ongoing salaries and benefits.
- Staff continue to find savings through innovation, internal resourcing and integration of services and resources.

5660-25
Horticulture Centre
of the Pacific

HORTICULTURE CENTRE OF THE PACIFIC – 2014 GRANT REQUEST PRESENTATION

Letter from the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific dated January 20, 2014 requesting a 2014 grant in the amount of \$145,000.

Mr. Roger Charles, Executive Director, Horticulture Centre of the Pacific (HCP), and Mr. Ron Cox, President, HCP, stated:

- Highlights of the past year include the transfer of the HCP lands from the Province of BC to the District of Saanich, which then provided HCP with the stability of a long-term lease of the lands for 60 years; the opening of the Couvelier Pavilion, the completion of a new 4 year strategic plan, new corporate sponsorships and the hiring of a Director of Sales & Marketing.
- Increased revenues are anticipated in 2014 with many key initiatives

planned, including new programming and an interpretive trail around the lake for Canada's 150th birthday in 2017.

5660-25
Swan Lake
Christmas Hill Nature
Sanctuary

**SWAN LAKE CHRISTMAS HILL NATURE SANCTUARY – 2014
MANAGEMENT FEE**

Letter from the Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary Society dated February 24, 2014 requesting a 2014 management fee in the amount of \$330,000.

Mr. Erik Lund, Chair, Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary Society Board, stated:

- The Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary Society focuses on the natural world with the goal of education and restoration. The Land Management Agreement with the District of Saanich governs the operations of the Sanctuary.
- Objectives for 2014 include increased fundraising, additional memberships, and improving the visitor experience.
- The hiring of a fundraiser and the appointment of a Board member with fundraising expertise, is expected to result in increased revenues.
- Highlights of the past year include the establishment of a preschool in the Nature House and the renovation of the heritage Martelli House which will accommodate staff.
- The funding request for 2014 includes the land management fee (\$330,000) and the amounts necessary for completion of the Martelli House restoration (\$15,000) and for a new boardwalk (\$40,000) which will be needed within two years.

5660-25
Saanich Heritage
Foundation

**SAANICH HERITAGE FOUNDATION – 2014 GRANT REQUEST
PRESENTATION**

Application from the Saanich Heritage Foundation dated January 17, 2014 requesting a 2014 grant in the amount of \$33,000.

Mr. Brad Shuya, President, Saanich Heritage Foundation, stated:

- The Saanich Heritage Foundation (SHF) will process six grant applications in 2014, manage two heritage homes and assist in the designation of one or more heritage properties.
- The funding request in the amount of \$33,000 is to cover the cost of the grants, the management of the homes, conference fees and secretarial expenses.
- Rental home revenues were being redirected to cover secretarial costs and this is no longer a viable option as the maintenance of the buildings will be impacted.
- They will consider how to update Council more regularly on the valuable work of the Foundation.

Adjournment On a motion from Councillor Derman, the meeting adjourned at 9:32 pm.

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CHAIR

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

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MUNICIPAL CLERK