

**VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

DATE: Wednesday, April 2, 2025
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers, Village Office
495 Hot Springs Road, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Mark Schweinbenz, Chair
Mayor Fred Talen (ex-officio member, until 9:20 a.m.)
Susan Galvao
Paul Kandt (via Zoom)
Cheri Norris
Gary Webster

Amanda Graham, Corporate Officer
Jace Hodgson, Director of Operations (until 10:15 a.m.)

ABSENT: John DeMartin

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Schweinbenz called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Chair Schweinbenz acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes.

3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

None.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Susan Galvao
Seconded by Cheri Norris

THAT the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
EAC-2025-04-01

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Gary Webster
Seconded by Cheri Norris

THAT the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting minutes of March 5, 2025 be adopted.

**CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY**
EAC-2025-04-02

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Update from March 17, 2025 Regular Council Meeting

The Corporate Officer advised that Council unanimously supported the Committee's recommendation to direct staff to research grant funding opportunities for increasing the urban tree canopy. The Committee discussed having field staff begin to identify areas that are sparse, or potentially having the Committee do a group walk to identify some areas. The Committee asked for a blank map to use.

(b) Report of Corporate Officer dated April 2, 2025
Re: Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1216, 2025 and Updated Terms of Reference

Moved by Susan Galvao
Seconded by Gary Webster

THAT the updated Environmental Advisory Committee Terms of Reference be endorsed as amended by correcting section 4(c) so that it references section 4(a), not 3(a).

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
EAC-2025-04-03

(c) Urban Forest Master Plan

The Committee discussed Memorial Trail in the East Sector and requested that the Village contact the FVRD regarding unsafe makeshift bridges with crates and dumped yard waste.

(d) Earth Day in May – Invitee List & Marketing Materials

The Committee requested that the following organizations be invited to the event:

- Fraser River Sturgeon Society
- Onos Farms Tulip Company
- Arborist
- Creekside Dairy
- Harrison Happy Hens
- BC Sport Fishing
- BC Hydro
- Fortis
- Harrison Community Garden Society

The Committee requested a binder with the Urban Forest Management Plan at the Environmental Committee's table, along with a QR code to link to it. The Committee also requested that staff look into using a portion of the Community Events budget to obtain seedlings to hand out, perhaps by donation or at a reduced rate from a local nursery. Flowering deciduous seedlings would be preferable.

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The Committee discussed a potential idea for future events to include an arborist to provide a demonstration on how to properly prune a tree.

(e) BearSmart

Councillor Schweinbenz provided an update regarding changes to the Waste Management Bylaw which requires residents to ensure that their garbage is not put out before 5:00 a.m. on collection day. The Committee discussed communications about this change and requested that the Village indicate that if residents cannot comply, to reach out to a neighbour for assistance.

(f) Dike Upgrade

The Director of Operations advised that the dike upgrade project has had three open houses and multiple presentations to Council.

The Committee discussed public opinion on the dike upgrade, negative impact to the view and tourism, risk of flooding and damage to property, future climate change, the minimum height, overtopping from waves, calculations on the probability of risk, tiger dams, safety in terms of parking and motorist view, and flooding from the Fraser River as opposed to Harrison Lake.

The Committee further discussed item 5(e) – BearSmart and discussed animal-proof containers and a potential Hazardous Waste Collection Day for items such as leftover paint.

Moved by Councillor Schweinbenz
Seconded by Cheri Norris

THAT Council direct staff to investigate having a Hazardous Waste Collection Day with a centralized depot for residents to deposit waste such as paint solvents or hazardous materials that cannot be disposed of through normal waste collection or recycling.

CARRIED
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EAC-2025-04-04

(g) Next Meeting Date

The Committee agreed to move the April 28 meeting up to April 25, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

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7. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councillor Schweinbenz
Seconded by Susan Galvao

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY
EAC-2025-04-05



Councillor Mark Schweinbenz, Chair
Environmental Advisory Committee



Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer