



# NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 26, 2026, 3:00 PM  
Village Office, 495 Hot Springs Road,  
Harrison Hot Springs, BC V0M 1K0

**THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE**

<b>1. CALL TO ORDER</b>
Meeting called to order by Councillor Schweinbenz, Chair.
<b>2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT</b>
Acknowledgement of Sts'ailes traditional territory.
<b>3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS</b>
<b>4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b>
<b>5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES</b>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>(a) THAT the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting minutes of April 28, 2026 be adopted.</span> <span><b>Page 1</b></span> </div>
<b>6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION</b>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Presentation from Kelly Phipps</li> <li>(b) Report of Corporate Officer dated May 26, 2026 Re: Earth Day in May Report</li> <li>(c) Feedback from Civic Campus Engagement Event</li> <li>(d) Miami River Health</li> <li>(e) Public Area Tree Planting</li> <li>(f) Wildlife Protection Research</li> <li>(g) Adopt a Shoreline/Trail</li> <li>(h) Cosmetic Pesticide Use</li> <li>(i) Next Meeting Date: TBD</li> </ul> <span style="margin-left: auto;"><b>Page 5</b></span> </div>
<b>7. ADJOURNMENT</b>

Amanda Graham  
Corporate Officer





VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS  
Environmental Advisory Committee  
Minutes

**DATE:** Tuesday, April 28, 2026  
**TIME:** 3:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Council Chambers, Village Office  
495 Hot Springs Road, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councillor Mark Schweinbenz (Chair)  
John DeMartin  
Susan Galvao  
Paul Kandt

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:** Corporate Officer, Amanda Graham

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Schweinbenz called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Chair Schweinbenz acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes.

3. **INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Moved by Susan Galvao**  
**Seconded by Paul Kandt**

THAT the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED**  
EAC-2026-04-01

5. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**Moved by John DeMartin**  
**Seconded by Susan Galvao**

THAT the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 2, 2026 be adopted as amended, with the correction to the spelling of Susan's last name.

**CARRIED**  
EAC-2026-04-02

## 6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

### (a) Earth Day in May Finalization

The Committee discussed final details of the event as follows:

- The new grass outside of Memorial Hall is cordoned off due to it being newly planted so the Yoga / Horticulture Therapy Workshop will take place up on the band stand instead
- The Sourdough Workshop sold out quickly and has a wait list
- Mayor Victor Smith connected the Village with a carver named Hannu Yliruusi and determined that they would have him set up on the beachfront in front Memorial Hall and carve during times when the gardening and yoga workshop are not taking place
- Assisting with battery recycling and directing people where to go
- The final schedule of events and attendees

### (b) Adopt a Road / Shoreline Policy

The Committee discussed the current policy, noting that it is currently inactive and would require some initial work to get started again. There are also liability and union considerations that need to be taken into account. It was determined that this matter would be tabled until the next meeting to give the Committee some time to review the current policy and recommend changes.

### (c) 2026 Work Plan

Discussion ensued regarding outstanding items on the 2026 Work Plan including exploring partnerships regarding the health of the Miami River, identifying public areas for tree planting, research into mitigating human-wildlife conflicts, and reviewing cosmetic pesticide use.

### (d) Update on Village Meeting with Miami River Streamkeepers (Paul Kandt)

Paul Kandt provided an update on a meeting between Miami River Streamkeepers (MRSS) and the Village. Both parties recently met to discuss what work they're doing to make sure everyone is informed. The Rotary Club has a convention in town this weekend and MRSS will be partnering with them to do a weed pull on Sunday. The Village will be assisting by taking away whatever gets pulled out. The meeting also touched on bank stabilization along McCombs Drive and the need for funding to cover the materials which are estimated to be around \$5-6,000.

### (e) Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 26 at 3:00 p.m.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by John DeMartin**  
**Seconded by Susan Galvao**

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

**CARRIED**  
EAC-2026-04-03

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Councillor Mark Schweinbenz, Chair  
Environmental Advisory Committee

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Amanda Graham  
Corporate Officer

DRAFT



File No: 0360-20-07

Date: May 26, 2026

To: Environmental Advisory Committee  
From: Amanda Graham, Corporate Officer  
Subject: Earth Day in May Report

## SUMMARY

To provide the Committee with a summary report of the Earth Day in May event held on Saturday, May 2, 2026.

## BACKGROUND

On Saturday, May 2, 2026 the Village hosted an Earth Day in May Event at Memorial Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The following groups, vendors and people participated:

Name or Organization	Capacity
Alyssa Dawn – True Blue Landscaping	Horticulture therapy workshop and scarlet runner bean planting, sponsored by the Communities in Bloom Committee budget
Lou Meggiato – Wild Bluebell	Sourdough workshop and vendor
Lori Roberts – WildSafe BC	Table and PowerPoint presentation
Thomas Redden – FireSmart	Table and vouchers for discounted fire smart plant for those who sign up for a home assessment
Sylvia Sutton and Jane Kivett – Miami River Streamkeepers	Table
Fraser Valley Invasive Species Society	Table
Elizabeth Mueller – Crystal Spirit Yoga	Table and interactive set up
Hannu Yliruusi – Carver	Live carving near bandstand
Communities in Bloom Committee	Booth and plant sale
Kelly Phipps – Friends of the East Sector	PowerPoint Presentation
Pamela Armstrong – Drummer Girl	Vendor – mocassins, muckluks, beaded jewelry (two tables)
Marina Dunn – Ace of Pentacles	Vendor – driftwood art (two tables)
Catherine Yasinski	Vendor – faux leather crafts, jewelry, greeting cards

David Cooper – Zox of the Forest	Live music
Environmental Advisory Committee	Battery recycling and managing the giveaway submissions

The following groups were unable to attend this year but expressed an interest in participating in the future: Earthwise Society, Sts’ailes and Hope Mountain Centre. In addition to the above-noted participants, the event featured free coffee, muffins, scones, cinnamon buns and small desserts, and colouring sheets for kids.

The Committee was given a budget of \$1,500 for the food, prizes and educational workshop and \$1,000 for the FireSmart Assessment/FireSmart plant initiative for a total event budget of \$2,500. The \$1,500 was spent as follows:

<b>Food, Prizes and Workshop Budget</b>	<b>\$ 1,500.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Yeti Water Bottles	\$ 220.47
Sourdough Workshop	\$ 120.00
Music	\$ 225.00
Newspaper Ad	\$ 300.14
Muffins, scones, etc.	\$ 315.30
Chocolates	\$ 47.25
Coffee	\$ 20.00
Plates, Napkins, Stickers	\$ 32.48
Milk, Cream	\$ 15.77
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,296.41</b>
REMAINING	\$ 203.59

Six people signed up for the FireSmart Home Assessment and will be given vouchers when the Local FireSmart Representative attends their properties.

**DISCUSSION**

The sourdough workshop had room for ten people and filled up quickly within a few days and had a short waitlist. The fee was \$5 and people were to pay at the event. Three people no-showed and one forgot to bring cash on the day of, so the event cost \$20 more than was anticipated. The avid interest in the event indicates that this type of workshop could be very successful on a larger scale in the future. The kitchen area worked well for a group of that size, however, there is a lot of handwashing involved and it is recommended that hand towels be provided instead of paper towel in the future.

There were approximately thirty entries in the giveaway box. The value of the giveaway prize was approximately \$300 and included three Yeti water bottles, four chocolate items from Rocky Mountain Chocolate and \$40 to Schi:Ya Café donated by Councillor Leo Facio.

The carver on the beach was a success, however, there was a fuse issue with the plug he was using which meant that he could not continue the live carving demonstration. If the Village were to host carvers again in the future, consideration should be given to any electrical needs.

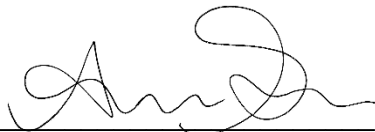
David Cooper (Zox of the Forest) performed outside in the covered area so people passing by could hear and hopefully come into the hall. The weather was warm and sunny but windy, which meant that the planting workshop provided by Alyssa Dawn (True Blue Landscaping) was moved into the hall. In the future, speakers with music playing outside should be set up right at the start to draw people in.

The Communities in Bloom Committee raised \$131.15 by selling plants provided by the Committee members.

The event was advertised using the following methods:

- Electronic Message Board
- Newspaper
- E-Newsletter
- Website – Main Carousel and Important Date
- Verbally at Council meetings
- School newsletter
- Facebook Page
- Village Office, Memorial Hall and Post Office notice boards
- Village Health Centre window display
- Sandwich board signs on the day of, both in front of Memorial Hall and at the Civic Plaza

Respectfully submitted:



Amanda Graham  
Corporate Officer