



Corporation of the City of NEW WESTMINSTER

A vibrant, compassionate, resilient city where everyone can thrive.

REGULAR COUNCIL FOR WORKSHOP

MINUTES

Monday, May 6, 2024, 3:00 p.m.

**Meeting held electronically and in Council Chamber
City Hall**

PRESENT: Mayor Patrick Johnstone
Councillor Ruby Campbell
Councillor Daniel Fontaine
Councillor Tasha Henderson
Councillor Paul Minhas
Councillor Nadine Nakagawa

Hanieh Berg, Corporate Officer

ABSENT: Councillor Jaimie McEvoy

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Mayor Johnstone called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and recognized with respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsundered land of the Halkomelem speaking peoples. He acknowledged that colonialism has made invisible their histories and connections to the land. He recognized that, as a City, we are learning and building relationships with the people whose lands we are on.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council adopt the Workshop Agenda of May 6, 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **PRESENTATIONS**

3.1 **Anvil Centre 10-year Review Engagement Summary Report**

Jennifer Miller, Manager of Public Engagement, accompanied by Zaria Abhilai, Coordinator, Public Engagement and Communications, provided background information and spoke to various facets of the engagement process, highlighting that more than 300 people participated across all the various opportunities to share input.

Discussion ensued regarding the depth of the public engagement process and the potential to conduct a public opinion survey. Also, staff was requested to provide Council with copies of the leases, including any payment schedules, of the businesses currently operating out of the Anvil Centre.

MOVED and SECONDED

1. **THAT** Council receive the Anvil Centre 10-year Review Engagement Summary Report (Attachment 1) for information;
2. **THAT** Council source up to \$10,000 to conduct a public opinion poll of New Westminster residents and business owners based on the public engagement process regarding Anvil Centre; and
3. **THAT** once the survey has been completed, staff draft recommendations and bring back to a future Council workshop to discuss, refine and adopt the recommendations

The question on the motion was not called as division was called.

The question on Part 1 of the motion was then called and it was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Discussion further took place and the following Council comments were noted:

- the engagement approach carried out by staff was endorsed by Council;
- a public opinion survey may capture feedback from more than 300 residents; and
- the outcome of a public opinion survey may not result in different recommendations from staff.

The question on Part 2 of the motion was then called and it was **DEFEATED** with Mayor Johnstone and Councillors Campbell, Henderson and Nakagawa opposed.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Part 3 of the motion be amended to remove “once the survey has been completed.”

CARRIED

Councillors Fontaine and Minhas opposed

The question on Part 3 of the motion, as amended, was then called and it was **CARRIED** with Councillors Fontaine and Minhas opposed.

3.2 Tourism New Westminster Memorandum of Understanding

In reply to queries from Council, Blair Fryer, Acting Director, Community Services spoke to the governance structure between the City and Tourism New Westminster (TNW) and the space occupied by TNW at the Anvil Centre and the terms of the lease.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the attached Memorandum of Understanding with Tourism New Westminster.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. END OF THE MEETING

Mayor Johnstone terminated the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting for Workshop of the Council of the City of New Westminster held on May 6, 2024.

Patrick Johnstone

MAYOR

Hanieh Berg

CORPORATE OFFICER