



**COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, January 3, 2024, 6:00 p.m.**

**Open to public attendance in Council Chamber, City Hall  
Committee members may attend electronically**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy	Chair
Samuel Boisvert*	Community Member
Jennifer Crews*	NWHPS Representative
John Davies*	Community Member
Bozana Djuric*	Community Member
Shelby McCannel*	Community Member
Virginia McMahon*	Community Member
Iulia Sincaian*	Community Member

**REGRETS**

Councillor Daniel Fontaine	Alternate Chair/Council Representative
David Sarraf	Community Member

**STAFF PRESENT**

Rob McCullough	Manager, Museums and Heritage Services, Office of the CAO
Judith Mosley	Senior Heritage Planner, Climate Action, Planning and Development
Katie Stobbart	Committee Clerk, Legislative Services

\*Denotes electronic attendance

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

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy opened the meeting at 6:00 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. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

There were no changes to the agenda. The commission began with a round of introductions.

### **3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

#### **3.1 Minutes of June 7, 2023**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Minutes of the June 7, 2023 Community Heritage Commission meeting be adopted.

**Carried.**

All commissioners present voted in favour of the motion.

### **4. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

#### **4.1 Heritage and Climate Action**

Judith Mosley, Senior Heritage Planner, introduced the item, the purpose of which is to provide information on heritage and climate action initiatives and seek feedback from the Community Heritage Commission.

Discussion ensued on:

- Appreciation of staff for their work on the website resource and guide, which are unique among Lower Mainland municipalities as far as is known;
- The guide is simple to follow and understand, great for homeowners;
- There are continual changes in the world of climate and energy, and homeowners should be kept apprised of those changes; and
- Heritage should be promoted as a good way of looking at the environmental impacts of demolition, for example, instead of working with what we have.

#### **4.2 Heritage Revitalization Agreements in the Queen's Park Heritage Conservation Area**

Judith Mosley, Senior Heritage Planner, provided an update to the Community Heritage Commission (CHC) regarding the removal of the temporary suspension of new Heritage Revitalization Agreement (HRA) applications in the Queen's Park Heritage Conservation Area. Ms. Mosley noted that so far, one new application has been received.

In response to questions from the Commission, Ms. Mosley advised:

- The report that went to Council previously did not first go to the CHC;

- The heritage program will continue in terms of HRAs and how they functioned previously, considered on a case-by-case basis, and tailored to balance the public and private benefits each time; and
- New legislation from the province focuses on small-scale multi-unit housing (e.g. infill housing), which is a big part of our HRA program as well, and it is not yet clear how that may impact our processes.

In discussion, the Commission noted that there are mixed feelings in the community about the speed of this process, and some Commissioners felt this should have come to the CHC before going to Council.

## **5. STAFF UPDATES**

### **5.1 Street Naming Update - Ota Street in Queensborough**

Rob McCullough, Manager, Museums and Heritage Services, advised that in 2019 Council decided to name a new street in Queensborough “Ota Street” after a recommendation by the Queensborough Residents Association and the CHC.

Mr. McCullough further explained that the Ota family were displaced from New Westminster during World War II. Mike Ota, whose father had lived in New Westminster, reached out to the City to express appreciation that their family’s name has returned to it. Mike Ota relayed his feeling that, although his father is now deceased, he would have been satisfied with the naming of the street.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

Items added to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

## **7. END OF MEETING**

The meeting ended at 6:34 p.m.

## **8. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

The 2024 schedule of meetings is to be announced.

Certified correct,

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Councillor Jaimie McEvoy

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Carilyn Cook, Committee Clerk

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