



Regular Council

**Monday, September 29, 2025
6:00 p.m.**

**Council Chamber, Second Floor
New Westminster City Hall, 511 Royal Avenue**

Present: Mayor Patrick Johnstone
Councillor Ruby Campbell
Councillor Daniel Fontaine
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Councillor Nadine Nakagawa

Corporate Officer – Hanieh Berg

Absent: Councillor Tasha Henderson
Councillor Paul Minhas

1. CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Johnstone called the meeting to order 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. AGENDA ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Agenda for the September 29, 2025 Regular Council meeting be approved.

CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Delegations

Johanna Pabon, representing Las Hijas del Sol, read from her submission (attached to and forming part of these Minutes as Schedule 1) and expressed gratitude for the recognition of October as Latin American Heritage Month. J. Pabon remarked that the Latin American community has grown significantly and contributes in many ways throughout the city. J. Pabon referenced the art exhibit displayed at City Hall, highlighting that the exhibition brings together the voices of four women artists from different Latin American countries, all residents of New Westminster. Through their unique perspectives, the works explore themes of identity, migration, memory, and belonging, while also celebrating the beauty and diversity of Latin American culture.

Mayor Johnstone then proclaimed October as “Latin American Heritage Month” in the City of New Westminster.

Leah Vail joined the meeting by videoconference and recounted their experience being struck by a vehicle while cycling in the city. L. Vail was of the opinion that current laws and insurance liability provisions do not provide sufficient protection for victims or accountability for offenders. L. Vail urged Council to advocate for stronger legislation and enforcement, and requested the installation of traffic cameras at Royal Avenue and Tenth Street as well as improvements to cycling infrastructure.

Discussion took place and it was suggested that L. Vail connect with Police Chief Hyland as well as local Members of the Legislative Assembly

Clint Morrison referenced a letter dated September 15, 2025 to Council regarding the Clint Morrison Scholarship (copy on file, Legislative Services) and spoke about the establishment of a scholarship in his name at New Westminster Secondary School to support youth transitioning from high school into adulthood. C. Morrison then encouraged Council to contribute to this worthy cause.

William Carlson expressed concern regarding the proposed bike lane at York Street and Eighth Avenue as part of the Active Transportation Network Plan, citing poor sightlines for cyclists. W. Carlson urged Council to visit the intersection and offered adjacent alternate routes for the proposed bike lane.

In reply to queries from Council, Lisa Leblanc, Director, Engineering and Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, advised that the proposed York Street cycling route is included as part of Year 3 projects for the Active Transportation Network Plan and engagement is anticipated through the City’s Be Heard platform in 2026.

In reply to queries from Council, Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer, advised that staff are preparing a report in response to Council’s resolution from May 5, 2025 regarding enhanced communication on “significant” City projects.

With the aid of a presentation (copy on file, Legislative Services), Jennifer Thompson reviewed a benefit analysis of changes along the Fifth Street boulevard and voiced concern on the installation of clover; J. Thompson was of the opinion that the change in landscape has decreased community use of the boulevard.

Terry Leith, Royal Canadian Legion No. 2, spoke about the importance of veteran recognition, noting that in addition to the City's annual Remembrance Day ceremony, the installation of a Veteran Crosswalk would lend itself well in commemorating all those that served Canada. T. Leith referenced Council's consideration of a Veteran Crosswalk at Sixth Street and Princess Street and requested Council revisit the matter.

In reply to queries from Council on the consideration of a Veteran Crosswalk, L. Leblanc advised that staff were directed to liaise with the Legion to identify opportunities to commemorate the Royal Canadian Legion's 100th Anniversary in 2026. L. Leblanc then commented on challenges of maintaining such an installation and in particular at the location suggested given that the area is the site of ongoing projects.

The meeting recessed at 7:05 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:10 p.m. with all members of Council present, except Cllrs. Henderson and Minhas.

3.2 Presentations

a. Pattullo Bridge Replacement – Opening and Traffic Impacts

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Wendy Itagawa, Executive Project Director, Pattullo Bridge Replacement Project, Transportation Investment Corporation, provided an update on the Pattullo Bridge Replacement Project, and noted the following information:

- significant progress has been made in 2025, including (i) connecting the main span to the end span and south approach, (ii) opening traffic in both directions along the Highway 17/Old Yale Road overpass, and (iii) installing north approach girders and deck panels;
- the new bridge is earmarked to be completed in October 2025, and will open in phases; Phase 1 will require the closure of the on-ramp at Royal Avenue, Phase 2 will require the closure of both bridge decks, while Phase 3 will open the new bridge, and Phase 4 will see traffic from the existing bridge shifted to the new bridge; and
- deconstruction of the existing Pattullo Bridge is scheduled to take place in 2026 and 2027; road closures along Columbia Street and Front Street are needed in spring 2026 to accommodate this work.

W. Itagawa then highlighted that First Nations art will be incorporated into the new bridge, including tower medallions, a crossbeam feature with the bridge name, and artwork on the bridge legs.

In reply to queries from Council, W. Itagawa provided an overview of public communication and engagement activities and remarked that an event is being planned, in collaboration with TransLink, to commemorate the Pattullo Bridge.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Items No. 4.1 through No. 4.12 be adopted by general consent, with the removal of Items No. 4.4. and 4.5.

CARRIED

4.1 Minutes – Community Heritage Commission

THAT the Minutes of the Community Heritage Commission meeting held on July 2, 2025 be received for information.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

4.2 Minutes – Arts, Culture and Economic Development Advisory Committee

THAT the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held on August 14, 2025 be received for information.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

4.3 Minutes – September 15, 2025 Regular Council

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on September 15, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

4.4 Housing and Land Use Planning 2025-2026 Work Program

Please see Page 6 for action on this matter.

4.5 Implications of Housing Legislation on Curbside Management

Please see Page 7 for action on this matter.

4.6 Licence Agreement with BC Transportation Financing Authority for Construction of a Multi-Use Path in Grimston Park

THAT the Mayor and Corporate Officer, on behalf of the City of New Westminster, execute the Licence Agreement for construction of a multi-use path in Grimston Park between the City of New Westminster and BC Transportation Financing Authority as provided in Attachment 1 to the report titled “Licence Agreement with BC Transportation Financing Authority for Construction of a Multi-Use Path in Grimston Park” dated September 29, 2025 from the Director, Engineering Services.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

4.7 Local Government Climate Action Program 2024 Reporting Year and Corporate Emissions Inventory Update

THAT the report titled “Local Government Climate Action Program 2024 Reporting Year and Corporate Emissions Inventory Update”, dated September 29, 2025 from the Director, Energy and Climate Action, be received for information.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

4.8 Report Back on School Streets and NASSI Opportunity

THAT the School Streets Pilot Program, and opportunity presented to participate in the National Active School Streets Initiative Pop-up program led by the Society of Children and Youth BC, not be pursued due to significant impacts on high-priority work plans and potential for unbudgeted costs, as outlined in the report titled “Response to Council Motion: School Streets Pilot Program” dated May 26, 2025 and the report titled “Report Back on School Streets and NASSI Opportunity” dated September 29, 2025, from the Director, Engineering Services.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

4.9 Temporary Use Permit: 30 Capilano Way (Amusement Arcade)

THAT Council issue notice that it will consider issuance of Temporary Use Permit TUP00035 with an expiry date of July 13, 2027, for the property located at #8-30 Capilano Way for the purpose of allowing an accessory Amusement Arcade use to augment existing industrial business operations in an existing industrial building.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

4.10 Proclamation: Fire Prevention Week, October 5-11, 2025

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

4.11 Proclamation: National Newspaper Week, October 5-12, 2025

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

4.12 Proclamation: Latin American Heritage Month, October 2025

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

5. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

4.4 Housing and Land Use Planning 2025-2026 Work Program

In reply to queries from Council, Jackie Teed, Director, Planning and Development and Lynn Roxburgh, Manager, Housing and Land Use Planning, advised that the housing and land use teams apply a sustainable and resilient lens to their work, citing Queensborough as an example whereby the area plan is reflective of its siting on a floodplain. Also, it was noted that land use regulation is a key component of the Official Community Plan, which integrates social planning, energy, parks and open space, and transportation among other components, with the City's long-term vision, objectives, and policies for the community's future.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the proposed Housing and Land Use Planning Work Program for 2025 and 2026 as set out in the report titled "Housing and Land Use Planning 2025-2026 Work Program" dated September 29, 2025 from the Director, Planning and Development, be endorsed in principle.

CARRIED

4.5 Implications of Housing Legislation on Curbside Management

MOVED and SECONDED

1. *THAT the Next Steps outlined in the report titled "Implications of Housing Legislation on Curbside Management" dated September 29, 2025 from the Director, Engineering Services, be endorsed, and that:*
 - a. *staff be directed to complete neighbourhood-by-neighbourhood parking impact assessments prior to implementing any changes to permit allocations, pricing, or supply; and*
 - b. *staff ensure that every household in a residential permit zone is guaranteed a minimum of one residential parking permit before any restrictions are applied; and*
 - c. *visitor permits remain affordable and accessible, with particular consideration for seniors, caregivers, and residents with mobility challenges; and*
 - d. *any new revenue from residential permit fee increases be earmarked for local transportation and infrastructure improvements in the neighbourhoods most affected; and*
 - e. *staff be directed to expand parking enforcement hours and resources — particularly during evenings and weekends — before implementing reductions in permit allocations or fee hikes; and*
 - f. *a comprehensive public consultation process be undertaken before any changes to permit allocations or pricing are finalized, with clear reporting back to Council on resident feedback; and*

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- g. as part of these parking review initiatives, Council phase out the \$100 per month transportation allowance for elected officials effective January 1, 2026; and*
- h. staff report back regarding the cost and operational impacts regarding implementing two hour maximum time limitations on all free parking located at the city hall precinct.*

The question on the motion was not called as the following amendment was introduced:

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT “staff report back on resources required and implications of implementing the following” be added as Part 2, and Parts (a) through (h) of the main motion be listed under the new Part 2.

CARRIED

The question on the main motion, as amended, to read as follows:

- “1. THAT the Next Steps outlined in the report titled “Implications of Housing Legislation on Curbside Management” dated September 29, 2025 from the Director, Engineering Services, be endorsed; and*
- 2. THAT staff report back on resources required and implications of implementing the following:*
 - a. staff be directed to complete neighbourhood-by-neighbourhood parking impact assessments prior to implementing any changes to permit allocations, pricing, or supply; and*
 - b. staff ensure that every household in a residential permit zone is guaranteed a minimum of one residential parking permit before any restrictions are applied; and*
 - c. visitor permits remain affordable and accessible, with particular consideration for seniors, caregivers, and residents with mobility challenges; and*
 - d. any new revenue from residential permit fee increases be earmarked for local transportation and infrastructure improvements in the neighbourhoods most affected; and*
 - e. staff be directed to expand parking enforcement hours and resources — particularly during evenings and weekends — before implementing reductions in permit allocations or fee hikes; and*
 - f. a comprehensive public consultation process be undertaken before any changes to permit allocations or pricing are finalized, with clear reporting back to Council on resident feedback; and*
 - g. as part of these parking review initiatives, Council phase out the \$100 per month transportation allowance for elected officials effective January 1, 2026; and*

- h. staff report back regarding the cost and operational impacts regarding implementing two hour maximum time limitations on all free parking located at the city hall precinct.”*

was not called as discussion took place on (i) the importance of a transportation allowance for Council members, (ii) the need to ensure that curbside space is used in an equitable, accessible, and transparent manner, (iii) potential unintended consequences as a result of the proposed motion, and (iv) the need to capture accessible parking as part of the broader on-street parking policy dialogue.

There was agreement to consider each part of the main motion, as amended, separately.

The question on Part 1 of the main motion, as amended, was then called and it was **CARRIED** with Cllr. McEvoy opposed.

The question on Part 2 of the main motion, as amended, was then called and it was **CARRIED** with Cllr. Campbell opposed.

The question on Part 2 (a) of the main motion, as amended, was then called and it was **CARRIED** with Cllrs. Campbell and McEvoy opposed.

The question on Part 2 (b) of the main motion, as amended, was then called and it was **DEFEATED** with Mayor Johnstone and Cllrs. Campbell, McEvoy, and Nakagawa opposed.

The question on Part 2 (c) of the main motion, as amended, was then called and it was **CARRIED** with Cllr. Campbell opposed.

The question on Part 2 (d) of the main motion, as amended, was then called and it was **DEFEATED** with Mayor Johnstone and Cllrs. Campbell, McEvoy, and Nakagawa opposed.

The question on Part 2 (e) of the main motion, as amended, was then called and it was **CARRIED**.

The question on Part 2 (f) of the main motion, as amended, was then called and it was **CARRIED**.

The question on Part 2 (g) of the main motion, as amended, was then called and it was **DEFEATED** with Mayor Johnstone and Cllrs. Campbell, McEvoy, and Nakagawa opposed.

The question on Part 2 (h) of the main motion, as amended, was then called and it was **DEFEATED** with Mayor Johnstone and Cllrs. Campbell and McEvoy opposed.

6. MOTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

6.1 Sustainable Housing for Seniors Experiencing Homelessness

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT “Sustainable Housing for Seniors Experiencing Homelessness” be referred to the October 6, 2025 Regular Council meeting.

CARRIED

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

7.1 Community Policing Office in Queensborough

Submitted by Councillor Campbell

WHEREAS Queensborough community members have expressed interest in having a community policing office in the Queensborough neighbourhood;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of New Westminster requests that the New Westminster Police Board consider and work with the City to plan a satellite station in Queensborough.

8. BYLAWS FOR ADOPTION

8.1 Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992, Amendment Bylaw No. 8491, 2025

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992, Amendment Bylaw No. 8491, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

8.2 Community Services Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 8529, 2025

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Community Services Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 8529, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

8.3 Engineering User Fees and Rates Bylaw No. 7553, 2013, Amendment Bylaw No. 8534, 2025

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Engineering User Fees and Rates Bylaw No. 7553, 2013, Amendment Bylaw No. 8534, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

8.4 Fire Protection Bylaw No. 6940, 2004, Amendment Bylaw No. 8535, 2025

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Fire Protection Bylaw No. 6940, 2004, Amendment Bylaw No. 8535, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

8.5 Planning & Development Fees and Rates Bylaw No. 7683, 2014, Amendment Bylaw No. 8541, 2025

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Planning & Development Fees and Rates Bylaw No. 7683, 2014, Amendment Bylaw No. 8541, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

8.6 2026 Permissive Property Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 8542, 2025

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT 2026 Permissive Property Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 8542, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

8.7 Electrical Utility Bylaw No. 6502, 1998, Amendment Bylaw No. 8546, 2025

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Electrical Utility Bylaw No. 6502, 1998, Amendment Bylaw No. 8546, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

9. NEW BUSINESS

None.

10. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Johnstone announced the following appointments to the Community Advisory Assembly for a one-year term, ending June 30, 2026:

- Wael Abu Salim;
- Leanne Anderson;
- Charlotte Barton;
- Gavril Crudu;
- Paul Crump;
- Monica Deng;
- Abriel Doyle;
- Ella Durning;
- Erica Evans;
- Marty Fontaine;
- Kirt Gill;
- Karanpreet Kaur Johar;

- Evelyn Kemppe;
- Alyssa Maglaqui;
- Salome Maina;
- Christopher Nigh;
- Paul Njuguna;
- Telka Pesklevits;
- Colbey Peters;
- Bob Petrusa;
- Trisha Renken-Sebastian;
- Sasha Sabinin;
- Juan Carlos Sanchez Aguilar;
- Himmat Sangra;
- Gavin Sawle;
- Elaine Shigetomi;
- Shovana Shrestha;
- Rosemary Sojka;
- Kane Tse;
- Taz Visram;
- Margaret Wanyoike;
- Declan Williams;
- Erica Wong;
- Lenny Yu;
- Ron Zapp; and
- Nixon Zaye.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and SECONDED
THAT the meeting adjourn (8:21 p.m.).

CARRIED

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Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular meeting of Council of the City of New Westminster held on September 29, 2025.

Patrick Johnstone
MAYOR

Hanieh Berg
CORPORATE OFFICER

Proclamation Acceptance Speech

Good evening, counselors, mayor, and community members.

On behalf of the Latin American community, I want to express my deepest gratitude for this historic proclamation recognizing October as Latin American Heritage Month here in the City of New Westminster. This recognition carries profound meaning for all of us who call this city home.

When someone asked me what this proclamation means to me, I took a moment to reflect. It is more than just a symbol—it is a powerful message to our community in a time when immigrants are often misunderstood, singled out, and even pushed away. Here, just kilometers from the border, speaking with an accent or looking like us can make life challenging, but we stand tall and proud, declaring: We are part of this community. We bring our talent, hard work, unity, and values that help in building a just, diverse, and inclusive society.

Here in New Westminster, we also speak Spanish. We also dance to cumbia and salsa. We also gather around food, laughter, and stories that stretch across generations. Our culture is not something we leave at the door, it's something we bring with us, proudly, into every space we enter.

The Latin American community has grown significantly here, contributing through new businesses, restaurants, and many ventures, as well as by strengthening the social fabric with dedicated social workers, nonprofit leaders, municipal staff, and cultural voices in so many fields. This proclamation honors the very first Latin families who settled in New Westminster, who opened the way for all of us, and it celebrates the daily efforts of those building a strong, respectful, and diverse community. It reaffirms our sense of belonging: we are part of the New West, and we are proud to enrich the city's vibrant and diverse culture.

Being an immigrant means having a heart stretched between two worlds—loving the land we come from while embracing the new home we have here before us. It means relentless determination and hope. As Sergeant Leaver says, "In New Westminster, we also speak Spanish." This phrase reminds us that our culture, language, and spirit are vibrant threads woven into the fabric of this city.

This is a changing world, but the only thing that should not change is equity, respect, and solidarity. Immigrants are a fundamental part of the construction of this city, province, and country. With this proclamation, our city recognizes that importance, and highlights the belonging and feeling of home we have for this city where we choose to

live and grow. Together, we all strengthen our community's future with our shared dreams and solidarity.

Thank you to the community for gathering tonight to celebrate this important milestone for the Latin American community. Thank you, Mayor and Council, for this meaningful recognition and for your ongoing commitment to an inclusive New Westminster. Together, we will continue to build a vibrant, thriving community where every culture adds its own color to the collective story we share.

Please, Join us for Echoes of Latin America in New West, an exhibition presented by Hijas del Sol Collective in celebration of Latin American Heritage Month.

Discover the work of four Latin American women artists — all residents of New Westminster — as they share stories of identity, migration, memory, and belonging through their art.