



**CITY OF WEST KELOWNA**  
**MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF COUNCIL**

Tuesday, November 1, 2022  
THE COVE LAKESIDE RESORT  
GELLATLY ROOM  
4205 GELLATLY ROAD, WEST KELOWNA BC

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Gord Milsom  
Councillor Tasha Da Silva  
Councillor Rick de Jong  
Councillor Jason Friesen  
Councillor Stephen Johnston  
Councillor Garrett Millsap

MEMBER ABSENT: Councillor Carol Zanon

Staff Present: Paul Gipps, CAO  
Allen Fillion, Director of Engineering / Operations  
Warren Everton, Director of Finance / CFO  
Sandy Webster, Director of Corporate Initiatives  
Michelle Reid, Director of Human Resources  
Jason Brolund, Fire Chief  
Brad Savoury, Director of Legal Services  
Brent Magnan, Director of Development Approvals  
Rob Pikola, Inspector, RCMP  
Corinne Boback, Legislative Services Manager/Corporate Officer  
Kari O'Rourke, Communications and Engagement Manager  
Kassidie Cornell, Communications and Engagement Coordinator  
Jessica Hewitt, Communications and Engagement Advisor  
Collette Beggs, Executive Assistant  
Natasha Patricelli, Legislative Services Assistant  
April Pearson, Receptionist/Clerk

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**1. CALL THE INAUGURAL COUNCIL MEETING TO ORDER**

The CAO called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

It was acknowledged that this meeting was held on the traditional territory of the Syilx/Okanagan Peoples.

This meeting was open to the public. All representations to Council form part of the public record. This meeting was webcast live and archived on the City's website.

### **1.1 The CAO calls the meeting to order**

- The CAO asked for everyone to stand for the Council procession.
- The CAO introduced Fire Department Chaplin Don Richmond for an invocation.
- The CAO asked for everyone to stand for the singing of "O Canada", led by Fire Department Chaplin Don Richmond.
- The CAO administered the Oath of Office to each member of the Council-Elect:

Mayor Gord Milsom  
Councillor Stephen Johnston  
Councillor Rick de Jong  
Councillor Tasha Da Silva  
Councillor Jason Friesen  
Councillor Carol Zanon  
Councillor Garrett Millsap

- The CAO presented Mayor Milsom with the gavel.
- Mayor Milsom assumed the Chair.

## **2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded

Resolution No. C277/22

**THAT** the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **3. MAYOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS**

### **3.1 Mayor Milsom assumes the Chair and welcomes the honoured guests and citizens to the Inaugural Meeting of the City of West Kelowna**

### **3.2 Mayor Milsom gives Inaugural Address**

"Good afternoon everyone. Welcome/Way. Thank you for joining us on this very special day - as we celebrate the beginning of the term for the City of West Kelowna's new Council.

I wish to acknowledge that we are gathered here today on the traditional territory of the syilx/Okanagan peoples. We are very grateful to the syilx people, to our good neighbours Westbank First Nation, for their rich heritage and culture and for their responsible stewardship of these lands since time immemorial.

We were hoping to have Westbank First Nation Elder Grouse Barnes provide an Indigenous blessing today, but unfortunately he is not able to be with us as he is not well. We hope that he is feeling better soon and we look forward to his presence at one of our future meetings.

We were also hoping to have the "Okanagan Song" sung following Elder Barnes' blessing, but due to the many inaugural meetings happening at this time, we were not able to make those arrangements.

The "Okanagan Song" serves as the anthem in honour of the syilx/Okanagan Nation and acknowledges the profound responsibility to care for the land. To watch and learn about the "Okanagan Song" please visit the Westbank First Nation website. The link is provided within today's program.

I wish to thank Don Richmond, our City of West Kelowna Fire Department Chaplain, for providing the inspirational invocation and for leading us in the singing of "O Canada".

I wish to thank Paul Gipps, our CAO, for conducting today's swearing in ceremony of our Council-elect. Also, I wish to extend a big thank you to our City staff for all their efforts in organizing this meeting and ceremony so well.

Finally, I wish to thank the other participants in today's opening procession and our ongoing ceremony - the piper, our RCMP members, and our West Kelowna Fire Rescue Honour Guard. Thank you to you all.

It is my pleasure to recognize and welcome local dignitaries, some of whom have been able to join us today:

- MP Dan Albas
- MLA Ben Stewart
- Westbank First Nation Chief Robert Louie & Council

- Past City of West Kelowna Mayor and Councillor Doug Findlater
- Past City of West Kelowna Councillor Jayson Zilkie
- Greater Westside Board of Trade Chair Amber Hall

I wish now to turn my full attention to and to congratulate the City of West Kelowna's new City Council:

- Councillor Stephen Johnson
- Councillor Rick de Jong
- Councillor Tasha Da Silva
- Councillor Jason Friesen
- Councillor Carol Zanon
- Councillor Garrett Millsap

I congratulate you for either being re-elected or for being elected for the first time.

I also wish to extend my congratulations to your family & friends and to thank them for all the support that they have provided you. Their support will continue to be very much needed and appreciated over the next four years.

At this time, I ask my wife, Laurel, and all of Council's family members whom are with us today to please stand so that we can applaud you all and say "THANK YOU."

Fellow Council Members, we have been elected by our citizens to be leaders of our local government and of our community.

The people of West Kelowna have placed their faith and trust in us, as their leaders, to provide good governance and to ensure that the essential work is being done by our local government.

- We must continue to invest in policing and fire rescue so that our residents are safe & secure
- We must manage our civic infrastructure and public spaces so that the needs of our residents and businesses are met today and in the
- We must be fiscally responsible and always prudent with public money
- We must make policy decisions, and consider and pass bylaws

- We must make decisions after careful listening and thought, and we must make decisions based on what's best for our community as a whole.

As leaders, we have many ongoing responsibilities to fulfill and we must do them to the best of our ability.

Leadership is also about vision.

West Kelowna is not a small city anymore. West Kelowna is one of the fastest growing cities within one of the fastest growing regions in British Columbia. With growth comes challenges and opportunities.

It is important that we plan and prepare for West Kelowna's longer-term future and I know that this will be a focus of this Council.

The update of our Official Community Plan, which has been underway during the past several months, and consideration of our next Financial Plan will be instrumental in providing future direction for our city.

Council members will have ample opportunity to contribute their visionary thoughts and ideas to these key planning documents.

All public participation to date has been very much appreciated and Council looks forward to hearing more from our residents and other stakeholders. Stay tuned for future public engagement opportunities.

Council will soon meet to discuss goals and objectives for the next four years, resulting in a draft "Strategic Priorities" document. This will be an excellent opportunity for Council members to advocate for those projects or initiatives that they believe will help position West Kelowna for long term success and prosperity.

Together, as a Council, in the weeks ahead I anticipate that we will have good discussions and that our "Strategic Priorities" may include some of these general topics which I know are important to Council:

- Completion of existing projects
- Housing options for all
- Public safety and security
- Continued infrastructure and long overdue facility building
- Truth and reconciliation
- Protection of our environment

- Recreation, arts & culture
- Economic development
- Collaboration locally and regionally
- Advocacy with senior levels of government

Needless to say, I am excited about working with our new Council and as always with our city management team and our staff.

I leave you with two quotes which are favorites of mine:

“Alone, we can do so little; together we can do so much”

- Helen Keller “Be the change that you wish to see in the world”
- Mahatma Gandhi

To our community, thank you for putting your trust in our Council. We will be working hard on your behalf over the next four years.

West Kelowna is the place to be. Our future is very bright!

Thank you again for your attendance today and thank you to those watching on our livestream.

Lim lemt. Thank you."

#### 4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

##### 4.1 **Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held Tuesday, October 4, 2022 in the City of West Kelowna Council Chambers**

It was moved and seconded

Resolution No. C278/22

**THAT** the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held Tuesday, October 4, 2022 in the City of West Kelowna Council Chambers be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

##### 4.2 **Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, October 4, 2022 in the City of West Kelowna Council Chambers**

It was moved and seconded

Resolution No. C279/22

**THAT** the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, October 4, 2022 in the City of West Kelowna Council Chambers be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 5. APPOINTMENTS

### 5.1 Appointment of Regional District of Central Okanagan Board Directors and Alternates

It was moved and seconded

Resolution No. C280/22

**THAT** Council, under Section 198 of the *Local Government Act*, appoint Mayor Milsom (with 4 weighted votes) and Councillor Johnston (with 3 weighted votes) to the Regional District of Central Okanagan as Municipal Directors for a four-year term; and that Councillor de Jong be appointed as first Alternate and Councillor Friesen be appointed as second Alternate for a four-year term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### 5.2 Appointment of Economic Development Committee Representative

It was moved and seconded

Resolution No. C281/22

**THAT** Council appoint Councillor Friesen as representative to the Economic Development Committee for a one-year term, and that Councillor Da Silva be appointed as the Alternate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### 5.3 Appointment of Okanagan Regional Library Board Representative and Alternate

It was moved and seconded

Resolution No. C282/22

**THAT** Council appoint Councillor Da Silva to the Okanagan Regional Library Board for a one-year term; and that Councillor Zanon be appointed as the Alternate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**5.4 Appointment of Airport Advisory Committee Representative and Alternate**

It was moved and seconded

Resolution No. C283/22

**THAT** Council appoint Councillor de Jong to the Airport Advisory Committee for a one-year term; and that Councillor Millsap be appointed as the Alternate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**5.5 Municipal Insurance Association Representative**

It was moved and seconded

Resolution No. C284/22

**THAT** Council appoint Councillor Zanon as the Representative to the Municipal Insurance Association for a one-year term; and that Councillor Millsap be appointed as the Alternate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**5.6 Accessibility Committee Representative**

It was moved and seconded

Resolution No. C285/22

**THAT** Council appoint Councillor Millsap as the Representative to the Accessible Committee for a four-year term; and that Councillor Zanon be appointed as the Alternate; and

**THAT** staff appointed to the Accessible Committee create a Terms of Reference.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 6. MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**
- 7. PRESENTATIONS (15 MINUTES MAX)**
- 8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**9. DIVISION REPORTS**

**9.1 CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

**9.1.1 2022 Local Government Election Results**

Information Report from the CAO.

**9.1.2 City of West Kelowna Signing Authorities**

It was moved and seconded

Resolution No. C286/22

**THAT** Council appoint the following as signing authorities for the City of West Kelowna:

Mayor:

Gord Milsom

Councillors:

Stephen Johnston

Rick de Jong

Tasha Da Silva

Jason Friesen

Carol Zanon

Garrett Millsap

Chief Administrative Officer:

Paul Gipps

Chief Financial Officer:

Warren Everton

AND THAT Council require two appointed signatories to authorize banking transactions on behalf of the City of West Kelowna with at least one signatory being a staff position.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**10. DIVISION REPORTS**

**11. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION ITEMS**

**12. NOTICE OF MOTION**

**13. ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

The meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

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MAYOR

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LEGISLATIVE SERVICES MANAGER/CORPORATE OFFICER