



## **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 11, 2020**

A Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at 9:31 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Kennedy Stewart  
Councillor Rebecca Bligh\*  
Councillor Christine Boyle  
Councillor Adriane Carr  
Councillor Melissa De Genova  
Councillor Lisa Dominato\*  
Councillor Pete Fry  
Councillor Colleen Hardwick  
Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Councillor Jean Swanson  
Councillor Michael Wiebe

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Sadhu Johnson, City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk  
Bonnie Kennett, Meeting Coordinator

\* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting

### **WELCOME**

The Mayor acknowledged we are on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations and we thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to working with them in partnership as we continue to build this great city together.

The Mayor also recognized the immense contributions of the City of Vancouver's staff who work hard every day to help make our city an incredible place to live, work, and play.

### **PROCLAMATION – Celebrating the 10 Year Anniversary of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games**

The Mayor proclaimed February 12, 2020, as the 10 Year Anniversary of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games Day in the city of Vancouver and invited Charmaine Crooks, longest standing VANOC 2010 Board Member and 5-time Athletics Olympian for Canada, and Tricia Smith, President of the Canadian Olympic Committee and 4-time Rowing Olympian, to accept the Proclamation.

### **PROCLAMATION – Christine Sinclair 185 Day**

The Mayor proclaimed January 29, 2020, as Christine Sinclair 185 Day in the city of Vancouver and invited Christine Sinclair to the podium to accept the Proclamation.

## **IN CAMERA MEETING**

MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT Council will go into meetings later this week which are closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*, to discuss matters related to paragraphs:

(a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the city or another position appointed by the city;

(b) personal information about an identifiable individual who is being considered for an award or honour, or who has offered to provide a gift to the city on condition of anonymity;

(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city;

(f) law enforcement, if the Council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation under or enforcement of an enactment;

(g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the city;

(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;

(k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of an activity, work or facility that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the Council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city if they were held in public.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Councillor Dominato absent for the vote)

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

1. Council – January 21, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
SECONDED by Councillor De Genova

THAT the Minutes of the Council meeting of January 21, 2020, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Councillor Dominato absent for the vote)

2. Public Hearing – January 21 and 28, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Bligh  
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the Minutes of the Public Hearing of January 21 and 28, 2020, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Councillor Dominato absent for the vote)

3. Council (City Finance and Services) – January 22 and 28, 2020

MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the Minutes of the Council meeting following the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting of January 22 and 28, 2020, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Councillor Dominato absent for the vote)

4. Public Hearing – January 23 and 30, 2020

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
SECONDED by Councillor Boyle

THAT the Minutes of the Public Hearing of January 23 and 30, 2020, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Councillor Dominato absent for the vote)

**MATTERS ADOPTED ON CONSENT**

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
SECONDED by Councillor De Genova

THAT Council adopt Reports 1 to 3, on consent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Retail/Commercial District Small Business Study - Update**

Gil Kelley, General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability, along with Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability staff and Michelle Barile, West Broadway BIA on behalf of the Vancouver BIA Partnership, presented an update on the Retail/Commercial District Small Business Study which provided an overview of the challenges affecting small business. Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability staff, Lewis Silberberg, Commercial Marketing Inc., Engineering Services staff, and Development, Building and Licensing staff, responded to questions.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### 1. Making it Easier for the Public to Speak at Council Meetings

At the Council meeting on January 21, 2020, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on January 22, 2020, in order to hear from speakers.

At the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on January 22 and 28, 2020, the Committee heard from speakers and referred debate and decision of the following item to the Council meeting on February 11, 2020, as unfinished business.

MOVED by Councillor Swanson  
SECONDED by Councillor Fry

#### WHEREAS

1. It is difficult to predict the timing of when speakers will present to Council at Council and Standing Committee meetings as there are many variables which impact the meeting length;
2. Some speakers scheduled to speak during Council and Standing Committee meetings miss their turn on the speakers list due to this uncertainty;
3. People who have access to vehicles, internet and phone data, childcare, and other privileges are therefore currently more likely to be able to speak to Council;
4. Some speakers who miss their turn may be able to speak to Council at the conclusion of the speakers list for that particular agenda item;
5. The *Procedure By-law* does not specify that speakers who missed their turn during Council and Standing Committee meetings should be given the opportunity to be called to speak at the end of the speakers list.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to report back to Council with proposed amendments to the *Procedure By-law* to specify that those speakers who are registered on the speakers list for Council or Standing Committee meetings, and have missed their turn to speak, should be given an opportunity to speak at the conclusion of all other speakers on the registered list.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung  
SECONDED by Councillor Bligh

THAT the words "to report back to Council with proposed amendments to the *Procedure By-law*" be struck and the words "to initiate a variation to the *Procedure By-law* as a time-limited pilot initiative" be inserted to read as follows:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to initiate a variation to the *Procedure By-law* as a time-limited pilot initiative to specify that those speakers who are registered on the speakers list for Council or Standing

Committee meetings, and have missed their turn to speak, should be given an opportunity to speak at the conclusion of all other speakers on the registered list.

FURTHER THAT the following be added to the end:

FURTHER THAT the above-mentioned pilot run from the next scheduled Council meeting through the end of April 2020, and that staff report back following the conclusion of the pilot with findings and any proposed amendments to the *Procedure By-law* that might be beneficial in order to better facilitate members of the public speaking at Council meetings.

amended

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Carr  
SECONDED by Councillor Swanson

THAT the word "April" be struck and the word "June" be inserted.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05487)  
(Councillor Dominato opposed)

The amendment to the amendment having carried, the amended amendment was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05488) with Councillor De Genova abstaining from the vote.

The amended amendment having carried, the amended motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05489) with Councillor De Genova abstaining from the vote.

#### **FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED**

WHEREAS

1. It is difficult to predict the timing of when speakers will present to Council at Council and Standing Committee meetings as there are many variables which impact the meeting length;
2. Some speakers scheduled to speak during Council and Standing Committee meetings miss their turn on the speakers list due to this uncertainty;
3. People who have access to vehicles, internet and phone data, childcare, and other privileges are therefore currently more likely to be able to speak to Council;
4. Some speakers who miss their turn may be able to speak to Council at the conclusion of the speakers list for that particular agenda item;
5. The *Procedure By-law* does not specify that speakers who missed their turn during Council and Standing Committee meetings should be given the opportunity to be called to speak at the end of the speakers list.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to initiate a variation to the *Procedure By-law* as a time-limited pilot initiative to specify that those speakers who are registered on the speakers list for Council or Standing Committee meetings, and have missed their turn to speak, should be given an opportunity to speak at the conclusion of all other speakers on the registered list.

FURTHER THAT the above-mentioned pilot run from the next scheduled Council meeting through the end of June 2020, and that staff report back following the conclusion of the pilot with findings and any proposed amendments to the *Procedure By-law* that might be beneficial in order to better facilitate members of the public speaking at Council meetings.

## **2. Election Finance: Transparent Funding in Local Politics**

At the Council meeting on January 21, 2020, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on January 22, 2020, in order to hear from speakers.

At the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on January 22 and 28, 2020, the Committee heard from speakers and referred debate and decision of the following item to the Council meeting on February 11, 2020, as unfinished business.

MOVED by Councillor Fry  
SECONDED by Councillor Bligh

### WHEREAS

1. Elections, election campaigns, referendums, and political operations should have transparent and compliant contributor funding so elected officials are free from real or perceived potential conflicts of interest, which undermine their duty to represent the people they were elected to serve;
2. The federal and provincial levels of government have laws regarding political financing which apply at all times and require that all political contributions be made by individuals, that individuals have yearly contribution limits, and that political parties must make annual public disclosures reporting received contributions and their contributors;
3. In 2017 the B.C. legislature amended the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* (LECFA), banning special interest and corporate political donations at the local government level during an election year, placing limits on contributions and mandating public disclosures. However, the LECFA only applies to electoral organizations and candidates during an election year for the specific purpose of campaigning, or the last 28 days before the election in the case of a third party sponsor;
4. The LECFA does not regulate local electoral organizations in non-election years or during an election year for their normal activities that are not part of their election campaigns. Local electoral organizations have separate operating bank accounts for these purposes and can accept unlimited donations from corporations and special interests. The LECFA regulations do not require any public disclosures of electoral organization operating bank accounts, nor do they place maximum donation limits, or prevent corporations and special interests from contributing to municipal political organizations;

5. Local Elector Organizations can have a significant impact and influence on local politics, and on who becomes an elected official. This happens both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods. Extending the LECFA contribution restrictions, annual reporting and disclosure requirements, and including the electoral organization operating account would create a level playing field for all electoral organizations, improve transparency and limit contributions to compliant BC residents only;
6. Third party sponsors can also have a significant impact and influence on local politics and on who becomes an elected official or on a ballot question. In the 2018 Vancouver local election there were examples of significant unreported third party spending prior to the election, which ended only 28 days before the election, notwithstanding the intent of the LECFA;
7. The June 2019 City of Vancouver-convened volunteer-led Independent Election Task Force on Campaign Finance Regulations 1 encouraged the City of Vancouver to strongly urge the provincial government to improve upon the existing campaign finance laws, along with specific recommendations:
  - 7.1. To enhance transparency in campaign financing, require all donations to candidates, elector organizations and third parties to be donated to a centralized portal run by Elections BC with real time disclosure of donations.
  - 7.2. THAT the Independent Elections Task Force be reconvened to review the following policy proposals, which have not previously been considered by Council, and provide recommendations regarding: Appropriate regulation of third-party groups wishing to engage on policy during municipal elections; The suggestion that contributions to candidates running with elector organizations to be in line with contributions to candidates running as independents.;
8. The October 2019 Elections BC Report of the Chief Electoral Officer 2 recommendations on Improving Accessibility, Transparency and Compliance included the following:
  - 8.1. An elector organization is an organization that endorses or intends to endorse a candidate in an election.
  - 8.2. Require elector organizations to register with Elections BC and file annual disclosure statements including reports of all financial transactions, similar to those filed by provincial political parties. Maintain the membership requirement (50 members) for elector organizations as prescribed by s. 93(2)(a) of the Local Government Act.;
9. Political finance regulations are the cornerstone of responsible government. Contribution limits and transparency requirements are necessary safeguards which prevent corruption and undue influence and ensure accountability of elected officials to the public.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council affirms a commitment to full and transparent reporting of financial contributions to elector organizations and candidates both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods, including contributions to operating expenses.
- B. THAT Council reconvene the Independent Election Task Force, to review policy questions laid out under the report's Current Mandate proposal.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to submit the following resolution along with the above preamble (articles 3, 8) for consideration at the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and/or working with other municipalities to present at Union of BC Municipalities:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province amend the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* to apply contributor and contribution limits to operating accounts of elector organizations and candidates for operational purposes at all times, and to require that they provide annual disclosure reports of contributions received in operating bank accounts, in election years and non-election years;

AND FURTHER THAT Third Party Sponsors be required to provide disclosure reports for the full election year or the date that a referendum is announced, whichever is later.

1. <https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/independent-election-task-force-report-on-campaign-financing-june-2019.pdf>

2. <https://elections.bc.ca/docs/rpt/2018-General-Local-Elections-Report.pdf>

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Fry

THAT the following be added as at the end as D:

- D. THAT Council direct staff to submit the following resolution for consideration at the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and to the Union of BC Municipalities, and/or work with municipalities that have submitted similar language before this submission.

WHEREAS

- 1. i) The Canada Revenue Agency cites the *Income Tax Act* for the deduction from tax otherwise payable of a portion of the total eligible amount of monetary contributions to a registered party, a provincial division of a registered party, a registered association, or a candidate, as those terms are defined in the *Canada Elections Act*. The maximum annual tax credit an eligible individual may claim is \$650.00 Contributions to a



Registered Party, a Registered Association or to a Candidate(s) in a federal election;

- ii) "Political Contributions Regulations" in the *Income Tax Act* allows for eligible individuals to make contributions to B.C. political parties, registered B.C. constituency associations and/or candidate(s) in a provincial election. Eligible individuals may claim credit on a T1 income tax return calculated as the lesser of 75% of contributions up to \$100 or 50% of contributions between \$100 and \$550 or 33 1/3% of contributions in excess of \$550.

2. Bill 15, *Local Elections Campaign Financing Amendment Act*, 2017 received Royal Assent on November 30, 2017, resulting in many changes to the financing provisions of the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*. The rules applied to the 2018 General Local Elections and are retroactive to October 31, 2017. In local election in B.C., an eligible individual may contribute up to \$1,200 per year per campaign to an unendorsed candidate or \$1,200 in total to each campaign of an elector organization and its endorsed candidates.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of B.C. Municipalities request the Province support personal income tax credits, for contributions made in compliance with the B.C. *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, as is similar to the rules and requirements in the *Income Tax Act*, for personal income tax credits for federal and provincial political contributions;

AND FURTHER THAT the Minister of Municipal Affairs of B.C. write a letter to the Minister of National Revenue and request the federal government make necessary amendments to the *Income Tax Act* to allow eligible individuals to claim credit on a T1 income tax return for political contributions made in accordance to the B.C. *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05490)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung  
SECONDED by Councillor Fry

THAT A be struck and the following be inserted:

THAT Council affirms a commitment to full and transparent reporting of financial contributions to elector organizations and candidates, as well as full and transparent reporting by third party entities that engage in significant campaign activities in support of candidates or endorsed candidates, and that all financial transactions – both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods – be reported, including contributions toward operating accounts and operating expenses, including those of third party entities used for campaign and non-campaign political purposes and activities;

FURTHER THAT B be struck;

AND FURTHER THAT the following be added at the end:

THAT Council direct staff to submit the following resolution for consideration at the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and/or working with other municipalities to present at Union of BC Municipalities:

WHEREAS

On February 11, 2020, Vancouver City Council affirmed its commitment to full and transparent reporting of financial contributions to elector organizations and candidates, including full and transparent reporting by third party entities that engage in significant campaign activities in support of candidates or endorsed candidates, and that all financial transactions – both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods – be reported, including contributions toward operating accounts and operating expenses, including those of third party entities used for campaign and non-campaign political purposes and activities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province amend the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* to require full and transparent reporting by third party entities that engage in significant campaign activities in support of candidates or endorsed candidates, and that all financial transactions – both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods – be reported, including contributions and third party resources allocated to candidates and/or other entities, as well as third party funds and resources directed toward campaign and non-campaign political purposes and activities, in election years and non-election years alike.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05491)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Boyle  
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT the following be added at the end:

THAT the Mayor write a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting the Province conduct a public review of the 2018 general local elections to determine what future changes are needed to ensure British Columbians get the fair elections they deserve.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05492)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Dominato  
SECONDED by Councillor De Genova

THAT the “THEREFORE BE IT RESOVLED” in D be struck and replaced with the following:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province amend the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* to require full and transparent reporting by provincial political parties of in-kind support and financial contributions they make to municipal election candidates in elections years, as well as to sitting elected officials in non-election years.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05502)  
(Councillor Hardwick abstained from the vote)

Councillor Dominato rose on a point of order under section 6.1(b) of the *Procedure By-law* as she felt impugned by comments made regarding the intent of the amendment. Mayor Stewart ruled that the comments do not directly impugn the reputation and reminded Councillors to be more considerate before making comments.

\* \* \* \* \*

Council recessed at 11:53 am and reconvened at 3:21 pm.

\* \* \* \* \*

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Dominato

THAT in C of the “THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, strike the words “federal and” and update language to specify Provincial jurisdiction where appropriate and read as follows:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Union of B.C. Municipalities request the Province support personal income tax credits, for contributions made in compliance with the B.C. *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, as is similar to the rules and requirements in B.C.’s Income Tax Act, for personal income tax credits for provincial political contributions.

FURTHER THAT the Union of B.C. Municipalities request the Minister of Municipal Affairs of B.C. write a letter to B.C.’s Minister of Finance and request the Provincial government make necessary amendments to B.C.’s *Income Tax Act* to allow eligible individuals to claim credit on a T1 income tax return for political contributions made in accordance to the B.C. *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 5503)

The amendments having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05504)

## FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

### WHEREAS

1. Elections, election campaigns, referendums, and political operations should have transparent and compliant contributor funding so elected officials are free from real or perceived potential conflicts of interest, which undermine their duty to represent the people they were elected to serve;
2. The federal and provincial levels of government have laws regarding political financing which apply at all times and require that all political contributions be made by individuals, that individuals have yearly contribution limits, and that political parties must make annual public disclosures reporting received contributions and their contributors;
3. In 2017 the B.C. legislature amended the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* (LECFA), banning special interest and corporate political donations at the local government level during an election year, placing limits on contributions and mandating public disclosures. However, the LECFA only applies to electoral organizations and candidates during an election year for the specific purpose of campaigning, or the last 28 days before the election in the case of a third party sponsor;
4. The LECFA does not regulate local electoral organizations in non-election years or during an election year for their normal activities that are not part of their election campaigns. Local electoral organizations have separate operating bank accounts for these purposes and can accept unlimited donations from corporations and special interests. The LECFA regulations do not require any public disclosures of electoral organization operating bank accounts, nor do they place maximum donation limits, or prevent corporations and special interests from contributing to municipal political organizations;
5. Local Elector Organizations can have a significant impact and influence on local politics, and on who becomes an elected official. This happens both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods. Extending the LECFA contribution restrictions, annual reporting and disclosure requirements, and including the electoral organization operating account would create a level playing field for all electoral organizations, improve transparency and limit contributions to compliant BC residents only;
6. Third party sponsors can also have a significant impact and influence on local politics and on who becomes an elected official or on a ballot question. In the 2018 Vancouver local election there were examples of significant unreported third party spending prior to the election, which ended only 28 days before the election, notwithstanding the intent of the LECFA;
7. The June 2019 City of Vancouver-convened volunteer-led Independent Election Task Force on Campaign Finance Regulations 1 encouraged the City of Vancouver to strongly urge the provincial government to improve upon the existing campaign finance laws, along with specific recommendations:

- 7.1. To enhance transparency in campaign financing, require all donations to candidates, elector organizations and third parties to be donated to a centralized portal run by Elections BC with real time disclosure of donations.
  - 7.2. THAT the Independent Elections Task Force be reconvened to review the following policy proposals, which have not previously been considered by Council, and provide recommendations regarding: Appropriate regulation of third-party groups wishing to engage on policy during municipal elections; The suggestion that contributions to candidates running with elector organizations to be in line with contributions to candidates running as independents.;
8. The October 2019 Elections BC Report of the Chief Electoral Officer 2 recommendations on Improving Accessibility, Transparency and Compliance included the following:
- 8.1. An elector organization is an organization that endorses or intends to endorse a candidate in an election.
  - 8.2. Require elector organizations to register with Elections BC and file annual disclosure statements including reports of all financial transactions, similar to those filed by provincial political parties. Maintain the membership requirement (50 members) for elector organizations as prescribed by s. 93(2)(a) of the Local Government Act.;
9. Political finance regulations are the cornerstone of responsible government. Contribution limits and transparency requirements are necessary safeguards which prevent corruption and undue influence and ensure accountability of elected officials to the public.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council affirms a commitment to full and transparent reporting of financial contributions to elector organizations and candidates, as well as full and transparent reporting by third party entities that engage in significant campaign activities in support of candidates or endorsed candidates, and that all financial transactions – both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods – be reported, including contributions toward operating accounts and operating expenses, including those of third party entities used for campaign and non-campaign political purposes and activities.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to submit the following resolution along with the above preamble (articles 3, 8) for consideration at the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and/or working with other municipalities to present at Union of BC Municipalities:

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province amend the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* to apply contributor and contribution limits to operating accounts of elector organizations and candidates for operational purposes at all times, and to require that they provide annual disclosure reports of contributions received in operating bank accounts, in election years and non-election years;

AND FURTHER THAT Third Party Sponsors be required to provide disclosure reports for the full election year or the date that a referendum is announced, whichever is later.

- C. THAT Council direct staff to submit the following resolution for consideration at the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and to the Union of BC Municipalities, and/or work with municipalities that have submitted similar language before this submission.

WHEREAS

1.
  - i) The Canada Revenue Agency cites the *Income Tax Act* for the deduction from tax otherwise payable of a portion of the total eligible amount of monetary contributions to a registered party, a provincial division of a registered party, a registered association, or a candidate, as those terms are defined in the Canada Elections Act. The maximum annual tax credit an eligible individual may claim is \$650.00 Contributions to a Registered Party, a Registered Association or to a Candidate(s) in a federal election;
  - ii) "Political Contributions Regulations" in B.C.'s *Income Tax Act* allows for eligible individuals to make contributions to B.C. political parties, registered B.C. constituency associations and/or candidate(s) in a provincial election. Eligible individuals may claim credit on a T1 income tax return calculated as the lesser of 75% of contributions up to \$100 or 50% of contributions between \$100 and \$550 or 33 1/3% of contributions in excess of \$550.
2. Bill 15, *Local Elections Campaign Financing Amendment Act*, 2017 received Royal Assent on November 30, 2017, resulting in many changes to the financing provisions of the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*. The rules applied to the 2018 General Local Elections and are retroactive to October 31, 2017. In local election in B.C., an eligible individual may contribute up to \$1,200 per year per campaign to an unendorsed candidate or \$1,200 in total to each campaign of an elector organization and its endorsed candidates.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of B.C. Municipalities request the Province support personal income tax credits, for contributions made in compliance with the B.C. *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, as is similar to the rules and requirements in B.C.'s *Income Tax Act*, for personal income tax credits for provincial political contributions;

FURTHER THAT the Union of B.C. Municipalities request the Minister of Municipal Affairs of B.C. write a letter to B.C.'s Minister of Finance and request the Provincial government make necessary amendments to B.C.'s *Income Tax Act* to allow eligible individuals to claim credit on a T1 income tax return for political contributions made in accordance to the B.C. *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*.

- D. THAT Council direct staff to submit the following resolution for consideration at the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and/or working with other municipalities to present at Union of BC Municipalities:

WHEREAS on February 11, 2020, Vancouver City Council affirmed its commitment to full and transparent reporting of financial contributions to elector organizations and candidates, including full and transparent reporting by third party entities that engage in significant campaign activities in support of candidates or endorsed candidates, and that all financial transactions – both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods – be reported, including contributions toward operating accounts and operating expenses, including those of third party entities used for campaign and non-campaign political purposes and activities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province amend the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* to require full and transparent reporting by provincial political parties of in-kind support and financial contributions they make to municipal election candidates in elections years, as well as to sitting elected officials in non-election years.

- E. THAT the Mayor write a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting the Province conduct a public review of the 2018 general local elections to determine what future changes are needed to ensure British Columbians get the fair elections they deserve.

*Note: Later in the meeting, the vote on the above motion was reconsidered and amendments made to whereas clauses 7 and 8 were approved, voted on, and carried unanimously.*

## REPORTS

### 1. **Funding Application to UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund January 14, 2020**

THAT Council approve a funding application to the Union of British Columbia Municipality's Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Emergency Support Services for \$25,000 towards the purchase of accessible supplies, training, and a functional exercise for Emergency Support Services, as attached in Appendix A of the Report dated January 14, 2020, entitled "Funding Application to UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund".

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 05494)

**2. Authorization to Enter into Contract with Veterans Affairs Canada for Military Monument Renovations in Mountain View Cemetery  
January 23, 2020**

- A. THAT, subject to B and C below, Council authorize the City to enter into an agreement (the “Monument Restoration Agreement”) with the Government of Canada to restore military grave monuments within the “Fields of Honour” of Mountain View Cemetery.
- B. THAT, subject to C below, the City Solicitor in consultation with the General Manager of Arts, Culture, and Community Services be authorized to approve the terms of and to execute the Monument Restoration Agreement on the terms and conditions generally described in the Report dated January 23, 2020, entitled “Authorization to Enter into Contract with Veterans Affairs Canada for Military Monument Renovations in Mountain View Cemetery”, as well as such other terms and conditions as are considered satisfactory to the City Solicitor and General Manager of Arts, Culture, and Community Services.
- C. THAT, no legal rights or obligations will be created by Council’s approval of A and B above until such time as the Monument Restoration Agreement is executed and delivered by the City Solicitor and the Government of Canada.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 05495)

**3. 2020 Street Cleaning Grants  
January 14, 2020**

THAT Council approve the 2020 Street Cleaning Grant Program totalling \$1,840,000 to the following recipients for programs that support improvements to street cleanliness, as detailed in the Report dated January 14, 2020, entitled “2020 Street Cleaning Grants”, with funding from the approved 2020 Street Cleaning and 2020 Plaza Stewardship operating budgets:

- Save Our Living Environment – United We Can (\$398,600)
- Coast Mental Health Foundation – Employment Services Program (\$566,000)
- Mission Possible Compassionate Ministries Society – MP Maintenance (\$681,000)
- Family Services of Greater Vancouver – Street Youth Job Action (\$73,100)
- The Kettle Friendship Society – SEED Employment Program (\$48,800)
- Tides Canada Initiatives Society - The Binnars’ Project (\$55,000)
- Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative – The Rat Project (\$17,500).

ADOPTED ON CONSENT AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY (Vote No. 05496)



**4. Issues Report - Addressing Housing Priorities for the Ashley Mar Housing Cooperative Site and Other Social Housing and Inclusionary Housing Sites in the Marine Drive Station Area  
January 28, 2020**

Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability staff responded to questions.

Council heard from two speakers in support of the recommendations.

MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

- A. THAT Council direct staff to consider accepting a rezoning application to consider redevelopment of the Ashley Mar Housing Cooperative Site at 8460 Ash Street and 8495 Cambie Street with building heights beyond those envisaged in the *Marpole Community Plan*, in order to provide social housing and market rental units, noting that the supportable height and density will be determined through an enhanced rezoning process, which will include robust public consultation, urban design and technical analyses as well as a public hearing.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to consider rezoning enquiries for other existing social housing sites, or sites designated as inclusionary housing sites, within the Marine Drive Station Area boundary defined in the Report dated January 28, 2020, entitled "Issues Report – Addressing Housing Priorities for the Ashley Mar Housing Cooperative Site and Other Social Housing and Inclusionary Housing Sites in the Marine Drive Station Area", through updated area analyses to determine their appropriateness and capacity for accommodating additional height beyond those envisaged in the *Marpole Community Plan* to address Council's housing priorities, generally using the criteria outlined in the same report.
- C. THAT the passage of the A and B above will in no way fetter Council's discretion in considering any rezoning applications or referral of any rezoning applications to public hearing, and does not create any legal rights for any person or obligation on the part of the City; any expenditures of funds or incurring of costs is at the risk of the person making the expenditure or incurring the costs.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05505)

**BY-LAWS**

Councillor De Genova advised they had reviewed the proceedings of the meeting related to by-law 1 and would be voting on the enactment.

Councillor Wiebe advised they had reviewed the proceedings of the meeting related to by-laws 8 to 13 but would not be voting on the enactment of these by-laws.

At the Public Hearing on January 28, 2020, Councillor Bligh declared a Conflict of Interest related to by-laws 8 to 13 on the agenda for this meeting, as they are a resident in the Nanaimo Sub-area. Councillor Bligh left the Chamber at 4:14 pm and returned at 4:44 pm.

MOVED by Councillor Hardwick  
SECONDED by Councillor Dominato

THAT Council enact the by-laws listed on the agenda for this meeting as numbers 1 to 7 inclusive, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign and seal the enacted by-laws.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

Councillor Carr rose on a point of information regarding by-laws 8 to 13 and the possibility of enacting these by-laws with the words "in accordance with the amended Grandview-Woodland Community Plan" deleted from the titles of these by-laws.

Susan Haid, Deputy Director, Long Range and Strategic Planning, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability, clarified that by-laws 8 to 13 are implementing the Grandview-Woodland Plan and District Schedules to implement policies in the plan that were approved in principle at a recent Public Hearing and noted extensive consultation on the Grandview-Woodland Plan with the Community has taken place over several years. In consultation with Legal Services, the deletion of the language from the titles of the by-laws can be removed and do not impact the veracity of the by-laws however advises it is not beneficial to delete the language from the titles of the by-laws so as to remain transparent and avoid potential confusion.

MOVED by Councillor Hardwick  
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT Council enact by-law 8 entitled "A By-law to amend Zoning and Development By-law No. 3575 to rezone an area from RT-5N to RM-12N", and authorize the Mayor and City Clerks to sign and seal the enacted by-law.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Boyle  
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the words "in accordance with the amended Grandview-Woodland Community Plan" be inserted at the end of the title of the by-law.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05506)  
(Councillors Carr, Fry and Hardwick opposed)  
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote due to Conflict of Interest)

The amendment having carried, the amended motion was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 05507) with Councillors Hardwick and Swanson opposed, Councillor Wiebe abstained from the vote and Councillor Bligh absent for the vote due to Conflict of Interest.

MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT Council enact the by-laws listed on the agenda for this meeting as numbers 9 to 13 inclusive, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign and seal the enacted by-laws.

CARRIED

(Councillor Hardwick and Swanson opposed)

(Councillor Wiebe abstained from the vote)

(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote due to Conflict of Interest)

1. A By-law to amend CD-1 (719) By-law No. 12304 for 188 East 6th Avenue (By-law No. 12633)
2. A By-law to amend Zoning and Development By-law No. 3575 regarding miscellaneous amendments (By-law No. 12634)
3. A By-law to amend Sign Fee By-law No. 11880 regarding housekeeping amendments (By-law No. 12635)
4. A By-law to authorize the amendment of a Heritage Revitalization Agreement authorized by By-law No. 12463 regarding 959 East 35th Avenue (Bramble Store and Apartment) (By-law No. 12636)
5. A By-law to amend Solid Waste By-law No. 8417 regarding housekeeping amendments (By-law No. 12637)
6. A By-law to enact a Housing Agreement for 1303 Kingsway and 3728 Clark Drive (By-law No. 12638)
7. A By-law to amend Subdivision By-law No. 5208 re: 431-455 West King Edward Avenue (By-law No. 12639)
8. A By-law to amend Zoning and Development By-law No. 3575 to rezone an area from RT-5N to RM-12N in accordance with the amended Grandview-Woodland Community Plan (By-law No. 12640)
9. A By-law to amend Zoning and Development By-law No. 3575 to rezone and area from RS-1 to RM-12N in accordance with the amended Grandview-Woodland Community Plan (By-law No. 12641)
10. A By-law to amend Zoning and Development By-law No. 3575 to rezone an area from RT-5 to RM-8A in accordance with the amended Grandview-Woodland Community Plan (By-law No. 12642)
11. A By-law to amend Zoning and Development By-law No. 3575 to rezone an area from RS-1 to RM-8A in accordance with the amended Grandview-Woodland Community Plan (By-law No. 12643)
12. A By-law to amend Zoning and Development By-law No. 3575 to rezone an area from RT-5N to C-2 in accordance with the amended Grandview-Woodland Community Plan (By-law No. 12644)

13. A By-law to amend Zoning and Development By-law No. 3575 to rezone an area from RT-5 to C-2 in accordance with the amended Grandview-Woodland Community Plan (By-law No. 12645)

\* \* \* \* \*

At 4:42 pm, it was

MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the meeting be extended to 6 pm in order to complete the business on the agenda.

CARRIED  
(Councillor Hardwick opposed)  
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

\* \* \* \* \*

## MOTIONS

### A. Administrative Motions

#### 1. Approval of Form of Development – 2021 Cypress Street (Formerly 1906 West 4th Avenue)

MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT the form of development for this portion of the site known as 2021 Cypress Street be approved generally as illustrated in the Development Application Number DP-2019-00484, prepared by Rositch Hemphill Architects, and stamped "Received, Community Services Group, Development Services", on February 17, 2019, provided that the Director of Planning may impose conditions and approve design changes which would not adversely affect either the development character of the site or adjacent properties.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05499)  
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

#### 2. Approval of Form of Development: CD-1 – 431 West King Edward Avenue

MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT the form of development for this portion of the site known as 431-455 West King Edward Avenue (431 West Kind Edward Avenue being the application address) be approved generally as illustrated in the Development Application Number DP-2019-00364, prepared by Urban Solutions Architecture Ltd., and stamped "Received, Development Services", on December 4, 2019, provided that the Director of Planning

may impose conditions and approve design changes which would not adversely affect either the development character of the site or adjacent properties.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05500)  
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

### **3. Approval of Form of Development – 1500 West Georgia/1515 Alberni Street**

MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT the form of development for this portion of the site known as 1500 West Georgia/1515 Alberni Street be approved generally as illustrated in the Development Application Number DP-2018-00139, prepared by R. Stefan Aepli, Francl Architecture, and stamped "Received, City of Vancouver, Development Buildings & Licensing", on July 10, 2019, provided that the Director of Planning may impose conditions and approve design changes which would not adversely affect either the development character of the site or adjacent properties.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05501)  
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

### **4. Approval of Form of Development – 589 W 59th Avenue – Pearson Dogwood Parcel E**

MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT the form of development for this portion of the site known as 589 W 59th Avenue – Pearson Dogwood Parcel E (*formerly part of 500-650 West 57th Avenue*) be approved generally as illustrated in the Development Application Number DP-2018-00902, prepared by IBI Group and stamped "Received, Community Services Group, Development Services", on November 7, 2019, provided that the Director of Planning may impose conditions and approve design changes which would not adversely affect either the development character of the site or adjacent properties.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05519)  
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

## **B. Council Members' Motions**

### **1. Requests for Leaves of Absence**

MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT Councillor Carr be granted a Leave of Absence for personal reasons from meetings on Thursday, April 9, 2020, from 3 pm onwards;

FURTHER THAT Councillor Bligh be granted a Leave of Absence for personal reasons from meetings on Tuesday, February 25, 2020, from 6 pm onwards;

AND FURTHER THAT Mayor Stewart be granted a Leave of Absence for personal reasons from meetings on Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05520)  
(Councillor Bligh absent for the vote)

## **2. Changes to February and April Business Licence Hearing Panels**

MOVED by Councillor Carr  
SECONDED by Councillor Hardwick

THAT Councillor Fry replace Councillor Bligh as panel member at the Business Licence Hearing to be held Tuesday, April 7, 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05521)

## **3. Transparency and Accountability at Little Mountain**

MOVED by Councillor Boyle  
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

WHEREAS

1. Social housing was first built at Little Mountain in the 1950s;
2. Vancouver, British Columbia, and the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation (Canada) first signed an agreement in November 1950, which stipulated that all social housing on the Little Mountain site must be replaced should the original structures be demolished;
3. 224 units of social housing were built at Little Mountain and remained on the site until 2009;
4. Residents at Little Mountain began being encouraged to relocate to other social housing in March 2007. BC Housing assured residents that they would be able to return to their new homes on the site by the time of the Olympics in 2010;
5. Many residents resisted moving and were supported by thousands of their neighbours and other Vancouver residents;
6. The original residents recommended that the public land at Little Mountain not be privatized. Residents recommended that instead of simply replacing the demolished 224 units of social housing hundreds more social housing units should be built, and that any redevelopment should be done in phases so that residents could stay in their homes with the least amount of disruption;

7. All but 4 units on the site were demolished in November 2009;
8. As a result of the refusal of 4 residents to move, one building replacing only 53 units of the original 224 units of social housing was built, and today the rest of the Little Mountain site is a large, 15 acre vacant lot;
9. In the twelve years since 2007 Vancouver has suffered through an intensifying crisis of homelessness and unaffordable housing;
10. BC Housing entered into an agreement for the sale of the property with Holborn Development Company in 2008, though the sale was apparently not finalized until 2013, with two amendments to the 2013 contract since then;
11. The contract has not yet been made public. The original residents and other members of the community have been asking to see the agreement for sale and contract for twelve years. The City of Vancouver has previously requested to see the contract but was not able to;
12. It is in the interest of Vancouver residents and the City of Vancouver that there be transparency regarding the sale of this significant public asset. Disclosure of the contract would provide new and relevant information to the public that previously was unknown, serve the public's interest in sound financial management by government, and help determine whether the developer has dealt fairly with the public;
13. Details that have emerged from recent *Vancouver Sun* investigative reporting suggest that the terms of the sale favoured the purchaser in unusual ways, including payment for the land being structured to extend over decades;
14. The loss of the then existing social housing has created, among many Vancouver residents, cynicism and loss of confidence in the public process;
15. Application has been made through BC Freedom of Information Legislation for disclosure of the contract between BC Housing and Holborn Developments (OIPC File No.: F18-75849 & F18-76353 - Public Body File No.: 292-30- 3418) This FOI application will be adjudicated in the coming weeks;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in the interest of full transparency and providing information instructive to the City of Vancouver in future developments, Council express its support for the Freedom of Information application, and direct the Mayor to write a letter to the Riley Park South Cambie Visions Committee indicating support for full disclosure of the contract.

referred

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Dominato

THAT the motion entitled "Transparency and Accountability at Little Mountain", be referred to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on February 12, 2020, to hear from speakers.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **4. Cultural Spaces Rent Bank**

MOVED by Councillor Fry  
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

##### WHEREAS

1. Vancouver has over 400 cultural spaces totalling over 3.4 million square feet, that are home to everything from artist-run centres, to galleries, to rehearsal spaces and shared studios;
2. Vancouver's recent Culture|Shift and Making Space for Arts and Culture reports identify cultural spaces as extremely vulnerable, with one third of all spaces in leases of one year or less, and most of those are month-to-month;
3. Rent banks utilize a pool of capital to provide short term loans to applicants that encounter an unforeseen inability to meet financial obligations arising from rent, rent increases or rent-related expenditures;
4. Rent banks are designed to prevent evictions and stabilize housing for working people living on low incomes. Ultimately, the goal is to prevent a short-term financial crisis from turning into homelessness;
5. A typical rent bank provides loans to renter households who have regular income but an inability to secure a conventional loan and are facing eviction as a result of a short-term financial crisis like illness, job loss, unexpected expenses, relationship breakdown or eviction. The loans are low- or no-cost and have generous repayment terms – usually up to 24 months;
6. Rent banks exist throughout Canada, including Toronto, across the Lower Mainland and notably here in Vancouver. The Vancouver Rent Bank is supported in part by the City of Vancouver and leverages multi-sectoral partnerships (including foundations, banks, post-secondary institutions, and not for profit service providers) for capital and operating funding, expertise and other services;
7. The Vancouver Rent Bank receives funding from the City and other partner organizations including Vancouver Foundation, VanCity and Street to Home. Applicants can apply for up to two months' worth of rental arrears (past-due rent), damage deposits, and basic utilities. According to internal audit figures The rate of loan repayment to Vancouver Rent Bank is 67%;
8. The Province of British Columbia recently invested \$10 million toward the creation of a province-wide rent bank as part of TogetherBC the provincial poverty reduction strategy (June 2019);
9. Many cultural spaces face the same factors of precariousness as working tenants with low incomes including month-to-month cash flow, inability to secure conventional loan, or unexpected disruptions like illness;
10. Few cultural spaces are afforded the protections enshrined in the Residential Tenancy Act, and can be faced with unexpected rent hikes, taxes, insurance, or maintenance fees;



11. Vancouver's Culture|Shift and Making Space for Arts and Culture recommendations commit to no net loss of Cultural Spaces;
12. The City of Vancouver provides a limited number of operating and capital cultural grants based on a rigorous and peer-reviewed process, but by design the City cannot furnish grants to all applicants nor on a quick turnaround;
13. Rent bank loans improve security for renters. Currently, there is limited or no ability for Non Profit Organizations or individual artists to gain loans of this kind, and a rent bank would fill a demonstrated need.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council supports the diverse ecosystem of Vancouver's cultural spaces, and recognizes the breadth of challenges to operating Cultural Spaces in our city including unexpected expenses and cash flow issues.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to explore the creation of a Cultural Spaces Rent Bank, modeled after the Vancouver Rent Bank, in order to protect precarious cultural spaces by making short term or bridge-funding loans available to qualified applicants, with the following considerations:
  - i) How to screen applicants and operationalize loan repayments;
  - ii) Lending criteria and limits;
  - iii) Legal Considerations;
  - iv) Terms and Conditions of loans, repayments and surety as applicable;
  - v) Seed capital for lending pool, including but not limited to remainder from 2019 Innovation Fund;
  - vi) Potential partnerships for capital and operations; and
  - vii) Value for money.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to report back before end of Q4 2020 with recommendations for a cultural spaces rent bank and in the context of other work related to implementing Making Space for Arts and Culture.

amended

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Dominato

THAT Council refer the motion entitled "Cultural Spaces Rent Bank" to staff for a report back as soon as possible.

LOST (Vote No. 05508)  
(Councilors Boyle, Carr, Fry, Swanson, Wiebe and Mayor Stewart opposed)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Dominato  
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT B part v be struck.

LOST (Vote No. 05509)  
(Councillor Boyle, Carr, Fry, Swanson, Wiebe and Mayor Stewart opposed)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Dominato

THAT in C, the words “before end of Q4 2020” be struck and the words “as soon as possible” be inserted.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05512)  
(Councillors Boyle and Swanson opposed)  
(Councillor Kirby-Yung abstained from the vote)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Dominato  
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the following be added as D:

THAT Council direct staff to explore a model of utilizing seed funding for a cultural spaces rent bank from third parties such as civic and family foundations, as well as other interested partners.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05513)  
(Councillor Swanson opposed)

The referral and amendments having either lost or carried, the amended motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05514).

## **FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED**

### WHEREAS

1. Vancouver has over 400 cultural spaces totalling over 3.4 million square feet, that are home to everything from artist-run centres, to galleries, to rehearsal spaces and shared studios;
2. Vancouver’s recent Culture|Shift and Making Space for Arts and Culture reports identify cultural spaces as extremely vulnerable, with one third of all spaces in leases of one year or less, and most of those are month-to-month;
3. Rent banks utilize a pool of capital to provide short term loans to applicants that encounter an unforeseen inability to meet financial obligations arising from rent, rent increases or rent-related expenditures;
4. Rent banks are designed to prevent evictions and stabilize housing for working people living on low incomes. Ultimately, the goal is to prevent a short-term financial crisis from turning into homelessness;
5. A typical rent bank provides loans to renter households who have regular income but an inability to secure a conventional loan and are facing eviction as a result of a short-term financial crisis like illness, job loss, unexpected expenses, relationship breakdown or eviction. The loans are low- or no-cost and have generous repayment terms – usually up to 24 months;

6. Rent banks exist throughout Canada, including Toronto, across the Lower Mainland and notably here in Vancouver. The Vancouver Rent Bank is supported in part by the City of Vancouver and leverages multi-sectoral partnerships (including foundations, banks, post-secondary institutions, and not for profit service providers) for capital and operating funding, expertise and other services;
7. The Vancouver Rent Bank receives funding from the City and other partner organizations including Vancouver Foundation, VanCity and Street to Home. Applicants can apply for up to two months' worth of rental arrears (past-due rent), damage deposits, and basic utilities. According to internal audit figures The rate of loan repayment to Vancouver Rent Bank is 67%;
8. The Province of British Columbia recently invested \$10 million toward the creation of a province-wide rent bank as part of TogetherBC the provincial poverty reduction strategy (June 2019);
9. Many cultural spaces face the same factors of precariousness as working tenants with low incomes including month-to-month cash flow, inability to secure conventional loan, or unexpected disruptions like illness;
10. Few cultural spaces are afforded the protections enshrined in the Residential Tenancy Act, and can be faced with unexpected rent hikes, taxes, insurance, or maintenance fees;
11. Vancouver's Culture|Shift and Making Space for Arts and Culture recommendations commit to no net loss of Cultural Spaces;
12. The City of Vancouver provides a limited number of operating and capital cultural grants based on a rigorous and peer-reviewed process, but by design the City cannot furnish grants to all applicants nor on a quick turnaround;
13. Rent bank loans improve security for renters. Currently, there is limited or no ability for Non Profit Organizations or individual artists to gain loans of this kind, and a rent bank would fill a demonstrated need.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council supports the diverse ecosystem of Vancouver's cultural spaces, and recognizes the breadth of challenges to operating Cultural Spaces in our city including unexpected expenses and cash flow issues.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to explore the creation of a Cultural Spaces Rent Bank, modeled after the Vancouver Rent Bank, in order to protect precarious cultural spaces by making short term or bridge-funding loans available to qualified applicants, with the following considerations:
  - i) How to screen applicants and operationalize loan repayments;
  - ii) Lending criteria and limits;
  - iii) Legal Considerations;
  - iv) Terms and Conditions of loans, repayments and surety as applicable;

- v) Seed capital for lending pool, including but not limited to remainder from 2019 Innovation Fund;
  - vi) Potential partnerships for capital and operations; and
  - vii) Value for money.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to report back as soon as possible with recommendations for a cultural spaces rent bank and in the context of other work related to implementing Making Space for Arts and Culture.
- D. THAT Council direct staff to explore a model of utilizing seed funding for a cultural spaces rent bank from third parties such as civic and family foundations, as well as other interested partners.

\* \* \* \* \*

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Carr  
SECONDED by Councillor Hardwick

THAT the following Council Members' Motions be referred to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on February 12, 2020:

- 5. Including Pedestrians in Vancouver's Snow Protocol and Response
- 6. Recognizing January 27th as International Holocaust Remembrance Day
- 7. City of Vancouver LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee – Renaming Consideration
- 8. Independent Auditor General Sub-Committee

amended

AMENDMENT TO THE REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung  
SECONDED by Councillor De Genova

THAT the motion entitled "Recognizing January 27th as International Holocaust Remembrance Day" be struck from the referral motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05515)

The amendment having carried, the amended motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05516).

\* \* \* \* \*

## **5. Including Pedestrians in Vancouver's Snow Protocol and Response**

Due to time constraints, this motion was referred to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on February 12, 2020.

## **6. Recognizing January 27th as International Holocaust Remembrance Day**

MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

SECONDED by Councillor De Genova

### WHEREAS

1. In 2005, the U.N. General Assembly designated January 27 – the anniversary of the liberation of the largest Nazi concentration and death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau – as International Holocaust Remembrance Day (IHRD). 2020 marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of liberation.
2. The U.N. resolution that created IHRD rejects denial of the Holocaust and condemns discrimination and violence based on religion or ethnicity.
3. Canada offers refuge and new hope to immigrants, refugees and survivors, some of whom have escaped more recent genocides – and it is a place where people can learn from each other and share cultures.
4. IHRD has become a symbol of great importance to the broader and to Vancouver's Jewish community to commemorate and honour the victims of the Nazi era.
5. International Holocaust Remembrance Day is officially observed by the United Nations, countries including Canada, Italy and Germany, as well as many cities such as Calgary, Ottawa and Montreal.
6. Antisemitism is on the rise around the world, in Canada, and in Vancouver. Hatred has flourished in the digital age. It is more important than ever that the lessons learned and horrors of the Holocaust remain present in the public consciousness so they are never repeated.
7. As we reflect upon that dark period in history and remember the atrocities perpetrated during the Holocaust, Vancouver has the opportunity to join with Vancouver's Jewish community and Canadians from all walks of life in demonstrating our commitment to stand against antisemitism, hate and genocide.
8. Vancouver is home to the third largest Jewish community in Canada, and home to a significant number of Holocaust Survivors and their families.
9. By proclaiming January 27th as International Holocaust Remembrance Day, it will be an opportunity to create greater public understanding and awareness of this horrific period in history where over 6,000,000 innocent Jewish men, women and children were systematically murdered by the Nazi regime and its collaborators from 1933 to 1945.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council declare January 27th as International Holocaust Remembrance Day, adding it to its official observances calendar;

FURTHER THAT the City of Vancouver acknowledge this day with a proclamation.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the word “annually” be inserted after the words “this day” in the FURTHER THAT and read as follows:

FURTHER THAT the City of Vancouver acknowledge this day annually with a proclamation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05517)

The amendment having carried unanimously, the amended motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05518)

**7. City of Vancouver LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee – Renaming Consideration**

Due to time constraints, this motion was referred to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on February 12, 2020.

**8. Independent Auditor General Sub-Committee**

Due to time constraints, this motion was referred to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on February 12, 2020.

**NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER’S MOTIONS**

**1. Declaring a Homelessness Emergency: Making an Emergency Plan to Drastically Reduce Homelessness**

Councillor Swanson submitted a notice of Council Members’ motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members’ Motion.

**2. Universal No-Cost Coverage of Prescription Contraception**

Councillor Swanson submitted a notice of Council Members’ motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members’ Motion.

**3. Reducing Truck Pollution in Clark-Knight Corridor and Other City Streets**

Councillor Swanson submitted a notice of Council Members’ motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members’ Motion.

**4. Discriminatory Covenants, Language and Encumbrances on Vancouver Land Titles**

Councillor Kirby-Yung submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**5. Relief and Rehabilitation of Aggressive Dog Designation**

Councillor Fry submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**6. Support for an Eastside Arts District**

Councillor Fry submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**7. Equitable Public Amenities in DCL-Waiver and Rental Rezoning Hot Zones**

Councillor Fry submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**8. Accessibility Funding and Guarantees for Passenger Directed Vehicles in BC**

Councillor Fry submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**9. Re-examining Municipal Pension Plan Divestment**

Councillor Carr submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**10. B.C. Clean Kilometer Act for Ride Hailing Fleets**

Councillor Carr submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**11. Provincial Tools for Building Energy Benchmarking**

Councillor Carr submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**12. Provincial Enabling of Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing by Local Governments**

Councillor Carr submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**13. Unintended Consequences: Reconsideration of a Council Direction That May Affect Housing in the City of Vancouver**

Councillor De Genova submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**14. Childcare for All Working Families in the City of Vancouver**

Councillor De Genova submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**15. Strengthening Representative Democratic Practices in the City of Vancouver**

Councillor Hardwick submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**16. Limiting 2021 Property Tax Rate Increase to No More Than 5%**

Mayor Stewart submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**17. Toward Best Practices in Civic Governance: Clarifying Council's Role as an Elected Board**

Councillor Bligh submitted a notice of Council Members' motion on the above-noted matter. The motion may be placed on the Council meeting agenda of February 25, 2020, as a Council Members' Motion.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Requests for Leaves of Absence**

MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung  
SECONDED by Councillor De Genova

THAT Councillor Kirby-Yung be granted a leave of absence for civic business from meetings on Wednesday, February 26, from 3 pm to 6 pm and on Wednesday, April 1, from 1 pm to 5 pm;



FURTHER THAT Mayor Stewart be granted a leave of absence for civic business from meetings on Wednesday, February 12, 2020, from 9:30 am to noon;

AND FURTHER THAT Councillor De Genova be granted a leave of absence for civic business from all meetings to be held from April 24 to 29, 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05493)

## **2. Reconsider the Vote - Election Finance: Transparent Funding in Local Politics**

RECONSIDERATION MOVED by Councillor Fry  
SECONDED by Councillor De Genova

THAT Council reconsider the vote on the motion entitled, "Election Finance: Transparent Funding in Local Politics".

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05497)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Fry  
SECONDED by Councillor De Genova

THAT the words "and mandate respectively" be inserted after the word "recommendations" in whereas clause 7.

FURTHER THAT the first sentence whereas clause 8 be struck and the following be inserted as follows:

The October 2018 Elections BC Report of the Chief Electoral Officer-provided two recommendations on Improving Accessibility, Transparency and Compliance which were as follows:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05498)

The amended having carried unanimously, the amended motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05510).

### **FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED**

WHEREAS

1. Elections, election campaigns, referendums, and political operations should have transparent and compliant contributor funding so elected officials are free from real or perceived potential conflicts of interest, which undermine their duty to represent the people they were elected to serve;
2. The federal and provincial levels of government have laws regarding political financing which apply at all times and require that all political contributions be made by individuals, that individuals have yearly contribution limits, and that political parties must make annual public disclosures reporting received contributions and their contributors;

3. In 2017 the B.C. legislature amended the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* (LECFA), banning special interest and corporate political donations at the local government level during an election year, placing limits on contributions and mandating public disclosures. However, the LECFA only applies to electoral organizations and candidates during an election year for the specific purpose of campaigning, or the last 28 days before the election in the case of a third party sponsor;
4. The LECFA does not regulate local electoral organizations in non-election years or during an election year for their normal activities that are not part of their election campaigns. Local electoral organizations have separate operating bank accounts for these purposes and can accept unlimited donations from corporations and special interests. The LECFA regulations do not require any public disclosures of electoral organization operating bank accounts, nor do they place maximum donation limits, or prevent corporations and special interests from contributing to municipal political organizations;
5. Local Elector Organizations can have a significant impact and influence on local politics, and on who becomes an elected official. This happens both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods. Extending the LECFA contribution restrictions, annual reporting and disclosure requirements, and including the electoral organization operating account would create a level playing field for all electoral organizations, improve transparency and limit contributions to compliant BC residents only;
6. Third party sponsors can also have a significant impact and influence on local politics and on who becomes an elected official or on a ballot question. In the 2018 Vancouver local election there were examples of significant unreported third party spending prior to the election, which ended only 28 days before the election, notwithstanding the intent of the LECFA;
7. The June 2019 City of Vancouver-convened volunteer-led Independent Election Task Force on Campaign Finance Regulations 1 encouraged the City of Vancouver to strongly urge the provincial government to improve upon the existing campaign finance laws, along with specific recommendations and mandate respectively:
  - 7.1. To enhance transparency in campaign financing, require all donations to candidates, elector organizations and third parties to be donated to a centralized portal run by Elections BC with real time disclosure of donations.
  - 7.2. THAT the Independent Elections Task Force be reconvened to review the following policy proposals, which have not previously been considered by Council, and provide recommendations regarding: Appropriate regulation of third-party groups wishing to engage on policy during municipal elections; The suggestion that contributions to candidates running with elector organizations to be in line with contributions to candidates running as independents.;

8. The October 2018 Elections BC Report of the Chief Electoral Officer provided two recommendations on Improving Accessibility, Transparency and Compliance were were as follows:
  - 8.1. An elector organization is an organization that endorses or intends to endorse a candidate in an election.
  - 8.2. Require elector organizations to register with Elections BC and file annual disclosure statements including reports of all financial transactions, similar to those filed by provincial political parties. Maintain the membership requirement (50 members) for elector organizations as prescribed by s. 93(2)(a) of the Local Government Act.;
9. Political finance regulations are the cornerstone of responsible government. Contribution limits and transparency requirements are necessary safeguards which prevent corruption and undue influence and ensure accountability of elected officials to the public.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council affirms a commitment to full and transparent reporting of financial contributions to elector organizations and candidates, as well as full and transparent reporting by third party entities that engage in significant campaign activities in support of candidates or endorsed candidates, and that all financial transactions – both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods – be reported, including contributions toward operating accounts and operating expenses, including those of third party entities used for campaign and non-campaign political purposes and activities.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to submit the following resolution along with the above preamble (articles 3, 8) for consideration at the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and/or working with other municipalities to present at Union of BC Municipalities:

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province amend the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* to apply contributor and contribution limits to operating accounts of elector organizations and candidates for operational purposes at all times, and to require that they provide annual disclosure reports of contributions received in operating bank accounts, in election years and non-election years;

AND FURTHER THAT Third Party Sponsors be required to provide disclosure reports for the full election year or the date that a referendum is announced, whichever is later.

- C. THAT Council direct staff to submit the following resolution for consideration at the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and to the Union of BC Municipalities, and/or work with municipalities that have submitted similar language before this submission.

WHEREAS

1.
  - i) The Canada Revenue Agency cites the *Income Tax Act* for the deduction from tax otherwise payable of a portion of the total eligible amount of monetary contributions to a registered party, a provincial division of a registered party, a registered association, or a candidate, as those terms are defined in the Canada Elections Act. The maximum annual tax credit an eligible individual may claim is \$650.00 Contributions to a Registered Party, a Registered Association or to a Candidate(s) in a federal election.
  - ii) "Political Contributions Regulations" in B.C.'s *Income Tax Act* allows for eligible individuals to make contributions to B.C. political parties, registered B.C. constituency associations and/or candidate(s) in a provincial election. Eligible individuals may claim credit on a T1 income tax return calculated as the lesser of 75% of contributions up to \$100 or 50% of contributions between \$100 and \$550 or 33 1/3% of contributions in excess of \$550.
2. Bill 15, *Local Elections Campaign Financing Amendment Act*, 2017 received Royal Assent on November 30, 2017, resulting in many changes to the financing provisions of the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*. The rules applied to the 2018 General Local Elections and are retroactive to October 31, 2017. In local election in B.C., an eligible individual may contribute up to \$1,200 per year per campaign to an unendorsed candidate or \$1,200 in total to each campaign of an elector organization and its endorsed candidates.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of B.C. Municipalities request the Province support personal income tax credits, for contributions made in compliance with the B.C. *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, as is similar to the rules and requirements in B.C.'s *Income Tax Act*, for personal income tax credits for provincial political contributions.

AND FURTHER THAT the Union of B.C. Municipalities request the Minister of Municipal Affairs of B.C. write a letter to B.C.'s Minister of Finance and request the Provincial government make necessary amendments to B.C.'s *Income Tax Act* to allow eligible individuals to claim credit on a T1 income tax return for political contributions made in accordance to the B.C. *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*.

- D. THAT Council direct staff to submit the following resolution for consideration at the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and/or working with other municipalities to present at Union of BC Municipalities:

## WHEREAS

On February 11, 2020, Vancouver City Council affirmed its commitment to full and transparent reporting of financial contributions to elector organizations and candidates, including full and transparent reporting by third party entities that engage in significant campaign activities in support of candidates or endorsed candidates, and that all financial transactions – both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods – be reported, including contributions toward operating accounts and operating expenses, including those of third party entities used for campaign and non-campaign political purposes and activities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province amend the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* to require full and transparent reporting by provincial political parties of in-kind support and financial contributions they make to municipal election candidates in elections years, as well as to sitting elected officials in non-election years.

- E. THAT the Mayor write a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting the Province conduct a public review of the 2018 general local elections to determine what future changes are needed to ensure British Columbians get the fair elections they deserve.

## ENQUIRIES AND OTHER MATTERS

### 1. Sidewalk Repairs in the West End

Councillor Carr requested information regarding the participatory budgeting project, repairing sidewalks in the West End, and why the repair of sidewalks is not in a matter of due course part of the Engineering budget. The City Manager noted sidewalks were added by the community as part of the participatory budgeting process and not by the City. There are specific and rigid criteria such as safety risks and condition that are taken into consideration whether or not a sidewalk will be repaired. There is an annual budget for sidewalk repairs and the specific safety criteria is applied city-wide to prioritize which sidewalks are to be repaired. The sidewalks in question likely do not meet the city-wide safety criteria and ranked lower in priority for being repaired.

### 2. Placement of Development Application Signage

Councillor Dominato requested information regarding placement of development application signage. It was noted that some development application signage has been placed on rooftops and there was concern they were not visible by pedestrians.

### 3. Updates from the City Auditor

Councillor Dominato requested information on practices of the City auditor providing updates at the municipal level.

#### **4. Operating Budget Updates**

Councillor Dominato requested to receive updates on the operating budget on a quarterly basis similar to the frequency of updates for the Capital Operating Budget.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Councillor De Genova  
SECONDED by Councillor Carr

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council adjourned at 5:59 pm.

\* \* \* \* \*