

MINUTES of the first statutory meeting of the MUNICIPAL COUNCIL of The Corporation of the District of Oak Bay, held in the Council Chambers, Oak Bay Municipal Hall, 2167 Oak Bay Avenue, Victoria, B.C., on Monday November 5, 2018 following swearing in before The Honourable Mr. Justice Geoffrey Gaul of Kevin Murdoch as Mayor, and Andrew Appleton, Hazel Braithwaite, Cairine Green, Tara Ney, Esther Paterson and Eric Wood Zhelka as Councillors at 7:00 PM.

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Coast and Straits Salish Peoples. Specifically we recognize the Lekwungen speaking people, known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, and that their historic connections to these lands continue to this day.

PRESENT: Mayor K. Murdoch, Chair  
Councillor A. Appleton  
Councillor H. Braithwaite  
Councillor C. Green  
Councillor T. Ney  
Councillor E Paterson  
Councillor E. W. Zhelka

STAFF: Interim Chief Administrative Officer, L. Varela  
Deputy Director of Corporate Services, D. Hopkins

The Interim Chief Administrative Officer called the inaugural meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

Following the swearing in of Council members, Mayor Murdoch assumed the Chair.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS:

The Mayor provided the following remarks for his Inaugural Address:

“Good Evening and Welcome.

I begin by acknowledging that we’re holding this inaugural meeting on the traditional territories of the Coast and Straights Salish people, specifically the Lekwungen-speaking people, known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations. And more than that, to express my sincere intent to see this Council build upon the good work done by previous Councils to develop strong, meaningful, working relationships with our first nation partners.

I would also like to take a moment to recognize that Oak Bay municipality is committed to a respectful workplace, and that this Chamber is, and must remain, a place of highest respect for the public, staff, and Council. Open and vigorous debate must be held in an environment of safety and respect, to which this Council is deeply committed.

Thanks Mr. Justice Geoffrey Gaul for swearing in this new Council, and to the staff for transforming our municipal hall into such a beautiful space for this ceremony.

It’s an interesting point of history that almost exactly 59 years ago, in 1959, my grandfather, George Murdoch, was first sworn in as Reeve (Mayor), and that his inaugural speech was the first one in this Chamber, which was then brand new. It’s a special moment for me on a personal level, and want to thank my parents, mother-in-law, wife, children, and friends for sharing this experience tonight.

I would like to thank all the people who ran for Council this election and the voters of Oak Bay for their robust participation again this year – our democratic process thrives by the active involvement of candidates and voters alike.

I would like to recognize the departing members of Council, and thank them for their years of service to the community.

- Councillor Tom Croft, thank you for your four years of service, and for the work you undertook both in the community and in the region.
- Councillor Michelle Kirby, thank you for your seven years of service, and for your advocacy, particularly around issues of youth and active transportation.
- Mayor Nils Jensen, thank you for your 22 years of service on Council, which stands as one of the longest Council terms in Oak Bay history. At all times you conducted yourself with dignity and respect for the role of Mayor, and worked hard to make the community better. Oak Bay has benefitted from your years of service, and we thank you for it.

Now we start a new chapter. With a new Council, and a new mandate.

I congratulate all those sitting around this table – you’ve earned the trust of our residents, and that is a sacred trust. Now we are elected, we no longer have a subset of “constituents” – we will, each and every one of us, work to represent ALL of Oak Bay in our decision making.

This Council, with a four-year term, has the chance to accomplish a great deal on behalf of the community.

How will we do that? With shared goals, partnerships, hard work, and smart work.

First, through shared values and goals. There is strong agreement on this Council for environmental, social, and fiscal stewardship in all our decision making.

Second, by continuing to develop partnerships. This means working closely with

- First Nations
- Provincial and Federal governments
- School Board, UVic, Camosun
- Island Health, Capital Regional District (CRD), South Island Prosperity Project (SIPP)
- Business Improvement Association, Oak Bay Tourism, Arts Alive
- Volunteer groups, community groups; and
- Other local and regional agencies

We cannot meet our goals alone.

Third, by working with staff to constantly improve Oak Bay in ways large and small. To have Council establish policy direction and guidelines then empower our expert staff to interpret and implement those guidelines and run our community well.

And finally: to do our job well. To work hard, to listen to our residents, to prepare for meetings, to be transparent in our decision making, to participate fully and with enthusiasm both at this table but also at regional tables, and no matter how passionate our debate, to remain respectful and friendly with one another, staff, and with the public.

We live in an amazing community. Our job is to maintain the excellent quality of life for future generations. We have work to do.

The OCP identifies a number of key activities around housing and other land-use issues: we have an obligation to legalize and regulate the housing options our community needs, and start that process right away.

Much of our infrastructure is at end of life. We must fund our municipality in a way that reflects the true costs, committing to finding the lowest cost of ownership on all projects, and providing secure funding for our core services and infrastructure. We must take the long view when making decisions and being careful stewards of our finances.

We need to focus on results and not be afraid to make decisions and be held accountable for those decisions. That is democracy. This includes:

- Working closely with Urban Wildlife Stewardship Society (UWSS) and the Province to ensure action on reducing deer in 2019
- Addressing the future use of Oak Bay Marina and Turkey Head
- Finding potential services on the Oak Bay Lodge site; and
- Considering larger land-use applications in a way that gets to decision more effectively and consistently.

Oak Bay is a special place, and this Council, starting now, will work to move it forward while protecting the characteristics that make it so special. We are lucky to have the support of excellent staff and very engaged and knowledgeable residents.

Thank you all for attending tonight, and to all of Oak Bay for giving Council this opportunity to serve. I am thrilled to be working with this Council and this staff, and we look forward to getting to work on your behalf.”

**RESOLUTIONS:**

1. ***Confirmation of Appointments***

MOVED and seconded: THAT the following appointments be confirmed:

**Acting Mayor Rotation**

January, February	Councillor Green
March, April	Councillor Zhelka
May, June	Councillor Paterson
July, August	Councillor Ney
September, October	Councillor Appleton
November, December	Councillor Braithwaite

**Council Appointments**

Business Liaison	Councillor Green (Alternate: Councillor Appleton)
Camosun College Liaison	Councillor Braithwaite
Capital Regional District (CRD)	Mayor Murdoch (Alternate: Councillor Braithwaite)
CRD Arts Commission	Councillor Ney
CRD Hospital District	Mayor Murdoch (Alternate: Councillor Braithwaite)
CRD Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee	Mayor Murdoch (Alternate: Councillor Zhelka)
CRD Inter-Municipal Climate Action Steering Committee	Councillor Appleton
CREST Corporation	Councillor Paterson (Alternate: Councillor Zhelka)
Greater Victoria Labour Relations Association	Councillor Green (Alternate: Councillor Braithwaite)
Greater Victoria Public Library Board	Councillor Appleton
Municipal Insurance Association of British Columbia	Councillor Zhelka (Alternate: Councillor Paterson)
Oak Bay Advisory Design Panel Liaison	Councillor Green
Oak Bay Community Archives Liaison	Councillor Paterson
Oak Bay Emergency Planning Program Liaison	Councillor Zhelka (Alternate: Councillor Appleton)
Oak Bay Heritage Commission Liaison	Councillor Paterson
Oak Bay Heritage Foundation Liaison	Councillor Paterson
Oak Bay Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel	Mayor Murdoch, Councillors Paterson and Zhelka
Oak Bay Parks, Recreation & Culture Commission	Councillor Braithwaite (Alternate: Councillor Appleton)
Oak Bay Public Arts Advisory Committee Liaison	Councillor Braithwaite (Alternate: Councillor Ney)
Oak Bay Police Board	Mayor Murdoch (ex-officio)
Oak Bay Receptions	Councillor Braithwaite
Oak Bay Tourism Committee Liaison	Councillor Green (Alternate: Councillor Braithwaite)
Provincial Court – Family Court Committee	Councillor Paterson
Regional Housing Trust Fund Commission	Councillor Green (Alternate: Councillor Paterson)
Regional Water Supply Commission	Councillor Zhelka (Alternate: Councillor Paterson)
Royal and McPherson Theatres Society	Councillor Ney (Alternate: Councillor Green)
School District 61 Liaison	Councillor Braithwaite
University of Victoria Liaison	Councillor Braithwaite
YES (Young Exceptional Star) Awards Liaison	Councillor Braithwaite and Councillor Appleton

CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS:

2. ***District of Oak Bay – 2018 General Local Election***

- Report – 2018 General Local Election – Chief Election Officer, Oct. 23, 2018

MOVED and seconded: That the report of the Chief Election Officer dated October 23, 2018 be received for information.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT OF COUNCIL

22. ***Motion to adjourn***

MOVED and seconded: That the Inaugural meeting of Council be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Certified Correct:

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Mayor

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Deputy Director of Corporate Services