



TOWN OF LAKE COWICHAN

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held and transmitted electronically via Council Chambers located at 39 South Shore Road, Lake Cowichan, BC on Tuesday, April 14th, 2026

PRESENT: Councillor Aaron Frisby, Chair
Mayor Tim McGonigle
Councillor Carolyne Austin
Councillor Kristine Sandhu

REGRETS: Councillor Lorna Vomacka

STAFF: John Thomas, Chief Administrative Officer
Ronnie Gill, Director of Finance
Jas Sandhu, Superintendent, Public Works and Engineering Services
Dalton Smith, Manager, Cowichan Lake Education Centre
Roni-Lee Roach, Executive Secretary
Brigid Reynolds, Contract Planner

PUBLIC: 5

No. CW.011/26
Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER
The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS
Introduction of Late Items:
8(b) City of Duncan – Request for Support;
9(c) Finance – Grant-in-Aids 2026;
9(h) Finance – Lake Days BBQ;
10(a) Mildred Child Annex – Recognition Plaque.

3. AGENDA
Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
That the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED.

4. PUBLIC INPUT
None.

5. MINUTES
None.

6. BUSINESS ARISING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Ongoing Items Still Being Addressed:
None.

7. DELEGATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS

(a) Francis Guyver, Land Use Forester and Jimmie Hodgson, RPF VP Sustainability, Chief Forester, of Mosaic Forest Management were on hand to make a powerpoint presentation to Council on its current operations.

The presentation included the following:

- Mosaic’s strategic transformation;
- sustainable forest management practices;
- Koksilah Watershed pilot project;
- Wildfire prevention and response;
- Watershed management;
- Community partnerships;
- Indigenous partnerships with collaborative development agreements;
- Access Refresh Initiative.

Mr. Guyver closed by sharing that Mosaic’s working forests are recreation destinations that create jobs, tourism, and support communities and operations.



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The Chair afforded Council members an opportunity to direct questions to the delegates.

- (b) Pat Weaver, Chairperson, Lake Days Society was on hand to request Council’s support for the 2026 Lake Days event to be held June 13th and 14th, 2026.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

No. CW.012/26
Correspondences –
Received and Filed

Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
That the Committee recommend to receive and file all correspondences as follows:

- (a) Provincial Agricultural Land Commission – ALC Staffing and Budget Pressures; and
- (b) City of Duncan – Request for Support.

CARRIED.

9. REPORTS

No. CW.013/26
Building Permit
Summary

- (a) The Administration’s Quarterly Report ending March 2026 was provided for information.

- (b) Moved: Mayor McGonigle
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
That the Committee recommend acceptance of the Building Permit Summary Report for the month of March, 2026.

CARRIED.

No. CW.014/26
Grant-in-Aid 2026 -
Palsson Elementary

- (c) Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Mayor McGonigle
That the Committee recommend that an in-kind contribution be approved for donation of garbage bags and gloves to Palsson Elementary School for its Earth Day on April 22nd, 2026.

CARRIED.

No. CW.015/26
Grant-in-Aid 2026 -
River Notes
Community Choir

Moved: Mayor McGonigle
Seconded: Councillor Austin
That the Committee recommend that the River Notes Community Choir request for a grant-in-aid in the amount of \$250 be approved.

CARRIED.

Take a Hike
Foundation

The Committee requested that the request by the Take a Hike Foundation be paused for 2026 as it has received funding in both the 2024 and 2025 year.

No. CW.016/26
Grant-in-Aid 2026 -
Cowichan Lake
Community
Services

Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
That the Committee recommend that the Cowichan Lake Community Services request for a grant-in-aid in the amount of \$2,800 be approved with funds allocated from the 2026 Grant-in-Aid budget for \$1,000 and balance of \$1,800 from the contingency fund.

CARRIED.

No. CW.017/26
Grant-in-Aid 2026
Cowichan Lake and
River Stewardship

Moved: Councillor Sandhu
Seconded: Councillor Austin
That the Committee recommend that an in-kind contribution be approved for the use of the Town’s garbage picker equipment to the Cowichan Lake and River Stewardship Society for its Street to Stream litter pickup event in 2026.

CARRIED.



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The Committee requested that the Grant-in-Aid policy be reviewed with a report back from staff to be provided.

No. CW.018/26
Fire Department
Incident Report

(d) Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
That the Committee recommend approval of the Lake Cowichan Fire Department’s incident report in the amount of \$12,836.16 for March 2026.
CARRIED.

(e) The staff report on the proposed bylaws were reviewed on the following:
• Development Approval Procedures Bylaw No. 1125;
• Public Notice Bylaw No. 1129; and
• Fees and Services Amendment Bylaw No. 1130

No. CW.019/26
Bylaws to Council
for Consideration

(e) Moved: Mayor McGonigle
(f) Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
(g) That the Committee recommend that the following bylaws be referred to Council for consideration of first and second reading:
• Development Approval Procedures Bylaw No. 1125;
• Public Notice Bylaw No. 1129; and
• Fees and Services Amendment Bylaw No. 1130 and

That the Committee recommend that staff be directed to complete advertising for a public hearing for each bylaw.
CARRIED.

No. CW.020/26
Lake Days BBQ

(h) Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
That the Committee recommend that the Town of Lake Cowichan Lake Days Barbecue tickets be sold for \$12 per person .
Mayor McGonigle and Councillor Sandhu **AGAINST**
DEFEATED.

No. CW.021/26
Lake Days BBQ

Moved: Mayor McGonigle
Seconded: Councillor Sandhu
That the Committee recommend that the Town of Lake Cowichan Lake Days Barbecue tickets be sold for \$15 per person .
Councillors Frisby and Austin **AGAINST**
DEFEATED.

No. CW.022/26
Lake Days BBQ

Moved: Mayor McGonigle
Seconded: Councillor Austin
That the Committee recommend that the Town of Lake Cowichan Lake Days Barbecue tickets be sold for \$12 per person.
CARRIED.

No. CW.023/26
Mildred Child
Annex Recognition
Plaque

10. NEW BUSINESS
Moved: Councillor Austin
Seconded: Mayor McGonigle
That the Committee recommend that the PVC sign, light choice, be approved for installation at the Mildred Child Annex building site of 49 South Shore Road to recognize the historical site.
CARRIED.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION
None.

12. QUESTION PERIOD

