



AGENDA

Regular Meeting of the Council of the Village of Chase held in the Council Chamber at the Village Office at 826 Okanagan Avenue on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution:

“THAT the February 25, 2020 Village of Chase Regular Council meeting agenda be adopted as presented.”

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Regular Meeting held February 11, 2020

Pages 1-4

Resolution:

“THAT the minutes of the February 11, 2020 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as presented.”

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

5. PUBLIC INPUT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

This opportunity is for members of the gallery to provide input on items on this Agenda

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 2020 Pulling Together Canoe Journey

Pages 5-8

Tk'wemi'ple7 (Councillor) Steven Teed, Adams Lake Indian Band
Natural Resources Pillar

7. REPORTS

a) Mayor and Council Reports

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1 Strategic Planning 2020-2022

Confirmation of dates to hold Strategic Planning 2020-2022

Council direction is requested

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 2020 Proposed Budget

Pages 9-12

Presentation and report documents from the CFO

9.2 Letter from City of Port Moody regarding a Universal Public National
Pharmacare program and request for support

Pages 13-19

10. NOTICE OF MOTION

11. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON MUNICIPAL MATTERS

12. RELEASE OF IN CAMERA ITEMS

13. IN CAMERA

None

14. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution:

“THAT the February 25, 2020 Village of Chase Regular Council meeting be adjourned.”



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the Village of Chase
held in the Council Chamber of the Village Office at 826 Okanagan Avenue
on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Rod Crowe
Councillor Alison (Ali) Lauzon
Councillor Ali Maki
Councillor Steve Scott
Councillor Fred Torbohm

In Attendance: Joni Heinrich, Chief Administrative Officer
Sean O'Flaherty, Corporate Officer
Joanne Molnar, Chief Financial
Clinton Wright, Manager of Public Works Officer
Brian Lauzon, Fire Chief

Public Gallery: 6

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Scott

Seconded by Councillor Torbohm

"THAT the February 11, 2020 Village of Chase Regular Council agenda be adopted as presented."

CARRIED

#2020/02/11_001

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Regular Meeting held January 28, 2020

Moved by Councillor Torbohm

Seconded by Mayor Crowe

"THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting of Council on January 28, 2020 be adopted as presented."

CARRIED

#2020/02/11_002

4. PUBLIC HEARING

None

5. PUBLIC INPUT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

None

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Child Care Advisory Committee

Terri Mindel presented the Child Care Planning Action/Strategic Plan. She highlighted the gaps in Child Care services particularly in Chase and in Pritchard, and explained that the report includes a number of recommendations for further action.

6.2 Chase Tourism Strategy

Randy Sunderman, Peak Solutions Consulting Inc, presented the draft Economic Development and Tourism Strategy for the Village of Chase. He explained how the report was created, that there was significant consultation amongst tourism operators, business owners and the Village of Chase.

7. **REPORTS**

a) Mayor and Council Reports

Mayor Crowe

- February 3 – Met with Cathy Thibault, new Manager of Clinical Operations, Chase Health Centre
- February 10 – Attended a TNRD Regular Board meeting
- February 11 – Attended a Chase & District Health Services Foundation's Board of Directors meeting

Councillor Lauzon

- February 1 – Attended the Chase & District Fish and Game Club Annual Banquet
- Working with the Chase Lions on organizing the 2020 Easter Eggstravaganza
- Working with the Youth Action Committee on bookkeeping matters, and investigating potential fundraising activities

Councillor Maki

- January 21 – Attended a Festival Society meeting regarding the Lakeside Music Series
- February 1 – Attended a Festival Society meeting regarding the Lakeside Music Series
- February 1 – Attended the Chase & District Fish and Game Club Annual Banquet
- February 7 – Attended the Festival Society's Annual General Meeting

Councillor Scott

No Report

Councillor Torbohm

- January 21 – Attended the Shuswap Trails Working Group meeting at Pierre's Point near Salmon Arm

b) Staff Reports

Manager of Public Works:

- Reported that the water testing requirements have recently become more stringent, and now water analysis includes testing for chlorine by-products. The Village's water testing results indicate Chase's water contains low levels of trihalomethanes, well below the acceptable standard. These results emphasize the effectiveness of our water treatment facility which continues to disinfect properly and distribute only the safest cleanest water to our utility customers.

Fire Chief:

- Fire call outs: 3 (1 public service call, 2 electrical lines down)
- Rescue call outs: 5 motor vehicle incidents including 1 extrication and 2 patient-assists
- 28 Burning Permits have been issued to date
- There are 22 members and 4 junior fire fighters in the department; 1 member on leave

- Working on the Fire Department's 2020 budget
- There are a few more members nearing completion of the Exterior Operations training
- Repair work to the rear brakes completed on Engine #4 (1993 Freightliner)

Reports from the CAO, Corporate Officer, and CFO were included in the agenda package.

Moved by Mayor Crowe

Seconded by Councillor Scott

"THAT the reports from Council members and staff be received for information."

CARRIED

#2020/02/11_003

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1 Firefighter's Remuneration

< Councillor Lauzon left the meeting at 5:01 p.m. >

Moved by Mayor Crowe

Seconded by Councillor Maki

"THAT Village of Chase Volunteer Fire Department Establishment and Regulation Amendment Bylaw No 885-2020 be adopted."

CARRIED

#2020/02/11_004

< Councillor Lauzon rejoined the meeting at 5:02 p.m. >

8.2 SILGA Call for Resolutions for 2020 Convention

Moved by Councillor Torbohm

Seconded by Councillor Lauzon

"THAT the six resolutions accompanying this report to Council's meeting of February 11, 2020 be forwarded to the 2020 SILGA Convention for consideration by delegates."

CARRIED

#2020/02/11_005

8.3 Renewal of Development Permit DP2018-1

Moved by Mayor Crowe

Seconded by Councillor Scott

"THAT Council approve a one-year extension to Development Permit DP2018-1."

CARRIED

#2020/02/11_006

8.4 Strategic Planning 2020-2022

Moved by Councillor Maki

Seconded by Mayor Crowe

"THAT Allison Habkirk be selected to facilitate Council's 2020-2022 Strategic Plan."

CARRIED

#2020/02/11_007

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Shuswap Regional Trails Roundtable Working Group

Moved by Councillor Maki

Seconded by Councillor Lauzon

"THAT the June 19, 2020 Shuswap Regional Trails Working Group meeting take place in Chase at the Community Hall which will allow for those in attendance to walk the new Rocky Road Trail on Scatchard Mountain and participate in the Grand Opening of the new trail; AND,

THAT the Village of Chase purchase lunch for the approximately 40 participants of the working group at a cost of approximately \$300.”

CARRIED

#2020/02/11_008

9.2 Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program

Moved by Councillor Scott

Seconded by Mayor Crowe

“THAT Council approves the submission of a grant application to the B.C. Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program to fund 70% of the implementation of pedestrian safety improvements at the intersection of Thompson Avenue/Chase Street and the Village to fund 30% of the project up to a maximum of \$50,000, AND,

THAT the Village of Chase will provide overall grant management for the project.”

CARRIED

#2020/02/11_009

9.3 Shuswap Trail Alliance – Scatchard Trail Planning Project

Moved by Mayor Crowe

Seconded by Councillor Maki

“THAT the Shuswap Trail Alliance be awarded a \$1,500 Grant in Aid to help fund the Scatchard Road Trail System Planning Project.”

CARRIED

#2020/02/11_010

10. **NOTICE OF MOTION**

None

11. **RELEASE OF IN CAMERA ITEMS**

None

12. **IN CAMERA**

None

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Mayor Crowe

Seconded by Councillor Scott

“THAT the February 11, 2020 Village of Chase Regular Council meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED

#2020/02/11_011

The meeting concluded at 5:11 p.m.

Rod Crowe, Mayor

Sean O'Flaherty, Corporate Officer

Attention: Village of Chase

Mayor Rod Crowe – rod.crowe@chasebc.ca

Councillor Fred Torbohm – fred.torbohm@chasebc.ca

Councillor Alison (Ali) Lauzon ~ alison.lauzon@chasebc.ca

Councillor Steve Scott – steven.scott@chasebc.ca

Councillor Ali Maki – ali.maki@chasebc.ca

Re: Pulling Together Canoe Journey 2020

Weytk Mayor and Council,

We are writing you today regarding the Pulling Together Canoe Journey (PTCJ) 2020 event that is happening in the Secwepmec territory and will be coming through the Little Shuswap lake and the Village of Chase. The PTCJ is an annual event that takes place in different areas across BC, it has participation from the RCMP, Canadian Navy, DFO, Park Canada and several First Nations communities from across Canada that come together and have a fun filled 10 days of paddling across different territories.

Adams Lake Band is part of the planning committee and are planning routs and events, this year is the 20th Anniversary of the event, we will be having a large celebration and feast in honor of the 20 years and it will be happening on Saturday July 11th, 2020.

On that day we will be pulling into Chase with all the canoes, we fell that having the celebration at Memorial Park in the Village of Chase would be a great opportunity to work together on a project. The event will bring in 100's of people in Chase as well as Media, Government and tourists to help the economy. With the location, services and stage it makes for a beautiful opportunity to showcase the area and Adams Lake.

We are asking for a permit to use Memorial Park and its services on July 11th, 2020 for the Pulling Together Canoe Journey Society, the Society will be acquiring the Insurance for the event.

We are also sending an Invitation to Mayor and Council to come down and join the festivities and be a part of the event and enjoy the day.

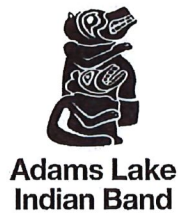
We look forward to the event and working together as a community to improve the lives of our members and residents.

Kukstsemc,

Councillor Steven Teed

Adams Lake Indian Band

250-819-8715



January 29, 2020

Weyt-kp to all Pulling Together Canoe Families,

We have exciting news --dates and camp locations have been set for summer 2020! The 20th annual journey will take place in the Secwepemc Nation from July 6th to the 16th and is being planned in partnership by numerous Secwepemc Communities and Public Service Agencies. Eight days of paddling will take us between three camps in the communities of Splatshin, Adams Lake and Simpcw. We are honored to host the journey this year and have everyone back in our territory to support the Pulling Together Canoe Society's mission by bringing Indigenous Communities and Public Service Agencies together for solidarity and harmony.

The planned freshwater route will take us down beautiful winding rivers, over crystal clear lakes and past several sites of important cultural significance to the Secwepemc people. Our focus will be on honoring the water which has both sustained and connected our people since time immemorial. We would truly love for you all to join us on this special 20th anniversary of the Pulling Together Canoe Journey and experience the beauty of Secwepemcul'ecw.

More details are forthcoming so keep watching for updates as the snow melts and everything comes together!

On behalf of the 2020 Pulling Together Planning Committee,

Tina Donald
Councilor, Simpcw First Nation
250-682-2801

*Splatshin
Adams Lake Indian Band
Little Shuswap Lake Band
Simpw First Nation
Tk'emlups te Secwepemc*

Pulling Together Canoe Journey 2020 – Possible Routes

July 6th – July 16th, 2020

Option #1: *Canoe Families Have Option of Arriving July 5th, 3 Camps, 4 Nights Splatsin, 3 Nights ALIB/LSIB, 3 Nights Simpcw

July 6th – Travel / Safety/ Registration Day (Camp: Splatsin)

July 7th – Canoe Day (Tuey Park → Mara Provincial Park, Approx. 15 NM's on river and lake)

- Leave mid-morning after safety demo & Breakfast

July 8th—Canoe Day (Mara Provincial Park→Sicamous, Approx. 8 NM's on lake)

- Cultural sites at: Fishing weir, Rosemond lake, Swansea point

July 9th-Canoe Day Sicamous→Pierre's Point, Approx. 15.5 NM's on lake)

- Possible stops at ALIB, LSIB and Neskonlith
- Possible Protocol Night for Splatsin

**** Canoe's Pre Positioned at Blind Bay for July 10th**

July 10th-Canoe Day (Blind Bay →Little Shuswap, Approx. 9.5 NM's) (Camp: ALIB/LSIB)

- Camp Move, Splatsin -> ALIB/LSIB

July 11th—Canoe Day (Little Shuswap → Adams Lake, Approx. 4.4 NM's)

- 20th Anniversary Celebration in Afternoon

July 12th – Day Off

July 13th – Canoe Day (Adams Lake → Pritchard, Approx. 10 NM's) (Camp: Simpcw)

- Camp Move, ALIB/LSIB → Simpcw

**** Canoe's Positioned on Trailers after canoeing to travel to Simpcw**

July 14th – Canoe Day (Simpcw → Mclure Ferry, Approx. 23 NM's on river)

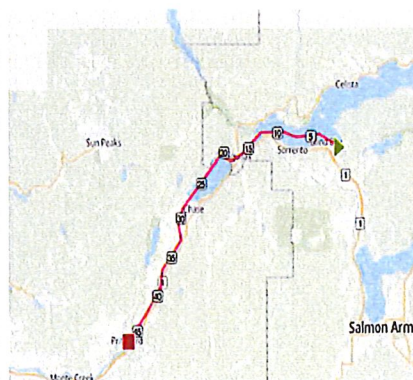
July 15th – Canoe Day (Mclure Ferry → Tk'emlúps, Approx. 26 NM's on River)

July 16th – Travel home

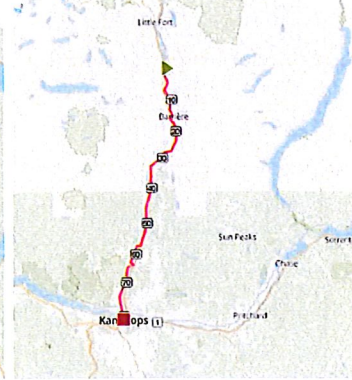
CAMP 1: SPLATSIN



CAMP 2: ALIB/LSIB



CAMP 3: SIMPCW



Date	Instructions	Paddling	Paddle Time	Camp site
Mon July 6	Travel/opening circle	No paddling		Splatsin
Tues Jul 7	AM: Registration/Safety PM: Paddle Splatsin to Mara Lake	15 NM	3 hrs	Splatsin
Wed Jul 8	Mara Lake to Sicamous	8 NM	3 hrs	Splatsin
Thur Jul 9	Sicamous to Salmon Arm	15.5 NM	5 hrs	Splatsin
Fri Jul 10	AM: preposition canoes 11:00 AM: Blind Bay to Little Shuswap	9.5 NM	3.5 hrs	L. Shuswap
Sat Jul 11	AM: Little Shuswap to Adams Lake PM: 20 th Anniversary Celebration	4.4 NM	1.5 hrs	L. Shuswap
Sun Jul 12	Day off the water			L. Shuswap
Mon Jul 13	AM: Adams Lake to Pritchard Reposition canoes	10 NM	2.5 hrs	Simpcw
Tues Jul 14	Simpcw to McLure	23 NM	5 hrs	Simpcw
Wed July 15	McLure to Tk'emlup	26 NM	5.5 hrs	Simpcw
Thurs 16	Travel home			

Village of Chase
General Summary
Solid Waste, Sewer & Water Services
2020-2024

	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget
Solid Waste Fund							
Revenues	(236,600)	(242,333)	(257,600)	(263,600)	(271,600)	(271,600)	(271,600)
Expenditures	213,400	235,622	257,600	253,600	231,600	231,600	239,700
(Surplus)/Deficit	(23,200)	(6,711)	0	(10,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	(31,900)
Sewer Fund							
Revenues	(388,350)	(391,147)	(392,100)	(392,100)	(395,100)	(393,100)	(398,100)
Expenditures	354,675	341,554	367,150	368,000	368,100	368,525	367,850
(Surplus)/Deficit	(33,675)	(49,593)	(24,950)	(24,100)	(27,000)	(24,575)	(30,250)
Water Fund							
Revenues	(500,300)	(331,417)	(415,465)	(510,650)	(568,040)	(593,700)	(614,000)
Expenditures	675,675	655,670	678,200	677,400	676,350	679,350	681,610
(Surplus)/Deficit	175,375	324,253	262,735	166,750	108,310	85,650	67,610

Village of Chase
General Summary by Category Net Totals
2020-2024

	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget
General Fund Operations							
Revenues							
Tax Revenue	(2,048,708)	(2,065,110)	(2,173,922)	(2,173,905)	(2,179,116)	(2,219,433)	(2,262,025)
Grants	(432,500)	(442,342)	(415,600)	(414,700)	(414,800)	(414,800)	(416,000)
Other Revenues	(75,950)	(125,602)	(103,325)	(105,625)	(110,025)	(110,225)	(110,225)
Net Revenues	(2,557,158)	(2,633,054)	(2,692,847)	(2,694,230)	(2,703,941)	(2,744,458)	(2,788,250)
Expenses							
General Administration	820,930	757,480	857,730	867,600	895,700	893,200	906,500
Legislative	85,600	85,090	87,850	88,500	90,600	92,700	94,450
Fire Service	201,500	188,350	222,300	239,600	241,150	242,650	242,700
Rescue Service	16,750	17,991	16,550	16,850	17,450	17,750	17,750
Planning & Development	9,500	8,756	4,250	9,250	4,000	4,000	4,000
Grant in Aid	11,500	4,282	11,500	11,500	11,500	11,500	11,500
Economic Development	60,725	48,182	51,300	55,900	54,700	55,950	56,250
Bylaw Services	23,900	24,882	23,800	24,800	24,800	24,800	24,800
Public Works Fleet	89,050	89,067	102,800	92,600	93,000	94,250	94,850
PW Administration	449,700	432,280	449,700	448,150	453,350	458,000	462,200
Roads & Drainages	270,350	198,910	270,360	269,650	269,050	271,400	274,850
Parks & Recreation	185,200	156,224	190,900	178,200	182,400	185,050	188,750
Community Hall	60,900	47,946	58,700	56,050	56,420	56,390	56,750
Arena	285,500	277,031	282,300	282,800	283,300	283,300	283,300
Museum	4,200	3,218	4,250	4,250	4,250	4,250	4,250
Curling Rink	33,600	33,454	33,600	33,650	33,650	33,700	33,700
Cemetery	7,790	3,789	7,800	7,400	7,500	8,100	7,960
Net Expenses	2,616,695	2,376,932	2,675,690	2,686,750	2,722,820	2,736,990	2,764,560
General Fund Operations							
(Surplus) Deficit	59,537	(256,122)	(17,157)	(7,480)	18,879	(7,468)	(23,690)

Village of Chase									
Capital Projects Report									
2020									
General Capital Projects	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	2020 Budget	Status	Village Commitment	Grant Funding	Gas Tax Funding	Taxation/ Surplus	
Capital Expenses									
Building Assessment	15,000	0	0	No Go		0	0	0	0
Council Video Streaming	7,000	0	0	No Go		0	0	0	0
C2C Forum	1,500	0	0	Expired		0	0	0	0
Active Transportation Plan	10,000	13,787	0	Complete	0	0	0	0	0
Fire-Equip	10,000	10,000	0	Complete	0	0	0	0	0
Roads Conditional Assessments	30,000	26,873	0	Complete	0	0	0	0	0
Washroom Doors Memorial Park	15,000	13,823	0	Complete	0	0	0	0	0
Fleet Replacement	35,000	30,455	0	Complete	0	0	0	0	0
OCP Current State Analysis	7,000	8,986	0	Complete	0	0	0	0	0
Ec Dev GAP Analysis	10,000	6,468	3,532	In Progress	0	3,532	0	0	0
Emergency Ops Centre	25,000	12,545	12,455	In Progress	0	12,455	0	0	0
Childcare Planning Program	25,000	11,200	13,800	In Progress	0	13,800	0	0	0
Community Wildfire Protection	100,000	0	0	In Progress	0	0	0	0	0
Arena-Door & Lift	2,500	0	2,500	In Progress	2,500	0	0	2,500	0
OCP Update	70,000	0	70,000	In Progress	70,000	0	70,000	0	0
Fire Truck-Replacement	250,000	0	250,000	Committed	250,000			250,000	
Wilson Park Footbridge	150,000	0	150,000	Committed	40,000	110,000	0	40,000	
Chase Creek Remediation	1,206,255	0	1,206,255	Committed	0	1,206,255	0	0	
Flood Mitigation Assessment& Map	150,000	0	150,000	Committed	0	150,000	0	0	
Housing Needs Report			15,000	Committed	0	15,000	0	0	
Strategic Planning Consultant			4,000	Committed	4,000	0	0	4,000	
Active Transportation-Thompson	0	0	169,100	Committed	50,000	119,100	0	50,000	
Active Transportation-Pine Bike La	0	0	15,000	New	5,000	10,000	0	5,000	
IT Equipment Computers	0	0	15,000	New	15,000	0	0	15,000	
Curling Rink repairs	0	0	20,000	New	20,000	0	0	20,000	
Hall-Sound & Lighting	5,000	0	30,000	New	30,000	0	0	30,000	
Centennial Park-Auto doors	0	0	5,000	New	5,000	0	0	5,000	
Cemetery Software	0	0	15,000	New	15,000	0	0	15,000	
Alley Embankment Annex School	0	0	14,000	New	14,000	0	0	14,000	
	2,100,755	134,137	2,160,642		520,500	1,640,142	70,000	450,500	

Village of Chase						
Capital Projects						
2021-2024						
	Status	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Fire Truck	Committed	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	
Cemetery Columbarium		25,000	0	0	0	
Fleet Plan Scheduled Upgrades						
Hydrant Replacement		15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	
Paving			300,000	200,000	0	
Shoring Equipment		15,000				
Bandshell Refurbish		5,000				
Wharf Painting		25,000				
Wharf Lighting						
Pool Upgrades						
Road Conditional Assessment		80,000				
Bay Drive Assessment						
Storm Feasibility						
Office Renos						
FD Radios		35,000				
FD Air Packs						
FD Elevator Conversion						
Curling Rink Roof						
Community Hall Weatherproof Foundation						
Community Hall Roof						
Ec Dev Marketing						
Branding						
Connectivity						



CITY OF PORT MOODY

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

February 4, 2020

To All BC Municipalities,

On January 14, 2020, at a Regular Meeting of Council, Port Moody City Council passed the following resolution:

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

WHEREAS the City of Port Moody has recognized and has demonstrated over the past years its commitment to the importance of healthy citizens as the foundation of a healthy, engaged, and economically vibrant community;

AND WHEREAS the over 3 million Canadians, including many in our local communities, don't take medicines prescribed by their doctors because they can't afford them;

AND WHEREAS Canada is currently the ONLY country with a National Medicare Program that does not have a National Pharmacare Program;

AND WHEREAS the risk of having no insurance for medicines is high among lower income Canadians which includes the service industry, precarious working, and seasonal workers;

AND WHEREAS studies show that adding a National Pharmacare Program to our National Health Care System would lower costs to businesses by over \$8 billion per year, providing Canadian companies competitive advantages in international trade;

AND WHEREAS recent research confirms that these gains can be achieved with little or no increase in public investment;

AND WHEREAS municipal government expenses for employee benefits would be significantly reduced by a National Pharmacare Program;

AND WHEREAS a national prescription drug formulary would support better quality prescribing, including reducing dangerous and inappropriate prescribing to Canadian seniors;

AND WHEREAS a National Pharmacare plan is a sound policy, both economically and socially, the City of Port Moody express its support for the creation of a National Pharmacare program as an extension of Canadian Medicare, since health and economic studies now show that such a policy would improve health in municipalities, give local businesses a competitive advantage in the global marketplace, and lower costs for municipal government on taxpayers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Port Moody call on the Federal Government to work with the provinces and territories to develop and implement a

100 Newport Drive, Port Moody, B.C. V3H 3E1 Telephone: 604.469.4515 Fax: 604.469.4664

Universal Public National Pharmacare program as one of the first orders of business after the 2019 election;

AND THAT this letter be forwarded to all BC municipalities asking to write their support as well.

Attached is the letter that the City of Port Moody sent to the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health requesting the Federal Government to start working with the provinces and territories to develop and implement a Universal Public National Pharmacare Program.

We hope that you will join the City of Port Moody and write to the Minister of Health to support the creation of a National Pharmacare Program for all Canadians.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mayor Rob Vagramov
City of Port Moody

Attachments:

1. Letter dated February 4, 2020 to the Minister of Health regarding National Pharmacare Program
2. Report dated December 17, 2019 from Councillor Amy Lubik regarding Supporting Universal National Pharmacare



CITY OF PORT MOODY

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

February 4, 2020

Email: hcminister.ministresc@canada.ca

Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health Canada
Address Locator 0900C2
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9

To Honourable Patty Hajdu,

On January 14, 2020, at a Regular Meeting of Council, Port Moody City Council passed the following resolution:

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

WHEREAS the City of Port Moody has recognized and has demonstrated over the past years its commitment to the importance of healthy citizens as the foundation of a healthy, engaged, and economically vibrant community;

AND WHEREAS the over 3 million Canadians, including many in our local communities, don't take medicines prescribed by their doctors because they can't afford them;

AND WHEREAS Canada is currently the **ONLY** country with a National Medicare Program that does not have a National Pharmacare Program;

AND WHEREAS the risk of having no insurance for medicines is high among lower income Canadians which includes the service industry, precarious working, and seasonal workers;

AND WHEREAS studies show that adding a National Pharmacare Program to our National Health Care System would lower costs to businesses by over \$8 billion per year, providing Canadian companies competitive advantages in international trade;

AND WHEREAS recent research confirms that these gains can be achieved with little or no increase in public investment;

AND WHEREAS municipal government expenses for employee benefits would be significantly reduced by a National Pharmacare Program;

AND WHEREAS a national prescription drug formulary would support better quality prescribing, including reducing dangerous and inappropriate prescribing to Canadian seniors;

AND WHEREAS a National Pharmacare plan is a sound policy, both economically and socially, the City of Port Moody express its support for the creation of a National Pharmacare program as an extension of Canadian Medicare, since health and economic studies now show that such as policy would improve health in municipalities, give local businesses a competitive advantage in the global marketplace, and lower costs for municipal government on taxpayers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Port Moody call on the Federal Government to work with the provinces and territories to develop and implement a Universal Public National Pharmacare program as one of the first orders of business after the 2019 election;

AND THAT this letter be forwarded to all BC municipalities asking to write their support as well.

With the costs of housing, food, and livability increasing daily, having the expense of medications adds another burden to peoples financial means. This can mean hard choices between medications and other needs and/or improper use of medications, especially for folks working in precarious employment sectors.

A recent study found that over 300,000 people had additional doctor visits, 93,000 had to go to the emergency department and 26,000 people were admitted to hospital – all because they couldn't pay for their medications. That creates a significant burden on the health care system, one that we can alleviate with a national drug plan.

The Pharmacare Program has been an initiative supported by the majority of Canadians, but it has yet to come to pass despite support from at least three federal parties. Health and wealth inequalities are growing across Canada and impact Port Moody residents, including a growing elder population; British Columbians may be hardest hit by lack of universal coverage, despite recent changes to provincial drug coverage, as demonstrated in a 2018 cross-institutional study.

Port Moody City Council is calling on the Canadian Minister of Health, for the second time, to create a Universal Public National Pharmacare program.

Regards,



Mayor Rob Vagramov
City of Port Moody

CC: British Columbia Municipalities



Report to Council

From the Office of Councillor Amy Lubik

Date: December 17, 2019
Subject: Supporting Universal National Pharmacare

Purpose

To ask that the City of Port Moody Write to the Federal Government in support of the implementation of a national pharmacare strategy as a priority following the 2019 election.

Recommendation

WHEREAS, The City of Port Moody has recognized and has demonstrated over the past years its commitment to the importance of healthy citizens as the foundation of a healthy, engaged and economically vibrant community; and

WHEREAS, The over 3 million Canadians, including many in our local communities, don't take medicines prescribed by their doctors because they can't afford them; and

WHEREAS, Canada is currently the ONLY country with a National Medicare Program that does not have a National Pharmacare Program; and

WHEREAS, The risk of having no insurance for medicines is high among lower income Canadians which includes the service industry, precarious working and seasonal workers; and

WHEREAS, The studies show that adding a National Pharmacare Program to our National Health Care System would lower costs to businesses by over \$8 billion per year, providing Canadian companies competitive advantages in international trade; and

WHEREAS, The recent research confirms that these gains can be achieved with little or no increase in public investment; and

WHEREAS, Municipal government expenses for employee benefits would be significantly reduced by a National Pharmacare Program; and

WHEREAS, A national prescription drug formulary would support better quality prescribing, including reducing dangerous and inappropriate prescribing to Canadian seniors; and

WHEREAS, A National Pharmacare plan is a sound policy, both economically and socially, the City of Port Moody express its support for the creation of a National Pharmacare program as an extension of Canadian Medicare, since health and economic

studies now show that such as policy would improve health in municipalities, give local businesses a competitive advantage in the global marketplace and lower costs for municipal government on taxpayers; therefore be it

BE IT RESOLVED, That the City of Port Moody call on the Federal Government to work with the provinces and territories to develop and implement a Universal Public National Pharmacare program as one of the first orders of business after the 2019 election.

AND THAT this letter be forwarded to all BC municipalities asking to write their support as well.

Background

In 2017, the City of Port Moody wrote to the federal government to support the development of a Nation Pharmacare program (**attachment 1**); this has been initiative supported by the majority of Canadians, but it has yet to come to pass despite support from at least three major parties. Growing health and wealth inequalities impact Port Moody residents, including a growing elder population; BC residents may be hardest hit by lack of universal coverage, despite recent changes to provincial drug coverage, as demonstrated in a 2018 cross-institutional study <https://www.myprincegeorgenow.com/68282/bc-residents-struggling-afford-prescription-drugs/>. Studies have shown that 88% of Canadians support universal medicare as a component of our universal health care system, as was summarized in a brief to the house of commons <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/421/HESA/Brief/BR8352162/br-external/AngusReidInstitute-e.pdf>.

As Port Moody moves into budget season, it makes sense to push for policies from other sphere of government that will take pressure off of our residents, and indeed off of our corporate coffers, as [studies from the Columbia Institute and Canadian Doctors for Medicare](#) have calculated that local governments across Canada would save millions if such a system was in place, which is why it has been endorsed by the Surrey Board of Trade and the [BC Chamber of Commerce](#).

Now is an opportune time for local governments to remind the federal government that a national pharmacare strategy needs to be a priority.

Discussion

Writings from the [Canadian Labour Congress demonstrate why national universal pharmacare would benefit our residents, our city as a corporation, and small businesses](#):

Finally, some good news for [the millions of Canadians](#) who have to choose between paying for groceries or their prescription medications.

Canada's Advisory Council on the Implementation of National Pharmacare has laid out a clear path for public, single-payer, universal pharmacare in its [final report](#).

"The time for universal, single-payer, public pharmacare has come," writes Dr. Eric Hoskins, the Council's chair. "This is our generation's national project: better access to the medicines we need, improved health outcomes and a fairer and more sustainable prescription medicine system."

This is the unfinished business of medicare, as envisioned by the late Tommy Douglas. As Saskatchewan's seventh premier, Mr. Douglas pioneered North America's first universal, single-payer health care system. It would become a cornerstone of Canada's social safety net and a key pillar of our nation.

We know that a fair society must be one in which every person has the opportunity to succeed and to thrive... we believe that universal, public pharmacare is a necessary step towards greater fairness.

As **numerous studies** have shown, millions of Canadians are struggling to afford to pay for their prescription medications. One study found that nearly a million Canadians sacrificed basic needs such as food, and close to a quarter of a million people gave up heating their homes. This lack of affordability is hurting not only people's health and well-being, but the **economic strength of our communities**.

The new report demonstrates that every family will save, on average, \$350 per year on medications. It also points out that the average business owner will save about \$750 per employee. That will open up capacity for businesses to increase wages, or expand other types of coverage, including for dental and vision care. It also supports small businesses that find it difficult to compete for workers when they can't afford to offer drug coverage.

There will be an upfront cost, specifically at the outset, but as time goes on, the money our provincial health care systems will save will be significant. A **recent study** found that over 300,000 people had additional doctor visits, 93,000 had to go to the emergency department and 26,000 people were admitted to hospital – all because they couldn't pay for their medications. That creates a significant burden on the health care system, one that we can alleviate with a national drug plan.

Other Option(s)

THAT the report dated November 12, 2019 from Councillor Amy Lubik regarding Supporting Universal National Pharmacare be received for information.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications related to this report.

Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

There are no communications or civic engagement initiatives required by the recommendations in this report.

Attachment(s)

1. Delegation Application regarding Pharmacare from May 15, 2018 City of Port Moody Committee of the Whole Meeting