



AGENDA

Regular Meeting of the Council of the Village of Chase
to be held in the Council Chamber at the Village Office, 826 Okanagan Avenue, and via Zoom
on June 25, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81078703595>

Or join the meeting using your phone:

Dial: 1-778-907-2071

Meeting ID: 810 7870 3595

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution:

“THAT the agenda of the June 25, 2024 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.”

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the June 11, 2024 Regular Meeting

Pages 1-5

Resolution:

“THAT the minutes of the June 11, 2024 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.”

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

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 Village of Chase newly formed Emergency Support Services (ESS)

Tara Hess and Guy Ramsay will be in attendance

6.2 Downtown Revitalization Strategy

Hayley Inglis from Urban Systems will be in attendance via Zoom to provide an overview and highlights of the strategy

7. REPORTS

a) Mayor and Council Reports

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1 Coniferous Vegetative Material Curbside Pickup Pilot

Pages 6-7

Memo from the CAO

Recommendation:

“THAT the Village of Chase engages a contractor to remove at curbside combustible vegetative materials primarily cedar trees, juniper bushes and coniferous tree limbs as soon possible allowing for the advertising of the program, sign-up, and giving vulnerable residents priority to a maximum of 150 residential properties; AND

THAT the cost of the collection be paid out of Council public relations and Administration consulting budgets.”

8.2 Downtown Revitalization Strategy Pages 8-31

Recommendation:

“THAT the Downtown Revitalization Strategy be adopted as presented.”

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Unightly Property - 1045 Hillside Avenue Page 32

Memo from the Director of Corporate Operations

Note: – the property owner has an opportunity to speak to Council regarding this matter, and there is a staff presentation.

Recommendation:

“THAT Council approves the issuance of a Demand Notice to the owner of 1045 Hillside Avenue giving them twenty-one (21) days to bring the property into compliance with the Property Maintenance Bylaw.”

9.2 2023 Statement of Financial Information Pages 33-48

Memo from the Chief Financial Officer

Recommendation:

“THAT Council approves the 2023 Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) as presented.”

9.3 Visitor Information Centre Services Agreement Page 49

Memo from the Deputy Corporate Officer

Recommendation:

“THAT Council ratifies the Fee for Service Agreement between the Village of Chase and the Chase and District Chamber of Commerce for Visitor Information Services for 2024.”

9.4 The Shuswap Broadband Project - Co-operative Membership Pages 50-52

Memo from the Deputy Corporate Officer

Recommendation:

“THAT Council provides authorization for the Village of Chase to participate as a member in the Shuswap Broadband Project co-operative.”

9.5 Climate Action Committee – SenseNet Fire Sensing Technology Page 53

Next Steps

Memorandum from the CAO

Recommendation:

“That the Village of Chase approaches the local Indigenous community leaders as well as the provider of cellular service from the tower in the North Shuswap area to discuss collaborative funding for the installation of SenseNet Rapid Wildfire Detection equipment on Scatchard Mountain South of the Village of Chase.”

- 9.6 Climate Action Committee – West Coast Climate Action Network Page 54
Memorandum from the CAO
Recommendation:
“THAT Council approves the Climate Action Committee’s request to become a member of the West Coast Climate Action Network.”
- 9.7 Letter to BC Municipalities – Financial Impacts of Higher Level Government Policy Changes Pages 57-75
Letter and Staff Information from City of Kamloops
Recommendation:
“THAT the letter and staff report from the City of Kamloops regarding the financial and other resource impacts of downloading to Municipal Governments be received as information.”
- 9.8 Grant-In-Aid Request – Skwlax Commemoration of Wildfire Event Pages 76-77
Letter from Elite Events BC – Elena Markin
Currently there is \$5000 remaining in the Council’s 2024 grant-in-aid budget.
As was shared with Council previously, Council’s grant-in-aid policy includes a provision that Council may consider grant-in-aid requests outside of the regular annual process as ‘extraordinary’ requests.
Recommendation:
“Council direction is requested.”

10. NOTICE OF MOTION

11. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON MUNICIPAL MATTERS

This opportunity is for members of the gallery to provide input on any municipal matter.

12. IN CAMERA

None

13. RELEASE OF IN CAMERA ITEMS

None

14. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution:

“THAT the June 25, 2024 Regular Meeting be adjourned.”



MINUTES

of the 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, June 11, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Colin Connett
Councillor Jane Herman (virtual)
Councillor Fred Torbohm

In Attendance: Joni Heinrich, Chief Administrative Officer
Sean O’Flaherty, Director of Corporate Operations
Deb Lovin, Chief Financial Officer
Mike Baker, Manager of Public Works
Mike McLean, Deputy Corporate Officer

Regrets: Mayor David Lepsoe
Councillor Dan Stevens

Public Participants: 19 in-person, 7 via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Mayor Torbohm called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Connett

Seconded by Councillor Herman

“THAT the agenda of the June 11, 2024 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.”

CARRIED
#2024/06/11_001

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the May 28, 2024 Regular Meeting

Moved by Councillor Connett

Seconded by Councillor Herman

“THAT the minutes of the May 28, 2024 Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.”

CARRIED
#2024/06/11_002

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

5. PUBLIC INPUT ON CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

Carolyn Parks-Mintz of 813 Okanagan Avenue spoke about her support for the inclusion of Item 9.1 in the agenda and the need for road maintenance and improvements.

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Chase and District Chamber of Commerce – Update on Activities

Representatives from the Chase and District Chamber of Commerce provided an update on the organization’s ongoing activities, including the operation of the visitor information.

6.2 Dick Leppky – Recreation Proposal for Arena Lands

Local resident Dick Leppky addressed Council regarding his ongoing concerns about the condition of tennis courts and the need for properly constructed and maintained recreation facilities such as tennis and pickleball courts.

6.3 “Together Chase” regarding former Primary School Facility

Ashton Sweetnam spoke on behalf of the Chase and Area Family Services and Together Chase regarding the feasibility study that is currently underway on the retrofitting of the Chase Primary School and requested support from Council to support the Chase and Area Family Services in working with the school district in completing a study on the feasibility of the Chase Annex becoming a Community Centre that will also house a daycare and the Village of Chase work the Chase and Area Family Services on a request for proposal to apply to be a group licensed daycare and preschool at the Annex.

7. REPORTS

Councillor Connett

May 28 – Attended Regular Council meeting
Met with residents about watering and

Councillor Herman

May 28- Reg VOC Meeting
May 28- Attended the “Together Chase” Meeting at Chase Curling Rink.
May 30-Attended Canada Day Planning (Festival Society sub-Committee) Meeting.
June 3 – Volunteered with Climate Action Committee counting cyclists at Haldane School.
June 4 – Attended Go By Bike BC official launch at School Bus Loop with Community members, CSS PE classes and Haldane Students.
June 7-Attended Meeting regarding Communities in Bloom Initiative.
June 7 – Attend Haldane School June Jamboree.
June 8 – Participated in Legion Golf Tournament

Councillor Torbohm

May 28 – Attended Regular Council meeting
June 11 – Open House
Reviewed agendas, monitor emails, take public inquiries and meet with staff as required.

Staff reports were included in the agenda package.

Moved by Councillor Herman
Seconded by Councillor Connett

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

CARRIED
#2024/06/11_003

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1 Village of Chase Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 937-2024

Bill 44 – 2023 Housing Statutes (Residential Development) Amendment Act

Moved by Councillor Connett

Seconded by Councillor Herman

“THAT the third reading of Village of Chase Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 937-2024 be rescinded.”

**CARRIED
#2024/06/11_004**

Moved by Councillor Connett

Seconded by Councillor Herman

“THAT Village of Chase Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 937-2024 be given third reading as amended.”

**CARRIED
#2024/06/11_005**

Moved by Councillor Connett

Seconded by Councillor Herman

“THAT Village of Chase Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 937-2024 be adopted.”

**CARRIED
#2024/06/11_006**

8.2 Fees & Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 940-2024

Moved by Councillor Torbohm

Seconded by Councillor Connett

“THAT Fees & Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 940-2024 be adopted.”

**CARRIED
#2024/06/11_007**

8.3 Minister Meetings at 2024 UBCM Convention

Moved by Councillor Torbohm

Seconded by Councillor Connett

“THAT a Minister meeting at UBCM be requested for the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding contracted works on Village roadways undermining the integrity of Village infrastructure; AND

THAT a Minister meeting at UBCM be requested with the Minister of Finance to request there be better communications about property assessments and how they affect property owners’ municipal taxes.”

**CARRIED
#2024/06/11_008**

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 2024 Road Maintenance Program

Moved by Councillor Torbohm

Seconded by Councillor Herman

“THAT Council direct staff to proceed with issuing the tender for the 2024 Road Maintenance Program.”

**CARRIED
#2024/06/11_009**

9.2 BC Interior Community Foundation – Fundholder Statement

Moved by Councillor Herman

Seconded by Councillor Connett

“THAT the BC Interior Community Foundation Fundholder Statement for Chase Community from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 be received as information.”

CARRIED

#2024/06/11_010

9.3 Annual letter from Interior Health regarding resources to support communities to minimize negative health impacts

Moved by Councillor Torbohm

Seconded by Councillor Herman

“THAT the annual letter from Interior Health regarding resources to support communities to minimize negative health impacts be received as information.”

CARRIED

#2024/06/11_011

9.4 Letter from City of Campbell River to Provincial Minister of Forests

Moved by Councillor Connett

Seconded by Councillor Torbohm

“THAT the Village of Chase write a letter to the Minister of Forests sharing the concerns of the City of Campbell River, urging the Province to better manage the forest resources in BC to ensure that employment opportunities continue to be provided for as many people as possible.”

CARRIED

#2024/06/11_012

9.5 Letter from Bill McKenzie regarding water meters and billing

Moved by Councillor Torbohm

Seconded by Councillor Herman

“THAT the letter from Bill McKenzie regarding various queries about water meters be referred to Administration for a response.”

CARRIED

#2024/06/11_013

10. NOTICE OF MOTION

None

11. IN CAMERA

None

12. RELEASE OF IN CAMERA ITEMS

None

13. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Connett

Seconded by Councillor Herman

“THAT the June 11, 2024 Regular Meeting be adjourned.”

CARRIED
#2024/06/11_014

The meeting concluded at 5:20 p.m.

David Lepsoe, Mayor

Sean O’Flaherty, Corporate Officer



VILLAGE OF CHASE

Memorandum

Date: June 17, 2024
To: Mayor and Council
From: CAO
RE: Coniferous Vegetative Material Curbside Pickup Pilot

At the May 28, 2024 Council meeting the following resolution was passed:

“WHEREAS the Village of Chase is committed to the principles of FireSmart and to assisting our residents to take steps to safeguard their properties by clearing and trimming vegetation in order to mitigate fire risk; and

WHEREAS the Village of Chase wishes to assist our residents in safely disposing of large quantities of yard waste that might otherwise be improperly disposed of and/or pose a fire risk;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct Administration to develop a proposal for a pre-summer two or three day curbside yard waste pick-up service either provided by the Village’s staff or contracted to a private service contractor, such proposal to include costs, potential timing, pick-up and disposal logistics, advertising requirements and timing, sign-up considerations and any other associated aspect of this trial project and bring a report back to Council for consideration/ratification as soon as is practicable.”

HISTORY/BACKGROUND

It is the understanding of Administration, that Council’s intention of this direction is to accomplish several objectives:

1. Ensure FireSmart principles are promoted within the Village of Chase.
2. Assist those residents who may have no way of transporting combustible vegetative materials to the landfill.
3. Conduct a ‘pilot’ project to determine the level of interest, uptake and costs for future planning and budgeting purposes.

Discussion

1. Based on curbside collection of combustible vegetation including cedar trees, juniper shrubs and limbs from coniferous trees, and estimating collection from 150 properties, the cost for a 3 day campaign utilizing the efforts of a contractor will be between \$7,000 and \$12,000 depending on volumes of materials collected and the number of trips needed to the landfill.

2. In order for the outlay of funds to be reduced, the Village of Chase public works staff could provide the service however it will take up to 5 days for the Village's crew to conduct the same program due to:
 - Availability of equipment and trucks
 - Availability of staff
 - Other priorities such as park maintenance, garbage collection, pothole repairs, cemetery maintenance, mowing, weeding, and water meter replacements
 - The opportunity cost for the Village staff to do the works results in works required on Village property must be postponed
3. Administrative staff time will be required to advertising the project, accept requests for the service and ensure that vulnerable residents are prioritized for the service.

The provision of this curbside collection service will not only assist those in need of help to take combustible vegetative materials away from their properties, it will provide an avenue to further educate the community members in Chase of the importance of being FireSmart on their properties and will provide information to Council regarding the viability of such a project for future planning purposes.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As this pilot was not contemplated before Council's budget was set, there are no funds in the current budget earmarked for this pilot.

The FireSmart Coordinator grant funding does provide some funds for fuel mitigation but not until the second year of the program.

All departments do have some funds budgeted for consulting and contracted services, typically based on prior years' experiences and current anticipated needs. If any of these funds are utilized there will be a deficit in the 2024 budgets for the various departments.

The two areas of the budget that could be considered are Legislative Services and Administration. Legislative services (Mayor and Council specific have \$500 budgeted for communications, \$2500 budgeted for public relations and \$1000 budgeted for supplies. Administration has \$2000 budgeted for public relations, and \$30,000 available for contract consulting, which is typically used for Engineering services as the Village does not have an on-staff engineer.

RECOMMENDATION

“THAT the Village of Chase engages a contractor to remove at curbside combustible vegetative materials primarily cedar trees, juniper bushes and coniferous tree limbs as soon possible allowing for the advertising of the program, sign-up, and giving vulnerable residents priority to a maximum of 150 residential properties; AND

THAT the cost of the collection be paid out of Council public relations and Administration consulting budgets.”

Respectfully submitted,





DRAFT

Village of Chase

Downtown Revitalization Strategy

2024



Prepared for:

VILLAGE OF CHASE

826 Okanagan Avenue

Chase, BC, V0E 1M0

ATTENTION:

Joni Heinrich, CAO

cao@chasebc.ca

PREPARED BY:

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URBAN
S Y S T E M S

Cover image taken of Shuswap Avenue – Photo credit Shasta McCoy, 2023

File: 0511.0044.01

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Village of Chase wants to improve the Village Core area with emphasis on Shuswap Avenue. Enhancing the Village Core has emerged through community engagement as a key priority area and is the focus of revitalization policies outlined in the most recent Official Community Plan (2021). To support this work, the Village received funding from the Economic Trust of the Southern Interior (ETSI) to develop this Downtown Revitalization Strategy.

This Strategy is well-timed and allows the Village to address recent changes that have influenced, and will continue to influence, the trajectory of the Village’s downtown. Some of these factors include the economic downturn spurred by Covid-19, which challenged businesses and reshaped consumer behaviors; growing interest in the Village of Chase as a place to live, which will likely alter the demand for different amenities and services; recent upgrades to Highway 1, which present an opportunity to emphasize Chase’s position as the “Gateway to the Shuswap” by enhancing the accessibility and appeal of the downtown area; and an aging population, which emphasizes the importance of designing an environment that caters to the diverse requirements of all residents.

This Downtown Revitalization Strategy engaged the local business community and local residents to imagine a vision for the downtown area and associated strategies to revitalize the business area. Completing this work will contribute to building momentum amongst the local community for downtown revitalization; re-ignite enthusiasm for patronizing downtown businesses; and create a renewed sense of pride for the downtown.

The Strategy contains three primary sections:

- 1. **Planning Context** – lays out recent work that relates to the downtown area and that sets visions/actions/priorities/ and policies that will influence the downtown area.
- 2. **Community Engagement Summary** – outlines engagement activities, key findings, and a summary of community suggestions for the downtown area based on engagement.
- 3. **Village of Chase Conceptual Plan** – includes a conceptual site plan for the Village Core area (“Conceptual Plan”), president images, and descriptions that add context and guidance for the revitalization of the downtown area.



Image: View of murals and lending library in community pocket park (photo credit: S. McCoy, 2023).



2.0 PLANNING CONTEXT

The Village of Chase is located at the western end of Little Shuswap Lake and bisected by Highway 1 with the main community being located north of the highway. European settlement started in the late 1800's based on agriculture and later expanded into forestry. Chase currently has a population of 2400 people.¹ The Village is located on the Traditional Territory of the Secwépemc people. Several Indigenous Nations have reserves nearby including Adams Lake Indian Band, Neskonlith Indian Band, and Skwłāx te Secwepemcúłecw (on reserve populations are 360, 265, and 195 respectively).² The Village is an important local hub for these First Nations as well as other neighbouring communities in the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD) like Scotch Creek (population 890) and Sorrento (population 1,300) whose residents regularly frequent the Village for goods and services. Chase is also close to two urban centres - Kamloops to the west, and Salmon Arm to the east, both of which are within an hour's drive of the Village.

Chase is also influenced by the seasonal flood of visitors into the Shuswap region. Summer brings numerous visitors to the region to relax at the lake, and the Village frequently receives an influx of tourists looking to spend time in Chase visiting various sites. Conversely, the winter months often entail a significant portion of the retirement-aged population leaving the community for warmer areas. Dealing with these fluctuations in customer volumes can be challenging for businesses.

Chase has an ageing population; the average age of the population is 59.6 years, which is almost 16 years older than the median British Columbian (42.8 years). Further, nearly 40% of Chase's population is aged 65 years or older, compared to around 20% of British Columbians.³ These demographic trends present distinct planning challenges and emphasizes the importance of planning interventions which promote pedestrian safety, accessibility, and walkability. The creation of this Downtown Revitalization Strategy presents an opportunity to plan for the community's future by ensuring the downtown considers the needs of an ageing population.

This Downtown Revitalization Strategy focuses on the main downtown area of the Village, which was identified as the "Village Core" in the 2021 Official Community Plan. The Village Core is primarily centred on Shuswap Avenue with most commercial activity occurring in a four-block section of Shuswap Avenue between Aylmer Road to the west and Coburn Street to the east (see Figure 1). Downtown Chase includes community facilities such as the Chase Community Hall, Chase Curling Club, and the Royal Canadian Legion; businesses including restaurants, boutiques, cafés/bakeries, a bank, a pharmacy, and a hotel; as well as Village services such as the municipal office, and Chase Fire Department.

Recent upgrades to Highway 1 have altered traffic access to the Village, with the closure of the Coburn Street entrance creating less visibility for visitors to the Village Core. The Downtown Revitalization Strategy considers ways to better advertise the Village Core to attract and retain visitors.

¹ Statistics Canada. 2023. (table). Census Profile. 2021 Census of Population. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2021001. Ottawa. Released November 15, 2023.

<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed March 20, 2024).

² On-reserve resident populations sourced from First Nations Profiles | Government of Canada

³ Statistics Canada. 2023. (table). Census Profile. 2021 Census of Population. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2021001. Ottawa. Released November 15, 2023. <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>.



Figure 1: Village Core boundary



2.1 KEY PLANNING DOCUMENTS

The Village of Chase develops key planning documents to provide direction on the community's potential development considering various goals, desires, challenges, and opportunities. The most recent downtown revitalization plan the Village of Chase completed was in 2003 with the Community Enhancement Plan. The Enhancement Plan developed strategies to promote and beautify the Village Core and led to the creation and installation of new gateway features, investment in landscaping, and clean-up of commercial areas. In the 20+ years since the development of this plan, the Village Core remains an important area for economic and community vitality.

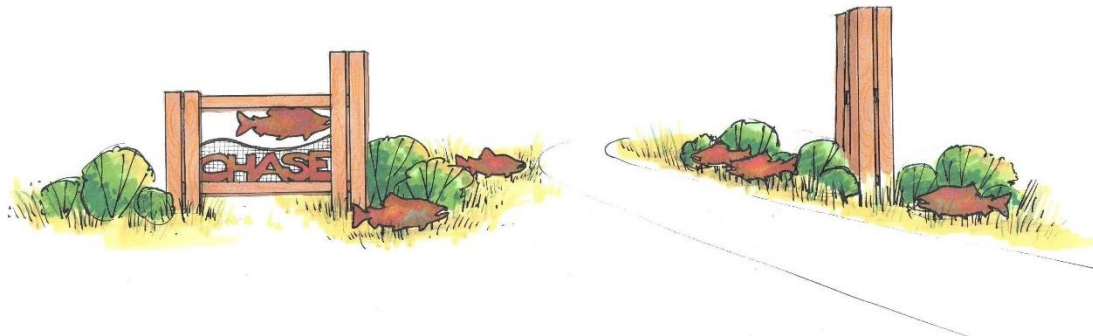


Image: Concept art for the Village of Chase gateway features as included in the 2003 Community Enhancement Plan.

The development of this Downtown Revitalization Strategy draws on direction from recent planning documents summarized below. The documents emphasize the importance of revitalizing the Village Core, recognizing it as a key driver of the local economy, a hub for community interaction, and an essential component of building a vibrant, attractive, environment where both community members and visitors feel welcome.

Official Community Plan (2021)

The Village of Chase's 2021 Official Community Plan (OCP) identified the Shuswap Avenue corridor as the Village Core/focal point of the Village. OCP engagement highlighted the revitalization of this core area as a priority to promote economic development and draw in tourists. Suggested interventions include streetscape improvements (e.g., addition of bike racks and benches in key locations) and design that showcases commercial buildings (i.e., design with attractive large windows and welcoming shop fronts). Residents of the Village envision the Village Core as complete and vibrant, with bustling local retail and hotel businesses, and visually attractive gateways at each end of the corridor.

Draft Economic & Tourism Strategy (2020)

The Village of Chase 2020 Draft Economic and Tourism Strategy examined how the Village can improve economic development and tourism. Resident engagement identified that the Village Core is tired looking and that revitalizing the downtown is a top priority. The Strategy emphasizes the importance of working with the local business community to occupy empty buildings and beautify store fronts to attract local entrepreneurs and visitors.

Active Transportation Plan (2019)

The 2019 Active Transportation Plan found that Village residents want a connected network of sidewalks and bike lanes throughout the Village, from residential neighbourhoods to the Village Core. Pine Street, Coburn Street, and Shuswap Avenue were identified as key roads connecting the Village. Safety and accessibility were identified as barriers to active transportation, and there was support for traffic calming measures, pedestrian visibility, and an accessible built environment.



3.0 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Community members of Chase were invited to provide insight into the development of the Downtown Revitalization Plan. Efforts were made to specifically engage members of the local business community. Information about upcoming engagements was posted at local businesses, gathering hubs, and online on the Village’s website and Facebook page.

Through the online survey and in-person workshop, community members worked with consultants to develop a vision for the Village Core, identify community priorities, and brainstorm revitalization opportunities. A summary of the engagements is provided below.

Survey – 130 responses

An online survey was open through the summer of 2023 that sought feedback on improvement priorities; what is already working well; and residents’ vision for the future of the Village Core. The survey asked respondents to consider different user perspectives (e.g., pedestrians, cyclists, vehicle users and people with accessibility needs) in their answers. Survey responses clearly identified vacant shops, deteriorating buildings, the need for a public washroom, and better pedestrian safety as key concerns.

Workshop – 25 participants

A short presentation summarized key themes which emerged from the community survey and was followed with a world-café style workshop where participants were asked to brainstorm ideas for three main priority areas that had emerged from survey findings: 1) Community Identity & Beautification; 2) Economic Vitality; and 3) Mobility & Accessibility. A fourth priority area emerged from the community workshop: 4) Sustainable Development.

A summary of key themes that emerged from discussions on these priority areas is provided in section 3.1 below, and a comprehensive list of community suggestions is included in [Appendix A](#). A collection of images documenting community feedback on these themes is included in [Appendix B](#).

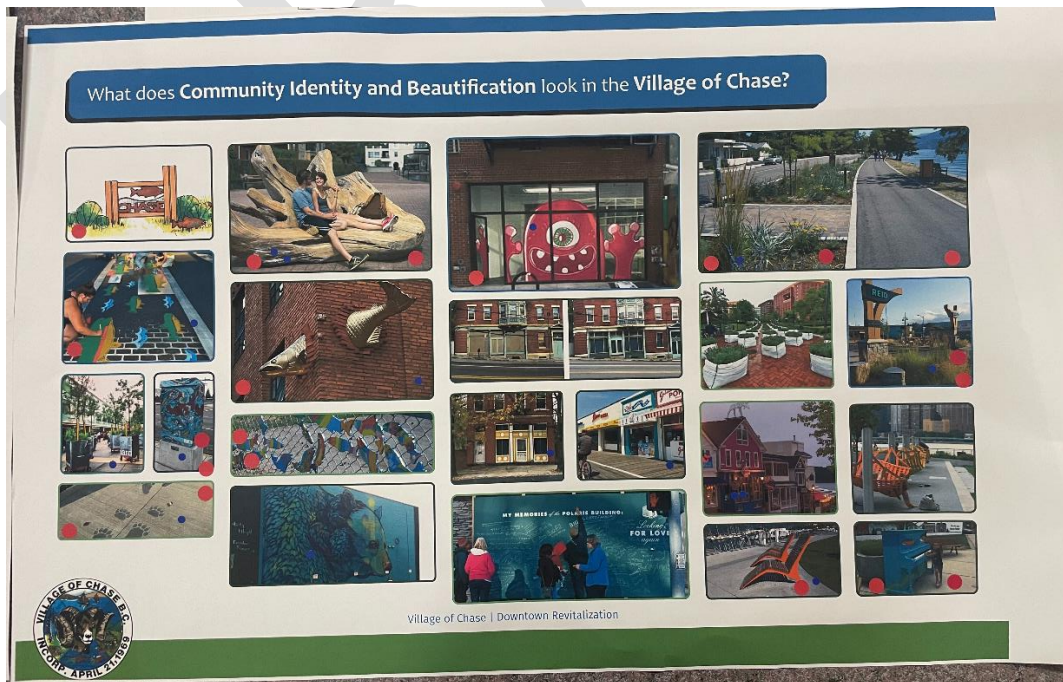


Image: Brainstorming panel for the community identity and beautification priority area.



3.1 COMMUNITY PRIORITY AREAS

Through community engagement, community members developed an understanding of issues the Village Core faces and provided numerous suggestions for the area’s beautification and revitalization. Recommendations and suggestions have been grouped into four distinct themes, each with corresponding sub themes and suggested action items. The following graphic outlines each of the four revitalization themes, their corresponding sub themes, and includes several images to demonstrate how the theme could contribute to revitalizing the Village Core. A comprehensive list of community suggestions based on each priority area is presented in [Appendix A](#).

Community Identity & Beautification

1. Community Gateways
2. Cohesive Theme & Branding
3. Atmosphere
4. Public Art & Place Activation



Economic Vitality

1. Open for Business
2. Façade Improvements
3. Temporary Uses
4. Community Partnerships
5. Built-Form Standards



Mobility & Accessibility

1. Wayfinding
2. Connectivity & Infrastructure Improvements
3. Seating
4. Traffic Calming & Pedestrian Safety
5. Customer Experience



Sustainable Development

1. Food Sovereignty
2. Climate Prepared
3. Business Connectivity



4.0 VILLAGE OF CHASE CONCEPTUAL PLAN

This section outlines an approach for downtown revitalization based on suggestions and comments received during community engagement. The Conceptual Plan in [section 4.3](#) presents a comprehensive approach to using art, play, colour, texture, lighting, and other elements to improve safety, walkability, and accessibility in the Village Core.

The Conceptual Plan includes the following main components:

- **Intersection Activation** – Lighting, asphalt murals, and planting are used to beautify and traffic calm intersections.
- **Art walk** – Public art, play features, lighting, and a mural path are combined to increase visual interest throughout the Village Core and connect people to the downtown from side streets.
- **Wayfinding**- Gateway and wayfinding features are suggested for key areas of the downtown.
- **Pocket Park Enhancement** – A public washroom and play feature make the downtown more welcoming for people of all ages.
- **Tree planting** – Several nodes are identified where trees could improve the pedestrian and active transportation user’s experience.
- **Temporary pop-ups** – Areas that could support further street activation (e.g., seating areas, art installations, patios, etc.) are identified.

4.1 VISION STATEMENT

A word cloud (left) was developed from survey answers to a question asking how community members want the downtown to feel. Key themes emerged and formed the foundation for a vision which was further refined during the community workshop.

The following vision guides the direction of the Conceptual Plan:

“Chase's Downtown is a vibrant hub, where diverse businesses create a welcoming atmosphere that fosters a sense of community pride. With its charming aesthetic, our downtown is both clean and relaxed, inviting locals to support shops and encouraging visitors to come again. Together, community members build a prosperous downtown that is filled with opportunities for all.”



4.2 CONCEPTUAL PLAN COMPONENTS

The following descriptions and precedent images complement the Conceptual Plan by further contextualizing how the interventions outlined in the Plan can help the Village become a more exciting, thriving, and welcoming place for residents and visitors. Interventions contained in the Conceptual Plan are not intended to be prescriptive, rather, they are meant to suggest how different techniques can be implemented to update the character of the Village’s downtown area. Interventions can be adapted to different places as the downtown evolves and needs change.

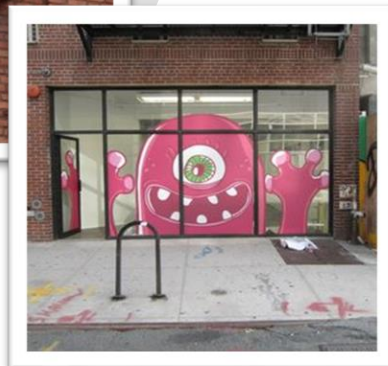
Intersection Activation

Community engagement identified a desire to update the main intersections in Chase with regard to pedestrian safety, accessibility, and beautification. The Downtown Plan identifies intersection features to add, including pedestrian flags, string lighting, asphalt murals, and ornamental flowers. Pedestrian flags provide a sense of safety for people who may not feel confident crossing the street; they are brightly coloured and reflective to make the pedestrian more visible to vehicles at different times of the day and are a temporary solution for crossings that don't yet have lighted crossing signals. String lighting helps make intersections more visible, while adding an aesthetic touch. Asphalt murals and ornamental flowers beautify the street and help create a sense of place and identity in the Village’s downtown core.



Art Walk

The Downtown Plan suggests a connected art walk, featuring public art installations and laneway murals on select commercial buildings. The asphalt mural path connects pedestrians from the seating area at Pine Street to the downtown, and also highlights interesting features along Shuswap Avenue, such as the clock. The art walk encourages active transportation and instills a sense of place and visual interest.



Gateways & Wayfinding

As visitors and tourists enter the downtown area, they will be greeted by two gateway and wayfinding features: one at the west end near Pine Street, and the second at the eastern edge of the commercial area past Coburn Street. The gateway feature will welcome visitors and reflect the desired character of the downtown, while the wayfinding feature will advertise areas of interest to travellers such as the presence of parking, shops, the Pocket Park, and, potentially, public washroom. Additional wayfinding signage can be placed at key points throughout the Village to direct travellers to the downtown (e.g., at the beach, Chase Creek Falls, and grocery plaza).



Pocket Park Enhancement

The existing Pocket Park is a welcoming place in the core of the downtown. The addition of public washrooms, string lighting, and a play feature would turn the Pocket Park into a space that is more inviting for families, improves the Downtown's atmosphere and perceptions of public safety, and creates a more accessible community space. The park is a space that enables people of all ages to come to the downtown core and enjoy the time they spend here with fewer barriers.

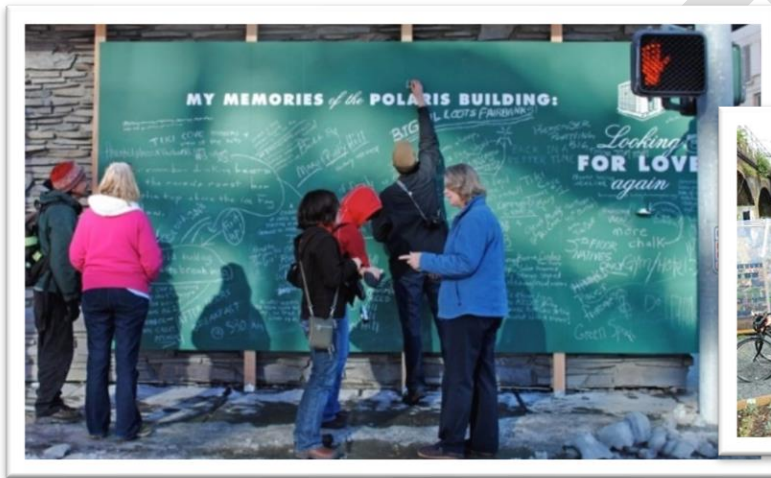
Street Trees

Planting trees has a wide range of benefits for the community. Trees reduce urban heat, are habitats for wildlife, beautify the street, and provide shade to pedestrians and cyclists during the hot summer. As seen on the conceptual plan, trees are strategically planted along Shuswap Avenue toward the west end of the Village to create a street tree corridor between the two main commercial hubs. Introducing more shade cover through this busy corridor makes it more useable for cyclists and pedestrians. The existing parklet by 1st Avenue and Pine Street is also augmented through additional plantings.



Temporary Pop-Up Uses

Several vacant properties have been identified as ideal temporary pop-up spaces. These spots can become sensory gardens, lending libraries, outdoor chairs or seating booths, mini markets, pop-up art spaces, and more. Pop-up spots can create more pedestrian interaction and character within the downtown. The temporary nature of these pop-ups creates a sense of excitement – people will want to keep coming back to see what’s new. Crucially, the Village will need to partner with property owners to determine the possibility of operating a pop-up use on site and to determine any necessary maintenance agreements.

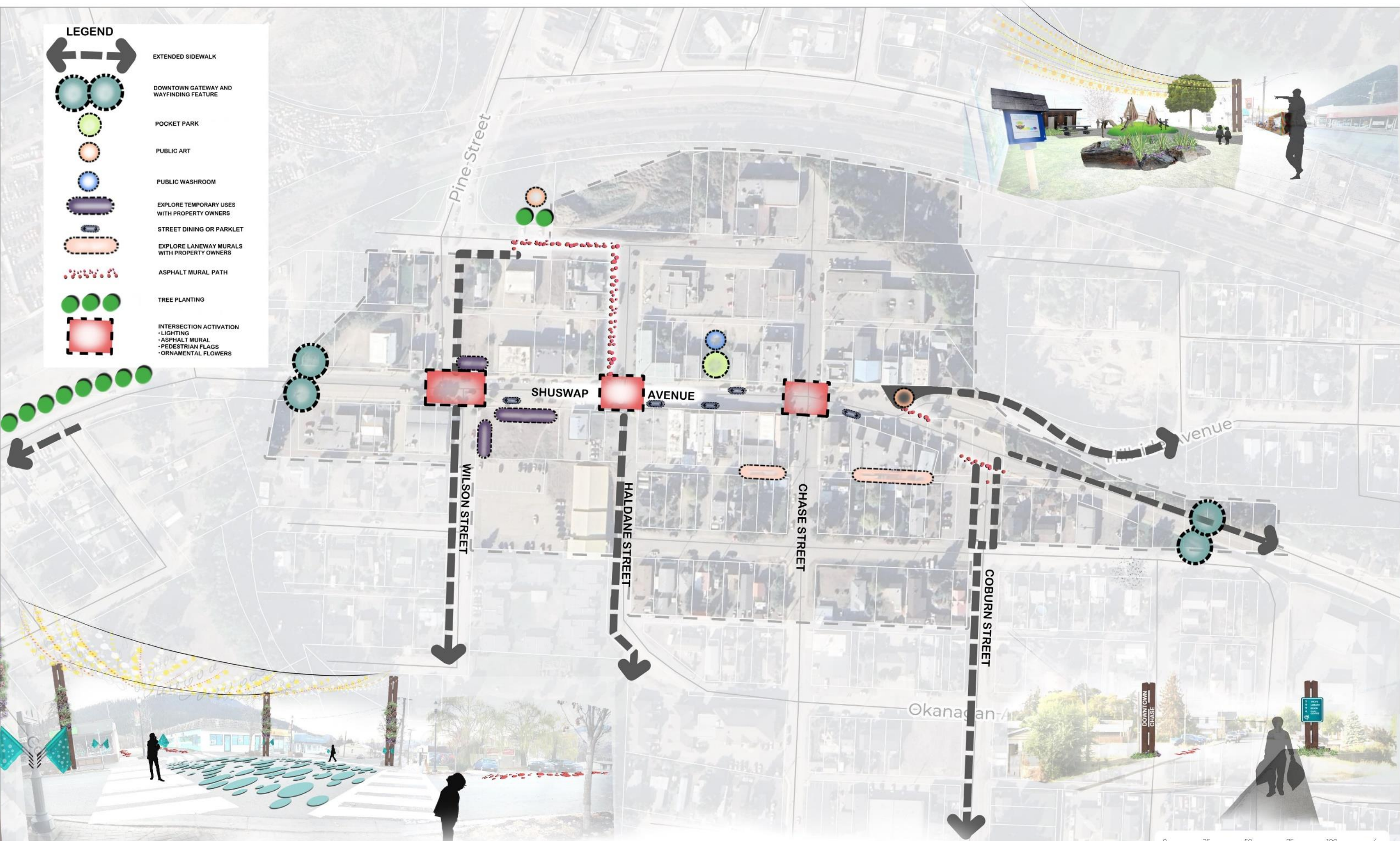


Parklets & Street Dining

Temporarily repurposing parking spaces can add visual interest into the downtown, provide key businesses with added customer space, create activity hubs, and ultimately encourage people to linger longer in the downtown. Business areas can be sensitive to losing parking spaces, so this initiative should be done in conjunction with local business owners to find suitable areas to trial different parklet concepts. Typical partnerships involve pairing patio-style street dining with restaurants, cafes, and other eateries. A few local businesses experience high customer demand in the summer (e.g., ice-cream shops) and could potentially benefit from having additional customer seating.

LEGEND

- EXTENDED SIDEWALK
- DOWNTOWN GATEWAY AND WAYFINDING FEATURE
- POCKET PARK
- PUBLIC ART
- PUBLIC WASHROOM
- EXPLORE TEMPORARY USES WITH PROPERTY OWNERS
- STREET DINING OR PARKLET
- EXPLORE LANEWAY MURALS WITH PROPERTY OWNERS
- ASPHALT MURAL PATH
- TREE PLANTING
- INTERSECTION ACTIVATION
 - LIGHTING
 - ASPHALT MURAL
 - PEDESTRIAN FLAGS
 - ORNAMENTAL FLOWERS



VILLAGE OF CHASE | CONCEPT PLAN

5.0 MOVING FORWARD

This Downtown Revitalization Strategy presents a high-level Conceptual Plan to comprehensively improve the beautification, accessibility, and vibrancy of the Village Core based on suggestions received through community engagement. The Conceptual Plan for the Village Core focuses on temporary interventions, surface treatments, and other “quick wins” that do not require significant investment in infrastructure or redevelopment to achieve an enhanced aesthetic.⁴

Moving forward, it will be necessary to build on the ideas presented in this Downtown Revitalization Strategy to enable the Village of Chase to implement the vision outlined in the Conceptual Plan and support the realization of the Village Core’s revitalization. The following are steps the Village may take to implement the suggestions outlined in this Strategy:

- **Develop a Village Core Implementation Plan** – This step will guide the implementation of the components outlined in the Conceptual Plan. The creation of the Implementation Plan should also include a review the community revitalization recommendations (**Appendix A**) which present a list of community-derived suggestions for collaborative initiatives and improvements to the Village Core area. Actions outlined in the Chase Economic and Tourism Strategy (2020) should also be reviewed as this document outlines several objectives relevant to the Village Core. The Implementation Plan can be a simple table that outlines a list of specific tasks alongside the following elements:
 - Identified priority (typically low, medium, or high)
 - Timing (outline what can be done immediately, over the next 1-2 years, and longer)
 - Potential funding sources (flagging any external funding)
 - Cost estimate (typically a high-level estimate—low, medium, or high)
 - Partnership opportunities – identify community partners who will be engaged to participate in delivering the given task.
- **Pilot Projects** - A number of suggestions were provided through community engagement that could be trialed through temporary pilot projects, which, if successful, could be expanded or repeated at a later date, and as funding becomes available. They are:
 - Offer priority parking spaces for golf-cart drivers.
 - Host a community block party in the alleyway between Haldane Street and Chase Street.
 - Work with farmers to discuss feasibility of relocating the farmers market to the downtown. Identify any possible challenges (e.g., tents, permits, etc.) that could be supported by the Village.
 - Install a public washroom in the pocket park – identify options that could be easy to maintain and affordable to install (e.g., compostable toilet).

⁴ While the installation of a public washroom could have capital and operating costs, low cost and temporary options exist (such as composting toilets) that could be explored.



APPENDIX A

Community priority areas: recommendations

A.1 COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION RECOMMENDATIONS

A series of suggested actions and potential initiatives emerged from community engagement. The following listed recommendations are grouped by each of the four community priority areas:

- 1) Community Identity & Beautification
- 2) Economic Vitality
- 3) Mobility & Accessibility
- 4) Sustainable Development

The listed actions are not meant to be prescriptive, but rather are intended to serve as a launch pad for creative and context-sensitive solutions that are appropriate for the Village's changing needs.

COMMUNITY IDENTITY & BEAUTIFICATION

Community Gateways

- Investigate methods to reinvigorate Chase's gateway feature and make it more obvious from the highway (e.g., better lighting, landscaping, massing).
- Existing gateway signs should be cleaned and cleared of any debris.
- Main entryways to the community should be improved to create a more positive impression of the Village and attract visitors downtown.
 - Explore tree planting in the right-of-way at the car lot on the corner of Aylmer Road and Shuswap Avenue.
 - Consider working with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to update highway turn off signage so it advertises amenities found downtown.

Cohesive Theme & Branding

- Several residents supported messaging around the Village of Chase being the "Gateway to the Shuswap."
- Residents supported creating a unified feeling throughout the Village Core through the creation of a theme and suggested several ideas:
 - Country (not western)
 - 50's themed
 - Beach summer/vacation town
 - Gateway to the Shuswap
 - Water theme
 - Golf cart, laid back
- Identify a colour palette for building facades that creates a cohesive impression of the Village Core and aligns with the selected theme.

Feel / Vibe of the Downtown

- The downtown should provide a friendly environment that welcomes families and engages people of all ages – look for opportunities to incorporate playful elements.
- Residents see the Village as a calm oasis in contrast to larger cities and appreciate its relaxed pace of life and want this to be reflected in the feel of the downtown.
- The Village Core should have buildings that look cared for, are well-maintained and tidy, and collectively create a positive impression of the commercial area.
- Continue adding colour and vibrancy to the downtown through landscaping plantings and hanging baskets.



- Residents support actions that highlight the image of Chase as a quaint, charming, and small town with a friendly atmosphere.
- Consider supporting cleanliness of the Village Core by introducing garbage and recycling receptacles at standard intervals along Shuswap Avenue.

Public Art & Place Activation

- Collaborate on a mural downtown that celebrates / recognizes local First Nation communities.
- Incorporate interactive features throughout the downtown for people to discover (e.g., QR codes, sculpture, art installations).
- Provide opportunities for local artists (including Indigenous artists) to beautify the downtown through public art.
- Community festivals and celebrations are already hosted in the Village and should continue to showcase the downtown corridor. Some residents expressed that the annual car show, winter parade, and corn fest contribute to Chase's uniqueness.
- Opportunities to host more festivals / business showcases should be explored (e.g., night markets, late night business discount events, food-themed festival, block party).

ECONOMIC VITALITY

Open for Business

- Work with businesses to identify opportunities to extend shopping hours for residents who do not work locally or who are unable to shop until after 5 pm. Ideas include:
 - Having a Farm & Craft Market option in the evening or on Saturday instead of Friday
 - Hosting seasonal shopping events (e.g., sidewalk sales and discount nights).
- Promote the use of signs and displays that visually demonstrate a business' hours of operation (e.g., sandwich boards, illuminated signage, outdoor merchandise displays, patio set-ups).

Façade Improvements

- Encourage use of creative vacant shop front board-ups (e.g., painted panels, decorated windows).
- Work with property owners and businesses to conduct repairs to/painting of building facades that are deteriorating, and support inclusion of art and other efforts that add visual interest to shop fronts.

Temporary Uses

- Consider ways vacant lots can embrace temporary features that facilitate resident interaction and create places to gather (e.g., community gardens, play spaces, hammocks, outdoor piano/musical instruments, food trucks, etc.).
- Work with property owners to identify uses that could be hosted in vacant shops to promote perceptions of vitality (e.g., pop up shops, community classes, presentations, performances, art installations).

Community Partnerships

- Use downtown revitalization as an opportunity to build relationships with local First Nations communities – e.g., involve in mural creation.
- Cultivate interest in community involvement by creating options for youth to participate in beautification projects, and placemaking events.
- Encourage local businesses to consider forming a Business Improvement Association to spur momentum for façade improvement and beautification projects (e.g., garner support for murals, repairs to/painting of facades).



Built Form Standards

- Continue supporting mixed-use development to a maximum of three to four storeys with commercial uses on the ground floor and residential above.
- Consider methods to support façade improvements featuring cohesive design elements as well as upgrades to overhangs and awnings that are aesthetically pleasing and offer pedestrians shelter from the elements.
- Residents voiced continued support for façade characteristics included in the OCP including having ground floor buildings with large display windows, and preservation of buildings with heritage features.

MOBILITY & ACCESSIBILITY

Wayfinding

- Implement signage/mapping that improves understanding of nearby features that would be attractive to visitors (e.g., Creek is a 5-minute walk, Chase Creek Falls is a 10-minute walk, location of grocery plaza, beach, off-street and side-street parking options).
- Highlight important local features/history through signage that facilitates a self-guided walking tour.

Connectivity & Infrastructure Improvements

- Improve access to downtown from side streets - continue building out sidewalks, adding bike-lanes, and removing obstacles in path of travel such as poles and hydrants , etc.
- Consider having multi-use paths that permit scooters.
- Bike racks should be offered outside key destinations in the Village Core (e.g., PharmaChoice).

Seating

- Offer a variety of seating options throughout the Village Core that invite people to rest and linger longer in the public realm.
 - Accessible seating should incorporate back and arm rests, and will have clear heel space to facilitate moving in and out of seated positions.
 - Seating options at tables should also be included that consider users in wheelchairs and offer knee clearance in compliance with best practices.
- Seating and any outdoor displays should be located outside the pedestrian path of travel so people with mobility needs or visual impairments can clearly navigate through the downtown.
- Consider locating outdoor seating near businesses (e.g., Wild Scoopz & Bistro) that experience high visitation in the summer.

Traffic Calming & Pedestrian Safety

- A variety of traffic calming strategies are recommended to address issues with vehicles not reducing their speed in the Village Core:
 - A maximum speed of 30 km/ h should be explored in the Village Core.
 - Explore options to shorten pedestrian crossings through the use of curb bulb-outs.
 - Make pedestrian crossings throughout the downtown more obvious to vehicle traffic through flashing lights, audible indicators, and brightly marked crossings.
- Ensure pedestrian areas are adequately lit (e.g., pocket park).
- Continue implementing plans outlined in the Active Transportation Plan to introduce sidewalks along Shuswap Avenue and side streets, especially Coburn Street and Hillside Avenue.

Customer Experience

- Investigate feasibility of installing a washroom downtown to address shoppers' needs (e.g., the pocket park is centrally-located).
- Work with businesses to consider ways to make shops accessible to people with mobility devices (e.g., accessibility retrofits, and temporary ramps for entrances in the short-term).



- Continue to ensure there are accessible parking spaces available near key businesses downtown and consider ways to promote parking for people with accessibility needs throughout the Village Core (e.g., golf-cart parking options).

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Food Sovereignty

- Investigate options for residents to have access to fresh, locally-produced food. Ideas include installing a food exchange kiosk on a vacant lot and hosting the Farm & Craft Market in the Village Core.

Climate Prepared

- The Village Core gets hot in the summer and could offer cooling to pedestrians through deciduous tree planting; installation of umbrellas in patio and seating areas at the parklet; and investment in (temporary) misting stations.⁵
- Consider pursuing FireSmart landscaping practices to reduce risks from wildfire.
- Investigate reducing watering needs in drought-prone areas by integrating xeriscaping into existing landscaping.
- Identify places to co-locate public benches and trees so visitors are encouraged to linger longer in the downtown.

Business Connectivity

- Invest in active transportation connectivity between the downtown and Memorial Park to improve impressions of Chase as a lakefront community.
- Look for opportunities to improve cell coverage and Wi-Fi network speeds to improve perceptions of Chase as a competitive location to set up business and “work-from-home”.

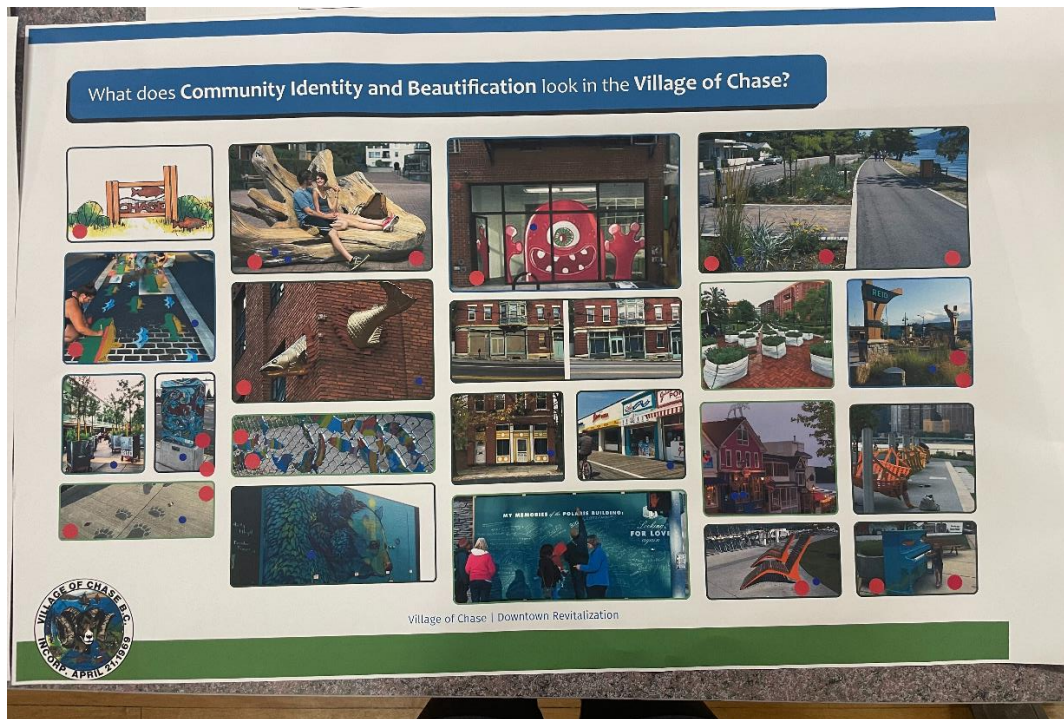
⁵ Temporary misting stations can be installed that connect to hydrants during periods of high heat. Push buttons help conserve water, and the stations can also be outfitted with a tap to provide clean drinking water. The City of Coquitlam [installed two during heat emergencies in 2023](#), each one costing \$2,000 and paid for from the City's emergency preparedness budget.



APPENDIX B

Community workshop engagement panels

B.1 COMMUNITY IDENTITY & BEAUTIFICATION PANEL



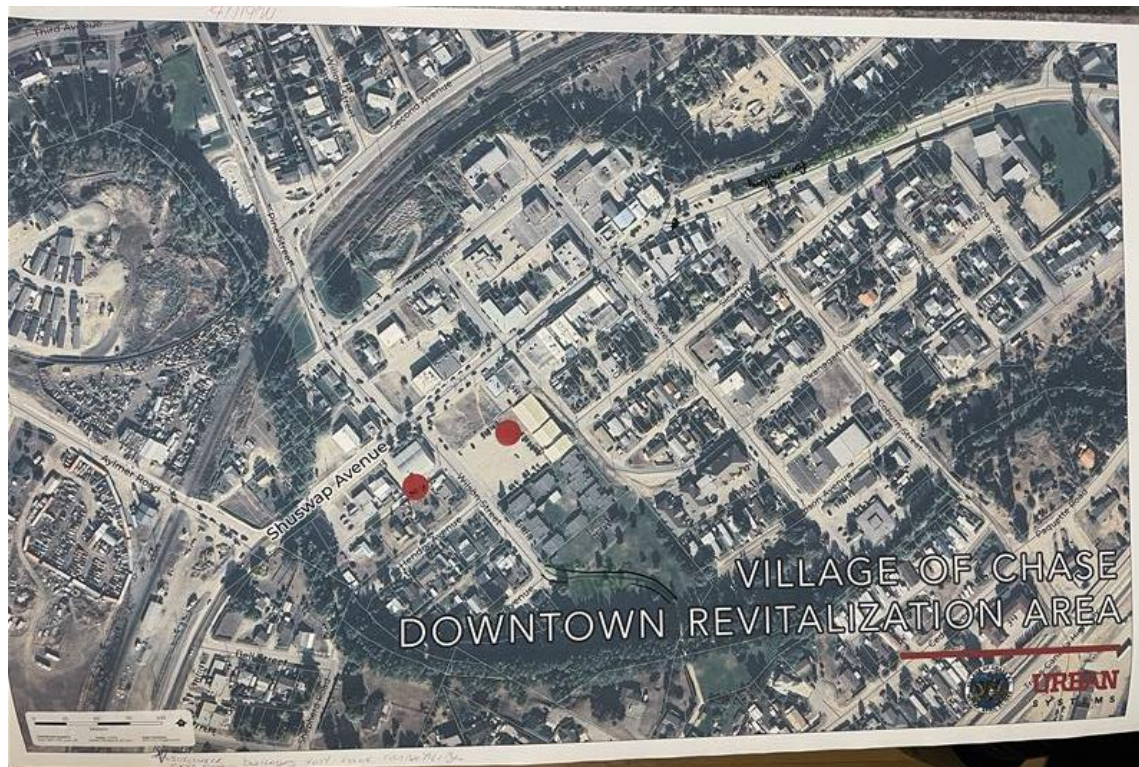
B.2 ECONOMIC VITALITY PANEL



B.3 MOBILITY & ACCESSIBILITY PANEL



B.4 PLACE ACTIVATION PANEL



B.5 DRAFT VISION PANEL

Draft Vision

“Chase’s Downtown is a vibrant hub, where diverse businesses create a safe and welcoming atmosphere, that fosters a sense of community pride. With its charming aesthetic, our downtown is both clean and relaxed, inviting locals to support nearby shops and leaving visitors eagerly anticipating their next visit.”

community, vibrant, proud, safe, happy, inviting, local, friendly, welcoming, clean, cozy, variety, quaint, social, active, comfortable, architecture, business, open, activities, lush, paradise, clean, shop, fronts, holiday, vibe, casual, breezy, inspired, thriving, interesting, access, peaceful, patio, historic, fun, alive, touristy, relaxed, exciting, affordable, cute, warm, respect, variety, cozy, family friendly, comforting, evening hours, nostalgic, funky, belonging, valued, shaded areas, destination, aesthetic, cohesive, hustle, energized, pride, fresh, attractive, upbeat, bustle, welcoming, boutique, community pride, joyful, welcome, inclusive, social centre, community heartbeat.

Needs to have a welcoming feel

Unified themes for buildings

I QUESTION THE PLANNING PROGRAM AS IT DOES NOT FRONT THE # 1 ISSUE - HOW TO ATTRACTIVE TO PROGRESSIVE RESIDENTS + BUSINESS

Village of Chase | Downtown Revitalization





VILLAGE OF CHASE Bylaw Enforcement Report

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Director of Corporate Operations
DATE: June 18, 2024
RE: UNSIGHTLY PROPERTY – 1045 Hillside Avenue

The Bylaw Enforcement office has received complaints regarding the unsightly appearance of property situated at **1045 Hillside Avenue, Chase, BC** legally described as LOT 14 (DD C5867F) BLOCK E DISTRICT LOT 517 KAMLOOPS DIVISION YALE DISTRICT PLAN 794, and registered in the name of Margaret C. Billy.

A Order to Comply was issued on May 15, 2024 to the occupiers and owners of the property requiring that the premises be brought into compliance. There continues to be a pattern of disregard for the bylaw and the property continues to exist in a state that contravenes the Property Maintenance Bylaw 731-2010.

The Opportunity to be Heard for the owner will be scheduled for June 25, 2024.

The enactment of the Order became in-effect May 30, 2024 after which the Village can commence clean-up in compliance with the bylaw with direction from Council.

It is request of Council to authorize proceeding with a notice to the owner giving them twenty-one (21) days to bring the property into compliance with the Property Maintenance Bylaw, or compliance will be completed by the Village of Chase, its authorized agents or contractors, and all costs will be borne by the owner and in the case where costs are not repaid by December 31 of the calendar year can be transferred to taxes.

RECOMMENDATION

“THAT Council approves the issuance of a Demand Notice to the owner of 1045 Hillside Avenue giving them twenty-one (21) days to bring the property into compliance with the Property Maintenance Bylaw.”

Respectfully submitted,

Approved for Council Consideration by CAO



VILLAGE OF CHASE Administrative Report

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Deb Lovin, Chief Financial Officer
DATE: June 25, 2024
RE: 2023 Statement of Financial Information (SOFI)

ISSUE/PURPOSE

To seek a Council resolution approving the 2023 Statement of Financial Information (SOFI)

HISTORY/BACKGROUND

The Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) is a Public Accounts report prepared in compliance with the Financial Information Act, Statutes of British Columbia (Canada), Chapter 140. It contains a statement of assets and liabilities, operational statement, schedule of debts, schedule of guarantee and indemnity agreements, schedule showing remuneration and expenses paid to or on behalf of employees and schedule showing payments for suppliers of goods or services.

DISCUSSION

The Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) includes, for the year being reported, the Village's audited financial statements and information regarding remuneration paid to the Mayor and Council, the remuneration paid to every employee that the Village of Chase paid more than \$75,000 and the amount paid to any supplier of goods and/or services to which the Village paid more than \$25,000.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None, this is a summary of 2023 Financial Information as required by the Province of BC

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) complies with the Financial Information Act, Statutes of British Columbia (Canada), Chapter 140.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the 2023 Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved for Council Consideration by CAO

Deb Lovin

Deb Lovin

Joni Heinrich

Joni Heinrich



Village of Chase

PO Box 440, 826 Okanagan Ave,
Chase, British Columbia V0E 1M0
Office: **250.679-3238**
Fax: 250.679-3070
www.chasebc.ca

Statement of Financial Information (SOFI)

For the year ended December 31, 2023

Contact:

Deb Lovin, Chief Financial Officer

t: 250-679-3238 x227

f: 250-679-3070

e: cfo@chasebc.ca

**VILLAGE OF CHASE
2023 FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

The undersigned, as authorized by the Financial Information Regulation, Schedule 1, subsection 9(2), approves all the statements and schedules included in this Statement of Financial Information, produced under the Financial Information Act.

Deb Lovin
Chief Financial Officer

David Lepsoe
Mayor

Date: June 26, 2024

Date: June 26, 2024

**VILLAGE OF CHASE
2023 FINANCIAL INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF DEBTS**

The Schedule of debts is presented in Note 6 - Term Debt, and note 8 - MFA Debt Reserve of the annual audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023.

**VILLAGE OF CHASE
2023 FINANCIAL INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF GUARANTEE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENTS**

Information on all guarantees and indemnities for the Village of Chase is included in Note 14 (b) to the audited annual financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023.

**VILLAGE OF CHASE
2023 FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Schedule of remuneration and expenses paid to or on behalf of each Elected Official:

		Remuneration	Expenses	Total
Connett, Colin	Councillor	\$ 10,277	\$ 50	\$ 10,327
Harder, Ron	Councillor	9,162	1,021	10,183
Herman, Jane	Councillor	11,049	5,589	16,638
Lepsoe, David	Mayor	15,911	4,061	19,972
Torbohm, Manfred	Councillor	10,999	1,199	12,198
		<u>\$ 57,398</u>	<u>\$ 11,920</u>	<u>\$ 69,318</u>

Schedule of remuneration and expenses paid to or on behalf of each employee:

		Remuneration	Expenses	Total
Other Employees with Remuneration Exceeding \$75,000.00				
Deroo- Ludvig, Mick, Equipment Op 1		\$ 84,481	\$ 1,303	\$ 86,384
Fandrey, John, Utility Operator		85,102	767	85,869
Heinrich, Joni, Chief Administrative Officer		129,755	5,281	135,036
Lovin, Debbie, Chief Financial Office		114,579	8,975	123,555
Magnusson, Tyler, Utility Operator		77,453	1,683	79,136
O'Flaherty, Sean, Corporate Officer		124,102	3,172	127,275
Richens, Fred, Equip Operator II		82,159	-	82,159
Consolidated Total for all employees with remuneration of \$ 75,000 or less		573,276	7,650	570,136
		<u>\$ 1,270,907</u>	<u>\$ 28,831</u>	<u>\$ 1,289,548</u>
Employer portion of CPP and EI			68,074	68,074
		<u>\$ 1,270,907</u>	<u>\$ 96,905</u>	<u>\$ 1,357,622</u>

**VILLAGE OF CHASE
2023 FINANCIAL INFORMATION
STATEMENT OF SEVERANCE AGREEMENTS**

NIL - Statement

There were no severance agreements made between The Village of Chase and its non-unionized employees during the fiscal year 2023

**VILLAGE OF CHASE
2023 FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Schedule of Payments Made for the Provision of Goods and Services

1. List of Suppliers receiving aggregate payments exceeding \$ 25,000

AARDVARK PAVEMENT MARKING SERVICES	\$	27,975
BC ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY		34,008
BC HYDRO		178,551
CENTRAL SQUARE CANADA SOFTWARE INC.		31,952
CLOUDBURST WATERWORKS SERVICES		37,752
COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS		34,860
DALMATION FIRE EQUIPMENT LLC		28,560
DOUGLAS LAKE EQUIPMENT		130,191
EXTREME EXCAVATING LTD.		113,429
FORTIS BC		28,209
GENTECH ENGINEERING INC.		35,766
GROUP HEALTH BENEFIT SOLUTIONS		108,582
KEEGERS EQUIPMENT SALES & RENTALS LTD.		107,947
KPMG LLP T4348		30,086
MFA LEASING CORPORATION		54,360
MUNICIPAL INS. ASSOC. OF BC		25,376
MINISTER OF FINANCE		180,509
MINISTRY OF PROVINCIAL REVENUE		560,240
MUNICIPAL PENSION PLAN		155,645
OLYMPIC ROOFING		81,215
RECEIVER GENERAL OF CANADA		368,125
ROYAL BANK VISA		54,329
SCHOOL DISTRICT NO 73		52,319
TEAM EQUIPMENT		42,848
TELUS		27,052
TNRD (THOMPSON-NICOLA REGIONAL DISTRICT		677,893
THOMPSON REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT		229,097
TRUE CONSULTING		179,306
VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT		33,949
WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD		26,844
XCEED MACHINE WORKS INC.		27,090
Total aggregate amount paid to suppliers	\$	<u>3,704,065</u>

2 Consolidated total paid to suppliers receiving aggregate payments of \$25,000 or less:

\$ 1,027,696

3 Total of payments to suppliers for grants and contributions exceeding \$25,000

CHASE & DISTRICT RECREATION CENTRE SOCIETY	\$	171,740
--	----	---------

\$ 4,903,501

VILLAGE OF CHASE
2023 FINANCIAL INFORMATION
Reconciliation to the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements

Council		
Council Remuneration	\$	57,398
Council Expenses		11,920
Employees		
Employee Remuneration		1,270,907
Employee Expenses		28,831
Employer portion of CPP and EI Expenses		68,074
Suppliers		
Payment to suppliers with payments exceeding \$ 25,000		3,875,805
Payment to suppliers with payments less than \$25,000		1,027,696
Reconciling items		
Capital acquisitions, payments made to other taxing authorities for collection of their taxation (Province of BC, BCAA, MFA, TNRD, TRHD), amortization, accretion, prepaid expenses, principle debt repayments, GST paid and timing differences between cash and accrual accounting	-	1,594,076
Total operating expenses per the 2023 Audited Financial Statements	<u>\$</u>	<u>4,746,555</u>

Financial Information Act
Financial Information Regulation (FIR), Schedule 1

Statement of Financial Information (SOFI)
Index to FIR Schedule 1 and the Checklist

Page 1: Corporation Information

Ministry Information

General: Section One

- 1(1)(a) Statement of assets and liabilities
- 1(1)(b) Operational statement
- 1(1)(c) Schedule of debts
- 1(1)(d) Schedule of guarantee and indemnity agreements
- 1(1)(e) Schedule of employee remuneration and expenses
- 1(1)(f) Schedule of suppliers of goods and services
- 1(2) [Explanatory information for reference]
- 1(3) Statements prepared on a consolidated basis or for each fund
- 1(4) & (5) Notes to the statements and schedules in section 1(1)

Page 2: Statement of Assets & Liabilities: Section Two

- 2 Balance sheet
- Changes in equity and surplus or deficit

Operational Statement: Section Three

- 3(1) Statement of Income / Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
- Statement of Changes in Financial Position
- 3(2) & (3) Omission of Statement of Changes in Financial Position, with explanation
- 3(4) Requirement for community colleges, school districts and municipalities

Statement of Debts: Section Four

- 4(1)(a) & 4(2) List and detail the schedule of long-term debts
- 4(1)(b) Identify debts covered by sinking funds / reserves
- 4(3) & (4) Omission of schedule, with explanation

Page 3: Schedule of Guarantee and Indemnity Agreements: Section Five

- 5(1) List agreements under the Guarantees and Indemnities Regulation
- 5(2) State the entities and amounts involved
- 5(3) & (4) Omission of schedule, with explanation

Page 3 & 4: Schedule of Remuneration and Expenses: Section Six

- 6(1) [Definitions for reference]
- 6(2)(a) List remuneration / expenses for each elected official, member of board, Cabinet appointees
- 6(2)(b) List each employee with remuneration exceeding \$75,000, plus expenses
- 6(2)(c) Consolidated total for all employees with remuneration of \$75,000 or less
- 6(2)(d) Reconcile difference in total remuneration above with operational statement
- 6(3) Exclude personal information other than as required

Page 3 & 4: Schedule of Remuneration and Expenses: Section Six (continued)

- 6(4) & (5) [Explanatory information for reference]
- 6(6) Report employer portion of EI and CPP as a supplier payment
- 6(7)(a) & (b) Statement of severance agreements
- 6(8) Explain an omission of statement of severance agreements
- 6(9) [Statement of severance agreements to minister – not required unless requested]

Page 4: Schedule of Suppliers of Goods or Services: Section Seven

- 7(1)(a) List suppliers receiving payments exceeding \$25,000
- 7(1)(b) Consolidated total of all payments of \$25,000 or less
- 7(1)(c) Reconcile difference in total above with operational statement
- 7(2)(a) [Explanatory information for reference]
- 7(2)(b) Statement of payments of grants or contributions
- 7(2)(c) [Explanatory information for reference]

Page 5: Inactive Corporations: Section Eight

- 8(1) Ministry to report for inactive corporations
- 8(2)(a) Contents of report – statements and schedules under section 1(1) to extent possible
- 8(2)(b) Contents of report – operational status of corporation

Approval of Financial Information: Section Nine

- 9(1) Approval of SOFI for corporations (other than municipalities)
- 9(2) Approval of SOFI for municipalities
- 9(3) Management report
- 9(4) Management report must explain roles and responsibilities
- 9(5) Signature approval is for all contents of the SOFI

Access to the Financial Information: Section Ten

- 10(1) to (3) [Explanatory information for reference]

Financial Information Regulation, Schedule 1

Checklist – Statement of Financial Information (SOFI)

For the Corporation:

Corporate Name: Village of Chase Contact Name: Debbie Lovin
 Fiscal Year End: December 31, 2023 Phone Number: (250) 679-3238
 Date Submitted: _____ E-mail: cfo@chasebc.ca

For the Ministry:

Ministry Name: _____ Reviewer: _____
 Date Received: _____ Deficiencies: Yes No
 Date Reviewed: _____ Deficiencies Addressed: Yes No
 Approved (SFO): _____ Further Action Taken: _____

Distribution: Legislative Library Ministry Retention

FIR Schedule 1 Section	Item	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
General					
1 (1) (a)	Statement of assets and liabilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1 (1) (b)	Operational statement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1 (1) (c)	Schedule of debts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1 (1) (d)	Schedule of guarantee and indemnity agreements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1 (1) (e)	Schedule of employee remuneration and expenses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1 (1) (f)	Schedule of suppliers of goods and services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1 (3)	Statements prepared on a consolidated basis or for each fund, as appropriate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1 (4) 1 (5)	Notes to the financial statements for the statements and schedules listed above	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

FIR Schedule 1 Section	Item	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Statement of Assets & Liabilities					
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A balance sheet prepared in accordance with GAAP or stated accounting principles / policies, and • Show changes in equity and surplus or deficit due to operations 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Operational Statement					
3 (1)	Prepared in accordance with GAAP or stated accounting principles / policies and consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a Statement of Income or Statement of Revenue and Expenditures, and • a Statement of Changes in Financial Position 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3 (2) 3 (3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Statement of Changes in Financial Position may be omitted if it provides no additional information • The omission must be explained in the notes 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3 (4)	Community colleges, school districts, and municipalities must prepare a Statement of Changes in Financial Position for the Capital Fund	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Schedule of Debts					
4 (1) (a) 4 (2)	List each long-term debt (secured by debentures, mortgages, bonds, etc.), stating the amount outstanding, the interest rate, and the maturity date	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4 (1) (b)	Identify debts covered by sinking funds or reserves and amounts in these accounts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4 (3) 4 (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The schedule may be omitted if addressed under section 2 or 5 and it provides no additional information • The omission must be explained in a note to the schedule 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

FIR Schedule 1 Section	Item	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Schedule of Guarantee and Indemnity Agreements					
5 (1)	List financial agreements that required government approval prior to being given (see Guarantees and Indemnities Regulation in FIA Guidance Package)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5 (2)	State the entities involved, and the specific amount involved if known	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5 (3) 5 (4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The schedule may be omitted if addressed under section 2 or 4 and it provides no additional information • The omission must be explained in a note to the schedule 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Schedule of Remuneration and Expenses (See Guidance Package for suggested format)					
6 (2) (a)	List separately, by name and position, the total remuneration and the total expenses for each elected official, member of the board of directors, and employee appointed by Cabinet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6 (2) (b)	List alphabetically each employee whose total remuneration exceeds \$75,000 and the total expenses for each [excluding the persons listed under 6 (2) (a)]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6 (2) (c)	Include a consolidated total for employees whose remuneration is \$75,000 or less [excluding the persons listed under 6 (2) (a)]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6 (2) (d)	Reconcile or explain any difference between total remuneration in this schedule and related information in the operational statement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6 (3)	Exclude personal information other than name, position, function or remuneration and expenses of employees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

FIR Schedule 1 Section	Item	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Schedule of Remuneration and Expenses (See Guidance Package for suggested format)					
6 (6)	Report the employer portion of EI and CPP as a supplier payment to the Receiver General for Canada rather than as employee remuneration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6 (7) (a) 6 (7) (b)	Include a statement of severance agreements providing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the number of severance agreements under which payment commenced in the fiscal year being reported on for non-union employees, and • the range of equivalent months' compensation for them (see Guidance Package for suggested format)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No severance agreements
6 (8)	Provide the reason for omitting a statement of severance agreements in a note to the schedule of remuneration and expenses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Schedule of Suppliers of Goods or Services (See Guidance Package for suggested format)					
7 (1) (a)	List in alphabetical order all suppliers of goods and services who received aggregate payments exceeding \$25,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7 (1) (b)	Include a consolidated total of all payments to suppliers who received \$25,000 or less	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7 (1) (c)	Reconcile or explain any difference between the consolidated total and related figures in the operational statement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7 (2) (b)	Include a statement of payments for the purposes of grants or contributions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

FIR Schedule 1 Section	Item	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Inactive Corporations					
8 (1)	The ministry reports for the corporation if the corporation is not operating to the extent required to produce a SOFI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8 (2) (a)	The ministry's report contains the statements and schedules required under section 1 (1), to the extent possible	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8 (2) (b)	The ministry's report contains a statement of the operational status of the corporation (see Guidance Package regarding what to include)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Approval of Financial Information					
9 (1)	Corporations other than municipalities – the SOFI is signed as approved by the board of directors or the governing body (see Guidance Package for example)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9 (2)	Municipalities – the SOFI is approved by its council and by the officer assigned responsibility for financial administration (see Guidance Package for example)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9 (3)	A management report is included, signed by the head and chief financial officer, or by the municipal officer assigned responsibility for financial administration (see examples in annual report at http://www.gov.bc.ca/cas/popt/)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9 (4)	The management report explains the roles and responsibilities of the board of directors or governing body, audit committee, management, and the auditors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9 (5)	Signature approvals required in section 9 are for each of the statements and schedules of financial information, not just the financial statements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



VILLAGE OF CHASE

Memorandum

Date: June 6, 2024
To: Mayor and Council
From: Deputy Corporate Officer
RE: Visitor Information Centre Services Agreement

The proposed Fee for Service Agreement outlines the arrangement between the Village of Chase and the Chase and District Chamber of Commerce for the delivery of visitor information services. Under this agreement, the Chamber will provide visitor information services in Chase and is responsible for training personnel, distributing tourism materials, promoting local attractions, and maintaining flexible operating hours. Additionally, the Chamber must comply with Destination BC standards and maintain an up-to-date website.

In addition, the Chamber will provide and maintain the premises, both interior and exterior, ensuring safety and appeal, while the Village will provide lawn mowing and irrigation service. The Chamber will submit activity reports, financial statements, and engage in joint evaluations. The agreement runs from January 1 to December 31, 2024, with a 90-day termination notice and a \$20,000 fee for service to be paid by the Village to the Chamber on June 15, 2024.

While the agreement maintains the framework of previous versions, the operating hours were revised as follows:

- January, February, March, and April – 12 hours per week (previously 20 hours per week during only April)
- May – 20 hours per week
- June – 25 hours per week
- July and August – 40 hours per week – open daily
- September – 25 hours per week
- October – 20 hours per week
- November and December – 12 hours per week

In addition, the deadline for submitting a report was moved to January 2025 to allow for the full inclusion of annual information.

RECOMMENDATION

“THAT Council ratifies the Fee for Service Agreement between the Village of Chase and the Chase and District Chamber of Commerce for Visitor Information Services for 2024.”

Respectfully submitted,

Approved for Council Consideration by CAO



VILLAGE OF CHASE

Memorandum

Date: June 17, 2024
To: Mayor and Council
From: Deputy Corporate Officer
RE: The Shuswap Broadband Project – Co-Operative Membership

The Shuswap Broadband Project was initiated in June 2022 by the Shuswap Economic Development Society (SEDS) to address the lack of internet connectivity in many Shuswap communities. Traditional service providers were unable to address this issue due to the absence of a viable business case in low-population areas. The project involved testing internet speeds and applying for Universal Broadband Funding (UBF) through Connecting Communities BC (CCBC). In February 2024, the Village initiated an Internet Performance Test (IPT) for further confirmation of low internet speeds in the community. Testing is ongoing at performance.cira.ca/chase.

The next steps for the Village of Chase in the Shuswap Broadband Project:

- Participate in the Cooperative: The Village of Chase can become a founding member of the Shuswap Region Broadband Cooperative. This doesn't require any financial commitment but provides a strong voice in regional connectivity decisions.
- Advocate for Connectivity: As a member, the Village of Chase can advocate for improved internet services in the region. The ongoing CIRA IPT test data will strengthen this initiative.
- Economic Opportunities: Being part of the cooperative contributes to local job creation during infrastructure development and operations.
- Stay Informed: Keep track of project updates and decisions from Connecting Communities BC (CCBC) and other stakeholders.

While there are no financial commitments related to membership in the co-operative, participation will require a small amount of staff time to administer and coordinate. However, as a strategic priority identified by Council, the benefits largely outweigh the minimal costs associated with membership.

RECOMMENDATION

“THAT Council provides authorization for the Village of Chase to participate as a member in the Shuswap Broadband Project co-operative.”

Respectfully submitted,


Deputy Corporate Officer

Approved for Council consideration by CAO



The Shuswap Broadband Project – an Overview, and Update as on June 17, 2024



The Shuswap Broadband Project was conceptualized in Jun 2022 by the Shuswap Economic Development Society, when Area Directors C, D, F and G got together to address the problem of poor or no internet connectivity in most communities of the Shuswap, not addressable by the incumbents due to lack of a business case in areas of low population. After initial assessment through professional agency, the SEDS Board took a decision to perform actual testing of internet speeds (CIRA IPT) in order to be eligible to apply for Universal Broadband Funding (UBF) through the CCBC (Connecting Communities BC, Ministry of Citizen Services, BC Govt). The CIRA IPT results confirmed below 50/10 speeds for the targeted underserved areas, and the project application includes planning for Community-Owned, Community Governed Open-Access fiber infrastructure to service ~2,000 households with high-speed Fiber to the Home (FTTH) in 16 communities (Seymour Arm, parts of Eagle Bay, Sorrento West, Notch Hill, Falkland and Malakwa, besides Skimikin, Yankee Flats, Hullcar, Glenema, Turtle Valley, China Valley, Paxton Valley, Six-Mile Creek, Silver Creek, and parts of the Adams Lake Indian Band).

A funding application for infrastructure build grants was submitted to Connecting Communities BC (CCBC), Ministry of Citizen Services BC, on February 15, 2023.

Total cost of the infrastructure is ~\$30 Mn, out of which 75-90% would be funded through the UBF (75% for rural areas and 90% for remote and indigenous areas), and the balance through a proposed COOPERATIVE with multiple local communities, organizations, members and users including associated First Nations such as SKWLAX, Adams Lake, Neskonlith, OKIB and Splat sin. In this case, since indigenous communities are involved, it is expected that the funding approval could be up to 90%.

The proposed infrastructure focusses specifically on communities in and around the Shuswap area that are likely to remain underserved despite ongoing projects by incumbents. However, as the proposed Shuswap fibre backbone passes through parts of the RDNO, TNRD and many First Nation Reserves in the interior to connect to the nearest Internet Exchange Point near Falkland, it can be used to connect additional underserved households in adjoining areas that can use the infrastructure with significantly lower investment (last-mile distribution and drops only). The proposed network under the Shuswap Broadband Project includes ~750 route Km of fiber, including FTTH distribution and drops, without overbuild of existing/other proposed infrastructure. Being community owned, the infrastructure is planned for scalability, stability and sustainability with a long-term ROI of 25–30-years, with provision for essential infrastructure upgrades every seven years.

Strong Points. The proposal for the Shuswap Broadband Project and “Shuswap Region Broadband Cooperative” has been accepted very well by local communities and First Nations as a “community-owned-community-controlled-regional-initiative” to solve the internet connectivity problem, and enable high-speed internet access to online health, education, employment, business and economic development. From a Govt. approval perspective, the project has the following strong points:

- Community-owned-community-operated local initiative through the COOP model.
- Open-Access infrastructure (avoids monopoly by an incumbent, and the infrastructure can be used by multiple service providers, to provide high-quality and competitive services to end-users).

- One project for the region: after the first 16 communities, more communities can benefit from the infrastructure with minimal additional investment, as they can tap into the Shuswap fibre backbone.
- Indigenous participation (local First Nations).
- Long-term, scalable, sustainable and upgradable infrastructure plan.
- Creates local jobs during the build phase and for long-term operations.

Current Status. Since Feb 15, 2023, we have completed four formal rounds of Request for Information (RFI) with CCBC besides multiple email updates to them, and a decision is awaited. An update on associated actions towards development of the project is as under:

- Letters of Support. 20 Letters of Support have been obtained and shared with CCBC (MP Mel Arnold, MLA Greg Kylo, CSRD, TNRD, RDNO, District of Sicamous, Township of Spallumcheen, Village of Chase, City of Enderby, CSRD Area Director F, Band Council Resolution and MoU with the SKWLAX First Nation, ETSI-BC, Okanagan College, Community Futures Shuswap, North and South Shuswap Chambers, Salmon Arm Economic Development Society, local ISPs, Network Operator IBI).
- Shuswap Region Broadband Cooperative. We have been working with “Cooperatives First”, a not-for-profit based out of Saskatchewan for initial development of the COOP, including Memorandum and Rules of Association, share structure, finalisation of 3 founding members, and incorporation (initiated). Further, we have applied for a grant to CIRA (Canadian Internet Registration Authority) for finalization of the cooperatives policy schedule and byelaws, a decision on which is expected in mid-July 2024. Meanwhile we have reached out to many local communities and First Nations for participation in the COOP, and the response is positive.
- Funding Support from BMO. We have a written confirmation from the Bank of Montreal for considering 10% funding as well as bridge investment during the build phase of the project.
- Further Testing. In Feb 2024, the Village of Chase initiated the CIRA IPT (Internet Performance Test) for further confirmation of low internet speeds in their area, as well as the Adams Lake, Neskonlith and SKWLAX First Nations. The test is expected to generate data of “actual speeds” experienced by users in the area, as proof to improve services by the current incumbent.
- Indigenous Connectivity Workshop. In November 2024, a one-week workshop is planned by the Indigenous Connectivity Institute at the Qua’out Lodge (SKWLAX First Nation)- this is an initiative to train local indigenous communities in BC with skills to build and operated internet connectivity infrastructure.
- Band Council Resolution. Last week, a Band Council Resolution and updated MoU were received from the SKWLAX First Nation in support of the project, with their agreement to be a founding member of the Shuswap Region Broadband Cooperative.

Benefits: Shuswap Region Broadband Cooperative. At this point, we require 3 founding members to start the COOP. Besides the Shuswap Economic Development Society and the SKWLAX First Nation, we would like to invite the Village of Chase to be the third founding member. To be a founding member of the COOP does not require any financial commitment from the Village of Chase. However, through minimal staff time, the following benefits would accrue to the community:

- A strong voice for internet connectivity in the region, including an option to utilize the “Open-Access” Shuswap Broadband Infrastructure through other ISPs, should incumbents be unable to improve existing services. The test data from the ongoing CIRA IPT would further strengthen this initiative.
- These actions would help enable high-quality internet services for the Village of Chase.
- Creation of local jobs during the build and operations phases of the Shuswap Broadband fibre infrastructure.
- Should the Village of Chase eventually decide to be a shareholder in the COOP, long-term financial benefits to the community, through the COOP’s revenue and profits.



VILLAGE OF CHASE

Memorandum

Date: June 17, 2024
To: Mayor and Council
From: CAO
RE: Climate Action Committee –SenseNet Fire Sensing Technology

Council received a demonstration and information about the SenseNet Rapid Wildfire Detection system at its meeting of May 28, 2024. Council's Climate Action committee met June 10, 2024 and discussed the demo and the technology, suggesting that some next steps be taken on this matter particularly for the Scatchard Mountain area to the South of the Village.

RECOMMENDATION

“That the Village of Chase approaches the local Indigenous community leaders as well as the provider of cellular service from the tower in the North Shuswap area to discuss collaborative funding for the installation of SenseNet Rapid Wildfire Detection equipment on Scatchard Mountain South of the Village of Chase.”

Respectfully submitted,





VILLAGE OF CHASE

Memorandum

Date: June 17, 2024
To: Mayor and Council
From: CAO
RE: Climate Action Committee – Request to join West Coast Climate Action Network

Council's Climate Action committee meets regularly and discusses many matters related to actions that can be taken in our community to contribute to reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, promote reduction in use of fossil fuels and take small steps that make a difference for our planet's health.

One of the issues that has been discussed a number of times are the information and resources available from the West Coast Climate Action Network and its many members.

The West Coast Climate Action Network works to serve, support, amplify and promote the work of the many groups, organizations and initiatives in BC who all share a deep concern about the global climate emergency and who wish to see more urgent, rapid action.

Any group, organization or business with three or more members can apply to become a member. Member fees are voluntary proportional to the group's annual budget. As the Village's Climate Action Committee does not have a budget, no fees will be required.

Several community groups (not necessarily affiliated directly with local governments) are members of the WCCAN including:

- Chemainus Climate Solutions
- Climate Hub Victoria
- Climate Convergence Metro Vancouver
- Cowichan Climate Hub
- Kaslo Climate Action Team
- School District 69 (Qualicum)
- Shuswap Climate Action
- Chase Environmental Action Society
- Smither Climate Action
- Creston Climate Action Society

RECOMMENDATION

“That Council approves the Climate Action Committee’s request to become a member of the West Coast Climate Action Network.”

Respectfully submitted,





June 11, 2024

B.C. Municipalities and Regional Districts

CR-6871

RE: Support for Downloading Costs on Municipalities

Dear Municipalities of BC,

Kamloops City Council recently received a report titled "The Financial Impacts of Higher-Level Government Policy Change" at a May 28, 2024, Council meeting. The report highlighted a number of significant costs that have been downloaded to the municipality due to changes in policies or lack of Provincial action. It is attached for your reference.

Next steps are necessary in order to create a call to action for all provincial party leaders in British Columbia as the election approaches.

It is also crucial that we bring these costs to the attention of our constituents as they grapple with significant increases to taxation at the local level and seek to bring responsibilities and associated costs back into appropriate scope for all levels of Canadian government. We are therefore urging fellow municipalities in British Columbia to perform a similar evaluation of the costs of higher-level government policy changes on your communities so that we can effectively bolster the advocacy already happening through UBCM in concrete terms.

Through our collective strength, and as one unified voice committed to seeing positive change in our communities, we can make a difference for the citizens who have chosen to make British Columbia home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katie Neustaeter".

Councillor Katie Neustaeter
Deputy Mayor, City of Kamloops

cc: Council
David Hallinan, Corporate Services Director, City of Kamloops

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT TO COUNCIL

ON

FINANCIAL IMPACTS OF HIGHER-LEVEL GOVERNMENT POLICY CHANGE

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information pertaining to the impact that various changes at senior levels of government have had on City operations and budgets over the past five years.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

This report supports Council's strategic priorities and areas of focus regarding:

- **Safety and Security**
 - Safety: We prioritize the safety of our community for residents, businesses, and visitors.
 - Housing: We proactively create opportunities to increase the inventory of diverse housing supply so that residents can access and move throughout the housing continuum.
 - Social Supports: We intentionally collaborate with key partners to create innovative solutions that respond to and address the community's needs.
 - Emergency Preparedness and Response: We build community resiliency, mitigate the impacts of emergency events, streamline response, and ensure our protective services align with evolving needs.
- **Governance and Service Excellence**
 - Asset Management: We plan for the development, improvement, repair, and replacement of our infrastructure.
 - Fiscal Responsibility: We are accountable to Kamloops residents and businesses in providing effective management, best value, and responsible use of tax dollars.
 - Service Excellence: We promote the continuous development of staff and encourage innovation in process and service delivery.
- **Livability and Sustainability**
 - Healthy Community: We foster an environment that supports and promotes healthy living through community, recreation, and social connection.
 - Inclusivity: We reduce barriers for underrepresented groups to bring inclusivity, diversity, and fairness to our community.
 - Climate Action: We practice discipline in our environmental responsibility by enhancing the City's resiliency and capacity for mitigating climate change. We actively implement actions to reduce our environmental impacts.
- **Economic Health**
 - Business Development: We ensure our efforts and investments are measurable and accountable.
 - Economic Strength: We build strategies to increase our competitive advantage, cultivate growth, and support our residents.

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MAKING KAMLOOPS SHINE

-056-

SUMMARY

On January 9, 2024, Council requested staff bring forward a summary of the City's costs associated with senior levels of government downloading services onto municipalities. The issue of downloading is complex and has become muddled by the impact of the various services that are expected to be provided by various levels of government. Services such as medical response become less clear when the interdependence between policing, fire, and ambulance services are called upon to address an emergency.

Other conditions are very clear and easily identified, as the relationship between federal and provincial responsibilities and those of local governments is easily distinguishable. Growing centres face increasing demands for service delivery to address growing social and health needs related to poverty, homelessness, and medical support. At the same time, the financial challenges facing all levels of government require alignment to provide services effectively. This report will focus on the different forms of downloading in six key focus areas:

- gaps in service delivery - areas where policy and/or service delivery should fall under federal or provincial jurisdiction
- senior government services shortfalls - areas where service is delivered by senior government and there are gaps in the service level addressed by the local government
- legislative and regulatory framework - changes to senior government legislative and regulatory framework that impacts municipal budgets
- property taxation policy and partnering - changes by senior government to property tax policy that impacts the City's ability to collect or increase taxes and partnering on infrastructure upgrades
- emerging service - areas of emerging service need that have resulted in an expanded mandate or increased cost on local governments
- future impacts - changes that are either known or are still in a phase of materializing with an impact on local governments

RECOMMENDATION:

For information only.

DISCUSSION

Senior levels of government have been shifting services or costs onto local governments for many years. The period of review of this report is from the beginning of 2019 through the end of 2023. As a starting point, since 2019, both levels of senior government have continued to introduce changes to policy, legislation, and regulatory compliance during a period of considerable challenges in the employment market, the social environment, and the economy. As these impacts ripple through municipalities across the province, the impact is being felt at the local government level in the delivery of services and the need to adapt to address these changes is being felt by City operations and residents.

Many of the impacts being felt at the local level are attributed to changes initiated by the federal or provincial governments and gaps in the ability to deliver the requested services are becoming increasingly evident.

Several of the policy changes in effect have yet to impact the City financially; however, these changes are expected to affect the organization's future financial position.

Gaps in Service Delivery

Shelters, Social Housing, and Affordable Housing

In support of responding to the housing crisis and increasing homelessness, the following is a list of City-owned properties currently being leased or previously leased at a nominal fee (\$1) to the Province to provide shelter services, social housing, or affordable housing.

- Shelter Services
 - Memorial Arena and Kamloops Curling Club - leased during the pandemic (2020/2021) to provide up to 90 temporary shelter beds (\$250,000 lost revenue).
 - Kamloops Yacht Club - leased to provide 20 temporary winter shelter beds winter 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 (\$24,000 lost revenue).
 - Stuart Wood School - leased through joint approvals by the City and Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc to provide temporary winter shelter in winter 2017/2018 and 2021/2022 and served as a temporary shelter on an ongoing basis since November 2022 with a current lease to April 2024 (likely to be further extended).
 - 600 Kingston Avenue - leased for \$1 in 2021 to provide a 41-bed temporary shelter (Moir House) through to end of 2026.

- Supportive Housing
 - Idle City property located at 785, 805, 807, and 809 Mission Flats Road - leased to BC Housing for \$1 in 2018 to provide 54 temporary supportive housing units (ongoing) (the City's cost to acquire adjacent property (773 Mission Flats Road) and demolish older dwelling to accommodate displaced public works operations - \$727,000).
 - 317 Tranquille Road - long-term (60 years) lease to provide 58 supportive housing units (Spero House) (City cost to acquire and demolish the existing building - \$1.4 million).

- Subsidized Affordable Housing:
 - City property located at 445 5th Avenue and 527, 533, and 537 St. Paul Street was provided under a long-term lease (60 years) to provide 60 subsidized affordable rental housing units (Diversity Flats) (City cost to acquire the property - \$1.41 million).
 - City property located at 975 Singh Street was provided under a long-term lease (60 years) to provide 31 housing units for Indigenous youths and Elders (Kikekyelc: A Place of Belonging).
 - City property located at 440 MacKenzie Avenue was provided under a long-term lease (60 years) to provide 43 housing units for seniors.

The City’s total expenditures to accommodate the housing projects identified above is approximately \$3.537 million.

Housing Regulations (Bill 44 or 46)

The City works in partnership with the provincial government and BC Housing through a memorandum of understanding to support the planning, development, operations, and communications for future shelter, social housing, and subsidized affordable housing sites.

In 2023, the Province began issuing non-market and market housing targets to municipalities, including the City of Kamloops. Non-market housing is primarily achieved through provincial and federal funds, and market housing relies on investment and development by private landowners and developers.

Zoning changes required under Bill 44 to allow increased densities in urban areas will require significant infrastructure upgrades, which have not been accounted for in the Development Cost Charges Bylaw.

The Province also looks to the City to cover the costs for servicing and off-site improvements to assist in moving specific Province-led housing projects forward.

In summary, the costs in areas where policy and/or service delivery should fall under federal or provincial jurisdiction and where current gaps exist have negatively impacted the municipality either from a reduction in revenue, or the City costs to acquire property to support these forms of initiatives, along with recognizing the impact due to the loss of access and revenues on assets that are held for other civic purposes.

Gaps in Service Delivery	
Summary of Identified Costs	
Lost Revenue	\$274,000
Costs	\$3,537,000
Total	\$3,811,000

Senior Government Services Shortfall

This category impacts City service delivery and costs but is also difficult to quantify because they impact services in different ways and can be difficult to track. Costs that can be identified have been indicated.

Many of these cost impacts had been experienced by the local government; however, the COVID-19 pandemic placed a brighter spotlight on the growing opioid epidemic and the challenges in overall access to housing access and market affordability. Senior levels of government’s response to these crises has been felt on the front lines of many municipalities, including Kamloops.

Mental Health and the Toxic Drug Crisis

Kamloops Fire Rescue Medical Response

In addition to fire suppression, Kamloops Fire Rescue firefighters provide pre-hospital care as first responders to medical calls. Kamloops Fire Rescue's response to medical calls is approximately 66% of their annual calls for service. In the last three years, medical responses have increased by 57% between 2021 (4,600) and 2023 (7,200). Of the total annual medical calls, overdose/poisoning responses have increased by 57% between 2021 (540) and 2023 (845).

For 2023 medical responses, Kamloops Fire Rescue arrived on scene 75% of the time and an average of 4 minutes and 42 seconds before BC Emergency Health Services. Given an average call duration of 26 minutes for Kamloops Fire Rescue's medical responses, the 2,600 additional responses put significant pressure on existing crews and resources.

The 2023 budget for fire suppression and medical response was \$21.6 million. Given the large portion of response calls that are medical in nature, there is an implicit cost related to the increase in on-scene time due to delays in BC Emergency Health Services responses.

Overtime costs have increased by approximately 58% (\$180,000) since 2020, and sick leave hours have increased by 31% (4,800 hours) over the same period. Several factors contributed to these increases, but there is a correlation between the increased call volume, member fatigue, and rising leaves taken.

The City incurs a range of costs, including supplying medical supplies and Naloxone costs of about \$1,000 per year, as these supplies are consumed through these forms of Kamloops Fire Rescue responses.

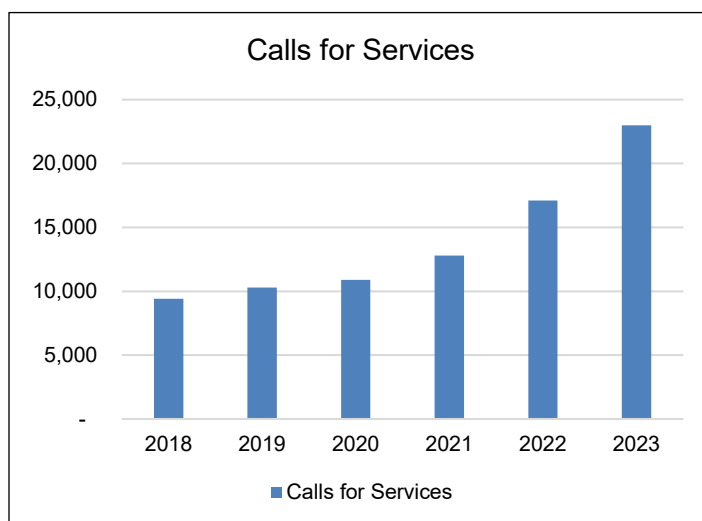
In addition to the increase in overall operating costs, an additional complication is the potential risk of delayed responses to other calls or a future need for increased staffing to meet rising demand. Medical response is a value-added service that Kamloops Fire Rescue provides as the primary responsibility for pre-hospital care lies with the Province through BC Emergency Health Services.

Community Services

Leading up to 2019, it became apparent that social issues were increasing at the community level, and traditional Bylaw Officers lacked the skills to respond to these types of incidents safely. In response, the division was rebranded to Community Services, and Bylaw Officer positions were transitioned to Community Service Officers. This reorganization was intended to provide augmented services to support bylaw enforcement and to partner with the RCMP to introduce a greater combined presence within the city.

In 2018, 9,400 bylaw-related calls for service were received. Under the Community Services model, this has sharply increased each year, with 23,000 calls for service received in 2023. Of these calls, 24% were classified as social related.

This growth in call volume is attributed to residents' increased awareness of the supports provided by Community Services and a continuation of the rising social issues that precipitated the creation of the department in the first place.



To respond to this rising call volume, Community Services has added six new full-time equivalents over the past five years, with those additional salaries and wages adding approximately \$860,000 to the budget annually. Community Services Officers receive a higher level of training (up to \$20,000) and equipment profile (up to \$20,000) than previously required, and more vehicles (five at approximately \$90,000 once fully outfitted each plus operating costs) have been required to support the increased officer numbers and call volume. The cost for homeless camp cleanup is a specific cost that has increased \$140,000 from 2018 levels.

Community Services Budget and Staff Levels¹

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Salaries and Wages	\$2,581,000	\$2,851,000	\$2,975,000	\$2,775,000	\$3,788,000
Other	1,152,000	1,345,000	1,045,000	966,000	896,000
Total	\$3,733,000	\$4,196,000	\$4,020,000	\$3,741,000	\$4,684,000
Full-Time Equivalents	28.9	30.9	30.9	31.3	38.0

In fall 2022, BC's Attorney General and the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General commissioned the Transforming Policing and Community Safety in British Columbia report. The report contained many recommendations to address the gaps in the system around the care of people with mental health and substance use needs involved in the criminal justice system. Central to this was the understanding of the need to increase non-police resources to address mental health and substance use issues.

An additional impact of the rising call volume and the resulting Community Service Officer resource constraints led to a temporarily reduced focus on parking enforcement in the key business corridors. Parking ticket revenues in 2021 decreased by approximately \$40,000 and by a further \$5,000 in 2022. Once additional Community Service Officer resources were added as part of the 2023 supplemental budget process, Community Services Officers were able to refocus on enforcement, and revenue returned to historical levels.

¹ Combined custody of prisoners, Community Services, and parking budgets. The salaries and wages decrease in 2022 is attributable to a realignment of budgets and positions to the new model.

On-Street and Off-Street Parking and Ticket Revenue

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Parking Revenue	\$2,000,900	\$1,111,700	\$1,432,300	\$1,468,200	\$1,482,700
Ticket Revenue	166,400	105,900	62,500	56,300	113,100
Total	\$2,167,300	\$1,217,600	\$1,494,800	\$1,524,500	\$1,595,800

Parking revenue was significantly impacted by COVID-19 measures and has been slow to recover. This is partially a result of changes in demand due to an increase in remote office workers and the effects of reduced enforcement due to Community Service Officers' capacity constraints.

Contracted Security

During the transition period to the Community Services model, the need to supplement the emerging program with private security services was identified. These security firms were engaged to support and minimize community impacts brought on by an increase in social conditions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, opioid crisis, and lack of safe and secure housing for marginalized people.

While the City implemented these supports, funding was provided received through provincial Strengthening Communities' Services Program grants provided for security services in the city's key commercial corridors. This funding package expired in summer 2023. To keep this important support in place, the City approved using \$450,000 from the Gaming Reserve to maintain this service until the end of 2023.

The costs for security services over the past three years were \$689,000 in 2021, \$1.023 million in 2022, and approximately \$1.177 million in 2023. These costs were offset by grant funding totalling \$1.650 million over the same period. Security is still utilized in park areas and overnight; however, Community Services now has capacity to reduce usage.

Continuing security costs for 2024 are estimated at \$75,000 per month to provide ongoing patrols at transit exchanges, parkades, and surface lots and to perform washroom lockups and night patrols in the parks.

Having initiatives being funded by non-taxation-based revenues (e.g. the Gaming Fund) creates a challenge for the organization in that these funds have traditionally been used to introduce specific projects or initiatives that are completed in a short-term period. With these funds being diverted, it limits the introduction of broader community-based amenities or initiatives that would be added with these non-taxation forms of funding.

Homelessness

On March 2, 2021, Council directed staff to create comprehensive short-, medium-, and long-term plans for preventing and alleviating street issues. One of the medium-term options proposed in the original Notice of Motion was to identify daytime space for street-involved

individuals. In July 2021, Council authorized Administration to enter into a short-term facility use permit with the Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Society and The Mustard Seed to provide The Gathering Place, a seasonal outdoor day space for people experiencing homelessness that was operated in a City-owned parking lot at 48 Victoria Street West. Council authorized the seasonal day space for unhoused individuals at 48 Victoria Street West again in 2022, 2023 and 2024. This initiative operates from April or May to October and is funded through the federal Reaching Home program.

In March 2023, Council approved \$450,000 in funding from the Gaming Reserve to support social-related initiatives beyond the August 2023 conclusion of the Strengthening Communities' Services Program funding. This funding was to continue operating the Envision Outreach Shuttle, the Community Service Officers Outreach Response Program, and the Clean Team through the end of the year.

In November 2023, for the 2024 budget, Council approved \$682,000 in annual funding (the initial year from the Gaming Reserve) to support the Community Service Officers Outreach Response Program (\$422,000) and the Clean Team (\$260,000) on an ongoing basis. The Envision Outreach Shuttle is now supported by funding from the federal Reaching Home program.

Social and Community Development Section

In 2009, Council adopted the Kamloops Social Plan, which resulted in the creation of the Social and Community Development Section to address community needs through the provision of programs and services to support community well-being and an inclusive, accessible, healthy community.

This portfolio puts particular emphasis on supports for vulnerable demographic groups, including, among others, seniors, children and youth, low-income families, Indigenous people, people with disabilities, and people experiencing homelessness. All municipalities have undertaken a social planning and community development function.

For many years through this portfolio, the City has provided affordable access to recreation and transportation; programs for youth, seniors, people with disabilities, and low-income families; food security initiatives; engagement with neighbourhood associations and support for community development initiatives; social and community development grants to community -based programs in alignment with Council and community priorities; coordination and support for community partners in addressing social issues; and social plans in the areas of food security, youth homelessness, childcare, affordable housing, accessibility and inclusion, and housing needs.

Over the past decade, new and growing social issues and community needs have arisen that municipalities, government agencies, and community partners are responding to. These include, among others:

- the toxic drug supply crisis
- the housing crisis and an increasing scale of homelessness
- limited access to and availability of childcare spaces
- increasing food insecurity

These issues are compounded by strains on our health care system and social safety net, climate change impacts, and demographic transitions. While housing, childcare, health care, and social services fall under the jurisdiction of senior government, these emerging social and community needs require municipalities to respond to address gaps where provincial and federal partners are not meeting them. This has resulted in the growth of social planning and community development portfolios in municipalities across the province and the country.

Prior to 2021, the City's Social and Community Development Section included five staff: a supervisor, two union coordinators, one union coordinator specifically for the Emergency Support Services program, and a project manager to support administration of the federal Reaching Home program.

In 2021, with escalating social issues creating increased impacts in the community, a new management position was created to provide oversight, direction, and additional capacity to the portfolio and to support relationship-building and partnership development with senior government agencies, including BC Housing, Interior Health, the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, and the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions. An additional Reaching Home project manager position was also created to support the program's increasing scale.

In 2022, a new supervisor position, predominantly funded through the federal Reaching Home program, was created to provide oversight and management support for the expanding program and to address new responsibilities given to the City as the local administrator of the program, including the development of a coordinated access and assessment system and a homelessness information management system. This new supervisory role also increased capacity to support the Emergency Support Services program, which is being activated with increasing frequency and duration to support regional evacuees fleeing the increasing number and scale of wildfires and floods.

Social and Community Development Section 2019–2023

The federal Reaching Home program funds the Social and Community Development Section. Most of the Reaching Home funds are provided to community programs and services to prevent and reduce homelessness in Kamloops, with the City utilizing an allocated portion for program administration, staffing, and specific projects like the Point-in-Time Count or extreme weather supplies for unhoused individuals.

The following table does not include salaries and wages for the Emergency Support Services program staff, which come from a different program. The federal government invested significant additional funds into the Reaching Home program during the COVID-19 pandemic.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Salaries and Wages	\$131,000	\$163,000	\$405,000	\$388,000	\$582,000
Community Programs and Services (Reaching Home, Service Agreements, Social and Community Development Grants)	1,219,000	2,211,000	4,664,000	2,258,000	2,577,000
Grant Funding	(569,000)	(1,426,000)	(4,036,000)	(1,640,000)	(1,874,000)
Total	\$781,000	\$948,000	\$1,033,000	\$1,006,000	\$1,285,000
Full-Time Equivalents (not including Reaching Home and Emergency Support Services program staff)	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Full-Time Equivalents (including Reaching Home and Emergency Support Services program staff)	5.0	5.0	7.0	8.0	8.0

The ownership of the services identified under senior government services shortfalls can be described as shared between all three levels of government. These services, specifically the ability to clearly delineate where one level of government’s responsibility starts and another’s ends, are muddy at best. The service that best shows this is emergency/medical response. It is commonplace to see multiple first responders dealing with a situation, so while the local government incurs some of these costs, it is reasonable that those costs would be incurred regardless of the nature of the situation being responded to.

Government Shortfalls	
Summary of Identified Costs	
Overtime Costs	\$400,000
Medical Supplies	\$5,000
Camp Cleanup	\$210,000
Community Service Officers	\$813,000
Security	\$1,239,000
Community Programs	\$787,000
Total	\$3,454,000

Legislative and Regulatory Framework

Municipalities are often impacted by senior government policy and legislation that result in increased spending by municipalities. While not directly considered downloading, these collectively require the City to increase its budgets or staffing. In a number of these circumstances, a stronger consultation process would improve coordination and help municipalities minimize additional costs.

Response to Emergency Situations

Kamloops is centrally located in BC's Interior. In many circumstances, it becomes the destination for many other Interior residents during periods of local evacuation orders. Over the past number of years, Kamloops has been relied on as a host community for displaced residents from Merritt, Williams Lake, and Lytton.

With the changes to the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* and a new potential requirement to be a host community, these services are necessary for evacuees, and supplying them is very impactful to the corporation's ability to maintain its brand of Canada's Tournament Capital.

Many City facilities become unavailable during host community activations to support many of the displaced residents or responding agencies. As these types of events become more frequent, the City is expected to experience a larger financial impact and that there will be less access for sports organizations and residents. In many circumstances, a number of these residents chose to remain in the city after many of the displaced people have returned home.

The Province covers some of these expenses; however, some costs, such as technology access and lost revenues, are not covered while the facility is unavailable. Potentially adding to the situation is the impact on reputation as the public becomes increasingly aware of the impacts that, for example, wildfires have on evacuation and air quality. Areas where these conditions exist become less desirable, and tourists and visitors are booked elsewhere where there is a greater level of comfort that these conditions will not impact their plans or events.

Adding to the delay in resuming normal City activities is that staff time is required to clean and prepare the facility to support program delivery.

Bail Reform

Kamloops RCMP experienced an increase in calls for service from 45,000 in 2019 to almost 47,000 in 2022. Of those calls for service, criminal code offences increased by 3,500 over the same period. Many of these calls were related to mental health issues, addiction issues, and level of homelessness are a common theme with many missing person files. These investigations are challenging as those closest to these missing individuals are often difficult to locate. These investigations can be costly and resource intensive.

In response to rising case files per member, Council authorized an increase in the number of authorized RCMP members. For 2024, the budgeted target is 138 members, an increase of nine members over the previous budget level of 129. At the current estimated cost of \$225,000 per member, this equates to a \$2.0 million budget increase.

This increased amount does not account for the municipal support employees and facilities requirements needed to support a growing RCMP contingent. It should be noted that rapid population growth in Kamloops would have resulted in the need for additional policing resources regardless, but the timing was accelerated due to the rising caseload.

Changing Policies Towards Substance Use and Safe Supply Access

These policies impact the overdose crisis and the overall community. They add to the cost of delivering City services across multiple departments, as outlined in the medical response section.

WorkSafeBC Regulation Changes

Mental Health/Psychological

In 2012, WorkSafeBC introduced amendments to the *Workers Compensation Act* recognizing the impact of traumatic workplace events. These types of events have grown over the years as the impacts of mental health and psychological conditions are becoming more prevalent in the workplace, increasing psychological injuries.

The cost of a psychological injury in 2021 was \$220,270, which is five times more than a physical injury. As the number of accepted psychological injuries is increasing, the City has responded by providing various resources around mental health through benefits and an employee and family assistance program.

In support of these changing developments, the City has developed a wellness committee that focuses on mental and physical health. Through this committee, the City completes a Workplace Mental Health Essentials Canada to review where the city is currently at regarding mental health and to provide some guidance on the next steps to become a psychologically safe workplace.

Asbestos Certification and Licensing

WorkSafeBC introduced more stringent requirements for additional training with asbestos, which led to increased training for staff and contractors. These are all positive changes from a safety perspective but come with a cost to the City. The regulation changes required any City staff who handle asbestos or oversee contractors who handle asbestos to take additional training.

Of the staff who handle asbestos, 38 have achieved in level 1 certification at a total cost of \$4,500, and two staff have achieved level 3 certification at a total cost of \$3,000. Level 1 training is one full day, level 2 training is three full days, and level 3 training is one full day. Completion of levels 1 and 2 is a prerequisite for level 3.

In these circumstances, there is an additional cost to the City, either for employees who, while receiving training, are not available to deliver on City services or for contractors who, with training, pass this time on to the City as part of the overall cost to deliver the work that they are undertaking.

Traffic Control

The updated Traffic Management Manual (2020) required flashing arrow boards to be added to the tops of 25 City vehicles. Each of these arrow boards costs approximately \$3,000, for a total spend of \$75,000. Another requirement with the new regulations is the use of portable traffic signals. The City needed to purchase two portable traffic signals for \$57,500 each. In addition to these capital costs, any projects which require traffic control are seeing cost increases due to the new regulatory requirements.

Adding to overall safety awareness, in 2021, the change in requirements to provide a more stringent level of traffic control led to an increase in training requirements for training, staff time on site for assessments, and overall projects costs. These are all positive changes from a safety perspective but come with a cost to the City.

Other Financial Impacts

Employer Health Tax

Effective January 1, 2020, the provincial government introduced the employer health tax as a replacement for the previous premium-based BC Medical program. The BC Medical premium was a fixed amount per person, or couple as opposed to a percentage allocation based on total payroll. The City’s annual payroll is more than the \$1.5 million threshold that results in the provincially mandated tax rate of 1.95% of gross salaries and wages.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
BC Medical	\$516,800				
Employer Health Tax	-	\$1,224,336	\$1,295,694	\$1,391,639	\$1,440,000
Difference Over 2019	-	\$707,536	\$778,894	\$874,839	\$923,200

When introduced in 2020, organizations with an annual payroll of less than \$500,000 were exempt from paying the employer health tax. As a result, many of the larger organizations, such as municipalities, were placed in the position of carrying the cost burden of these smaller businesses. This impact is expected to continue and to grow, proposed legislation changes for 2024 are expected to see the exemption limit double to organizations with an annual payroll of less than \$1.0 million.

Provincially Legislated Five Paid Sick Days

In addition to the number of sick days identified in the City of Kamloops collective agreement with CUPE Local 900, at the start of 2022, the Province legislated five sick days for staff who are not part of the union. The cost to the City in 2023 was \$24,467.

BC Carbon Tax

Since 2008, the provincial carbon tax has been applied to the purchase or use of fossil fuels, such as gasoline, diesel, natural gas, heating fuel, and propane. The carbon tax is collected at the fuel’s point of retail consumption. In 2008, the BC carbon tax rate was calculated based on

\$10 per tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions (tCO₂e) produced at combustion. In 2023, the rate used by the Province and the federal government is \$65/tCO₂e.

Carbon Tax Rate by Fuel Type by Year

Fuel Type	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Gasoline (\$/L)	\$0.089	\$0.089	\$0.099	\$0.110	\$0.143
Diesel (\$/L)	\$0.102	\$0.102	\$0.117	\$0.130	\$0.169
Natural Gas (\$/GJ)	\$1.99	\$1.99	\$2.31	\$2.56	\$3.24

Gov.BC.ca/Assets/Download/2B773FE65B2E4370A4369A92311CA780

Carbon Tax Cost on Operations by Fuel Type by Year

Fuel Type	Average Consumption /Year*	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Gasoline \$/L	400,000 L	\$35,600	\$35,600	\$39,600	\$44,000	\$57,200
Diesel \$/L	930,000 L	\$94,860	\$94,860	\$108,810	\$120,900	\$157,170
Natural Gas \$/GJ	81,433 GJ	\$162,072	\$162,072	\$188,110	\$208,468	\$263,843
Total Carbon Tax Estimate		\$292,532	\$292,532	\$336,520	\$373,368	\$483,213

*Average consumption volume has been kept flat to show the impacts of the change in the carbon tax on operations.

Based on the estimates in the table above, carbon tax represents \$483,213 of the \$3,329,400 paid for fossil fuels used in the delivery of municipal services in 2023. These carbon tax expenses are partially offset by the \$325,000 of revenue the City receives through the Local Government Climate Action Program.

The Local Government Climate Action Program replaced the former Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program that was retired in 2021 and effectively reimbursed 100% of the carbon tax paid by municipalities for publicly reporting their annual greenhouse gas emissions.

This taxation impact on the City is expected to grow and increase as planned increases have already been identified at the provincial and federal government levels. As of April 1, 2024, the carbon tax rate increased by 23.0% from \$65 to \$80 per tonne.

Various Permitting (or Licensing)

Part of the ongoing relationship between City staff and other ministries of both governments or other government agencies is working within the regulatory and compliance requirements that are in place. Many of the requirements result in the need to secure “permission” before performing specific project works.

In many of these situations, delays are encountered in securing the completed permit in a timely manner. In some instances, these delays extend over many months and even years and, as a result, increase the project’s costs due to these delays. In addition to this cost increase, there is a domino effect where the delay in one year will impact future years’ project timing, priorities, funding, and access to resources.

The financial impact of these forms of delays is difficult to measure as inflationary impact due to supply and demand, supply chain issues, and contractor availability all contribute to cost increase caused by permitting delays.

Regulations

Enhanced enforcement of regulations has led to higher project costs as we comply with building permitting, the *Heritage Conservation Act*, and the *Wildlife Act*.

Changes to existing regulations affect our ongoing operations, as staff need to ensure compliance with the regulations and change existing capital plans where they no longer fit the regulations. Changes in regulations for things like wastewater, organic matter, drinking water, and privacy require a lot of internal and external resources to ensure we are continually compliant. In cases such as the Commercial Vehicle Safety Enforcement hour of work regulation changes, it affects how we can meet our service level within our approved staffing.

While many of the regulatory changes are resulting in a positive impact on City operations, particularly those that help provide a safer working environment for the nearly 1,000 employees, others do not. Introduction of the employer health tax and the bc carbon tax add to the City’s overall costs, and while they are intended to provide a greater value to the Province, they leave little being returned to the municipality.

Legislative and Regulatory Framework	
Summary of Identified Costs	
RCMP	\$2,030,000
Asbestos Training	\$185,000
Traffic Management	\$132,500
Employer Health Tax	\$3,284,469
Provincially Mandated Five Paid Sick Days	\$24,467
BC Carbon Tax	\$206,581
Total	\$5,863,017

Property Taxation Policy and Partnering

Supportive Housing Exemption

In addition to statutory and permissive exemptions, eligible properties designated as supportive housing (Class 3) are assessed at a nominal value and are effectively exempt from property taxes.

The Province created this property class pursuant to the *Small Business and Revenue Statutes Amendment Act, 2008*. This exemption is applied to 19 Class 3 properties. It is difficult to project what the assessed value and corresponding taxes of these properties would be.



Provincial Partnership in Municipal Upgrades

In many instances when City infrastructure is being revitalized, such as work recently completed on the Victoria Street West corridor, partnerships with Crown agencies or private companies result in increased costs to the City. Many of these agencies benefit from activities like installing infrastructure underground instead of maintaining it overhead or relocating their infrastructure to provide easier access. In many of these situations, there is no fair consideration of the value the third party provides. In these situations, the City identifies an overall fully funded budget to deliver the project uninterrupted.

This situation also exists when Crown agencies upgrade their infrastructure and restore the location. However, rather than restoring the area to a preferred standard, these agencies restore to a like-for-like deliverable instead. For example, instead of installing curb, gutter and sidewalk to current design standards, they replace it to the same standard curb as the existing outdated infrastructure.

Emerging Services

Implementation of Surrey Policing Service

Kamloops is a large municipality in relation to the surrounding communities and as a result, the city has the largest comparative contingent of RCMP members in the Thompson region. This allows for additional specialty members, such as a dog team, identification and forensic specialists, and emergency response team members. The Kamloops RCMP Detachment also has two provincially funded forensic members.

These specialty members are expected to cover the entire Thompson region and are often tasked outside the community to support smaller municipalities and rural areas. There is currently no cost-sharing initiative to support this central resource, so the City bears an outsized portion of the carrying costs for these shared resources.

The City of Surrey is transitioning from the RCMP to a municipal police force. Surrey has had the largest RCMP contingent in the province, so its departure will have a significant, although currently unknown, impact on ongoing operations. For example, ticket revenue for the province is pooled and paid to member communities through a pro-rata allocation based on member full-time equivalents. Surrey's pending transition from the RCMP will decrease the RCMP's total full-time equivalents and likely reduce the total ticket revenue collected and distributed. The City has already experienced a \$100,000–\$150,000 per year reduction in ticket revenue.

On the contract cost side, the impacts of Surrey's departure on divisional overhead, recruitment, and training expenses remain unknown. These costs are also allocated based on the full-time equivalents model, with an expectation that with fewer province-wide full-time equivalents to allocate against, the City would see an increase in the cost per member.

Future Impacts

Orphan Dikes

During flooding, mainly in the 1970s, many dikes were constructed on an emergency basis and not to applicable standards. Responsibility for these dikes was never established, and they became known as orphan dikes. In 2020, the Province contracted a consultant to assess all orphan dikes in BC.

The estimated cost to upgrade the orphan dikes within Kamloops' jurisdiction was \$115 million. We can assume that the cost has drastically increased with the inflation of construction services. If the Province continues with the strategy of assigning responsibility for orphan dikes to local governments, the cost and liability of this assignment would be immense.

Dams (Inherited)

During its amalgamation, the City of Kamloops inherited several small dams operated by the BC Fruitlands Irrigation District. The City has never used or operated these dams but is responsible for their liability.

The current cost estimate for decommissioning these dams is \$5 million, and this estimate is included in both the 2027 and 2028 water utility capital budgets. There are ongoing discussions with the Province and Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc to find more cost-effective and less environmentally disruptive options.

Childcare

As the demand on working parents increases, local governments have started to be drawn into the area of childcare. As Kamloops continues to grow, there is a need to support current municipal employees, other residents, and future residents. This concern may materialize in several ways. Subsidized childcare services may be provided, property or venues may be identified and provided, or local government may take on the responsibility of filling the gaps in the marketplace. Any costs associated with childcare are unknown until the details and nature of the programs and responsibilities are known.

With the ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund, 100% of project costs are covered if the applicant and landowner is a local government, Indigenous organization or governing entity, or a public body such as a health authority, board of education, post-secondary institution, or Crown Corporation. However, only 90% of project costs are covered if the applicant and landowner is a non-profit entity or independent school. This places additional pressure on the City to sponsor applications and provide land.

Sustainability

In March 2021, the Province redefined and introduced new 2030 emissions targets within four target sectors to meet provincial greenhouse gas targets. Many of these targets transcend the service activities of the municipality.

These changes to the provincial emissions targets align with the federal 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan. The plan reflects input from provinces, territories, Indigenous Peoples, the Net-Zero Advisory Body, and interested Canadians on what is needed to reach Canada's more ambitious climate target of 40%–45% emissions reductions by 2030.

In October 2023, amendments to the *Zero-Emission Vehicles Act* implemented accelerated sales targets for new light-duty vehicles sold in BC, which were initially announced in the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030, so that 26% of light-duty (cars and trucks) vehicle sales in the province are zero-emission vehicles, 90% by 2030, and 100% by 2035.

The *Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act* sets out Canada’s commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050. The act ensures transparency and accountability as the government works to deliver on its targets and requires public participation and independent advice to guide the Government of Canada’s efforts.

While there are currently revenue streams providing funding to either the federal or provincial governments through the carbon tax, the level of revenues that are anticipated to be collected is greatly outpacing the amount of funding being provided back to local governments to support the implementation of these program and help achieve the emissions targets. This shortfall in funding is going to be required to meet the targets, and unless there is a change in the funding allocation from higher levels of government, it is going to fall on the local governments to identify funding opportunities.

BC Carbon Tax

In 2024, the BC carbon tax as a component to consumable fuels is expected to increase to \$0.1761 per litre for gasoline and \$0.1525 per m³ of natural gas consumption. Under the current government, this form of taxation is expected to triple by 2030. For this impact, average consumption volume has been kept flat to show the impacts of the change in the carbon tax on operations.

BC Carbon Tax Rates

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Gasoline \$/L	0.1761	0.2091	0.2422	0.2752	0.3082
Diesel \$/L	0.2074	0.2462	0.2851	0.3239	0.3628
Natural Gas \$/GJ	4.0951	4.8631	5.6311	6.3991	7.1671

BC Carbon Tax Cost on Operations

	Estimated Volumes	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Gasoline L	400,000	\$70,440	\$83,640	\$96,880	\$110,080	\$123,280
Diesel L	905,000	\$187,697	\$222,811	\$258,016	\$293,170	\$328,325
Natural Gas GJ	84,378	\$336,324	\$399,398	\$462,473	\$525,548	\$588,622
Total Carbon Tax Estimate		\$664,901	\$789,489	\$914,248	\$1,038,878	\$1,163,507

Occupational First Aid

The requirement for the number of staff trained in Level 1 and Level 2 first aid will change at the end of 2024. This change will require the City to train more staff in Level 1 first aid. In 2024,

there are 16 first aid courses scheduled, each costing \$1,200, for a total of \$19,200. The training requirements will continue in future years.

Future Impacts	
Summary of Potential Costs	
Orphan Dikes	\$115,000,000
Dams	\$5,000,000
BC Carbon Tax	\$2,194,548
First Aid	\$19,200
Total	\$122,213,748

SUMMARY

Policy changes at both senior levels of government over the past five years have resulted in many impacts on local governments. In addition to these changes, the overall social and economic environments have added new challenges that are needing to be addressed by local governments. In some situations, the relationship between cause and effect is apparent and obvious, while in other situations, the impact is more challenging to identify and quantify.

As local government service delivery is placed on the front line to address the community’s concerns, municipalities must find ways to meet new or changed regulatory requirements and address the growing gaps in services of other levels of government.

The following table summarizes the costs for each impact area from higher-level government policy changes or the expanded role that the City has had to undertake. The costs that the City has been able to quantify are included; however, as noted throughout the report, many significant impacts are not possible to quantify.

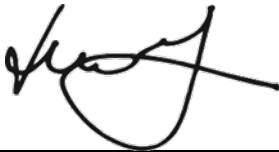
Identified Costs	
Gaps in Service Delivery	\$3,811,000
Senior Government Services Shortfalls	\$3,454,000
Legislative and Regulatory Framework	\$5,863,017
Property Taxation Policy and Partnering	Unknown
Emerging Service	Unknown
Future Impacts	\$122,213,748
Total	\$135,341,765

These costs have created and are likely going to continue to create an ongoing financial challenge for the City and provide opportunities to build partnerships with senior government to

explore improved co-operation and coordination and expand access to funding provide stable and predictable funding solution that does not lie solely on the municipal tax-payer.



D. Hallinan, FCPA, FCMA
Corporate Services Director



Approved for Council

DR/kjm

Concurrence: J. Luison, Civic Operations Assistant
Director
C. Mazzotta, MA, Assistant Community and
Culture Director
M. Kwiatkowski, P. Eng. Development,
Engineering and Sustainability Director

Author: D. Rutsatz, CPA, CGA, Financial Planning
and Procurement Manager

Reviewed by: L. Hill, BCom, CPA, CMA, Financial
Services Manager
M. Helfrich, CPA, CA, Business Operations
Manager

Elite Events BC
Kamloops, BC
Email: eliteeventsbc@gmail.com
Tel. 778-220-1879

Jun 12, 2024

To: Village of Chase Mayor and Council

Re: Grant-in-Aid Request for Skwlax Commemoration of Wildfire event on Sun. Aug 18, 2024

Dear Mayor & Council,

My name is Elena Markin, owner & Lead Event Planner at Elite Events BC, an event planning & event management company.

Elite Events BC has been hired to plan and coordinate the Skwlax 1 year Commemoration from the Wildfire event on **Sunday Aug 18, 2024** to which we are warmly inviting you.

The purpose of this event is to celebrate Skwlax resiliency, sharing culture and language, and honoring all who helped and supported the community during a year of hardship and uncertainty.

This uplifting event will celebrate overcoming challenges together, and looking forward to a better future. It is an extremely important stepping stone in the recovery journey of Skwlāx te Secwépemcúlecw.

The event is free of charge and we are expecting 400 guests to attend.

Talking Rock Golf Course is the pride of Skwlāx te Secwépemcúlecw, bringing people together, enhancing the Secwepemc culture, and fostering a strong & connected community.

On Sun. Aug 18, 2024 Little Shuswap Lake Band will be offering a free day of golf at the Talking Rock Golf Course.

Via this letter, I am hoping for your consideration in sponsoring the Day of Golf, as we are looking for \$2,400 to help offset some of the costs related to offering the free day of golf.

If the Grant-in-Aid is approved by you, as a token of appreciation, we offer:

- Mention on stage when announcing prizes to the golfers
- Logo will be printed on the Event Program & Registration Form
- Opportunity for an early registration of a foursome

I look forward to hearing back from you. Thank you kindly for the consideration. Kukstemc!

Sincerely,



Elena Markin
Event Coordinator for the Skwlax Commemoration of the Wildfire Event

Attachments: Event Details, Event Registration Link & Event Poster

Event details:

Date: Sun. Aug 18, 2024

Event start time: 11am

Tee-off: 11.15am

Event Location: Quaaout Lodge & Talking Rock Golf Course, 1663 Little Shuswap Lake Rd, Chase, BC V0E 1M2

More information & Registration link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/skte>

[Secwépemcú'lecw-wlax-commemoration-of-the-wildfire-tickets-887797414967](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/skte)

SKWLĀX TE SECWÉPEMCÚ'LECW
CELEBRATING OUR RESILIENCE
& REBUILD OF OUR COMMUNITY

OUR COMMUNITY INVITES YOU TO
SKWLĀX
COMMEMORATION OF THE WILDFIRE

FREE EVENT

FEATURING

- Sunrise Ceremony
- Community Blessing/Smudge
- Big Drum Songs
- Community Walk
- Food
- Music
- Games & Activities for all
- Golf
- and more

SUNDAY
Aug 18, 2024

STARTS AT
11:00 AM

QUAAOUT LODGE
1663 Little Shuswap Lk. Rd

REGISTER NOW
[EliteEventsBC.com/events](https://www.eliteeventsbc.com/events)

Everyone is welcome!

*Please note this is a family-friendly event,
alcohol & drugs are not permitted.*