



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Amended

For the **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING** of Council to be held on Monday, March 24, 2025, at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 424 – 3rd Avenue West, Prince Rupert, B.C.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Recommendation:

THAT the Agenda for the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Monday, March 24, 2025, be adopted as circulated.

3. PRESENTATIONS

- I. Presentation from Staff and Andrew Lockhart from Atmospheric Perspective Re: Mariner's Park (Rotary Band Shell)**
- II. Presentation from John Farrell, Executive Director for the Community Futures Re: Impending Staff Shortages**
- III. Presentation from Guu Gaa Jung [Symbia Barnaby] Re: Sacred Fire Family**

4. QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

5. ADJOURNMENT to Regular Council Meeting

March 16, 2025

Mayor: Herb Pond

Councillors: Barry Cunningham

Teri Forester

Wade Niesh

Reid Skelton-Morven

Gurvinder Randhawa

Nick Adey

Staff: Veronika Stewart

Myfannwy Pope

Richard Pucci

Rosa Miller

Fire Chief: Jeff Beckwith

Re: Presentation to Council

My name is Guu Gaa Jung [symbia barnaby]. I am writing on behalf of The Sacred Fire Family, following the described process on the City of Prince Rupert Website, which plans to address the Mayor and Council on two topics at the March 24th City Council Meeting.

The first topic being presented will be a motion to recognize the lot across from the Jim Ciccone Civic Center, 1000 McBride Street as the Sacred Fire Site. The site in reference is located on the Lax Yuup [tribal lands] of the Gits'iis tribe and has been established and used by such a number of times as a ceremonial healing site. During this portion of the presentation, the following will be shared: information on permanent signage, planned public awareness/media campaigns, discussions held regarding the display cases within the Civic Center to feature the historical information in regards to the site, and ongoing mutual agreement for use.

The second topic to be presented will be an update on the work conducted by the Sacred Fire Family about the three Haida replica totem poles located at the same site referenced above. The research about the totem poles was conducted following ancestral matriarchal law abiding by strict cultural teachings. The research was conducted following a public discussion/request at the February 2024 soup feast at Conrad Elementary School hosted by members of the Gits'iis Tribe and attended by Mayor Herb Pond and Richard Pucci. The extensive research conducted by this group included traditional approaches; master carver law, identifying cultural protocol for raising poles, and cultural approaches for falling poles. The research also included compiling the historical records; identification of the carvers involved and their descendants, the origin/history of the totem poles, and the agencies/organizations involved in moving the poles. It is important to note that a future conversation will be needed with the Haida Nation, The Nisga'a Nation and additional Ts'msyen tribes about the other totem poles currently within the city limits.

This presentation will focus on Indigenous protocols and Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Doing. It will be conducted by the matriarch for this traditional territory with assistance by members of the Sacred Fire Family, and those that helped conduct this important research.

Thank you for your time and consideration with this matter.

Request put forth by

Guu Gaa Jung [symbia barnaby]

On behalf of Sigidyem Hana'ak

N'ts'is Xysnath [isabelle stewart] &

Wii Naat [gerald stewart]