



**MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, 141 WEST 14<sup>th</sup> STREET, NORTH VANCOUVER, BC, ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2014.**

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**PRESENT:**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Mayor D. Mussatto  
Councillor H. Back  
Councillor D. Bell  
Councillor P. Bookham  
Councillor L. Buchanan  
Councillor R. Clark  
Councillor K. Keating

**STAFF MEMBERS**

K. Tollstam, CAO  
K. Graham, City Clerk  
J. Ficocelli, Deputy City Clerk  
D. Pakulak, Manager, Human Resources  
B. Themens, Director, Finance  
B. Pearson, Director, Special Projects  
D. Pope, City Engineer  
G. Penway, Director, Community Development  
D. Pistilli, Fire Chief  
H. Turner, Director, Recreation and Culture  
J. Hyland, Inspector, RCMP

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

**2. OATHS OF OFFICE AND OATHS OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Honourable Chief Justice, Christopher E. Hinkson, administered the Oaths of Office and Oaths of Allegiance to:

- Mayor Darrell R. Mussatto
- Councillor Holly J. Back
- Councillor Don H. Bell
- Councillor Pam J. Bookham
- Councillor Linda C. Buchanan
- Councillor Rod C. Clark
- Councillor Craig R. Keating.

**4. INVOCATION**

Pastor Bethany Dueck, Lieutenant, Corps Officer, The Salvation Army, North Vancouver Community Church, gave the invocation.

**3. SQUAMISH NATION BLESSING**

Ian Campbell, Chief, and Deborah Baker, Councillor, Squamish Nation, gave the Squamish Nation Blessing.

## 5. **PRESENTATIONS**

Mayor Mussatto made the following presentations and thanked each person for their participation in the City's inaugural meeting:

- a) Honourable Chief Justice Christopher E. Hinkson
- b) Chief Ian Campbell and Councillor Deborah Baker, Squamish Nation
- c) Pastor Bethany Dueck, Lieutenant, Corps Officer, The Salvation Army
- d) RCMP Colour Guard Staff Sergeant Paul Duffy and Sergeant Kevin Bracewell
- e) City of North Vancouver Fire Colour Guard Firefighters Mitch MacKay and Adam Bartleman
- f) Piper Tricia Chisamore of the JP Fell Pipe Band.

## 6. **INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS**

Mayor Mussatto introduced honoured guests present in the gallery.

## 7. **MAYOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS**

His Worship, Mayor Darrell R. Mussatto, delivered the following inaugural address:

### **A City that Leads**

Honoured guests, members of Council, ladies and gentlemen; it is my privilege this evening to present to you, our citizens, my Inaugural Address for this, my fourth term as Mayor for the City and the very first as Mayor for a four year term.

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the Council Chambers in the City's 108th year on the traditional lands of the Coast Salish people and within the area originally settled and inhabited by what is now the Squamish Nation.

First of all, I would like to thank you for the confidence and support you have shown by re-electing me to serve as your Mayor. I am honoured and humbled to serve as Mayor and I thank the voters for their participation in the democratic process and the positive increase in voter turnout.

Additionally, I thank all candidates who put forward their names for the Office of the Mayor, Council and for the Board of Education for the North Vancouver School District No. 44. The participation level of candidates was high, demonstrating passion for our community and commitment to our City's future.

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## 7. MAYOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS - Continued

I am pleased to congratulate our returning Council members:

- Craig Keating
- Linda Buchanan
- Rod Clark
- Don Bell
- Pam Bookham

And congratulations to our newly elected Councillor,

- Holly Back

Over the next four years, I look forward to working with our new Council on behalf of the community. I am very confident that this Council will be successful and productive in this term of office, which as always, is supported tremendously by the assistance of all our Municipal employees including members of the RCMP.

At this time I would like to recognize the dedication and achievements of one member of Council ending his term of civic duty:

- Thank you to former Councillor Guy Heywood for his civic service to our community over the past 6 years;
- Councillor Heywood served on a number of committees as well as performing his duties as Acting Mayor, so I thank him for his service to our City.
- Unfortunately Councillor Heywood is not able to be with us here tonight.

For this evening's inauguration, I would like to thank:

- The Honourable Chief Justice Christopher Hinkson for performing the swearing-in ceremony;
- Chief Ian Campbell and Councillor Deborah Baker of the Squamish Nation for their traditional blessing;
- Lieutenant Bethany Dueck of the North Vancouver Salvation Army Community Church for the invocation;
- The RCMP Color Guard: Staff Sergeant Paul Duffy and Sergeant Kevin Bracewell;
- North Vancouver City Fire Department Honour Guard: Mitch MacKay and Adam Bartleman, Firefighters;
- Tricia Chisamore, Piper, JP Fell Pipe Band;
- Jordan Back, vocalist, Oh Canada.

The next four years will be very busy indeed. They will be exciting years of great transformation and positive action. Our goal is to make our City one of the most

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## **7. MAYOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS - Continued**

vibrant, welcoming, family friendly communities in Metro Vancouver and indeed all of BC. This goal is now within our grasp. We will transform and rejuvenate our waterfront and the Foot of Lonsdale into an animated, lively, family friendly, people place and a destination that attracts and excites people year-round. We have a vision and plans that show us the path to accomplish this. It's time to bring to life the vacant lands and empty spaces on our waterfront, turning them into dynamic public open spaces and a community landmark. It's time to make Lower Lonsdale a community gathering space and the signature destination for dining, shopping, entertainment and cultural experiences.

The area is already the chosen location of two notable anchor venues. The Presentation House Gallery will soon be able to call the Foot of Lonsdale home, offering culture in an extraordinary setting. The popular Tap & Barrel restaurant will open a location in the historic Coppersmith Shop next summer that will deliver a true waterfront dining experience and a unique gathering place.

This year we enjoyed yet another partnership success with the Squamish Nation when we signed an agreement to build a vital link through their lands from Harbourside Park through to the Foot of Lonsdale. And next year, the City's portion of the Spirit Trail from the Foot of Lonsdale to Park and Tilford Gardens will be completed. This means that for the first time, we will have a trail that runs from our eastern border to our western border. No other North Shore municipality is close to achieving this. What a tremendous amenity for our community. The Spirit Trail is a much appreciated, well used and admired community asset and community connector.

Another vital transportation link in our community is the Low Level Road. With the opening of the new alignment of the Low Level Road to two-way traffic this fall, much of the major construction work for this major project and significant engineering feat is coming to an end. The public art pieces are underway, and we look forward to celebrating the completion of the Low Level Road and pedestrian trail, when Port Metro Vancouver hosts a grand opening in the weeks ahead. Thank you to all residents for your patience during construction, which will deliver transportation and safety benefits to our community.

Recently, the Lonsdale Energy Corporation (LEC) received yet another accolade. LEC was awarded a prestigious Business Excellence Award from the North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce in the area of innovation. Innovation is what LEC is all about. And that is why LEC continues to lead the way, and it continues to draw interest from municipalities across the country and overseas. Tonight, I challenge our LEC staff to expand the use of clean energy and reduce our City's carbon footprint even further. I know they are up for this challenge.

Our City is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions wherever possible. We will continue to make it easier for our residents to walk and be less reliant on vehicles. The Spirit Trail is nearing completion, and we will be expanding the

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## **7. MAYOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS - Continued**

Green Necklace in the New Year. These popular and renowned routes attract cyclists and pedestrians using them for both transportation and recreation. Our cyclists need more and safer routes. We will work hard to make our City walkable and bicycle friendly. We've demonstrated that we have the ability and the capacity to achieve this.

Housing for our residents is a longstanding priority for this Council, and we have achieved more than most municipalities in addressing this widespread issue. This Council wants to make it easier for families to stay in North Vancouver and we will continue to work hard to make home ownership and rent more affordable. During the next four years we will assist residents by streamlining the process for coach houses, and secondary suites, and the City will actively seek purpose-built rental housing. We've already made great strides and progress in these areas. We will continue the momentum.

We hear you when you say you want improvements made to our recreation facilities, expanded daycare facilities, improvements to senior citizens' centres, parks and children's playgrounds.

We are confident that we will make great strides in all these areas using the same technologies we learned when building the City Library and John Braithwaite Community Centre. Early next year we will be addressing the next steps for the Harry Jerome Recreation Centre and the wide range of partners involved in the current complex. In 2013 and 2014, Council approved 1% of the operating budget in each of these two years to be set aside for the redevelopment. This means we now have \$800,000 being set aside every year for the rebuilding of Harry Jerome. A similar proposal will be brought to Council in 2015.

We are in excellent financial shape and through careful planning we can and will accomplish our goals while still maintaining our healthy balance sheet. Strong financial management is another area in which the City excels and has received recognition and numerous honours for many years.

The City prides itself in making sure everyone who calls, visits or contacts City Hall and staff, is treated in a friendly, helpful and approachable manner. We are known for being able to address public needs in an efficient and effective manner. We will continue to engage with you, communicate with you and provide you with information in the ways that are most convenient and useful for you. We are proud of our "How can we help you" customer service attitude here at City Hall. During these next four years, I will be challenging our staff to continue to make improvements in customer service and in reaching out to you, our citizens.

Transportation, especially public transportation, needs to be improved. It must be improved. Effective immediately, this Council's top priority is to improve bus and SeaBus services on the North Shore. We will work with TransLink to ensure a

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## **7. MAYOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS - Continued**

third SeaBus is a reality and focus on improving the SeaBus area. As we are only one of three municipalities on the North Shore with two First Nations, we are committed to working cooperatively with all our North Shore neighbours to deliver a transportation plan that reduces traffic congestion. All these improvements will necessarily involve a commitment from the Province of BC – through its wholly owned subsidiary, TransLink – to provide a stable source of funds to rebuild our public transportation network. I will continue to keep up the pressure on the Province to provide those needed financial resources and I will continue to advocate for the adoption of the Mayors' Council vision for new investments in public transportation, as well as continue to lobby the Province of BC to implement necessary improvements to Highway 1 as it passes through our community. The passing of the transit referendum is of critical importance to the City and indeed the region.

The use of School Board lands has been a recent topic of interest. This Council is committed to working co-operatively with the newly elected School Board to make sure that all our residents' and students' needs are addressed. The City has a long standing successful partnership with School District No. 44. This year, the City and the School District received an Outstanding Achievement Award for Heritage Conservation for the restoration of Queen Mary Elementary School. The school is now not only seismically safe for students and faculty, but one of the City's most iconic buildings that has been restored to its former glory. But let me be clear: I have always supported the preservation of the open space lands at Lucas Centre and at Cloverley School. While fields may need improvement, which we will support, I will not support any revision to the zoning of these lands unless absolutely necessary in this term of Council.

We are extremely fortunate to have such a strong and vibrant business sector in the City. We will not take these businesses for granted. We are committed to having a municipal tax rate that encourages businesses to expand and prosper. We will assist local business groups to expand in all areas of the City. Working with the North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, we will develop a plan that assists both small and large business on the North Shore. We will work with our business community to establish a Lower Lonsdale Business Improvement Association (BIA) to help support a positive small business climate. We will also continue to work with port industries. These major employers are, in many ways, anchor industries for many other businesses and the high wage jobs they produce provide an important foundation for the prosperity of our community. As the outlets for products from across the province and the country, we connect ourselves to BC and Canada through them. They are a vital component of our local economy that we need to encourage.

Key to our City's future is providing a welcoming place where young families can thrive and participate in community life to the fullest. Members of the North Shore Congress, including the City, demonstrated leadership and commitment by signing the Child and Family Friendly Community Charter in 2011. It is now up to

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## **7. MAYOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS - Continued**

us to put into action the goals that are set out in this Charter for our children and youth. If we are to succeed as a community we need to ensure a steady supply of quality and affordable childcare, a range of affordable housing units, as well as parks and activities that bring our public spaces alive. We will continue to develop a vision for our City that shows leadership in embracing the needs and desires of young families in the community. I will be asking Councillor Buchanan – who played such an important role in bringing this Charter into being – to lead the committee overseeing its implementation.

Founded on the City's principles of sustainability, the City's Official Community Plan (OCP) outlines the City's long-term vision and planning needs of our community. We are committed to adopting a new OCP as soon as possible.

The City has a history of caring for people, and this Council will continue to do just that. Within our small municipality we accommodate a wide range of diversity, people with different incomes, housing needs, as well as different cultures, age groups and abilities. The City is committed to supporting community non-profit organizations that provide essential services to promote the well-being of our residents.

The issues of affordable housing and homelessness remain top priorities, as they are across our region and the province. In 2014, 384 individuals sought shelter on the North Shore, most of them at the City's shelter. Retaining rental housing stock and tackling affordability issues continue to be our challenge. We've proactively created a successful model, the ANAVETS complex, which was rezoned to provide 76 units of new seniors' rental housing. We can and will continue to deliver successful and tangible social housing solutions in partnership with the provincial and federal governments.

The City continues to be a regional leader in proactive municipal environmental initiatives to address climate change. We are one of only a few communities in Canada to have attained Milestone 5 in the Partners for Climate Protection program. The City has also shown leadership in being the first municipality in BC to implement a density bonus policy to encourage new buildings in the City to meet performance-based energy efficiency standards.

The City's dedication towards environmental sustainability at every level, is a part of our culture and philosophy. All of our projects and initiatives are reviewed through a sustainability lens. While adding hundreds of new residents in the past several years, we continue to reduce our community GHG emissions – underscoring our commitment to meeting our obligations to confront climate change. We do this not by big initiatives alone – but by a host of small measures that help us make big change. We will continue to pursue green initiatives at every turn.

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## **7. MAYOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS - Continued**

The City has become a leader in urban gardening and growing food close to home. To the great delight of residents, the successful Loutet Farm continues to sell vegetables to the community. We are grateful to the Edible Garden Project staff and volunteers who have partnered with the City and local businesses to develop Loutet Farm, as well as Queen Mary and Charros Community Gardens, all on City land, and great success stories. Providing the framework for using available private and public lands to grow food is a good investment for our future food security.

The City has a highly competent and professional group of public safety staff that are committed to delivering services and training cooperatively with neighbouring municipalities and agencies. The Fire Department, RCMP, and North Shore Emergency Management Office are among the best public safety professionals in the province. The City is committed to taking steps towards community disaster resiliency and has been recognized as a Participant City in the United Nations 'Disaster Resilient Cities' campaign.

The City also supports North Shore Rescue and other emergency resources for the North Shore. Long overdue, Vancouver Coastal Health is planning to include a new ambulance station for paramedics below the new HOPE Centre at Lions Gate Hospital, which will enhance service delivery with other first responders.

We will do our utmost as a Council to provide leadership and a clear vision for our future while addressing the pressing concerns of our citizens. There will be many challenges and opportunities in the coming term for citizens to provide valuable input to make our City an increasingly better place to live, work and play. As we confront these challenges, we must ensure that we disagree without being disagreeable and I will exercise renewed vigilance in ensuring that staff and members of Council are insulated from any debate that strays away from accepted rules of order.

To close, I want to re-affirm to our citizens that under my leadership, Council and City Hall will continue to be open and responsive to our citizens, actively encouraging public consultation and community engagement. I will continue to create an inclusive and welcoming environment at City Hall and within Council Chambers, and I encourage all members of the public to take advantage of opportunities to provide input. I look forward to this council table being a place of respectful exchange, positive teamwork and a place where solutions and decisions are made in the best interests of our community. We have much to accomplish in this four year term and we will do so by demonstrating positive leadership and delivering results, for the benefit of all our citizens.

Moved by Councillor Buchanan, seconded by Councillor Clark

**THAT** the Mayor's inaugural address be received and entered in the Minutes of the Meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councillor Bell, seconded by Councillor Keating

**THAT** the meeting adjourn.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

*“Certified Correct by the City Clerk”*

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CITY CLERK