



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

**MINUTES OF THE  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HELD DECEMBER 7, 2023 AT 3:30PM  
OKANAGAN LAKE ROOM (COUNCIL CHAMBER) CITY HALL**

**PRESENT:** VOTING:

Mayor Cumming, Chair  
Dan Proulx, Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce Rep.  
Leigha Horsfield, Community Futures North Okanagan Rep.  
Larry Olson, Province of BC, Economic Development  
Jessica Wicks, Accelerate Okanagan Rep.  
Colin Wilson, Executive Direct, UBCO  
Keelan Murtagh, Downtown Vernon Association Rep.

GUESTS:

Angie Lof, Okanagan College

**ABSENT:** Jane Lister, Okanagan College  
Laura Frank, RDNO Rep.  
Annette Sharkey, Social Planning Council of North Okanagan Rep.

**STAFF:** John Perrott, Manager, Economic Development & Tourism  
Terry Barton, Director, Planning and Community Services  
Cocine Wattie, Administrative Assistant  
Jennifer Pounder, Committee Clerk

**ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

**LAND  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** *As Chair of the City of Vernon's Economic Development Advisory Committee, and in the spirit of this gathering, I recognize the City of Vernon is located in the traditional territory of the Syilx people of the Okanagan Nation.*

**ADOPTION OF THE  
AGENDA** Moved by L. Horsfield, seconded by K. Murtagh:

THAT the agenda of the December 7, 2023 Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting be adopted:

**CARRIED**

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

Moved by L. Horsfield, seconded by J. Wicks:

THAT the minutes of the May 25, 2023 Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting be adopted:

**CARRIED**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ROUNDTABLE**

Roundtable introductions were had.

**MANAGERS UPDATE**

J. Perrott provided the Committee with an update that included the following:

- Update on the Medical Residents Housing Project.
- Community factors impacting talent attraction & recruitment, and the actions underway.
- Recent changes to Legislation with regards to building and development.

**NEW HOUSING LEGISLATION OVERVIEW**

T. Barton provided a presentation to the Committee (Presentation attached to these minutes as "Attachment 1").

The following questions/comments were received:

- In response to a comment, it was confirmed there will be staffing resource challenges in addition to the ones we are currently facing.
- 32% of home owner grants in Vernon were not claimed in 2023.
- It was confirmed the new legislation does not apply to resort municipalities as well as there was confirmation that Vernon and Silver Star are not resort municipalities.
- Vernon has numerous multi family projects that have been approved and have never been constructed – do we know what the difference is between what is approved vs what is consutructed?
- As a result of the new legislation, the Province now has a 20-person enforcement team dedicated to locating illegal Air B&B's and short-term rentals.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting for the Economic Development Advisory Committee will be in February, 2024.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** Moved by C. Wilson, seconded by D. Proulx:

THAT the meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

 Chair