

Meeting Minutes

Capital Region Housing Corporation Board

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

1:10 PM

6th Floor Boardroom
625 Fisgard Street
Victoria, BC

Special Meeting - Inaugural

PRESENT:

DIRECTORS: Z. de Vries (Chair), M. Tait (Vice Chair), M. Alto, K. Armour (for B. Desjardins), P. Brent, S. Brice, J. Brownoff, J. Caradonna, C. Coleman, S. Goodmanson, G. Holman, P. Jones, D. Kobayashi, M. Little, C. McNeil-Smith, K. Murdoch, D. Murdock, C. Plant, L. Szpak, D. Thompson, S. Tobias, A. Wickheim, K. Williams, R. Windsor

STAFF: T. Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer; N. Chan, Chief Financial Officer; L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; K. Lorette, General Manager, Planning and Protective Services; K. Morley, General Manager, Corporate Services; I. Jesney, Acting General Manager, Integrated Water Services; M. Lagoa, Deputy Corporate Officer; S. Orr, Senior Committee Clerk (Recorder)

Guest: R. Bortolin; Stewart McDannold Stuart, Barristers & Solicitors

Regrets: Director B. Desjardins

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chief Administrative Officer called the meeting to order at 1:43 pm.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chief Administrative Officer provided a Territorial Acknowledgement in the preceding Capital Regional District Board meeting.

3. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR OF THE HOUSING CORPORATION BOARD

The Chief Administrative Officer called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Capital Region Housing Corporation Board for 2023.

Director Tait nominated Director de Vries. Director de Vries accepted the nomination.

The Chief Administrative Officer called for nominations a second time.

Director Murdoch nominated Director Tait. Director Tait declined the nomination.

The Chief Administrative Officer called for nominations a third and final time.

Director Kobayashi nominated Director Alto. Director Alto declined the nomination.

Hearing no further nominations, the Chief Administrative Officer declared Director de Vries Chair of the Capital Region Housing Corporation Board for 2023 by acclamation.

4. ELECTION OF THE VICE CHAIR OF THE HOUSING CORPORATION BOARD

Chair de Vries called for nominations of Vice Chair of the Capital Region Housing Corporation Board for 2023.

Director Thompson nominated Director Caradonna. Director Caradonna accepted the nomination.

Chair de Vries called for nominations a second time.

Alternate Director Armour nominated Director Alto. Director Alto declined the nomination.

Director Szpak nominated Director Tait. Director Tait accepted the nomination.

Chair de Vries called for nominations a third and final time.

Hearing no further nominations, Chair de Vries invited each nominee to address the Board.

Ballots were distributed by K. Morley and M. Lagoa, and collected by M. Lagoa.

The ballots were counted by K. Morley, M. Lagoa, and R. Bortolin, Solicitor.

Chair de Vries declared Director Tait Vice Chair of the Capital Region Housing Corporation Board.

**MOVED by Director McNeil-Smith, SECONDED by Director Thompson,
That the ballots be destroyed.
CARRIED**

5. INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF THE CHAIR

First, I would like to congratulate each of you on your successful elections in your respective communities. I have a deep respect for each of you because of your commitment and dedication to serve your communities not in spite of the challenges they face, but because of them. I think we all bring different skills, insights, and experience that will be valuable to our collective efforts as a board. I have given it a lot of thought to how I can best contribute to our shared goals and serve the region in my capacity as a CRD Director. I landed on Capital Region Housing Corporation Board Chair because it aligns my policy and governance strengths. These past four years in Saanich I have proven myself on the housing file; four years on the Regional Housing Trust Fund Commission, I've chaired Saanich's Planning, Transportation, and Economic Development Advisory Committee, The Mayor's Standing Committee on Housing Affordability and Supply, and chaired Saanich's Housing Strategy Taskforce which developed an award winning Housing Strategy. Housing is a top priority. I think that even before strategic planning I can safely say that housing is a top priority of the 2022-2026 CRD Board. As a wholly-owned subsidiary of the CRD, the CRHC will undoubtedly play a critical role in meeting our strategic objectives on homelessness, housing affordability and addressing core housing need across the region in a variety of contexts. Speaking with many of you these past few weeks I know housing is a high priority for you and that there is a desire to be bold and to meet this housing challenge with the urgency because of the opportunity it represents. Housing is also the priority of Premier Eby, I think this alignment of priorities provides an expanded opportunity especially for complex care, homelessness and workforce housing and other challenges that we face. As much as there is opportunity, there are challenges: homelessness, rural and remote communities, preserving and protecting existing affordable housing, supporting a healthy workforce and supporting the next generation's future in our communities. I will serve you as chair beyond the board table as a leader and a conduit, a connector and relationship builder. I will be proactive in communication with you and I will work closely with staff as we collectively develop a new housing program. For the success of this new housing program, particularly for complex care, we need a stronger relationship with Island Health; this will be a priority for me. The white paper and its policy planks such as acquisition, rural and remote housings, continue to expanding the stock of new housing, complex care-aligning to move on complex care with the Province. We are off to a great start but I don't think it goes far enough, I think we have the opportunity to do more on homelessness as well as workforce housing, and ensuring that we meet the needs of people who have made their lives here and cannot be accommodated by the market; I believe this is one of our special responsibilities. The Regional Housing First Program was bold and innovative. I look forward to our work together as we steward the largest affordable housing portfolio in the region and as we move forward in the creation of a new, bold, and effective housing program.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Director Tait, **SECONDED** by Director Thompson,
That the November 16, 2022 Capital Region Housing Corporation Board meeting
be adjourned at 2:04 pm.
CARRIED

CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CORPORATE OFFICER