

## Community Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting to be held via Zoom

*\*Public attendance is prohibited at this time. If you'd like to watch or listen to the live Committee meeting, please email [Committees@Penticton.ca](mailto:Committees@Penticton.ca) 24-hours prior to the commencement of the meeting for the Zoom meeting participation details. You will have an opportunity to ask questions related to the agenda at the end of the meeting.*

**Wednesday, March 17, 2021  
at 9:00 a.m.**

1. **Call Regular Committee Meeting to Order**
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
3. **Adoption of Minutes**
  - 3.1 Minutes of February 17, 2021 Community Sustainability Advisory Committee 1-3  
**Staff Recommendation:**  
*THAT the Community Sustainability Advisory Committee adopt the minutes of the February 17, 2021 meeting as presented.*
4. **Delegations**
  - 4.1 Lynn Walford  
Re: Blue Communities Project 4-12
5. **New Business**
  - 5.1 Build Green Stakeholder Workshop – David Kassian, Community Sustainability Coordinator Verbal
6. **Next Meeting** 13
7. **Public Question Period**
8. **Adjournment**

## Community Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting

to be held via Zoom  
Wednesday, February 17, 2021  
at 9:00 a.m.

**Present:** Chris Allen (*Chair*)  
Amelia Boulton  
Anne Hargrave  
Lyndie Hill  
Margaret Holm  
Nicolas Stulberg  
Randy Boras  
Tracy Van Raes

**Council Liaison:** Julius Bloomfield, Councillor

**Staff:** Kristen Dixon, General Manager of Infrastructure  
David Kassian, Community Sustainability Coordinator  
Ken Kunka, Deputy Director Development Services  
Alysa Wardley, Legislative Assistant

**Regrets:** Philip Hawkes

**Guest(s):** Katya Irwin, Word Count Consulting  
Lori Goldman  
Lynn Walford

### 1. **Call to Order**

The Community Sustainability Advisory Committee was called to order by the Chair at 9:02 a.m.

Lyndie Hill, Voting Member joined the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

### 2. **Adoption of Agenda**

#### **It was MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the Community Sustainability Advisory Committee adopt the agenda for the meeting held on February 17, 2021 as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

3. **Adoption of Minutes**

3.1 Minutes of January 20, 2021 Community Sustainability Advisory Committee

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the Community Sustainability Advisory Committee adopt the minutes of the January 20, 2021 meeting as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

4. **New Business**

4.1 HELP Statistics Update – David Kassian, Community Sustainability Coordinator

The Community Sustainability Coordinator provided the Committee with the statistics from the Home Energy Loan Program. Statistics are based on the EnerGuide ranking and assessments, and a request was input by the City for EnerGuide assessments in order to get a better representation of all energy statistics.

The floor was opened to Committee members for questions and comments. Feedback predominantly revolved around methods to improve energy census information and increasing Home Energy Loan Program use.

4.2 Bylaw Change Updates, Solar Ready and Step1 Energy Code – Ken Kunka, Deputy Director Development Services

The Deputy Director of Development Services gave the Committee an update on proposed Step Code changes and Solar Ready provisions for New Builds. Step 3 will be a mandatory requirement for all Step 9 buildings moving forward into 2021. Certified Energy Advisor verification will be required to verify that the buildings are up to the codes stipulated. Requirements for solar ready properties will help builders to better plan where solar panels can be installed.

The floor was opened to the Committee for questions and comments. Members at Large inquired about education and information provided to the community for rebates and financial incentives. Request to elaborate on the Solar Ready bylaw changes, confirmed that the purpose of the changes is to ensure that conditions for the panels and conduits are specified for builders as well as inspections. The deputy will follow up with external meters for solar panels. Feedback from installers for Net Metering has stated that the process in the City of Penticton is twice the time as other areas relying on FortisBC. There have also been reports of ongoing issues with the bylaw requirement for the solar disconnect to be located adjacent to the meter.

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the Community Sustainability Advisory Committee recommends Council support the proposed Building Bylaw Amendments, including:

- Housekeeping amendments to eliminate the dates related to Step Code implementation in the current bylaws that are now passed,
- Adjust the 5% building permit refund from Step 3 or greater to Step 4 or greater, and
- Implement Solar Ready requirements for new residential construction.

AND THAT the Community Sustainability Advisory Committee request staff report back with a comprehensive review of the solar panel permitting process and costs, including net metering costs.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

4.3 Build Green Program, Request for Recommendations to Promote – Ken Kunka, Deputy Director Development Services

The Deputy Director of Development Services requested feedback from the Committee for Green Building recommendations. The floor was opened to Committee Members for suggestions, Voting Members who are a part of 'First Things First Okanagan' proposed a similar model to the City of Vernon's ambassador program.

4.4 Community Energy & Emissions Plan – Ken Kunka, Deputy Director Development Services

The Deputy Director of Development Services gave an overview of the Community energy and emission plan. Engagement timelines for consultancy work was predicted as coming forth in April 2021 when they will be presented to the Committee.

5. **Next Meeting**

The next Community Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held on March 17, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom.

6. **Public Question Period**

7. **Adjournment**

**It was MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the Community Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Certified Correct:

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Alysa Wardley  
Legislative Assistant



### Request to Appear as a Delegation

**Preferred Council Meeting Date:** January 19

**Second choice(s):** February 2

**Subject matter:** The Blue Communities Project (BCP) – Resolutions

**Name of person(s) making presentation:**

Lynn Walford

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please provide details of your presentation or request of Council here:** (or provide a detailed attachment)

The Blue Communities Project encourages municipalities to recognize water as a shared resource by passing resolutions that:

- 1) Recognize water and sanitation as human rights
- 2) Ban or phase out the sale of bottled water at municipal facilities and events
- 3) Promote publicly financed, owned, and operated water and wastewater services.

BCP was founded in 2003 by the Council of Canadians and has designated almost 80 communities worldwide, such as Vancouver and Los Angeles. By designating our community a "Blue Community", we can do our part to ensure clean, safe water for our city's residents and visitors for generations.

**Please note:**

- This form and submissions will become part of the public record.
- The Mayor has the authority to determine if the subject matter warrants the delegation to appear before Council and may determine at which meeting.
- Please submit this completed form at your earliest convenience. Written Requests to Appear are to be received by the Corporate Officer, no later than noon Monday, one week prior to the Council meeting. Please include a copy of all materials that will be discussed.
- If you'd like to share a PowerPoint with Council, email it to the Corporate Officer by 9:30 a.m. Wednesday prior to the Council meeting to be included with the Agenda.
- We recommend you bring backup PowerPoint files with you on a memory stick.
- Delegations are limited to 5 minutes.

**Corporate Office**  
Angie Collison, Corporate Officer  
171 Main Street, Penticton, B.C., V2A 5A9

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## **Blue Communities Project Supporting Documents**

**March 17, 2021**

### **Sample Resolutions**

#### **1. Recognize the Rights to Water and Sanitation**

WHEREAS almost 2 billion people around the world do not have access to clean drinking water, 4 billion people face severe water scarcity and 2.5 billion people do not have adequate sanitation; and

WHEREAS Indigenous communities in Canada have been disproportionately affected by lack of access to safe drinking water and sanitation; and

WHEREAS on July 28, 2010, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution recognizing the human rights to water and sanitation; and

WHEREAS on September 23, 2011, the United Nations Human Rights Council passed a resolution on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation and called on governments to take concrete action by developing plans of action, establishing monitoring and accountability mechanisms, and ensuring affordable services for everyone; and

WHEREAS the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Eau Secours and the Council of Canadians have asked Canadian municipalities to assist in their effort to have the federal government protect water and sanitation as human rights;

WHEREAS recognizing the rights to water and sanitation is one of three steps needed to declare Penticton a Blue Community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Penticton recognizes and affirms that water and sanitation services are fundamental human rights.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Penticton would refrain from shutting off water and wastewater services in any residence where residents have an inability to pay their bills, and furthermore that Penticton make every effort to work with the resident to remediate the debt.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Penticton would call on the federal and provincial governments to enshrine the human rights to water and sanitation in federal and provincial law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Penticton would call on the Government of Canada to develop a national plan of action to implement the human rights to water and sanitation.

Continued...

## Sample letter to the Federal Government

Dear Environment Minister Jonathan Wilkinson, and Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Catherine McKenna:

The municipality of Penticton recently became a Blue Community. A Blue Community is one that adopts a water commons framework by taking three actions:

1. Recognizing water and sanitation as human rights
2. Phasing out the sale of bottled water in public facilities and at municipal events
3. Promoting publicly financed, owned, and operated water and wastewater services

A water commons framework treats water as being shared by everyone, and the responsibility of all. Water is central to our lives and so it must be governed by principles and policies that allow for reasonable use, equal distribution and responsible treatment in order to preserve it for nature and future generations.

On July 28, 2010, 122 countries overwhelmingly voted to pass a resolution recognizing the human rights to water and sanitation. Since then, the UN Human Rights Council has passed two resolutions calling on governments to develop comprehensive plans and strategies to implement these rights, assess the implementation of the plans of action, ensure affordable water and sanitation services for everyone, and create accountability mechanisms and legal remedies.

We applaud the government of Canada for endorsing the human rights to water and sanitation at the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012. However, to give the resolutions life, we urge the federal government to enshrine water and sanitation as human rights in federal law and develop a plan of action that will implement these rights.

At any given time there are over 100 drinking water advisories in First Nations. Some of the long-standing water advisories include Shoal Lake No. 40, which has been under a water advisory for more than 17 years, as well as Kitigan Zibi and Nazko First Nations, both under do not consume advisories for more than 15 years.

As part of being a Blue Community, our municipality is opposed to the privatization of water and wastewater services, including through public-private partnerships. We urge you to support municipal infrastructure by investing in a national water and wastewater fund that addresses the growing needs of communities to maintain and strengthen water and wastewater systems. We call on the Government of Canada to respect the autonomy of municipalities and First Nations by providing needed infrastructure funding without attaching conditions. The most transparent and cost-effective way to fund infrastructure is to keep it publicly financed, owned, and operated. We urge the government to support communities' and municipalities' efforts to keep water and wastewater services public and community-run.

In order to protect our water sources and ensure clean, safe drinking water, we urge the federal government to develop legislation that recognizes the human rights to water and sanitation, establishes national enforceable drinking water standards and invests in public water and wastewater infrastructure in municipalities and community-run infrastructure in First Nations.

Sincerely,

## **2. Phasing out the sale of bottled water in municipal facilities and at municipal events**

WHEREAS Penticton operates and maintains a regulated and sophisticated water treatment and distribution system that meets some of the most stringent water quality requirements in the world; and

WHEREAS the regulatory requirements for monitoring water quality contained in single-use bottled water are not as stringent as those that must be met by Penticton, and

WHEREAS single-use bottled water is up to 3,000 times more expensive than water from the tap in Penticton, even though bottled water can originate from municipal water systems;

WHEREAS resource extraction, packaging and distribution of single-use bottled water creates unnecessary air quality and climate change impacts, consumes unnecessary resources such as oil in the manufacturing of plastic bottles and fuel used in the transportation of bottled water to the consumer, and creates unnecessary recycling and waste disposal costs; and

WHEREAS Penticton's tap water is safe, healthy and accessible to residents and visitors, is readily available at most indoor public facilities, and is substantially more sustainable than bottled water; and

WHEREAS Penticton is investing in water bottle filling stations; and

WHEREAS when access to municipal tap water does not exist, bottled water can be an appropriate alternative; and

WHEREAS phasing out the sale and provision of bottled water in municipal facilities and at municipal events is one of three steps needed to declare Penticton a Blue Community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, where access to municipal tap water exists, single-use bottled water will no longer be sold in municipal facilities, from municipally owned or municipally administered concessions, or from vending machines in public facilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT single-use bottled water will no longer be purchased and provided at municipal meetings, events or work performed outdoors where access to municipal water exists; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the availability of water jugs with municipal water will be increased at municipally-organized meetings and events; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a staff and public awareness campaign will be developed to support the rationale for these changes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff develop an implementation schedule with timelines that includes an assessment of access to tap water at municipal facilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff provide a progress report at regular intervals.






Continued...

### **3. Promoting publicly financed, owned and operated water and wastewater services**

WHEREAS public health depends on equitable access to drinking water and sanitation systems; and

WHEREAS public ownership and operation of drinking water and wastewater treatment systems have been fundamental to access and quality over the past century; and

WHEREAS Penticton is committed to protecting water and wastewater systems from the consequences of privatization through “public-private partnerships,” or P3s, including:

-  lack of transparency and public accountability;
-  increased costs;
-  higher user fees;
-  multi-decade contracts that limit the policy options of future local governments;
-  international trade deals providing private water companies with rights to sue municipalities that bring water services into public hands; and

WHEREAS the privatization of municipal water and wastewater treatment systems and services through P3s or contracting out turns water into a commodity to be sold for profit; and

WHEREAS the federal government is requiring much-needed improvements to wastewater standards – a situation that could open the door to privatization unless dedicated public infrastructure funding is provided to upgrade treatment facilities; and

WHEREAS keeping water and wastewater infrastructure public is one of three steps needed to declare Penticton a Blue Community; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Penticton oppose privatization in any form of water and wastewater treatment infrastructure and services, including through P3s or short-term service contracts, and resolve to keep these services publicly financed, owned, operated and managed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Penticton lobby the federal government to fulfill its responsibility to support municipal infrastructure by investing in the National Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Fund that would address the growing need to renew existing water and wastewater infrastructure and build new systems, and that would only fund public projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Penticton forward this resolution to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for circulation to its members.

**Further information:**

Council of Canadians <https://canadians.org/>

Blue Communities Project <https://canadians.org/bluecommunities>

(CUPE) <https://cupe.ca/water>

Blue Planet Project <https://canadians.org/blueplanetproject>

World Water Day <https://www.worldwaterday.org/>

Change.org Petition: <https://www.change.org/Blue-Communities-Project>

Barlow, Maude. “Whose Water is It Anyway? Taking Water Protection into Public Hands”, 2019, ECW Press, Toronto

Campbell, Bruce and Barlow, Maude. “Take Back the Nation”. 2002

<https://www.watercache.com/blog/2011/10/must-see-water-documentaries-provide-insight-into-future-water-crisis>

continued...

### List of Blue Communities:

Otterburn Park, Quebec	2020-10
Cégep de Saint-Jérôme, Quebec	2020-03
Vancouver, British Columbia	2020-03
Oka, Quebec	2020-03
Prévost, Quebec	2020-03
Lavaltrie, Quebec	2020-03
Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs endorsement	2020-03
Mandeville, Quebec	2020-03
Saint-Alexis-des-Monts, Quebec	2020-03
Cornwall, Prince Edward Island	2020-03
Saint-Félix-de-Kingsey, Quebec	2019-12
Brussels-Capital Region, Belgium	2019-12
Saint-Félix-de-Valois, Quebec	2019-12
Los Angeles, California, U.S.A	2019-12
Roberval, Quebec	2019-12
Plessisville, Quebec	2019-10
Longueuil, Quebec	2019-10
Kempton, Germany	2019-10
Stratford, Prince Edward Island	2019-10
Gossau St. Gallen, Switzerland	2019-09
Victoriaville, Quebec	2019-09
Saint-Fulgence, Quebec	2019-06
Saint-François-de-Sales	2019-06
La Commission scolaire de Montréal (CSDM), Quebec	2019-05

Richmond, Quebec	2019-01
Jericho House, Youth Leadership, Justice & Spirituality Centre, Niagara Region, Ontario	2019-01
Monseigneur-A.-M.-Parent High School, Saint-Hubert, Quebec	2019-01
Trois-Rivières, Quebec	2019-01
Augsburg, Germany	2019-01
Medina Sidonia, Spain	2019-01
Thermaikos, Greece	2019-01
McGill University, Quebec	2019-01
Mòstoles, Spain	2019-01
Javea, Spain	2019-01
City of Montreal, Quebec	2019-01
Nicolet, Quebec	2019-01
Town of Danville, Quebec	2019-01
Cádiz, Spain	2018-11
Sisters of Mercy of Newfoundland	2018-10
Marburg, Germany	2018-01
Thessaloniki, Greece	2018-01
Reformed Church of Nydegkirche, Bern	2018-01
AEOPAS (a national Spanish network), Blue Communities Ambassador	2018-01
Berlin, Germany	2018-01
Neuchâtel, Switzerland	2018-01
Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Canada	2017-11
EYATH in Thessaloniki, Blue Community Ambassador	2017-11
Munich, Germany	2017-10
Northampton, Massachusetts	2017-01
World Council of Churches	2016-10

University of St.Gallen, Switzerland	2016-09
City of St.Gallen, Switzerland	2016-09
Evangelisch-Reformierte Kirchgemeinde Spiez	2016-09
Federal University of Lavras, Brazil	2016-09
Paris, France	2016-09
District of Lunenburg, NS	2015-12
Thunder Bay, ON	2015-09
Tsal'alh, St'át'imc Territory	2015-09
Bayfield, ON	2014-10
Tay Township, ON	2014-04
Cambuquira, Brazil	2014-03
The City of Bern, Switzerland	2013-09
Evangelisch-reformierte Kirchgemeinde Bern-Johannes Church, Switzerland	2013-09
Thorold, ON	2013-09
Welland, ON	2012-12
Comox, B.C.	2012-10
Cumberland, B.C.	2012-07
Nanaimo, B.C.	2012-06
St. Catharines, ON	2012-05
Niagara Falls, ON	2012-04
North Vancouver, B.C.	2012-03
Ajax, ON	2011-12
Kingston, ON	2011-09
Tiny Township, ON	2011-09
Victoria, B.C.	2011-06
Burnaby, B.C.	2011-03



## 2021 Community Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting Dates

Meeting commences at 9:00 a.m.

Council Chamber, City Hall, 171 Main Street (Second Level) or via Zoom

Month	Date
January	20
February	17
March	17
April	21
May	19
June	16
July	21
August	18
September	22
October	20
November	17
December	8