



SPECIAL Penticton and Ellis Creek Restoration Select Committee Meeting

held via Zoom
October 22, 2021
at 9:00 a.m.

Present:

Voting Members

Paul Askey, Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC (*Chair*)
Zoe Eyjolfson, Okanagan Nation Alliance (*Vice Chair*)
Bill Wickett, Alternate, Penticton Fly Fisheries Association
Doug Maxwell, Member at Large
Gerry Turchak, Penticton Industrial Development Association
Maryssa Bonneau, Penticton Indian Band Natural Resources
Sandy Ross, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Member

Non-Voting Members

Bruce McFarlane, Ministry of FLNRO, Regional Water Management

Council Liaison:

Frank Regehr, Councillor

Staff:

Ian Chapman, City Engineer
John Schappert, Legislative Assistant

Regrets:

Sophie Fillion, South Okanagan Conservative Program
Tara White, Ministry of FLNRO – Fish & Wildlife Division
Bryn White

1. **Call to Order**

The Penticton and Ellis Creek Restoration Select Committee was called to order by the Chair at 9:07 a.m.

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Penticton and Ellis Creek Restoration Select Committee adopt the agenda for the special meeting held on October 22, 2021 as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **Adoption of Minutes**

3.1 Minutes of the May 14, 2021 Penticton and Ellis Creek Restoration Select Committee Meeting

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Penticton and Ellis Creek Restoration Select Committee adopt the minutes of the May 14, 2021 meeting as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **New Business**

4.1 Design Lessons Learned

The City Engineer noted that Structures 3 and 4 have been completed and the project went well. He noted that there were some minor challenges including difficulty in obtaining the necessary large rock material. He noted that the proposed design for Reach 3A and 3B currently calls for more and larger rock which may prove difficult. There are also other lessons to be learned from the Structure 3 and 4 project that will be discussed with the designer of the Reach 3A(upper)/3B project related to the larger size of rock required for the steeper sections that are a feature of this project.

The floor was opened to Committee members for comments and questions. A Committee Member asked about the rock that was used from the City Yard this year and if we will be able to find replacement material, and staff responded that they have a supply source for the more common rock used in other reaches and that Stantec is working on identifying sources for the larger rock. Further rock procurement may be influenced by any changes to the design that may yet occur.

4.2 Kokanee Salmon Numbers and New Project Habitats

The Chair shared Kokanee Salmon counts during peak period and noted that the official numbers from the province are still to be distributed.

4.3 Interim Results of Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) Monitoring

The Chair showed drone footage of some of the Kokanee Salmon spawning beds, as well as before-and-after comparisons of work that was done on the creek.

The floor was opened to Committee members for comments and questions. Councillor Regehr asked about dead fish that were found earlier this year, and the Chair responded that the reason is not clear. The Acting General Manager of Infrastructure added that the flow levels in the creek were normal at the time.

Doug Maxwell joined the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

4.4 Funding and Outreach Opportunities

The Chair spoke of potential funding options for the continuation of the project and asked other Committee Members to bring forward any funding opportunities they are aware of. The Acting General Manager of Infrastructure noted some potential sources of funding that are being looked at. The Chair also emphasized the importance of seeking out outreach opportunities in order to keep this project in the public view.

The floor was opened to Committee members for comments and questions. A Committee Member commented that it needs to be determined what sections of the creek are going to be worked on next, and the Chair responded that this may be dependent on the requirements of the funding received. There was general discussion of what the prioritization would look like on Ellis Creek specifically. A Committee Member mentioned that the committee may want to review the Masterplan again to look at the priorities. A Committee Member commented that the Penticton Indian Band should be consulted to see what their priorities are for Ellis Creek.

5. **Next Meeting**

The next Penticton & Ellis Creek Restoration Select Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held on Friday, November 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

6. **Public Question Period**

7. **Adjournment**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Penticton and Ellis Creek Restoration Select Committee adjourn the special meeting held on October 22, 2021 at 10:13 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Certified Correct:



John Schappert
Legislative Assistant