



## THE RESORT MUNICIPALITY OF WHISTLER COUNCIL POLICY

<b>POLICY NUMBER:</b>	<b>I-9</b>	<b>DATE OF RESOLUTION:</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 22, 2022</b>
<b>NAME: Forest &amp; Wildland Advisory Committee Terms of Reference</b>			

### 1.0 SCOPE OF POLICY

Policy I-9 describes the rationale for the Forest & Wildland Advisory committee and contains its updated Terms of Reference.

### 2.0 PURPOSE

The Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee (FWAC) is a Council-appointed committee that advises Council on matters related to forestry, wildfire management, land use plans, public and commercial backcountry recreation, wildlife management and the Cheakamus Community Forest (CCF). It provides input to Council through its monthly meeting minutes. It also acts as the public review committee for the CCF and provides feedback directly to the CCF on its plans and activities.

### 3.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

#### Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

To advise Council on matters related to sustainable use of forests, waters, and wildlands outside the Whistler Urban Development Containment Area in alignment with the Whistler Official Community Plan in the Whistler landscape unit. Topics include:

- a. Issues related to wildfire risk management and forest health;
- b. Issues related to biodiversity, wildlife and its habitat;
- c. Issues related to the effects of climate change;
- d. Issues related to the Sea to Sky Land and Resource Management Plan;
- e. Issues related to other regional land management plans, land use plans and regional growth strategies;
- f. Issues related to public and commercial recreation including access management and recreation infrastructure planning in Whistler-area forests and wildlands;
- g. Cheakamus Community Forest activities.

**Authorized and Appointed by**  
Council.

#### **Comprised Of**

Eleven community representatives, including at least one Councillor, representing a wide range of community interests including forestry, back country recreation, environment, horticulture/landscape, natural resource management, biology/ecology, and fisheries. One seat is assigned to the Association of Whistler Area Residents for the Environment (AWARE) for a representative from its organization, and one seat is assigned to the Whistler Off-Road Cycling Association (WORCA) for a representative from its organization. A maximum of two non-voting staff representatives: one

representative from Environmental Stewardship department; and an Administrative Assistant for minute-taking.

### **Diversity**

The RMOW believes in the benefits diversity brings and it recognizes that diversity of thought contributes to the formation of a strong organization. Having a committee composed of people with diverse identities, skills, experience, backgrounds and perspectives broadens understanding and promotes inclusiveness.

For purposes of committee composition, diversity includes, but is not limited to skills and experience; all gender identities; race; culture/ethnicity; sexual orientation; income; ability; age; and language.

### **Sub-Committees**

The Committee may convene sub-committees to deal with specific issues and invited participants are not required to be members of the Committee.

### **Term**

Membership is an initial three year term that becomes renewable annually to a maximum of six years at Council's discretion. FWAC will review membership against criteria, length of term, and expectations each year in Q4 and advise Council on membership status. Available positions will be advertised by the RMOW in Q4. If a position becomes available during the year, an advertisement will be placed although term end dates will be synchronized to end in December of the appropriate year to reduce administrative burden. Council will review the application(s) and choose the required new member(s).

### **Chair**

A chair and an alternate are chosen from among the community representatives at the first meeting of each calendar year. Both remain full voting members.

### **Recording Secretary**

To be arranged by the RMOW staff representative. Minutes submitted monthly to Council.

### **Meetings**

Once monthly, on the second Wednesday, with additional meetings including two annual field trips (spring and fall) as required.

### **Quorum**

Consists of five community representatives.

### **Communications**

FWAC communicates with Council through its monthly meeting minutes in all cases except when providing feedback to the Cheakamus Community Forest (CCF).

Due to FWAC's role as the public input body for the CCF, comments will be communicated directly to the CCF and CCF forestry manager with the knowledge of the CCF RMOW board members to facilitate timely resolution of forest harvesting issues. A summary record of such communications will be included in the FWAC meeting minutes.

### **Membership Criteria**

All members are expected to:

- attend a minimum of 50% of meetings over the three year term to maintain membership eligibility.
- Exhibit co-operative and respectful interactions with other members as per RMOW Procedure F-13, Respectful Workplace, and Procedure F-5, Prevention of Workplace Harassment.

### **Expectations**

- review distributed material before the meeting and to keep up to date on issues;
- RSVP to RMOW staff whether or not they will be able to attend the meeting.

Certified Correct:

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Pauline Lysaght  
Corporate Officer