



**REGULAR MEETING OF  
RECREATION LEISURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

December 14, 2023, 4:00pm  
Hybrid Meeting  
Flute Room, Municipal Hall

		Mtgs: YTD
		(6)
PRESENT:	Member at Large, Chair, J. Chuback	5
	Whistler Sports Legacies representative, Co-Chair, R. Soane	6
	Member at Large, A. Ross	5
	Member at Large, B. Goldsmid	5
	Member at Large, C. MacKenzie	5
	Member at Large, P. Street	5
	Tourism Whistler Representative, T. Kargl	2
	Member at Large, L. Scroggins	5
	Councilor, R. Forsyth	5
ABSENT:	Sea to Sky School District 48 Representative	2
	Member at Large, D. Titus	4
STAFF PRESENT:	Manager, Resort Parks Planning, RMOW, M. Pardoe	
	Recreation Manager, RMOW, R. Weetman	
	Sr Communications Officer, RMOW, E. Marriner	
	Recording Secretary, RMOW, A. Bois	

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*Chair J. Chuback recognized the Resort Municipality of Whistler is grateful to be on the shared, unceded territory of the Lílwat People, known in their language as Liłwat7úl, and the Squamish People, known in their language as Skwxwú7mesh. We respect and commit to a deep consideration of their history, culture, stewardship and voice.*

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved By Whistler Sports Legacies Representative, Co-Chair R. Soane

Seconded By Member at Large, C. MacKenzie

**That** Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Committee Meeting agenda, of December 14, 2023.

CARRIED

### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved By Whistler Sports Legacies Representative, Co-Chair R. Soane

Seconded By Member at Large, C. MacKenzie

**That** Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Committee Meeting agenda of October 12, 2023.

CARRIED

### 4. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

#### 4.1 Committees of Council Program Review

RMOW Sr Communications Officer, E. Marriner presents the Committee of Council Program Review and explains the purpose of the presentation is to solicit feedback from the committee regarding the new Smart Tourism Select Committee of Council proposed mandate and membership. E. Marriner notes that given the significant amount of time used by Committees of Council (RMOW staff, Council, partner organizations, and community members), there is a need to ensure committee topics are relevant and that resource commitments are in alignment with current municipal priorities that serve the community, the RMOW, and council decision making. There is also a desire to ensure the input of committees is captured, and considered, in the municipality's work.

E. Marriner explained that surveys of members of Committees of Council were administered and a staff person from each committee was interviewed to understand the committee-specific context. These surveys and interviews indicated committee topics need review. E. Marriner shared the New Committee Program Structure, endorsed by Council in September 2023, that merges RLAC, along with the Economic Partnership Initiative Committee (EPIC) and the Festivals, Events and Animation Oversight Committee (FEAOC), into *the Smart Tourism Committee*. E. Marriner also explained that RLAC will wrap up this year and shift to Smart Tourism in Q1 of 2024. Council will accept applications for the Smart Tourism Select Committee community representatives once the Terms of Reference is endorsed.

#### Committee Questions

- *How many members will be on the new committee?* E. Marriner indicated that there is a proposed membership list of 15.
- *Will the Smart Tourism Committee only focus on tourist needs?* The committee denoted that the *Smart Tourism Committee* title is confusing and implies only tourist needs will be addressed. Committee members emphasized that RLAC addressed *both* tourist and local recreational

needs. Committee members expressed concern that with the dissolution of RLAC there is no committee that will advise on local recreational needs. Councilor R. Forsyth explained that 'Smart Tourism' is one of Council's 3 priorities (in addition to housing and community engagement) and indicated that the intention behind the *Smart Tourism Committee* is to hold both local and guest interests. Councilor R. Forsyth also noted that TOR have not been established for the Smart Tourism committee and noted that the title of the committee can be updated to reflect a committee that supports local, and tourist, interest.

- *Will the Smart Tourism Committee approve festivals or will the committee address policies to manage festivals at a higher level?* E. Marriner specifies that the *Smart Tourism Committee* will use a Smart Tourism strategy, and principles, to guide, and inform, decisions on what festival, recreation, and events take place.

### **Feedback**

E. Marriner explains that the Governance and Ethics Committee requests feedback from all the committees being amalgamated on proposed mandates and membership for the *Smart Tourism Committee*.

The proposed mandate for *Smart Tourism Committee* is: review and provide feedback on new policies and specifically the smart tourism component of these policies; provide guidance for related resort wide policy initiatives and expenditures; achieve alignment and collaboration with resort partners pertinent to smart tourism; share and consider key current and anticipated tourism practices and economic trends to ensure resilient tourism strategy that ensure and maintains our competitive advantage; plan and share resort wide research and integrator tracking; define roles and various agencies as pertinent to destination management and destination stewardship; collaborate on the development and ongoing tracking of targets; identify, share and consider key current and anticipated economic trends, challenges and opportunities of key relevance to the RMOW (including climate change); provide review of the 3 year resort development strategy; review and provide feedback on festivals, events and animation and high level goals with strategic thinking; and provide input and recommendations on the ongoing strategic use and prioritization of hotel tax revenue.

### **Feedback shared:**

- The committee voiced concern over the perceived lack of community representation in the proposed membership of *Smart Tourism Committee* and feels that the proposed membership will lack community input, and representation;
- The committee feels that the proposed membership mandate does not have enough community representation from a recreation perspective (for

example, sport club representation); the committee suggests that there is a gap, or opportunity, to discuss items in an operational manner;

- The committee shared that the proposed Smart Tourism Committee mandate does not address community recreation;
- The committee also points out an overrepresentation of Tourism Whistler and One Whistler in the proposed membership mandate of the *Smart Tourism Committee*;
- The committee noted that community representation is being limited with the reduction of community members on the proposal and anticipates community engagement will be reduced to open houses and surveys. Councilor R. Forsyth is hopeful that there will be other avenues to engage the public. Councilor R. Forsyth acknowledges that there is a gap in the mandate that precludes parks and natural assets.
- Committee suggests changing the balance to add more community members to *Smart Tourism Committee* who are not representing One Whistler or Tourism Whistler. The committee feels that One Whistler and Tourism Whistler, while important representation, the level of discussion that is very different from community member contributions.
- The committee also feels the *Smart Tourism Committee* proposed mandate appears too broad (being comprised of three committees). E. Marriner notes that the intention of the review is to shift committee's focus to more on policy and strategy ("less down in the weeds" on operational plans). E. Marriner explains that the introduction of a community engagement working group (as community engagement is a priority of council)- community engagement approaches for large municipal projects will be shared with the working group.

*T. Kargl leaves at 5pm*

M. Pardoe considers the feedback provided by RLAC members and notes that community engagement/ feedback can, and does, come from different interest groups, working groups, professionals, community interest groups, for each Parks and Planning (policy and park projects) project without RLAC. For example, WORCA and the disc golf group are engaged for the disc golf course development even though the trails in Lost Lake Park are municipally maintained.

**More Feedback shared:**

- Considering M. Pardoe's comment that there are different groups that can be engaged for different projects, the committee feels there is a continuity that is missing in the community engagement- (community engagement beyond what is sourced for a specific project).

M. Pardoe also notes that community engagement/ feedback does not necessarily represent broader community interest. It is the RMOW's position to find broader community interest for solutions.

- The committee shares that RLAC's role has been to get community feedback, and solicit engagement, for Parks and Planning projects through both local, and tourist, lens.

M. Pardoe shares that while the Committee does provide community feedback, it is limited feedback as it is only representative of a part of the community. M. Pardoe also notes that other avenues of community engagement (open houses, online surveys, Whistler Sessions) results in a much greater representation of demographics of the community.

- RLAC Committee would like to see a clarification of the Smart Tourism Mandate to recognize that aspect of recreation and leisure in the community and more community representation.

*E. Marriner leaves at 5:15pm*

**That** the Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee feels that the new committee structure does not meet the community's needs for input to community park and recreational assets. The Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee requests a meeting with the Governance and Ethics Committee in the New Year to discuss.

Moved by Member at Large, C. MacKenzie

Seconded by Councilor, R. Forsyth

CARRIED

#### **4.2 Recreation Fees and Charges**

R. Weetman provides update on recreation fees and charges. Bylaw 2420 did get approval by council. Fees will go up 5- 6% January 15, 2024, with "passive" communication.

Next week (week of December 18, 2023) there should be new HVAC units at Meadow Park cardio room to replace units more than 30 years old.

Snowmaking at the Plaza did work during a test phase; however, the temperature needs to be -5 degrees to make snow.

Pool at Meadow Park will have air quality improvements. Custom fans will come in the new year; currently there are temporary fans to improve air quality in the pool.

#### **4.3 Parks Planning Multiple Project Updates**

M. Pardoe provides updates on various Parks Planning Project, including on the River of Golden Dreams weir replacement expected in August 2024- there will likely be valley trail closure during a fishery window.

Valley trail is open at Rainbow Park now; no cross-country ski grooming during the winter (just to the end of the park); new dock styles at Rainbow Park is more like a “gang plank” style is for accessibility reasons and docks will not be as vulnerable to water currents and dock displacement requiring ongoing resetting.

The splash park at Meadow Park is at development permit now; playground supplier is from Vancouver Island and the water park supplier is from lower mainland; noted there will be 43 trees added to the park.

Meadow Park Phase 2- parks and valley strategic plan and the smart tourism initiative inform priorities for our entire park system and RMI funds.

Work with MOTI for improvement valley trail connection south of highway at Bayshores. Currently at MOTI for review.

Recreation trail maps are done and brochure versions will be ready in 2024.

21 Mile Bridge at Rainbow Falls- old bridge was worn out; new bridge is wider, higher for bikes and flooding.

Memorial Bridge at Comfortably Numb is also at the end of its lifespan- that will be replaced, timing to be determined.

## 5. OTHER BUSINESS

*There was none.*


## 6. TERMINATION

Moved By Member at Large, P. Street


Seconded By Member at Large, B. Goldsmid


**That** the Recreation and Leisure Advisory Committee terminate the Regular Committee Meeting of December 14, 2023.

CARRIED

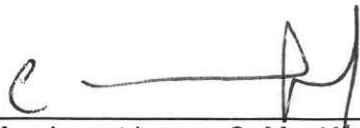
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, J. Chuback

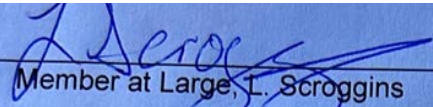
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Co- Chair, R. Soane

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member at Large, A. Ross

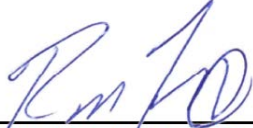
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member at Large, B. Goldsmid

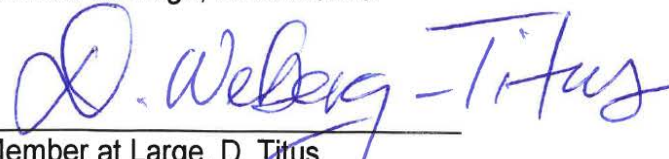
Minutes – Regular Meeting of Recreation Leisure Advisory Committee – Resort Municipality of Whistler  
December 14, 2023


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member at Large, C. MacKenzie

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member at Large, L. Scroggins

*Tory Kargl*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tourism Whistler, T. Kargl

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilor, R. Forsyth

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member at Large, D. Titus

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member at Large, P. Street

No Representation  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Howe Sound School District 48

*Adina Bois*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary, A. Bois