MINUTES of a Regular Meeting of the MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KAMLOOPS, held in Council Chambers, City Hall, 7 Victoria Street West, Kamloops, BC, on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at 1:30 pm.

PRESENT: **Mayor Hamer-Jackson; Councillors Bass, Bepple, Hall, Karpuk, Middleton, Neustaeter, O'Reilly, and Sarai.**

Chief Administrative Officer McCorkell; Corporate Officer Mazzotta; Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/Director of Civic Operations Fretz; Corporate Services Director Hallinan; Employee Services Director Howatt; Development, Engineering, and Sustainability Director Kwiatkowski; Community and Culture Director Mazzotta; Communications and Strategic Partnerships Director Rodrigue; Protective Services Director/Fire Chief Uzeloc; IT Helpdesk Technician Hill.

Corporate Assistant Mishchenko observed the meeting electronically.

1. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Mayor acknowledged that the City of Kamloops is located on Tk̓emlúps te Secwépemc territory, situated within the unceded ancestral lands of the Secwépemc Nation, noting honour and respect for the people, the territory, and the land that houses our community.

2. CIVIL DISCOURSE STATEMENT

The Mayor stated the City of Kamloops is required to provide a respectful workplace, noting that by attending this meeting, a person is participating in City staff’s workplace and as such, asked that they do so with respect and civility. The Mayor stated any verbal or physical abuse toward staff or Council will not be tolerated.

3. READING

The Corporate Officer gave a reading from the works of Walter Scott.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Neustaeter, seconded by Councillor Sarai, that Council adopt the March 10, 2026, Public Hearing minutes.

CARRIED.

5. DELEGATIONS

East Kamloops Business Improvement Association (EKBIA)
Re: 2025 Report

The delegation presented the following:

- Introduced Council to the EKBIA staff and Board

- Summarized the demographics and the characteristics of the EKBIA membership
- Provided an overview of the events and accomplishments since their establishment in 2025, notably the finalization of their Strategic Plan
- Highlighted that the goal of the first year of operations was to prioritize listening to the needs of businesses before launching programs
- Highlighted the outcomes of their benchmarking survey
- Provided an overview of their 2025 finances and a breakdown of expenses
- Outlined a plan for 2026

On question, the delegation responded with the following:

- The size of the BIA and spreading awareness have been a challenge
- The EKBIA is now fully staffed with two staff members and additional assistance provided by specialized contracted teams
- Improving transit in East Kamloops is essential for increasing connectivity and the EKBIA will continue to advocate for this
- Community development is one of the four main priorities in the Strategic Plan. Advocacy will be based on priorities

6. RESPONSE TO DELEGATIONS

East Kamloops Business Improvement Association
Re: 2025 Report

Note: Release of the levy is pending receipt of all documentation required by the City, as per *East Kamloops Business Improvement Area Bylaw No. 61, 2024*.

Moved by Councillor Bass, seconded by Councillor Karpuk, that Council authorize the $405,637.35 East Kamloops Business Improvement Association levy to be paid in 50% increments in accordance with *East Kamloops Business Improvement Area Bylaw No. 61, 2024*.

CARRIED.

Moved by Councillor Bepple, seconded by Councillor Sarai, that Council send a letter of thanks to the East Kamloops Business Improvement Association Board and staff for the work done in their inaugural year.

CARRIED.

7. CONSIDERATION OF BYLAWS

Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw No. 66-5, 2026

Moved by Councillor Sarai, seconded by Councillor Hall, that Bylaw No. 66-5 be adopted.

Affirmative: **Councillors Bass, Bepple, Hall, Karpuk, Middleton, Neustaeter, O'Reilly, and Sarai.**

Opposed: **Mayor Hamer-Jackson.**

CARRIED.

City of Kamloops Financial Plan Bylaw No. 16-331, 2026

Moved by Councillor Bass, seconded by Councillor Karpuk, that Bylaw No. 16-331 be read a first, second, and third time.

CARRIED.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Request for a Closed Council Meeting

Moved by Councillor O'Reilly, seconded by Councillor Neustaeter, that Council authorize staff to schedule a Closed Council Meeting at 9:30 am on April 14, 2026, under *Community Charter* sections 90:

(1)(a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality;

(1)(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;

(1)(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;

(1)(l) discussions with municipal officers and employees respecting municipal objectives, measures and progress reports for the purposes of preparing an annual report under section 98 [*annual municipal report*];

(2)(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations

(MOTION CONTINUED)

(MOTION CONTINUED)

(i) between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government, or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government, or both, and a third party,

(ii) between the municipality and another local government or between another local government and a third party, or

(iii) between the municipality and a first nation or a prescribed Indigenous entity, or between a first nation or a prescribed Indigenous entity and a third party;

(2)(d) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public must be excluded from the meeting.

Affirmative: **Councillors Bass, Bepple, Hall, Karpuk, Middleton, Neustaeter, O'Reilly, and Sarai.**

Opposed: **Mayor Hamer-Jackson.**

CARRIED.

Proposed 2026 Council Calendar Update

Councillor O'Reilly recused himself due to a previously declared conflict of interest regarding a business relationship with one of the proponents of Temporary Use Permit No. TUP00065 (142 Tranquille Road) and left Council Chambers at 1:56 pm.

Councillor Neustaeter declared a conflict of interest due to receiving new information about Temporary Use Permit No. TUP00065 (142 Tranquille Road) after the March 10, 2026 Regular Council Meeting from an individual with whom she has a personal relationship, and determining that this places her in a conflict of interest. Councillor Neustaeter stated that the individual from whom she received this information is not the project proponent, and left Council Chambers at 1:57 pm.

The Corporate Officer inquired on whether Mayor Hamer-Jackson believes that the legal advice he received continues to apply to Temporary Use Permit No. TUP00065 (142 Tranquille Road), as per his statements made at the March 10, 2026, Regular Council Meeting, as it relates to his active defamation lawsuit against Joshua Knaak.

On question, the Corporate Officer explained that the Mayor's confirmation on the record is being requested because an Independent Investigator determined that he is in a conflict of interest with matters related to the Temporary Use Permit at 142 Tranquille Road, as they are connected to an individual whom he is suing. Council had accepted the findings of the Independent Investigator and directed the Mayor to present evidence of his receipt of legal advice confirming that he is authorized to participate in matters related to the Temporary Use Permit at 142 Tranquille Road. As the Mayor has not presented the evidence required by Council, he has not fulfilled his *Community Charter* requirement of reflecting the will of Council. Further, the City of Kamloops has reason to believe that, should Mayor Hamer-Jackson participate in the proceedings related to TUP00065, this could result in a costly legal challenge, and the role of staff is to protect the corporation against liability and undue costs.

Mayor Hamer-Jackson stated that he is not suing any development company, but he is suing Joshua Knaak as an individual because the Mayor is of the view that Mr. Knaak "accused him of criminal acts."

The Mayor inquired on the details of a Code of Conduct complaint submitted by Councillor Bass.

The Corporate Officer stated that regardless of which companies Joshua Knaak may or may not be a part of, it is on the public record that the Independent Investigator determined that the Mayor is in a conflict of interest regarding the Temporary Use Permit at 142 Tranquille Road based on his defamation lawsuit against Joshua Knaak, who is a principal of the proponent.

The Mayor inquired on the reasons for which he is required to apologize to Joshua Knaak and the reasons for receiving a salary reduction.

On question, the Corporate Officer stated that the reason for which Council directed Mayor Hamer-Jackson to apologize to Joshua Knaak and directed a salary reduction was due to the fact that the Mayor participated in proceedings in which he was found to be in a conflict of interest based on a reasonable person test of what an average resident would consider to be a conflict of interest.

The Mayor expressed concern over solicitor-client privilege.

The Corporate Officer confirmed that Council does not require the Mayor's legal opinion itself. The requested evidence may be a statement from a lawyer signifying that the opinion exists.

The Mayor inquired on who filed the previously discussed Code of Conduct complaint regarding the conflict of interest with the Temporary Use Permit.

Councillor Bass identified herself as the complainant and described the nature of her minimal acquaintance with Joshua Knaak. She corrected the record by stating that she filed the complaint based on her own beliefs and she did not act for any other individual.

The Mayor inquired on the reasons for which Councillor Bass had filed the Code of Conduct Complaint. Councillor Bass reiterated that the Mayor had not participated in the Independent Investigation and requested the Mayor to fulfil his obligations as Mayor.

The Corporate Officer invited the Mayor to consider whether he may hold a bias on Temporary Use Permit No. TUP00065 for 142 Tranquille Road, reminding the Mayor that any Chairperson or participant of a proceeding that invites public submissions must maintain an open mind on the matter.

The Mayor stated that he does not base his decisions on Joshua Knaak and he bases his decisions on his opinion that Kamloops needs more recovery-focused buildings.

The Corporate Officer sought clarification from the Mayor as to whether he believes he is entering considerations on Temporary Use Permit No. TUP00065 for 142 Tranquille Road with an open mind, and without an already-formulated position on this matter.

The Mayor stated for the record that he believes himself to have an open mind on this matter.

The Mayor inquired on whether the City will be commencing any legal proceedings against him.

The Corporate Officer clarified that she is not aware of any such proceedings. However, if the Mayor continues chairing this portion of the meeting, there is a legitimate concern that there will be a procedural fairness challenge or a conflict of interest challenge. Anyone can initiate proceedings against the City on the basis of believing that the City was running an unfair process.

The Mayor expressed concern with the Independent Investigator and requested what he termed “burden of proof”.

The Corporate Officer advised Mayor Hamer-Jackson that the legal concept of “burden of proof” isn’t relevant to the proceedings of a municipal Council, and that his use of this terminology is part of why he is being asked to confirm that he has current legal advice on his participation in Council consideration of Temporary Use Permit No. TUP00065 (142 Tranquille Road).

The Mayor stated that he has a legal opinion. The Corporate Officer inquired on whether the legal advice is current and applicable to the matter on today’s agenda. The Mayor refused to answer the Corporate Officer’s question.

The Mayor raised questions and concerns on the Freedom of Information (FOI) request matter raised during Councillors’ Reports at the previous March 10, 2026, Regular Council Meeting. He inquired with Councillor Middleton on the identity of the City staff member who confirmed for her that she did not receive any FOI documents from the Mayor.

Councillor Middleton confirmed she will not reveal the identity of the staff member.

The Mayor expressed concern on the advice provided to Councillor Middleton by the IT staff member regarding the receipt of the documents from the Mayor.

Council urged the Mayor to return to the current agenda item regarding TUP00065.

Councillor Hall inquired on whether the Mayor has been active in the community speaking with local business owners regarding Temporary Use Permit No. TUP00065 (142 Tranquille

Road), and if in doing so, he is maintaining an open mind regarding all perspectives on this TUP application.

Mayor Hamer-Jackson responded by stating that the TUP application process for 142 Tranquille would not even be necessary if other members of Council had undertaken actions similar to his. He elaborated to confirm that he had been attending and speaking with businesses near 142 Tranquille since the Pathways Shelter at that location had become operational. He stated that businesses have expressed negative experiences since the opening of the shelter, and described the process of considering TUP00065 as wasting money.

Councillor Hall sought clarification from the Mayor as to whether he had spoken with businesses either in favour of or against TUP00065, while Council is still in the process of considering this application.

The Mayor stated that he asked the businesses to provide their opinions.

The Mayor inquired whether the April 21, 2026, Regular Council Meeting can take place at 6:00 pm rather than 3:00 pm. He also inquired on whether there was a Request for Proposal (RFP) initiated for hiring technical support at the Kia Lounge.

The Corporate Officer stated there had not been an RFP, noting the cost allocation has not yet been approved by Council. The cost estimate is based on the costs required to set up Zoom proceedings in the Kia Lounge based on previous similar meetings conducted in that space. The Corporate Officer also confirmed that the 3:00 pm time was identified as one that works for a broad range of people who may have an interest in this application.

The Mayor inquired if the April 21, 2026 meeting can be recessed and reconvened at 6:00 pm so that members of the business community can attend.

The Corporate Officer stated that there is currently no motion under consideration and once there is, the Mayor may propose an amendment.

Councillor Bepple expressed the importance of having an open mind and avoiding conflicts of interest when considering the TUP00065 matter, to preserve fairness and to prevent any legal challenges.

Councillor Sarai inquired on the reasons for the proposed meeting start time, noting that 3:00 pm is outside of the norm, and on opportunities to make written submissions.

The Corporate Officer clarified the difference between a Public Hearing and a Public Submissions opportunity, noting that TUP00065 will be a Public Submissions opportunity. The Corporate Officer clarified that the 3:00 pm suggestion was an attempt to strike a balance between the typical 7:00 pm start time for Public Hearings and the typical 1:30 pm start time for Regular Council meetings. She noted that the deadline to submit written correspondence on TUP00065 will be at 12:00 pm on the Friday before the Council meeting when this application is considered, once Council has decided on a time, date, and location for this consideration.

The Mayor inquired on the reasons for anticipating high attendance at the April 21, 2026 meeting.

The Corporate Officer explained that in addition to higher-than-usual public attendance at the March 10, 2026 Regular Council Meeting, when notice for Council consideration of TUP00065 was being authorized, the November 26, 2024 Regular Council Meeting, at which this Temporary Use Permit application was considered for the first time, also attracted a large number of public attendees and speakers. Staff is expecting similar interest this time.

The Mayor stated that a survey of businesses near the 142 Tranquille Road Pathways Shelter was conducted by their Business Improvement Association, and outlined the results of this survey, emphasizing negative experiences. He expressed his belief in the importance of considering the results of this survey and questioned why the City is conducting the Public Submissions exercise for TUP00065, given the survey results.

The Corporate Officer sought clarification from Mayor Hamer-Jackson as to whether he was suggesting the public submissions process for TUP00065 was unnecessary.

Mayor Hamer-Jackson responded reiterating the results of the survey conducted by the North Shore Business Improvement Association, and asked what the purpose of a Business Improvement Association was if the City doesn’t respect their surveys.

The Mayor further inquired on the reasons for staff anticipating a large volume of taxpayers to attend the April 21, 2026, Regular meeting.

The Corporate Officer reiterated the past interest observed with the Temporary Use Permit application at 142 Tranquille Road.

The Mayor inquired on the reason for spending additional funds for the April 21, 2026, Regular Council Meeting when the majority of the businesses in the area surrounding the Pathways Shelter have stated their opposition in the survey.

Councillor Bass expressed concern about the Pathways Shelter affecting the City of Kamloops as a whole, noting that the effects of the Shelter are not restricted to the North Shore.

On question, Chief Administrative Officer McCorkell confirmed that the recommendation for a larger space for Council to receive public submissions on TUP00065 is based on Council’s discussion on this at its March 10, 2026, Regular meeting, outlining the anticipated need to accommodate many speakers. The start time remains at Council’s discretion.

The Mayor suggested the importance of shelter users submitting applications for housing with BC Housing, and that this could result in the Pathways Shelter not being needed.

Councillor Sarai clarified the process for obtaining housing through BC Housing, noting restrictions on eligibility for seniors’ and low-income family housing.

The Mayor inquired on the number of shelter users who have applied for housing through BC Housing since the Pathways Shelter has opened, noting his opposition to building more shelters.

Upon request from Council to call the question on the motion below, Mayor Hamer-Jackson stated that he will not be voting in support of the motion regarding time, date, location, and cost for consideration of public submissions regarding Temporary Use Permit No. TUP00065 (142 Tranquille Road), as he does not believe the City needs to undertake the process outlined in the motion.

Moved by Councillor Sarai, seconded by Councillor Hall, that Council approve:

a) the proposed update to the 2026 Council Calendar to reschedule the April 21, 2026, Regular Council Meeting to 3:00 pm, to be held at the Kia Lounge, Sandman Centre (300 Lorne Street).

b) an allocation of $5250 to allow for external technical support at the Kia Lounge, Sandman Centre (300 Lorne Street) required to permit Zoom participation by members of the public and extra space for in-person participants for Public Submissions on Temporary Use Permit Application No. TUP00065 (142 Tranquille Road).

Affirmative: Councillors Bass, Bepple, Hall, Karpuk, Middleton, Neustaeter, O'Reilly, and Sarai.

Opposed: Mayor Hamer-Jackson.

CARRIED.

Councillor Neustaeter and O’Reilly returned to Council Chambers at 2:35 pm.

On question, Councillor Neustaeter confirmed that she had previously stated publicly in Council Chambers that the reason she has not previously declared conflicts of interest in relation to TUP00065 was because she had received legal advice, which she was willing to provide to the City as evidence, stating that she was not deemed to be in a conflict of interest with ARPA Investments. She reiterated that her recusal at this meeting involved her receipt of new information from a source other than the proponent of Temporary Use Permit No. TUP00065 (142 Tranquille Road), and that this changed her perspective on her previous objectivity.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. REZ00854
Development Permit Application No. DPM01103
(821 McGill Road)

Council received an Administrative Report dated March 24, 2026, prepared by the Development, Engineering, and Sustainability Department to rezone the subject property on a site-specific basis to increase the maximum density and floor area ratio to permit a one-lot subdivision and issue a development permit for the proposed 83-unit, six-storey building on this new lot.

Moved by Councillor Sarai, seconded by Councillor O'Reilly, that Council authorize distribution of public notice for *Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 55-110* for 821 McGill Road.

CARRIED.

Amendment to Council Policy GGL-17 Tax Penalty - Reversing

Council received an Administrative Report dated March 24, 2026, prepared by the Corporate Services Department to recommend amendments to Council Policy No. GGL-17, Tax Penalty - Reversing, to ensure the policy continues to align with provincial requirements when the responsible ministry undergoes a name change.

Moved by Councillor Bass, seconded by Councillor Sarai, that Council authorize the proposed amendments to Council Policy No. GGL-17, Tax Penalty – Reversing, as shown in tracked changes to Attachment "A" to this report.

CARRIED.

2026 Clean the Beach

Council received a Memorandum dated March 24, 2026, prepared by the Community and Culture Department to provide Council with information and details regarding the 2026 Clean the Beach event.

10. RECESS

The meeting recessed at 2:51 pm.

11. RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened at 2:57 pm.

PRESENT: **Mayor Hamer-Jackson; Councillors Bass, Bepple, Hall, Karpuk, Middleton, Neustaeter, O'Reilly, and Sarai.**

Chief Administrative Officer McCorkell; Corporate Officer Mazzotta; Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/Director of Civic Operations Fretz; Corporate Services Director Hallinan; Employee Services Director Howatt; Development, Engineering, and Sustainability Director Kwiatkowski; Community and Culture Director Mazzotta; Communications and Strategic Partnerships Director Rodrigue; Protective Services Director/Fire Chief Uzeloc; IT Helpdesk Technician Hill.

Corporate Assistant Mishchenko observed the meeting electronically.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Community Climate Action Plan Implementation Report

Council received a report dated March 24, 2026, prepared by the Development, Engineering, and Sustainability Department to update Council on the progress made in implementing the Community Climate Action Plan since the last Council update in January 2025.

13. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Council received the Community Engagement Activities Memo.

14. NOTICES OF MOTION

Presented by Councillor Bepple on March 10, 2026

Moved by Councillor Bepple, seconded by Councillor Bass:

WHEREAS the integration of car sharing into transportation demand management strategies is included as an action item in the existing Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Implementation Plan;

AND WHEREAS Kamloops City Council supports innovative collaboration with the development sector to address housing supply, affordability, and transit-oriented growth;

AND WHEREAS car share services reduce parking demand and congestion, lowering the need for costly off-street parking in new developments and enabling more affordable housing opportunities;

AND WHEREAS car sharing is a proven transportation demand management strategy supported by business and development sectors that can reduce infrastructure costs, expand mobility options, and enhance walkable, vibrant urban neighbourhoods;

AND WHEREAS several municipalities, including Kelowna, Saanich, Nanaimo, and New Westminster, have adopted policies that support car share services;

AND WHEREAS a supportive regulatory framework would reduce barriers and encourage car share providers to operate in Kamloops;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct staff to report on options to support car share services in Kamloops, including:

a) criteria for reducing off-street parking requirements in multi-family developments that provide access to car share vehicles;

(MOTION CONTINUED)

(MOTION CONTINUED)

b) provision of free on-street parking for car share vehicles;
c) designation of car share spaces in public lots and curbside areas;
d) public education and outreach;
e) data sharing and planning partnerships to optimize service coverage; and
f) establishment of a developer-funded contribution program to support long-term service viability.

CARRIED.

<u>Presented by Mayor Hamer-Jackson on March 10, 2026</u>

Moved by Mayor Hamer-Jackson, seconded by Councillor Karpuk:

WHEREAS the City of Kamloops has approved major capital projects including the Kamloops Centre for the Arts and an arena multiplex, which collectively represent some of the largest currently approved capital projects of the City;

AND WHEREAS the availability of provincial and federal grant funding for major recreation and cultural infrastructure projects is uncertain and increasingly competitive;

AND WHEREAS borrowing authority for these projects has been authorized through Alternative Approval Processes, while Council retains discretion regarding the timing and advancement of capital projects;

AND WHEREAS these projects represent significant long-term financial commitments that may affect municipal finances and taxpayers for decades;

AND WHEREAS recent provincial budget decisions and broader economic conditions may increase financial pressures on taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS the City faces additional capital commitments in the near term, including a new RCMP detachment facility;

AND WHEREAS major capital projects should be considered within the broader context of the City's overall financial capacity and competing infrastructure priorities;

AND WHEREAS major capital commitments should be advanced with the broadest possible public confidence;

AND WHEREAS a municipal election will be held in October 2026;

(MOTION CONTINUED)

(MOTION CONTINUED)

AND WHEREAS residents will elect a new Council responsible for establishing priorities for the following term and have an opportunity to express their priorities regarding major civic investments;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Council directs Administration to immediately postpone/delay further advancement of the Kamloops Centre for the Arts and the arena multiplex capital projects for a period of one year or until such time as a newly elected Council provides further direction;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during this period Administration suspend new procurement, contractual commitments, design advancement, or construction activities related to these projects except where legally required to avoid material financial penalties;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing in this motion shall be interpreted as cancelling these projects or invalidating previous planning, engagement, or studies undertaken to date;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Administration report to Council outlining any contractual, financial, or legal implications associated with implementing this pause, including any potential penalties or costs arising from delay.

Affirmative: **Mayor Hamer-Jackson.**

Opposed: **Councillors Bass, Bepple, Hall, Karpuk, Middleton, Neustaeter, O'Reilly, and Sarai.**

DEFEATED.

15. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole
Minutes - March 3, 2026

Moved by Councillor Sarai, seconded by Councillor Karpuk, that Council direct staff to maintain the current every-two-year frequency of the Citizen Satisfaction Survey with an adjustment so that the next survey take place in spring 2027 and that the next elected Council determine if that frequency be maintained beyond spring 2027.

CARRIED.

Moved by Councillor Karpuk, seconded by Councillor Middleton, that Council direct staff to bring forward options for an updated budgeting process that would allow for incremental annual increases in not-for-profit City grant opportunities.

CARRIED.

16. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Councillor Sarai:

- Council has been meeting with provincial and federal ministers regarding the economic stability of the City's airport lands
- There are funding opportunities for development at the Kamloops Airport available through the Canadian National Defense Strategy Fund
- Council is continuing discussions about options for using national funding to support BC Wildfire facilities and supporting emergency personnel

Councillor Hall:

- The City of Kamloops has received two awards for its 2024 Annual Report: the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting and the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting
- These awards recognize technical excellence and the commitment to clear, transparent, and easy-to-understand financial information
- Councillor Hall congratulated and thanked the City's Corporate Services Director and his staff

Councillor Bass:

- Provided background information for the reasons for which the Deputy Mayor responds to emails sent from the public addressing all of Council
- Addressed an email chain that became publicly available and that received criticism online
- Expressed concern about repetitive disrespectful correspondence received by Council

Councillor Bepple:

- The Executive Director of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) will be retiring after the 2026 UBCM Convention

Moved by Councillor Bepple, seconded by Councillor Neustaeter, that Council send a letter of thanks to Garry MacIsaac for his long stewardship and leadership as the Executive Director of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities.

CARRIED.

Councillor Bepple:

- Attended the Local Government Leadership Academy with Councillor Middleton, which is a program for local government elected officials
- Attended many workshops and presentations, including the Enduring Legacy of Local Leadership in Disasters, which highlighted the importance of local governments across the province during times of disaster

- Summarized the key items, which include sharing knowledge and experience, building relationships before disasters, and creating hubs for displaced victims
- Noted that the Provincial Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services is coming to Kamloops, which will provide an opportunity to speak to Members of the Legislative Assembly

Moved by Councillor Bepple, seconded by Councillor Sarai, that Council submit a request to present the following to the Province of BC's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services when it convenes in Kamloops as part of its consultation on the 2027 Provincial Budget:
- **replacement of the Red Bridge**
- **highway improvements in the Interior Region**

CARRIED.

Councillor Karpuk:
- Acknowledged his role as Deputy Mayor of the month
- Reported that Council have met with BC Minister of Forests Ravi Parmar to discuss economic opportunities including a Community Forest partnership
- Reported that Council will be advocating at the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services on topics including the Red Bridge as well as Build Kamloops-related grant opportunities
- Recognized youth engagement at the Junior Council Meeting and environmental partnerships with School District No. 73
- Acknowledged that ten local businesses were recently recognized with a Business Excellence Awards

Moved by Councillor Karpuk, seconded by Councillor Bass, that Council rescind its December 9, 2025, Resolution to postpone consideration of the Alternative Approval Processes' launch details until after Canada Post and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers provide public notice that they have finalized their collective agreement.

Affirmative: **Councillors Bass, Bepple, Hall, Karpuk, Middleton, Neustaeter, O'Reilly, and Sarai.**

Opposed: **Mayor Hamer-Jackson.**

CARRIED.

Councillor Middleton:
- Corrected the record by stating that she does not hold the title of Assistant Deputy Mayor while assisting the Deputy Mayor with answering emails
- Confirmed receiving approximately 364 emails about the Mayor's March 10, 2026, Notice of Motion regarding the Arena Multiplex

Councillor Neustaeter recused herself due to a previously declared conflict of interest regarding the matter reported by Councillor Middleton below, and left Council Chambers at 5:37 pm.

Councillor Middleton:

- Provided an update on the Freedom of Information (FOI) request discussed at the March 10, 2026, Regular Council Meeting, noting that the FOI applicant has withdrawn their related request. As a result, the associated Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) Inquiry has been cancelled. She stated that cancellation of the Inquiry does not change the fact that Mayor Hamer-Jackson repeatedly breached his statutory obligations. Despite repeated requests from the City, Mayor Hamer-Jackson failed to turn over responsive records to the City so that they could be disclosed to the applicant. The Mayor also disclosed sensitive personal information belonging to a third party directly to the FOI applicant which is not permitted under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (*FIPPA*). As has been reported by the media, this sensitive personal information that the Mayor disclosed was not at all responsive to the FOI request. The Mayor also breached his conflict of interest obligations when he stayed in Council's March 10, 2026 meeting and voted on Councillor Middleton's motion calling him to comply with his obligations under *FIPPA* or face the prospect of paying for the City's costs to defend the Inquiry. Overall, the Mayor's conduct has repeatedly fallen short of the standards expected of an elected official. Mayor Hamer-Jackson has undermined the public's right to access records from the City under *FIPPA,* eroding accountability and transparency, the very principles he claims to stand for.

Mayor Hamer-Jackson inquired on the author of Councillor Middleton's Councillor's Report and the identity of the staff member that assisted Councillor Middleton with determining whether her City devices have received the Mayor's FOI records.

The Corporate Officer reminded the Mayor that the divulgence of staff members' identities is inappropriate in a public setting.

Councillor Middleton stated that she will not provide the Mayor with additional information.

Mayor Hamer-Jackson stated that he had forwarded personal information regarding a City employee.

Councillor Neustaeter returned to Council Chambers at 5:42 pm.

Moved by Councillor O'Reilly, seconded by Councillor Hall:

WHEREAS Kamloops and Kelowna have always had a fun hockey rivalry since the Tacoma Rockets moved to Kelowna in 1995; and

WHEREAS the Kamloops Blazers and the Kelowna Rockets have both been key economic drivers and community partners in their home cities; and

WHEREAS the Kamloops Blazers have not played a seven-game playoff series against the Kelowna Rockets in ten years;

(MOTION CONTINUED)

(MOTION CONTINUED)

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council send a letter to Kelowna's City Council inviting any municipal elected official who chooses to participate to have their photo taken in the opposing team's jersey if their City's team loses the first round of the Western Hockey League playoffs.

CARRIED.

17. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor declined to provide a Mayor's Report.

18. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:44 pm.