



# CITY OF MERRITT

## MINUTES

### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

### COUNCIL CHAMBER

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2013

AT 5:00 PM

1. PRESENT:

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Mayor Susan Roline  
Councillor D. Baker  
Councillor K. Christopherson  
Councillor M. Goetz  
Councillor H. Kroeker  
Councillor A. Murdoch  
Councillor C. Norgaard

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr. M. Noble, Chief Administrative Officer  
Ms. C. Fraser, Deputy Clerk/Human Resources Manager  
Mr. L. Plotnikoff, Leisure Services Manager  
Ms. P. Sibilleau, Financial Services Manager  
Mr. J. Umpherson, Business & Economic Development Manager

**GUESTS**

Chief Harold Aljam, Coldwater Indian Band  
Grand Chief Percy Joe, Shackan Indian Band  
Councillor Brian Holmes, Upper Nicola Indian Band  
Chief Joyce Sam, Nooaitch Indian Band  
S/SSgt Sheila White, Merritt RCMP Detachment  
Sgt Norm Fleming, Merritt RCMP Detachment

Q101

1 Members of the Public

2. CALL TO ORDER

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Mayor Roline called the meeting to order at 5:05p.m.

### 3. REPORTS

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**FIRST NATION  
CHIEFS, RCMP AND  
CROWN COUNSEL**

- 3.1 Discussions with First Nation Chiefs, RCMP and Kamloops Crown Council  
File: 7500

Mayor Roline opened discussions with First Nation representatives and the RCMP outlining the challenges faced by the City to provide policing and the cost to the taxpayers

Discussions including topics such as:

- Merritt being central gathering place for shopping, medical/dental services etc.
- Cycle of number of people without purpose gathering on main streets
- Alcohol and drug additions
- Mental health issues
- Youth
- Treatment Centres
- RCMP mandate and statistics – 3 cases per day over the course of the year (1000-1200) individuals taken to RCMP station with 10 habitual offender making up 80% of those locked up
- Certain areas of downtown tend to be frequented more often, depending on policing presence, the activity moves along
- Transit
- Emphasis on First Nations policing unit providing drug programs within the First Nations communities
- Merritt Integration Project requires a First Nations representative
- Residential school payout impacts on First Nations communities

*Councillor Murdoch left the meeting at 6:25 p.m.*

Next Steps:

- First Nations provide name or contact of individual willing to be part of the Merritt Integration Project committee
- Chief Aljam to research others organizations interested in the facility at Logan Lake as well as Conayt
- Continuation through Merritt Integrated Project and pursue transit options

4. TERMINATION OF MEETING

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The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 6:40 p.m.

**Certified correct in accordance with Section 124 (2) (c) of the  
Community Charter.**

**Original signed by  
Deputy Clerk**

**Confirmed on the 26<sup>th</sup> Day of March, 2013**

**Original signed by  
Mayor**