

NOTICE OF MOTION

TO: Council **MEETING DATE:** September 4, 2024
FROM: Mayor Henderson, August 26, 2024
SUBJECT: **Community Safety Recommendations**
FILE NO: 0550

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Council directs staff to implement a Community Safety Officer programme comprising at least 4 full time positions
 2. Council directs staff to hire a Coordinator to implement and manage a Community Block Watch programme in cooperation with the RCMP
 3. Council direct staff to provide a detailed road map, at our September 25th Council meeting, to deliver the above, including necessary bylaws that contemplate full implementation, including hiring of personnel, not later December 31st, 2024.
 4. Council direct staff to identify and recommend options for funding the costs for these initiatives (likely in the order of \$750,000 per annum) including from general reserves, tax increases and grant funding programmes.
 5. Council authorize the Mayor and at least one Councillor to travel to Victoria and elsewhere to advocate with Provincial political and senior bureaucrats for funding for these projects.
 6. Council authorize at least one Councillor to accompany that Mayor to Ottawa in November to advocate with appropriate federal government ministers and senior staff regarding changes to the criminal code.
 7. Council invite leaders of other municipalities to join these advocacy efforts in Victoria and Ottawa.
 8. Council send a letter to all candidates for the Provincial election outlining our concerns about Crime & Safety in Sechelt and ask them what actions they will take, if elected.
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Message from Mayor

Thanks to Sechelt Council, and especially Councillor Brenda Rowe, the RCMP, all of the Crime Watch Facebook Admins and contributors (and especially Julia Atkins) as well as the many, many volunteers and District staff who stepped forward to make the Crime & Safety event happen last week. A special thanks to the Sechelt Activities Centre for moving things around to accommodate us – it was obviously important to have the large venue.

It is clear the issues of crime and safety are top of mind in our community. It seems clear that we need to get into action immediately. It may be that our initial efforts are not perfect but starting now with the expectation that adjustments to our efforts will be considered is, in my view, the best way to proceed. Given the urgency of the situation, I look forward to a fulsome discussion of the below matters at our next council meeting on September 4th.

Legislative Context

District of Sechelt Council Procedure Bylaw No. 568, 2018

26. (1) Any member of Council desiring to bring forward to Council any new matter, other than a point of order or privilege, shall do so by way of a “Notice of Motion” and the matter shall be dealt with as provided by section 26(2).
- (2) Any member of Council may give notice of motion:
- (b) provide the Corporate Officer with a written copy of such motion, no later than nine calendar days prior to the scheduled meeting and the Corporate Officer shall add the motion to the agenda for said meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

John Henderson, Mayor