



Chiefs and Council Notes

For April 15, 2025

The following notes summarize the Chiefs and Council Regular Meeting held in Council Chambers at Úlúš on April 15, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

External Boards & Committees

SLCC Update

Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre (SLCC) Executive Director Liza Walli provided an update to Council on the SLCC's current initiatives and strategic priorities for 2025.

Key goals for the upcoming fiscal year include:

- Enhancing cultural preservation and education
- Achieving financial and operational sustainability
- Fostering team wellness, youth engagement, and leadership development
- Improving guest experience and promoting cultural tourism

The SLCC also aims to reduce Lil'wat Nation's financial contribution by 25% before the next funding request.

Walli agreed to a request for the SLCC to host a future Lil'wat community event described as a celebration.

The evolution of the SLCC's Indigenous Youth Ambassadors program was also discussed, with Council encouraging stronger post-program connections and ongoing engagement.

Department Reports

Community Programs

Council Supports New Framework

Council approved support for General Manager Tara Smith in developing a framework aimed at

strengthening the relationship between the Lil'wat Nation and Sea-to-Sky Community Services (SSCS).

The primary goal of this framework is to enhance service delivery for Lil'wat citizens. A secondary objective is to reduce conflicts related to funding access and service provision.

Smith provided an update on the current state of relationship-building efforts, noting that facilitated sessions involving SSCS and Lil'wat directors and managers have helped identify shared values and common goals. These sessions led to the development of a draft Protocol Agreement, which was presented to Chiefs and Council in July 2024. At that time, Council expressed a desire to be more directly involved in the relationship-building process.

Council emphasized the need for due diligence in continuing this work and requested that program usage statistics be shared.

Infrastructure

Council Approve PVEMC Funding

As part of its ongoing partnership with the Pemberton Valley Emergency Management Committee (PVEMC), Chiefs and Council approved \$33,000 to fund three years of operation and maintenance of six hydrometric gauges, including the Birkenhead Gauge. These gauges measure water and discharge levels of rivers and creeks within Lil'wat Nation's territory. They provide real-time data that is critical for emergency management of flood events.

Administration

General Assembly Update

Council discussed the upcoming General Assembly (GA), noting that while departments are not required to host booths, several programs have

requested tables to share information about upcoming initiatives and programs.

The only outstanding issue in GA planning is confirming the participation of skel7áqsten (the Lílwat governance transition team).

CAO Report

Budget Presentations

The March 18, 2025, Council meeting, originally scheduled for budget presentations, was cut short despite a motion being adopted. The remaining budget presentations will now take place during the April 29, 2025, Council meeting, which is already scheduled for Q4 Director reports. Directors will present the budgets originally planned for March 18, alongside condensed versions of their Q4 updates.

Council has requested that future presentations include clearly defined Q&A periods and fewer slides to help better manage discussion time.

Child & Family Services (CFS) Funding Update

For the 2025/26 fiscal year, the Nation has received an annual funding allocation for Child & Family Services that is \$2 million higher than originally budgeted. The CFS and Finance teams will collaborate on a budget amendment and spending plan to allocate the additional funds effectively.

Department Relocation Updates

CFS has officially moved into its new building, and Community Development has relocated to the ATCO trailers previously used by CFS's. Within Úlílus, additional internal moves are expected over the next two to three weeks. Once all departments have settled into their new spaces, a contact list will be created and shared with the community to help ensure people can easily access the appropriate services and avoid going to the wrong location.

The April 15, 2025, Chiefs & Council Regular Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.