City of Richmond

Minutes

General Purposes Committee

Date:	Tuesday, November 3, 2026
Place:	Anderson Room Richmond City Hall
Present:	Mayor Rob Howard, Chair Councillor Kenny Chiu (4:03 p.m.) Councillor Carol Day Councillor Laura Gillanders Councillor Andy Hobbs Councillor Kevin Lai Councillor Gary Law Councillor Sheldon Starrett Councillor Michael Wolfe
Call to Order:	The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded
That the minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on October 19, 2026, be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

AGENDA DELETIONS

It was moved and seconded

That Items No. 5 – 10, "Appointment of Members of Council (and their alternates) as the Liaisons to City Advisory Committees and Organizations", "Appointment of Members of Council as Liaisons to Community Associations", "Appointment of Members of Council as the Liaisons to various City Boards", "Appointment of Members of Council as Liaisons to various Societies", "Appointment of Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel for Local Area Services", and "Appointment of Acting Mayors from November 2, 2026 to November 8, 2027", be deferred to the November 16, 2026, Open General Purposes Committee Meeting.

CARRIED

LAW AND COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

1. **APPLICATION FOR A LIQUOR PRIMARY LIQUOR LICENCE # 307706 STRUCTURAL CHANGE (CAPACITY INCREASE) XTREME BOWLING ENTERTAINMENT CORP., DBA: SPLITSVILLE RIVERPORT – OPERATING AT 14200 ENTERTAINMENT BOULEVARD UNIT 150**
(File Ref. No. 12-8375-3) (REDMS No. 8526008)

Councillor Starrett declared a conflict of interest due to employment with the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) and left the meeting (4:03 p.m.)

Councillor Chiu entered the meeting (4:04 p.m.).

In reply to queries from Committee, staff advised that there has not been any reported noise complaints to date and the proposed increased capacity should not change the level of noise that already exists in the surrounding community.

It was moved and seconded

(1) That the application from Xtreme Bowling Entertainment Corp. doing business as, Splitsville Riverport, seeking a permanent amendment to Liquor Primary Liquor Licence # 307706; for a Structural Change (Capacity Increase) to 500 persons, currently set at 460 persons, be supported; and

(2) That a letter be sent to the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch, which includes the information as set out in Attachment 1 to this report, advising that Council recommends the approval of the amendment to the Liquor Primary Liquor Licence as described in Recommendation 1 of this report.

CARRIED

Councillor Starrett returned to the meeting (4:06 p.m.).

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

2. **UPDATE ON IMMIGRATION, REFUGEES AND CITIZENSHIP CANADA (IRCC) FUNDING REDUCTIONS AND ELIGIBILITY CHANGES**
(File Ref. No. 07-3300-01) (REDMS No. 8552770)

A brief discussion ensued in regard to increasing support and funding to the City of Richmond Immigrant Mentorship Program.

It was moved and seconded
That a letter be prepared for the Mayor's signature addressed to senior levels of government, including the Prime Minister of Canada; the Premier of British Columbia; the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship; the Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills; and Richmond's Members of Parliament and Members of the Legislative Assembly, advocating for the reinstatement of funding for intermediate and advanced English language training and the development of a sustainable funding model that is informed by immigration targets and responds to newcomers' needs.

CARRIED

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE DIVISION

3. **CITY SIGNATURE AND COMMUNITY EVENTS PROGRAM 2027**
(File Ref. No. 11-7400-01) (REDMS No. 8524208)

In reply to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) economic data for signature events are collected through a new geofencing program as well as Tourism Richmond's Destination International Economic Impact calculator, (ii) the Steveston Salmon Festival and the Maritime Festival generate the most revenue, (iii) external sponsorship and school participation fees help fund the Children's Art Festival, (iv) the City works collaboratively with community partners to organize the Steveston Salmon Festival, and (v) event programming has evolved from major events to community events with all events delivered in partnership with community groups.

Further discussion ensued regarding the proposed Minoru Lakes Festive Lights event and Christmas markets.

It was moved and seconded

(1) That the City Signature and Community Events Program 2027, as outlined in Table 1 of the report titled "City Signature and Community Events Program 2027", dated October 22, 2026, from the General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, be approved for the following events and initiatives:

(a) Children's Arts Festival;

(b) Richmond Cherry Blossom Festival;

(c) Doors Open Richmond;

(d) Community Celebration Grant Program;

(e) Neighbourhood Block Party Program;

(f) Steveston Salmon Festival;

(g) Richmond Maritime Festival; and

(h) Richmond Farm Fest.

(2) That the expenditures totaling $1,115,000 for the City Signature and Community Events Program 2027 with funding of $960,000 from the Rate Stabilization Account, $95,000 estimated sponsorship and $60,000 estimated grant revenue be included in the 2027 budget process.

CARRIED

COUNCILLOR LAURA GILLANDERS

4. **CLARIFYING THE CITY'S POSITION ON SUPERVISED CONSUMPTION SITES**
(File Ref. No.) (REDMS No.)

It was moved and seconded

WHEREAS public perception and uncertainty persist regarding whether the City of Richmond may pursue or consider a supervised consumption site in the future;

AND WHEREAS the City of Richmond has previously considered the feasibility of a supervised consumption site and subsequently confirmed that such a site would not proceed;

AND WHEREAS clarity regarding the City's position is important to ensuring that residents have an accurate understanding of this matter;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Richmond will not pursue, initiate, study, plan for, or advance the establishment of a supervised consumption site within the City of Richmond.

The question on the motion was not called as discussion ensued regarding the City's stance on not pursuing the supervised consumption site and providing more clarity to Richmond residents.

As a result of the discussion, a motion to table the matter to the next General Purposes Committee meeting to provide a more comprehensive motion as well as opportunities for the public to speak was introduced, but failed to receive a seconder.

Committee spoke to former Mayor Brodie's letter of February 23, 2024, (attached to and forming part of these minutes as Schedule 1), reiterating that the City is not pursuing a supervised consumption site.

The question on the motion was then called and it was **CARRIED**.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded
That the meeting adjourn (4:33 p.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.

Mayor Rob Howard
Chair

Andrea Mizuguchi
Legislative Services Associate

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting of Richmond City Council held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.

City of Richmond

Malcolm D. Brodie
Mayor

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February 23, 2024

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Re: Supervised Consumption Site

I am writing to clarify the events of February 12-13 at City Council when a resolution was adopted by a 7-2 vote to study the feasibility of a supervised consumption site located at the hospital in Richmond. The issue came forward to Council after 26 residents died from drug overdoses in 2023. Sadly, more will likely die this year.

The resolution did not propose that a site be established by the City, because Council has no legal ability to do that. However, Council wanted to investigate the viability of such a site located at the hospital and see if it would assist in mitigating our growing overdose crisis. If such a site was eventually approved, it would be the responsibility of Vancouver Coastal Health, which has now stated it will not open a supervised consumption site in Richmond.

There was much interest on the matter shown by residents – some against and some in support. In the end, seven members of Council supported the Motion to study the feasibility of such a site.

Regrettably, drug use is a reality in every community in B.C., especially following drug decriminalization by senior government. However, the discussion is closed on the investigation of whether a supervised consumption site is viable here. There will be no more investigation. In the broader perspective, I believe that by working together as a community, we can find solutions to keep Richmond the safe, vibrant, inclusive city we are proud to call home.

Yours truly,

Malcolm D. Brodie
Mayor

City of Richmond

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February 23, 2024

致總編輯的信

總編輯您好：

關於：　　監管注射站

此封信是為了說明 2 月 12 日至 13 日市議會發生的事件，當時市議會以 7 比 2 票數通過動議，建議研究位於列治文醫院的監管注射站之可行性。因為在 2023 年有 26 名列治文居民因服藥過量致死，這個問題因此被提至市議會。遺憾的是，今年可能還會有更多人因服藥過量致命。

這項決議並非提議由市政府設立監管注射站，因為市議會無該法律權力。而當時市議會希望調查在醫院設立注射站的可行性，了解注射站的設立是否有助於緩解本市日益嚴重的服藥過量危機。如果設立注射站最終獲得批准，則將由溫哥華沿岸衛生局負責，但衛生局現已表示不會在列治文設立監管注射站。

居民們對此議題非常之關注 - 有人反對、有人支持。最終有七名市議員支持研究設立注射站可行性之議案。

令人遺憾的是，藥物使用在 BC 省的每個社區已經是個實際狀況，特別是在政府將毒品合法化之後。 不過，關於調查監管注射站可行性的討論已經結束， 將不會採取進一步的調查。從更廣泛的角度來看，我深信在透過社區的共同努力下，我們可以找到解決之道，為這座個我們能引以為傲地稱之為家的城市，保持其安全、活力及包容性。

Yours truly,

Malcolm D. Brodie
Mayor