

Present:

Chairperson - Councillor Gill
Mayor Hepner
Councillor Hayne
Councillor LeFranc
Councillor Martin
Councillor Starchuk
Councillor Steele
Councillor Villeneuve
Councillor Woods

Absent:**Staff Present:**

City Clerk
City Manager
City Solicitor
General Manager, Engineering
General Manager, Finance & Technology
General Manager, Human Resources
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
General Manager, Planning & Development

A. DELEGATIONS**1. Rick Faw, Vice-President of Programming, A Rocha Canada**

File: 0520-01; 0550-20-10

In attendance before Council to provide a presentation regarding A Rocha Canada and its mandate and activity within the City.

The following comments were made:

- A Rocha Canada, is part of an international Christian conservation organization that is involved in conservation projects, community gardens, sustainable agriculture, multi-generational ecological education, and scientific research.
- A Rocha began its work in Canada in 2000, establishing its first Field Study Centre in BC. This Centre was located in the Little Campbell Watershed.
- In addition to restoration and conservation work on the river, the work in BC focused on research, community agriculture, sustainable living, and environmental education programs, hosting over 2,000 students every year.
- The Brooksdale Environmental Centre is home to A Rocha's national office and is the new hub of A Rocha's work in the Vancouver area.
- Brooksdale is situated near the Pacific Coast in British Columbia, just north of the Canada-USA border. The property includes environmentally sensitive land along the Little Campbell River, which supports a diversity of birds, plants, insects and fish.
- The goal of A Rocha Canada's Little Campbell River Watershed Stewardship Project is to protect biodiversity and improve watershed health through research, education, and practical action. This project includes three major elements:
 - Surveys and research
 - Landowner education and engagement

- Practical habitat restoration
- The donation of Brooksdale, a 4.1 million dollar heritage property to A Rocha Canada, a local conservation organization, was recently completed in December of 2015.
- Now that this legacy gift from the Neufeld family has been donated A Rocha is moving ahead with capital improvements, beginning with the historic barn, renovating it into a world-class conservation and education centre to welcome the public and train students of all ages.
- A Rocha's Sustainable Agriculture program helps individuals and families grow in the ability to eat "in season".
- Education is one of the pillars of A Rocha's work in Canada. Over 10,000 children and youth engage every year in our various environmental education programs across Canada. A Rocha's environmental education curriculum is available to the public.

Council extended appreciation to the delegation and all the good work that is being undertaken by the organization.

B. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

C. CORPORATE REPORTS

D. DELEGATION REQUESTS

E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

G. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Hayne
Seconded by Councillor Martin
That the Council-in-Committee meeting do

now adjourn.

Carried

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 5:28 p.m.


Jane Sullivan, City Clerk


Councillor Gill, Chairperson