

Roderick V. Louis

Section C 1

To speak to September 29-2023 MV RD board mtg;

Re: agenda Items **E 1.1 proposed “Code of Conduct for Elected Officials Policy”**, and **G 1.1: proposed (replacement) “Board Procedure Bylaw”**:

https://metrovancover.org/boards/GVRD/RD_2023-Sep-29_AGE.pdf

Agenda Item G 1.1:

- Staff have not indicated & have not provided any evidence that there is urgency for the bylaw to be approved as is, or in an amended form...

Approval of a new board procedure bylaw should be delayed for at least 60-90 days to allow for the region’s business owners & residents (the “general public”) to be notified of the proposed bylaw & its new public input restrictions & record-retention reductions... and to invite the public to provide their views...

Requested Action #1

Re: E 1.1: Proposed “*Code of Conduct for Elected Officials Policy*”

Approve the proposed Policy- but only with the following (or similar) amendments:

Require:

- Regular (no less than 2x annually) evaluations of all individual board members’ performance and their levels of compliance with the Policy;
- Regular (no less than 2x annually) in-writing public reporting on all individual board members’ performance and their levels of compliance with the Policy;
- Make the policy retroactive to January-2022;

Requested Action #2

Re: G 1.1: Proposed (replacement) “*Board Procedure Bylaw*”

➤ Refer the bylaw back to staff for the following (or similar) amendments:

a) Add section(s) that would require all board meetings and committee meetings**:

i) To be live-streamed (over the Internet) with meetings’ live-streams required to be publicly-accessible from a prominent, easy-to-locate part of the MV website;

ii) To be video recorded, and promptly uploaded- on same day as the respective mtg- to an easy-to-find, prominent, publicly-accessible part of the MV website; and

- In a video-format that is down-loadable (for free) by members of the public from the MV website (to rectify the recent (April-2023??) arbitrary, not-explained MV staff decision to block members of the public from being able to download videos of mtgs’;

** To rectify the arbitrary & not-explained Feb-2023 staff decisions to: end the live-streaming of all committee meetings, and end the video recording of committee meetings, & end posting of committee mtgs^{3 of 7} videos to the MV website;

Requested Action #2 continued

Re: G 1.1: Proposed (replacement) “*Board Procedure Bylaw*”

➤ Refer the bylaw back to staff for the following (or similar) amendments:

b) Delete the (new) prohibition of members of the public (“delegations”) appearing more than once before an MV committee or board “on the same subject matter” within six months...

Why??:

A: During 2011-today, it has been routine procedure for MV staff and others (such as invited-delegations) to submit multiple reports (IE: sequential & or amended reports) regarding a particular issue to the MV RD’s committees and boards on more than 1 occasion during a 6-month period,

There are no ethical, administratively-justifiable reasons why MV’s business owners & residents (“the public”) should be barred from making submissions to MV committees and or boards regarding each of the sequential & or amended reports that are provided to the respective committee/ board, and regarding each (individual) report’s potentially evolving recommendations & subjects;

Requested Action #2 continued

Re: G 1.1: Proposed (replacement) “*Board Procedure Bylaw*”

➤ Refer the bylaw back to staff for the following (or similar) amendments:

c) Delete the (new) specification that only the 1-page or 2-page ***executive summary*** that is provided by individual delegations to a committee and or to one of MV’s boards... is to be retained by the MV RD...

d) Require MV RD’s 2011-today (current) record-retention practices to be continued...

IE: Continue 2022-23 practices of:

- Accepting and retaining delegations’ ***PowerPoint submissions*** to committees and boards; &

- Accepting and retaining delegations’ “***additional written materials***”- such as explanatory letters, reference-documents^{if} and the like.... ;

Requested Action #2 continued

Re: G 1.1: Proposed (replacement) “*Board Procedure Bylaw*”

➤ Refer the bylaw back to staff for the following (or similar) amendments:

e) **Require** that, after the deadline for members of the public to submit applications to appear (as delegations) at an upcoming committee & or board mtg has passed, **delegations’ executive summaries must be distributed (by MV staff) to all board members-** if possible before commencement of the respective mtg;

f) **Require** that in circumstances when a member of the public has been approved to appear (as a delegation) at a committee mtg or board mtg- the **agenda package for the mtg** that is posted to the MV website **must be amended***** to indicate the addition of the delegation, and to include the delegation’s “**executive summary**” and to indicate whether the delegation has or has not provided “additional materials” such as a **PowerPoint presentation...** (To rectify the arbitrary, not-explained late-2022 staff decision to end these procedures... procedures that had been consistently implemented between 2011 and late-2022)

*** Board & committee meetings’ agendas to be amended as soon as is practicable- if possible before the commencement of the respective mtg...

Requested Action #2 continued

Re: G 1.1: Proposed (replacement) “*Board Procedure Bylaw*”

➤ Refer the bylaw back to staff for the following (or similar) amendments:

g) Add section(s) that would require delegations’ “***executive summaries***” & ***PowerPoint submissions*** to be posted to a publicly-accessible part of the MV website ... (IE: continue the 2011-today practices...)

h) Delete the proposed (new) maximum number of 3 delegations at each committee meeting & board meeting...

There is no evidenced need for these two (“g” and “h”) anti-democratic, public confidence-destroying prohibitions....

During 2011 to today, nearly all (over 98 percent) of MV’s committee & board meetings did not have more than 3 members of the public attending as delegations, & most mtgs did not have any members of the public attending as delegations...

There is no evidence that the MV RD’s committees and or boards have been impaired or somehow impeded or prevented from conducting their duties as a result of “more than 3 members of the public” appearing as delegations at meetings...