



VILLAGE OF BELCARRA

Official Community Plan Review Committee

Council Selection Process



January 27, 2022

On February 14, 2020, under the previously elected Belcarra Council, the Village issued an invitation for interested residents to put forward their names for consideration for a proposed five member Official Community Plan (OCP) Review Committee. As with other committee members appointed at that time by Council, a public meeting would be held to elect committee members. Residents, who were in attendance, would listen to the residents, who had volunteered to serve on the Committee; ask them questions and vote by secret ballot for their own preferences among those who had offered to serve. Subsequently the recommendations from that voting process would be considered at a Regular Council meeting and Council would decide on Committee appointments.

The Village was not able to hold the public meeting due to onset of the Covid Pandemic. Subsequently, two Council members resigned and no further steps were taken with respect to the 2020 OCP Review Committee member appointments.

Following a By Election at the end of January 2021, that returned Council to the full complement of five Council members, a review of the Belcarra Official Community Plan Bylaw was established as a Strategic Planning priority. Council members also agreed that a topic this complex should have a large enough committee to be reflective of the diversity of our Village. Council determined that an OCP Review Committee would have 11 committee members. It was also decided that an invitation for residents to apply to serve on an OCP Review Committee would be issued.

Staff were requested to ensure that the residents, who had previously put their names in 2020 for the OCP Review Committee, would be invited to reapply.

Council subsequently received twenty five applications for the OCP Review Committee – this response clearly indicated a very high level of Village interest. Of the twenty five applications, four applications were received from the 2020 process where six applications had been received.

Council members were asked to consider the factors cited in the call for applications, that included, but were not limited to, such things as a geographic distribution, gender equity, plus consideration for the requirements outlined in the ad for volunteer positions.

Each Council member considered these matters privately and individually prepared a list of eleven candidates from the twenty five applicants. These choices were compiled by the Chief Administrative Officer in a Closed Council meeting. The eleven candidates with the highest scores from this individual selection were subsequently confirmed. Of the four volunteers from the initial call who agreed to put their names forward, one resident was selected for the Committee.

Council recognizes that many very talented residents were not appointed to the OCP Review Committee. Given the number of applicants and the upper limit chosen for committee size less than half (i.e. 44%) of applicants were chosen. Council members wish to thank all the residents who offered to serve, for their interest and their ongoing contributions. Residents are encouraged to view the OCP Review Committee meetings which will be held on Zoom. Committee agendas and the Zoom link are available on the Belcarra website: www.belcarr.ca

OCP Review Committee members discuss issues with professional support. The OCP Review Committee members do not make final decisions. Recommendations from the Committee are brought forward to Council for consideration. During the work of the OCP Review Committee and, particularly when the Committee recommendations are received by Council, all residents are encouraged and welcome to offer their views or observations at Council meetings. Council will consider all recommendations of the Official Community Plan Review Committee, and from residents, prior to adoption of an Official Community Plan Bylaw. The newly appointed OCP Review Committee held the first organizational meeting on January 26, 2022.