



INAUGURAL MEETING OF TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Monday, November 7, 2022, at 7:00pm
Fraser River Presentation Theatre
4th Floor, 20338 – 65 Avenue, Langley, BC

MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor E. Woodward

Councillors T. Baillie, S. Ferguson, M. Kunst, B. Martens, M. Pratt, K. Richter, R. Rindt, and M. vanPopta

M. Bakken, S. Gamble, S. Harvey-Renner, A. Marsden, S. Ruff, S. Scheepmaker, R. Seifi, and J. Winslade

W. Bauer and K. Stepto

OFFICIAL PIPING IN OF COUNCIL ELECT AND OFFICIALS

The Mayor-Elect and Councillors-Elect were piped into the Presentation Theatre by Colin Barrett, accompanied by an Honour Guard consisting of Township of Langley Fighfighters, Sean Lakeman and Darryl Fulton, and RCMP Constables, Lee Millar and Phil Colter.

A. NATIONAL ANTHEM

1. "O Canada" was led by Kehkeh Trawgaye of the Langley Community Music School.

B. OATH OF OFFICE

1. The Honourable Judge Dannielle Dunn administered the Oath of Office to Mayor-Elect Eric Woodward and Councillors-Elect Tim Baillie, Steve Ferguson, Margaret Kunst, Barb Martens, Michael Pratt, Kim Richter, Rob Rindt, and Misty vanPopta.

Mayor Woodward assumed the position of Chair.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES

Mayor Woodward acknowledged the Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.

C. KWANTLEN FIRST NATION COMMUNITY WELCOME

1. The Kwantlen First Nation offered a Community Welcome.

D. ACTING MAYOR APPOINTMENT

1. Acting Mayor Appointment

Moved by Councillor Kunst,
Seconded by Councillor Pratt,
That the Acting Mayor be rotated amongst Councillors as follows:

NAME	FROM	TO
Councillor Kunst	November 7, 2022	April 30, 2023
Councillor Richter	May 1, 2023	October 31, 2023
Councillor Baillie	November 1, 2023	April 30, 2024
Councillor Rindt	May 1, 2024	October 31, 2024
Councillor Martens	November 1, 2024	April 30, 2025
Councillor vanPopta	May 1, 2025	October 31, 2025
Councillor Pratt	November 1, 2025	April 30, 2026
Councillor Ferguson	May 1, 2026	October 31, 2026

CARRIED

E. MAYOR'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

See item G.1.

F. COUNCILLORS' INAUGURAL COMMENTS

1. Councillor Margaret Kunst

Councillor Kunst provided the following inaugural comments to all those present:

Good evening everyone! Thank you for coming tonight.

From the bottom of my heart, I would like to thank the residents of the Township of Langley for re-electing me once again to serve you for another 4 years. I am humbled by your support and promise to serve with honour and integrity.

I would like to start out by saying a big congratulations to our new Mayor Eric Woodward and all our new councillors Pratt, Bailey, Rindt, vanPopta and Martens on their election, also to Councillor Ferguson and Councillor Richter on your re-election. I look forward serving on this new council and getting to know each of you over the next 4 years.

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I'd like to recognize our Staff for all their work in organizing this event, and to members of the RCMP and our Township of Langley firefighters in attendance tonight. Thank you also to Kwantlen for your warm welcome tonight, and as a person of faith I appreciate when we can acknowledge our Creator at important moments like these.

I would also like to thank our outgoing Mayor Jack Froese, Councillors Arnason, Whitmarsh, Long and Davis, thank you for serving this community for so many years. And David – if you are here? I will miss your loud booming voice when adjourning our council meetings. If there was such a thing as honorary adjourning powers when in the chamber – it should go to you!

I would now like to thank some really important people in my life. My Husband Fred, aka my sign guy, my 4 kids and their spouses, a big thank you to both my parents, I'm pretty sure my mom's campaigning skills garnered me at least a thousand votes, thanks Mom, and Jeanette Martin for doing my social media as well as all the volunteers who helped me with this last campaign.

While I enjoy our council meetings and moving things off the agenda, it's only one part of the job. The best part of this job for me is meeting with constituents to try and solve problems, representing council on a variety of committees, meeting with our seniors and hearing about the issues that matter to them as well as attending the long list of community events. Its allowed me to meet so many people who are dedicated to keeping the Township a place where everyone can thrive.

This past term I have also appreciated getting to know members of our Kwantlen, Matsqui and Katzie First Nations, thank you for your friendship to me personally and to us as a community and in the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation I look forward to strengthening that relationship and continuing to work together on issues that matter to you.

As I go forward in this position of leadership I will once again use a favourite quote from a politician named Carly Fiorini as it captures how I think leadership is defined:

And I QUOTE "Leadership isn't defined by a person's title or position... True leadership is defined by character, the ability to see possibility in the people around you..."

Leadership is impossible without humility and empathy because without them you can't collaborate with other people who are different from you. If you can't collaborate, you can't solve problems." Unquote

On our desk we have a red and green button indicating a yes or no vote. We don't have the option of a grey button, although that might be nice sometimes it would be too easy and nothing would get done.

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You elected us to make difficult decisions, to put our egos aside, and with an open mind, work together to make the best decisions for our community now and for the future.

There is lots of work to do and I am excited to be a part of it once again. I look forward to new challenges and working with our new Mayor and council on the issues that matter to Township of Langley residents.

I'm humbled by your support and for the position you have entrusted me with, I look forward to listening and working hard over the next 4 years in my role as your Township of Langley Councillor.

Thank you!

2. Councillor Kim Richter

Councillor Richter provided the following inaugural comments to all those present:

I am very honoured and humbled to be here again today to serve you for another 4 years.

I thank first and foremost my family and friends who worked hard on this campaign with me. You know who you are. I unreservedly love and cherish you all.

Secondly, I thank each and every one of the 8756 Township residents who voted for me. I sincerely value and appreciate your ongoing support and trust. You are the reason why I do this job - I love being a strong voice for you on Council!

We are currently living in very uncertain times both globally and locally. We face 3 major crises: the Cost-of-Living Crisis, the Climate Crisis, and a Governance Crisis.

These are the 3 lenses through which I will view and address every issue that comes before this Council over the next 4 years.

Going forward, there is one thing I absolutely will not compromise on and that is "Integrity". If something does not seem right, I will not vote for it. And I will tell you why I did not vote for it.

All people deserve integrity. They deserve to be listened to, and to be heard. They deserve action. And they deserve a community they want, and are proud, to live in.

As long as I sit on Council, this is what I promise to do: I will stand up and speak out for you. I always have and I always will. You, the taxpayers and the residents of our Langley, deserve nothing less.

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As recently noted on a popular TV show*: “There is no power but what the people allow you to have”. And their interests must always come first.

Historian Jon Meacham says: “Democracy is the mediation of differences”. I agree.

Thank you for once again placing your trust in me. I will not let you down.

*House of Dragons - October 2022

3. Councillor Tim Baillie

Councillor Baillie provided the following inaugural comments to all those present:

Thank you voters, family (Karen), the Team, friends, and IAFF union brothers and sisters. This is an incredible honour and privilege. It is an honour to be with Mayor Woodward, Councillors Ferguson, Rindt, Martens, and vanPopta, and looking forward to working with Councillors Richter, Kunst, and Pratt. Our Contract with Langley Team clearly spelled out a platform for fire, homelessness, and youth sports.

Thank you to Dan Sheel, Rachel Cashato, Joe Babcock, Pat and Gerry Wilson and AJ Cheema.

Whether I agree or disagree on issues, I will be professional and stay on issue and move on.

My other focuses will be bike/walking paths, seniors, equality, indigenous issues, safety, and veterans – thank you for your service. November 11 is the most important day of the year.

Congratulations to new school board trustees: Joel Neufeld, Sarb Raj, and Holly Dickinson.

I am here to listen and learn. You can always reach out to me by email, phone, or over a cup of tea. I am looking forward to working and learning from the other council members in this new experience. I will be a supporter of small and medium businesses.

I was retired, but this is my new, full-time job now. I am looking forward to a new challenge and making Langley Township move forward to new and better things.

4. Councillor Rob Rindt

Councillor Rindt provided the following inaugural comments to all those present:

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I want to thank everyone here tonight. I am truly honoured to serve in the Township of Langley, a place where I have lived my entire life.

I want to thank everyone who put their names forward in this last election. Being my first campaign it was very inspiring to see everyone's passion about this community.

I want to thank Councillor Davis for his years of service in representing the farming community. I look forward to being a strong voice for the agricultural community and I thank you all for your support.

I want to thank our Mayor, Eric Woodward, and our entire Contract with Langley Team. Everyone worked so hard in all their efforts. It is truly humbling to how see many people came out to support our efforts and brought about much needed change. I feel so grateful to be a part of it.

Last, but not least, I want to thank my partner Rebekah who has held it together for our three businesses, our kids, our dogs. I couldn't do it without you. And I would like to thank all of you for your vote. I plan to use this opportunity to help all of the taxpayers and everyone who lives in the Township. I hope to leave a positive impact for my kids who are part of the future of our community.

Thank you for your faith in me and I look forward to the next four years.

5. Councillor Barb Martens

Councillor Martens provided the following inaugural comments to all those present:

Good evening to the people of the Township of Langley. I am honoured and truly humbled by the election outcome and am grateful to the voters who put their trust in me. I met many of you over the course of the campaign. I appreciated new connections made and conversations had. Your concerns resonated. Please know that I am here to serve all Township of Langley residents to the best of my ability and will put your safety and wellbeing at the forefront of decisions made. Langley has spoken and I look forward to the possibilities that the Mayor and all members of this Council will accomplish in the next four years.

I want to mention a few people here tonight. My children, Matthew and Abigail – thank you for your patience and support as your mama jumped into the political arena and threw our household into chaos. To my dear friend and colleague Colleen – thank you for being that friend that tells me what I need to hear, not what I want to hear. To my long-time friend Ghalib – thank you for encouraging me to pursue new opportunities and for leading by example. To my friend Heather – thank you for knowing when I needed a friend. And to James and Dan – I landed in the best neighbourhood 20 years ago. A campaign is only as successful as the

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people working behind the scenes. Thank you to those who worked tirelessly to support our team.

To my team-mates, I can't imagine a better group of people to work with. While technically opponents, we supported and promoted each other. I have gained lifelong friends. To AJ, I am disappointed to not have you alongside us, but I know that great things are in your future. Tim, I enjoyed our conversations and laughs while we walked and knocked on doors. Rob, thanks for your no-nonsense attitude and wicked sense of humour. Steve, thank you to you and Denise for taking me under your wing and for checking in on me regularly. Misty, I could not have asked for a better wing girl. And Eric, thank you for this opportunity, for building an incredible team and for keeping us all tracking forward all while you expertly executed a successful campaign.

In closing, to all mayoral, council and school board trustee candidates, I leave you with the words of Theodore Roosevelt although I would preface that the usage of the word "man" refers to all persons:

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

Langley is fortunate to have so many people who care enough about its future that they courageously put themselves in the political arena. Congratulations to you all on daring greatly! Thank you.

6. Councillor Misty vanPopta

Councillor vanPopta provided the following inaugural comments to all those present:

I'm Misty vanPopta. I want to take this moment to share my appreciation and thanks to you the taxpayers, my family and friends, and to my colleagues, for the journey to this seat that has taken me 12 years.

As many of you are aware, I ran for a council position in 2011. And thankfully, I was not elected. If you asked me then if I was happy that I lost, the answer would have obviously been no. But, knowing what I knew then, compared to what I know now, it was not the right time in 2011. I would not have been a councillor ready to make the hard decisions, a

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councillor strong enough in her own resolve, education and knowledge to have been an effective councillor. Life, or God if you will, has a funny way of preparing you for what you are meant to do, and when you're meant to do it. The time for me, is now.

The more you get to know me, the more you will see that I am pretty frank. Although I am a slow processor of thoughts, when I speak, it's usually pretty to the point. With that said, I'll be honest with you, I am petrified. Not of speaking here in front of you, not of getting out and meeting with people and hearing your thoughts and speaking to your concerns but scared of the enormity of the trust you have given me. I do not take this position lightly. I am ready to get my hands dirty, dig through the weeds of information and to make the tough decisions. But I know this will not always be enough from my detractors, for those who think differently than I. Politics is a polarizing experience, where it doesn't matter what I do or say, someone will not like it, while others praise it. I know that the next four years will change me forever. So, I want to document publicly what I promise to you.

To the taxpayers, I vow to always look at the big picture. To always look through the lens of those whose funds are in our hands and to do what is right, even in the face of making an unpopular decision. My goal as councillor is to look at our immediate concerns, but also at our long-term objectives. And at points, those issues may be conflicting. I ask for your trust that when votes are difficult, that I have weighed my decision for the greater good.

To my new colleagues, I vow to hear your words. I look forward to getting to know Councillor Richter and to learn from her wealth of knowledge and perspective. I look forward to reconnecting with Councillor Kunst and hearing of her experience over her first term. I look forward to friendly banter with Councillor Pratt over urban planning practices and policies, both on which we agree and both which we may differ. I look forward to working with township staff, learning their ways, and making new friends. And by the way, the candy on my desk is always for the taking.

To my Contract with Langley teammates. We did it. I vow to always make sure we have fun while working hard, while at the same time, to challenge each other to do better and do more for the residents. Like all of us, I am sad that AJ Cheema is not here beside us and I want to publicly thank him for his integral work accomplished on our behalf. To Dan, Nikkos, Joe, Paul, James, Rachelle, those on sign duties, those who made phone calls, Denise who knocked on more doors than probably even Councillor Pratt, to the many others behind the scenes, your faith in us and the mission did not go unnoticed. To Trustee Elect Neufeld, Dickinson and Rai, I look forward to our continued teamwork. I look forward to showing people that being a team aligned in some key issues, does not mean that we are lemmings to a cliff, or puppets to a master, but are people brought together with the same

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ethos and excitement to get great things accomplished for the town we all love.

To my family and friends, I vow to always remain me. Slightly outside the box, always driven, always fun and content. To my daughters who have watched me over the years struggle, this is what dedication and hard work can accomplish. Even if I fail at this, I vow to never fail as your mother. To my parents, sister, and friends, thank you for always questioning my sanity when I get these grand ideas in my head, while also supporting me at the same time. You keep me grounded. To my partner, whether you are near or far, I have never experienced the safety I have with you. To be championed as much as you have done. Thank you.

I cannot close out my list of gratitude without acknowledging our new mayor, my friend, Your Worship Mayor Woodward. I'll struggle with addressing you that way, given the length of our friendship, but although I will slip up with the new formalities, I vow to continue to collaborate with you as we have successfully done for over a dozen years. I value your perceptions, knowledge and generosity and look forward to the next 4 years and beyond.

So, thank you all for being here tonight, and being a part of my journey to serve Langley now and into the future.

7. Councillor Michael Pratt

Councillor Pratt provided the following inaugural comments to all those present:

I'm sure many of you have by now seen the video of a certain member of my family on election night, so I'll keep my remarks brief so that nobody gets too emotional. However, today is a special one for a few reasons. I have the fortune - or misfortune - of being the first person in my family elected to public office. However, my great grandfather ran in 1956 for the BC Liberals up in the South Peace against W.A.C Bennet's Social Credit Party, which was almost as wise as running for Council for the first time at 21 years old. We all know how much Councillor Ferguson loves his props, so I have with me today the briefcase that my great grandad carried with him as he toured the South Peace region many years ago. While he didn't win, I'd like to think the family tradition of fighting against the political odds lives on.

It struck me today as I was sitting in the Chambers before this meeting, that the first time I ever sat here was when I was 12 years old, and together with my sister – who is here tonight – presented to Council and to former Mayor Rick Green to ask for support in creating the Walk to Remember Memorial at the Derek Doubleday Arboretum. A few things have changed since then, but that was the first moment I realized the difference the local government makes. Thinking of the faith it took for the Council of the day to

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give a kid and his older sister a chance, it gives me hope that while I have the privilege of being a member of *this* Council, I might have the opportunity to return the favour, and take a chance on some crazy ideas that make this place even more special.

It's truly a privilege to be able to have the opportunity to sit here for the next 4 years, and I'd like to sincerely congratulate each one of my fellow councillors. We have the opportunity to do something incredibly worthwhile with the responsibility we've been given. After all, why else would we go through one of the toughest job interviews possible, if not to have the chance to leave our community in a better position than when we found it. We have a responsibility to govern on behalf of those who voted for us, but also those who didn't. If we forget this, then the divisiveness of our Council will be the thing that people remember about us, as opposed to the progress we have the opportunity to make. I'm looking forward seeing the members of the public who work to keep Council accountable, and I hope that you continue to do the necessary work of reminding us who we are here to serve.

This community of ours will soon reach and then eclipse 150,000 people, almost double the population when my family first moved here 25 years ago. We're the second fastest growing municipality in the Province of British Columbia, and I'm looking forward to getting to work on an ambitious agenda to provide the pieces of a community that our residents deserve and should expect from a town of this size.

However, tough times are ahead. In fact, for a lot of our residents, they're already here. We need to make sure we can deliver the programs that play such a key role in supporting them, and deliver new ones with the infrastructure required to do so, while making sure that we don't put ourselves in the position of having to make life even more expensive. I believe this Council can navigate these challenges, but that doesn't mean we can ignore them.

Next year, our Township turns 150 years old. I sincerely believe that these next 4 are some of the most crucial in this long history, and I'm truly honoured to be a part of this chapter. I want to thank everyone who had a hand in organizing tonight's proceedings, as well as all those who've sat on Council before us. To everyone who supported me and helped in ways big and small, I'll be forever grateful, and I hope you feel like tonight is a special one for you as well.

Lastly, to my friends and family who are here tonight, and those who couldn't make it: thank you for dealing with me over the last 4.5 years. I know it probably wasn't easy to hear me talking non-stop about mixed-use zoning, lack of transit, and all the ways this Township was the best place in the world, all things considered. Thank you for believing in me and for your support.

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Congratulations again to my fellow members of Council: I'm looking forward to getting to work.

8. Councillor Steve Ferguson

Councillor Ferguson provided the following inaugural comments to all those present:

First of all, I would like to thank everyone for attending this Inaugural meeting. Of course, friends, family, supporters, and those who follow Township Council. I would also like to thank all staff in our corporate administration departments for facilitating this event as well: Mark, Jason, Pam, Melissa, Natalie, Suzanne, Kim, Wendy, Corene, Nadia and her IT team.

I also wish to express my appreciation for our union staff and representatives (Sarah Manchester and her team). Not to forget our other departments: Planning, Engineering, Building, Police, Fire and all other staff at the Township of Langley.

I was told many years ago that a great community has a symbiotic relationship with the Public, staff, and of course the elected Mayor and council.

I wanted to thank each and every person that put their name up as council candidates...it takes a great deal of commitment to run...however as former Mayor John Beales told people in his inaugural address of 1987..."hang in there, you never know what opportunities you may get in the future"!

I also want to thank Mayor Jack Froese, Councillor Blair Whitmarsh, Councillor David Davis, Councillor Bob Long, and Councillor Petrina Arnason for their service to our community.

New Councillors:

Councillor Michael Pratt...I have known you since you went to school (French immersion) with my daughter Lydia for some 12 years. You worked hard with the Walk to Remember and your tree planting project (Our family sponsored a tree).

You ran last term 2018, earned a University degree in Planning, and put all your skills into running a phenomenal campaign and here you are.....The youngest Councillor ever elected to the Township!!!

Councillor Tim Baillie... Tim the Beatle's album Sgt Peppers had a song Penny Lane. In that the Lyrics stated: "He likes to keep his fire engine clean, It's a clean machine". I'm sure we will hear a few things about our Township Fire department over the next 4 years. I also know you

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have a passion for the homeless and other charities. You worked hard this campaign to become known and expressed your reasons for running at the door or at events on a regular basis. Well done!

Councillor Kim Richter...you are a tireless council member for Langley. You always research issues and study all agendas rigorously. I have watched you at council meetings (last term I sat beside you) and at conferences taking notes and asking questions. Producing Notices of Motions and working extremely hard as a Councillor.

Councillor Misty vanPopta: you have a real zeal for business, land use and community development AND of course environmental issues. I'm sure we'll be hearing a lot about those subjects from you over the next four years.

Councillor Rob Rindt...Signs on your tractor must have got you elected.... Who else can do that? Well "farming has always been in Langley Township's history". At least that's what former mayor Bill Poppy told me years ago when I was a director on the Otter Co-op board. I'm sure you will be the voice of farming over the next 4 years.

Councillor Margaret Kunst...I told you that it is harder getting re-elected than elected...you went to town and ran nothing short of a spectacular campaign, great ads, signs, brochures, and the list goes on...well done!

Councillor Barb Martens...You worked like crazy, knocking on doors, brimshaving, waving at cars, phoning residents, stuffing mailboxes and great videos....Well Done! Now you are the law and order person!...So your experience with the VPD and others will definitely place protection on your agenda these 4 years, but I also know that you have a passion for helping others less fortunate and those needing a HAND UP and A Voice!

Mayor Eric Woodward

What can I say? The very first time I met you, you were talking about a minor project by the name of Coulter Berry....the rest is history although somewhat lengthy in the development process.....Now that term ended, and I was defeated, however, I told you that I was running again.....and you told my wife..."Steve is coming back" (and of course you were elected) and so was I. I have watched you at the council table for 4 years, and I was both surprised and amazed at your ability to quickly learn the Budget process, Community Development, Fire Department and protection file and many other important council related items! I didn't always agree with everything you presented (agreed to disagree yet respect each other!) but that didn't mean that the next item on the agenda or the next meeting wouldn't be discussed separately and distinctly. I learned that from former Mayor John Scholtens, "simply recover from the things you don't agree with and move on to the next item on the agenda!" When you told me that you

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were thinking of running for Mayor, I told you that it's a lot different being a mayor than a councillor...Here today...is your test!

I know you have ideas around Parks and Recreation, Protection, Community Development, Permit processes, Fees and Charges, Taxes, amongst other issues, as many of us do. I am positive that starting day one...you are committed to those items! I believe this Council is more than prepared to work with you to make them happen. All for the advancement and benefit for the ratepayers of Langley Township!

Who have I missed? Me.....

I want to thank all those that have supported me and worked for me this election: Dan and Lisa, James and MJ, Manjit, Avtar, Jatinder, Sham, Angie, and family Paul, Suhki, Suhk, Eric, Linda, Margaret, Rob, Tim, Karen, Barb, Rob and Rebecca, Joel, Meghan, Misty, Mr. Singh, Hoshier, Sarb and Roger and family, Holly, and many, many others that I have missed to name....thank you so much!

Today, right now, I have completed 8 terms as an elected official in our Township of Langley and am beginning my 9th term working with 6 mayors! 25 years as a member of council.

Hello, Alderman Ferguson here, yes Mrs. McGillicuty, how are you?.....Are you on the voter's List?....I'll look.

You know what's still funny is that behind every successful man is a shocked wife. My wife Denise has been behind me all the way... the weather, nails for signs, and tons of rain....I still remember how cold it gets....brrrr, brochures, signs, mail-outs, door knocking, Brima Shaving, social media, everything!

Couldn't have done it without you! Love ya' Honey.

G. MAYOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS

1. Mayor Woodward provided the following inaugural address to all those present:

I want to take a few minutes to just speak from the heart a little bit. First of all, I want to thank Chief Marilyn Gabriel for coming here tonight. I really appreciate that, and I'm honoured that you came. I also want to acknowledge former Mayor Rick Green. He is here with us, in the corner over there. Thank you for coming tonight. You know, I already can tell that the view from this particular seat is a little bit different than being a Councillor and I am honoured to have been chosen among four great candidates, to have the honour to serve, not only myself, but with the great team we ran on and the others that were elected. As they say, nothing without effort.

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I want to start by acknowledging the opponents for Mayor. First up, Rich Coleman. He served years for our community as our MLA in Victoria, and years of serving with the Township of Langley. I wish him well in his retirement and future years ahead of him with Michelle. Years of service to that amount are not to be negated and I wish Rich Coleman all the best in the future.

I want to acknowledge the eight years of service on Township Council of Blair Whitmarsh. He and I served for four years together on Council, and I respect his service immensely and wish him all the best as well. I also want to acknowledge Michelle Sparrow for running a great campaign and offering herself for service and a different viewpoint for the community. I wish her very much the best as well.

I'm going to acknowledge previous Councillor, David Davis. I know that's been done already but I'm going to do it too. Thank you again, Councillor Davis. I sat next to you for two years and it was a pleasure getting to know you as a fellow Councillor, and again, I really appreciate your 11 years of service on Township Council.

I also want to acknowledge the many years of service of Councillor Bob Long. He served for many years, seven terms on Council consecutively. That is a statement to his presence in the community, not just in Aldergrove, but the whole Township, and his years of service I want to acknowledge and respect, and I wish him all the best for his retirement.

I also want to acknowledge Councillor Arnason who served two terms on Council. I sat next to her for four years and I respect her immensely as well, I wish her well in her in all her future endeavors in retirement.

Of course, I am going to acknowledge Mayor Jack Froese. 11 years on Township Council. He never lost an election. I hope I have the wisdom one day to know when not to run again and I respect Jack immensely for his years of service. I'm very glad that I did not have to face him in an election campaign. I want to wish all the best to Jack Froese and his new wife and wish them all the best for the future in their retirement.

The campaign is over now, and I really want to stress that. I want to replace the campaign with a positive, constructive conversation over the next four years to get things done. We campaigned on a very specific platform of capital projects, renewal of building permits, development processes, but it is really important to identify as well what kind of Township of Langley do we want to have? Not just four to eight years from now, but 20-25 years from now. It was touched on already, but by 2041 we will be projected to have over 210,000 people at current projected density, and I project that that will start to go up a bit more. What is the Township of Langley going to look like when we experience that kind of urban growth, not only from net immigration, but with the need for infrastructure, community amenities, and the urban forums that we are going to create to bring those new residents to

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Langley? We thought a lot about that during the campaign and I know we are going to continue to think a lot more about it over the next four years as a Council making decisions going forward. We are going to have a significant impact on what our community is going to look like as we start to contemplate what that additional population is going to cost, but also how do we create and maintain the character that is Langley today that we love and cherish so much. And I know that while we focus on a pool and roads and other infrastructure as part of a campaign, it is never far from my mind, and I know the minds of members of Council, of the long term and what we want Langley to be.

We don't get through a campaign like this on our own. There are so many people that created this Council. From volunteers to people for many years that encouraged all of us to run, to those who helped us complete and formulate the ideas that ultimately were selected by the community. There are so many people that go into creating a campaign that is successful, I think to the degree that we saw our team be chosen to lead Langley for the next four years.

It's interesting when a campaign ends because there's people that I spent time with every day for a number of weeks and I can't acknowledge them all, it's impossible, there is just so many people that helped make this happen from donors to volunteers putting up signs but also, more importantly, helping us take them down which is very, very important. To people like Dan Sheel that helped assemble the team that we have here today. To Joe Babcock who every day, for weeks, helped us formulate the videos that people saw and helped us communicate our message clearly and effectively. From Jonathan helping us get the message out in a number of important ways. There were just people after person after person that helped make this happen. I'll be forever grateful, and I know the team will be forever grateful. It's impossible to acknowledge the depth of gratitude and honour that we all have to have everybody who helped us get elected, but also in a position to pursue our vision and platform for the Township of Langley over the next four years.

I'm looking forward to getting to work because it is time to get to work and I think it has been touched on here as well, but I had it written down, to not only remember those that we know voted for us, but also to acknowledge that we are to govern for those that did not. I said that in 2018 as well and I meant it. I mean it here today. We have been chosen and we will lead all of the community and represent everyone and the interests of everyone in the best way we know how to get things done.

I want to also congratulate and acknowledge the service of some other people that didn't win here. I want to acknowledge Rod Ross who served on our Board of Education for a very long time, and I respect and have known him for almost 30 years. I want to acknowledge the service of David Tod and Suzanne Perreault. I want to congratulate Trustees-elect Neufeld, Dickinson, and Rai for their successful elections as well. I'm looking forward to working with you and Candice Ashdown and Tony Ward and Charlie Fox

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over the next four years. We have a number of challenges that involve the Board of Education and I'm looking forward to seeing what can get done in true partnership with SD35.

I want to congratulate Councillor Pratt for being the youngest person ever elected. Previously it was Jordan Bateman but congratulations to you for campaigning for about five years, so congratulations to you. Very often it does take two or three times running, so again, congratulations to you that is an immense accomplishment.

I also want to acknowledge the long-time service of Councillor Ferguson. He's managed to do that himself, so I don't need to go into that too much here tonight, but again its an immense accomplishment and it speaks to your presence in the community to be chosen again and again.

I also want to acknowledge Councillor Richter. At the end of this term I believe you'll be the longest service, continuously elected Councillor in Township history. Mr. Bakken did verify that for me, so I want to congratulate you and acknowledge your service and again an immense accomplishment to be re-elected yet again.

Congratulations on your re-election, Councillor Kunst. That is quite an accomplishment.

I also want to acknowledge Councillor Martens for finishing first in her first ever election. I'm not sure that has been done before.

I want to thank everybody that's been part of making this possible over the last four years. Once again, there are too many people to acknowledge from Peter and Christine to Rachelle to Barry and Kelly, and all the people in this audience - Katherine, John and Penny, Sukhi, Domi, there is just endless people – Gurminder – there is just endless people in the audience that I could acknowledge again and again for their contributions to helping make this happen. Everybody that helped create this Council should take pride in what we achieve over the next four years. It's my solemn promise and commitment that we are going to do everything we possibly can to make the Township of Langley a better place and proceed to get what we were elected to do, and get it done.

I also want to especially acknowledge the Langley United Soccer Association and Langley Minor Hockey who helped us immensely to highlight the problems and challenges that we are facing in our community from roads to sport and recreation infrastructure, to all kinds of challenges that this Council has to deal with and I'm, looking forward to getting on with that work, first thing tomorrow morning.

There's something else that I want express, that in this election we've seen for the first time in a long time a political party be chosen, a slate, be chosen to govern the Township of Langley with three independent

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Councillors. That is a responsibility that we are never going to lose sight of. A responsibility to be chosen as a team comes with great opportunities, but also great responsibility and some risk. I'm committed to collaboration, openness of ideas and focusing on getting things done with all members of Council, each and every day. It is something I am going to take personally, having been a Councillor for four years, where frankly, that didn't always happen. I want to learn from that, I want to govern in a way that makes everybody recognize and understand that we accept and understand that responsibility. We want to make sure that we govern appropriately, carefully, and that we govern with due humility and concern for the impact that the decisions we are going to make will have on the future of the Township of Langley.

I think I am going to leave it there. I'm going to let the next few Council meetings speak for themselves. I want to thank everybody who came out again tonight to see us sworn in. I want to thank everybody who participated in the election, the candidates that did not succeed as well. I know what it is like to run for Council, and I want to wish everybody that ran in this election all the best and I really appreciate them putting their names forward, and their ideas forward. I actually wrote down quite a few of them during the course of the campaign and it's those ideas and that civic society and that presentation that we are going to hopefully prove over the next four years that we are worthy of the honour being bestowed, the opportunity to pursue our vision for the future of the Township of Langley. Thank you again for coming out tonight. Thank you again for everybody that participated in this election and thank you very much again.

H. TERMINATE

Moved by Councillor Ferguson,
Seconded by Councillor vanPopta.
That the meeting terminate at 8:28pm.
CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Mayor

Township Clerk