The Corporation of the District of North Vancouver

CORPORATE POLICY

Title	Improper Conduct at a Council Meeting
Section	Corporate Administration

POLICY

It is the policy of Council that individuals providing public input who engage in improper conduct at council meetings will not be tolerated.

Improper Conduct includes:

- engaging in bullying or harassing behaviour in respect of a Council Member, Government Official or a District Employee;
- speaking disrespectfully of any other person or using any rude or offensive language;
- engaging in rude or offensive conduct; or
- disrupting or unnecessarily delaying the conduct of business at a Council Meeting.

The Corporation of the District of North Vancouver has an obligation to ensure all individuals attending council meetings, including Council Members, staff, and the public, feel safe and free from bullying and harassment as per the guidelines in the Respectful Workplace Policy.

This policy recognizes that pursuant to section 133 of the *Community Charter*, SBC 2003, c. 26 and the District of North Vancouver Council Procedure Bylaw 8500 s. 5.11, the person presiding at a council meeting may order an individual or group of individuals expelled from the meeting for Improper Conduct. If the individual does not comply, the individual may be removed from the meeting by a peace officer.

Where an individual or group of individuals have engaged in Improper Conduct at a Council Meeting, Council may, by resolution, direct that all public input from individuals with repeated acts of improper conduct be supplied by written submissions only.

Where Council has determined that this policy applies, the Corporate Officer or designate shall inform the individual in writing that public input must be provided in written form only and supplied to the Corporate Officer or designate prior to any Council meeting. The Corporate Officer or designate will determine whether the written submissions accord with the policy concerning inappropriate, offensive, misleading, harassing, or threatening correspondence to members of Council or staff. If the written submissions do not contravene that policy they will be forwarded to Council.

Individuals subject to this policy may continue to watch Council Meetings remotely or attend in person. However, repeated contravention of this policy may result in Council adopting a resolution banning the individual from attending Council Meetings in person and / or authorizing legal counsel to pursue legal remedies against the individual or group of individuals.

This policy is not intended to deny any legitimate access to Council for the District of North Vancouver or its staff. The Corporate Officer or designate will not withhold or redact any communications or correspondence that is legally required to be made available to Council.

The application of this policy to any particular individual will be reviewed after one calendar year to determine its continued need. A resolution of Council will be required to terminate its application.

Policy approved on: June 24, 2024
Policy amended on:

PROCEDURE

Where Council deems this policy to apply, the following resolution would be appropriate:

> THAT recent public input from _____at the (council meeting date) Council meeting is deemed to be improper conduct, and in accordance with the Improper Conduct at a Council Meeting Policy, any further input shall be submitted in writing to the Corporate Officer or designate for a period of one year.