

Council Meetings – What you should know

Local government is where democracy starts. Nowhere else do you have as easy access to the elected officials that make decisions that can impact your lives as you do with your mayor and council. Here are some tips in getting involved in Metchosin:

Meetings and issues

Watch for issues that appear before Council. [Click on this link to see Council's schedule](#). Council and committee agendas are posted the Friday before the regular Monday sessions. [Click here to find meeting agendas](#).

How to participate

- Both Council and committee meeting offer several forums for residents to speak to or ask questions of Council members. Watch for the **public participation** or **question/answer** sections of the agenda.
- Committee meetings come before regular Council meetings. The committees are composed of Mayor and Councillors, which each Councillor chairing a different committee. The committees include Finance and Environment, Parks, Planning and Public Works.
- Important land use matters are often discussed in the Planning Committee.
- Each committee has its own public participation session, which is where residents can address our elected officials for up to four minutes.
- If you wish to participate, you approach the podium and state your name and address, and give your statement. Some people read prepared remarks; others speak without notes. You can use the full four minutes or be brief.
- Question and answer periods come at the end of Council meetings, time permitting (these sessions can last up to 20 minutes, but will normally end by 9:30pm). Questions can be directed to the Mayor and individual Councillors.