



## FAQ - Getting Involved in Local Government

*Please note that this FAQ provides an overview regarding public participation at Council Meetings. Additional details are provided in New Denver's Public Participation Policy. If you have specific questions, please contact the Village Office for clarification.*

### **How to participate in Council and committee proceedings**

All Village of New Denver Regular, Special and Committee of the Whole meetings are open to the public as well as any advisory committee meetings and your attendance is welcomed. Meeting notices and agendas are posted on the Village of New Denver website and on the bulletin board at the Village Office located at 115 Slocan Ave.

You can attend all meetings in person at the Council Chambers located at 115 Slocan Ave, or can attend Regular and Committee of the Whole meetings virtually using the link provided on the agenda. If you are feeling unwell, please do not attend in person.

Regular and Committee of the Whole meetings are also recorded and available for viewing on the Village website for up to 6 months after the date of the meeting.

### **Comments & Questions**

Members of the public may provide either written or oral submissions related to items on the agenda. This is your chance to provide input on the decisions about to be made. It is not for back-and-forth debate with Council, and no reply should be expected. Instead, Council will take your comments or questions into consideration when making a decision on the agenda item you are speaking to.

Written Comments – will be accepted up to 24 hours prior to the start of a meeting and are limited to a maximum of 200 words. For greater clarity, if the meeting is set to start at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, written comments must be received by 7 p.m. on Monday. Written comments can be mailed, emailed, faxed or dropped off in person to the Village Office. Written comments must include name, address of sender and identify which agenda item it is in relation to. Written comments will form part of the agenda and be available for general public review.

Oral Comments – Pre-registration is required for in-person and virtual comments. A speaker that has pre-registered cannot give their allocated time to another person. Registration must occur no later than 24 hours prior to the start of a meeting. For greater clarity, if the meeting is set to start at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, speaker registration must occur by 7:00 p.m. on Monday. A maximum of five speakers will be allowed at each meeting and comments will be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Contact the Village Office to pre-register.

### **Delegations to Council**

A member of the public who wishes to address Council, Committee of Commission and have a report or presentation scheduled on a meeting agenda must submit a written application in the form provided. Deadline for delegation applications is 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the regular meeting. Submission of an application does not guarantee acceptance or approval. Delegation application forms are available on the Village website or by contacting the Village Office.

### **Petitions to Council**

Petitions must conform to required standards to ensure presentation to Council. It is highly recommended that you contact the office for detailed information on how to prepare and submit a petition before you begin.

## How to become involved in municipal affairs

As a resident or property owner you have a vital role in the government of the Village. Qualified electors have the right to vote in municipal elections to elect the Mayor, and Councillors. While elections are held every four years, residents can be involved in the process at all times by:

- Checking out the Village website regularly for news, notices and updates
- Attending Council and Committee meetings
- Attending hearings, open houses, participating in surveys and other public consultation opportunities
- Contacting the Village Office for information on services and programming
- Contacting the Mayor or Councillors directly
- Volunteering for an advisory committee

## Join a committee or board

The Village periodically requests applications for appointment to various committee or boards. These notices will be posted on the Village website, bulletin board at the Village Office and in the Valley Voice newspaper.

## Village of New Denver contact information

Village of New Denver Office  
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P.O. Box 40  
New Denver, BC V0G 1S0  
Phone: 250-358-2316  
Fax: 250-358-7251  
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