

The motions regarding **Bylaw No. 276 (Oyster Bay-Buttle Lake Official Community Plan Bylaw, 2023)** represent the 2023 legislative launch of a comprehensive modernization project for **Electoral Area D**. These records detail the successful advancement of the new Official Community Plan (OCP) through the **Electoral Areas Services Committee (EASC)**, a process that sought to replace an outdated 1996 framework.

The Purpose and Scope of Bylaw No. 276

Bylaw No. 276 was created to replace the previous OCP (Bylaw No. 1857) and serves as the primary policy statement guiding the long-term vision of Area D over the next five to ten years. 1. The new plan focuses on three core objectives:

- **Protecting Rural Character:** It ensures that future residential expansion maintains the area's **low-density identity**, preventing it from evolving into a standard suburb of Campbell River.
- **Modern Legislative Guidelines:** The 2023 plan integrates entirely new sections addressing **climate change**, coastal planning, sea-level rise, and greenhouse gas reduction targets.
- **Hazard Land Protection:** It introduces updated environmental and hazard land protections to align with modern provincial planning practices .

Procedural Timeline and Consensus

The motions provided in your query capture a rare moment of **functional cooperation** between **Director John Rice** and **Director Robyn Mawhinney** in late 2023 Query. This consensus allowed the long-stalled project to move into its final statutory phases:

- **Receipt of CAO Report (EASC 312/23):** This motion received the administrative analysis required to trigger the formal adoption process.
- **First and Second Readings (EASC 313/23):** The committee recommended that the full Board grant the initial legal readings on November 22, 2023.
- **Statutory Public Hearing (EAC 314/23):** The committee recommended a formal hearing for **December 6, 2023**, to capture community input and explain board amendments prior to final adoption.

Strategic Context: "Forward or Backward"

In the context of our conversation history and the **October 17, 2026 local election**, this 2023 record serves as a factual anchor for Director Rice's campaign:

- **Governance Baseline:** The OCP review originally launched in 2012 but faced significant delays. Rice's ability to move the finalized proposal through the EASC in 2023 supports his **"Forward"** narrative and his commitment to **"Building Tomorrow Together"** .
- **Contrast to Later Friction:** The sources contrast the **Rice/Mawhinney** collaboration seen here with the **"targeted administrative friction"** that emerged later in the term. While Mawhinney seconded these OCP motions in 2023, she was later a central figure in the **"hot mic" incident** and the attempt to break quorum on other regional files.
- **Accountability for Process:** Because an OCP is a high-level policy document, it was subject to review by the **Area D Advisory Planning Commission (APC)**. This volunteer body of local residents ensured that the "rural and low-density" goals of the

community were protected throughout the drafting phase .

In summary, the motions for Bylaw No. 276 document the successful conclusion of a decade-long effort to modernize Area D's planning laws.