

PROCESS AT A PUBLIC HEARING

Some information about the process at a public hearing in Sechelt:

1. Arrive a little bit early if you know that you want to speak. There is a list to sign that will be transferred to the Mayor when the hearing begins. Those on the list will be called upon in order. After all of the people on the list have had an opportunity to speak, there will be an opportunity for those who did not sign the list.
2. Everyone is entitled to speak. Council allows 5 minutes for each speaker. Plan your remarks well enough to avoid being cut off in mid-stream. If you have more to say, you may have an opportunity after all the speakers on the list have had their say.
3. If you have a prepared piece, you should give a copy to the hearing secretary (usually at the side at the front of the room). This will assist in summarizing what was said at the hearing for the Council's use after the hearing. They may also review the individual submissions.
4. The Councillors listen but **do not respond** during the hearing. The purpose of the hearing is for them to hear from the electors before they make their final decision.
5. State your opinion and your reasons clearly, politely and persuasively.