

**TOWN OF CHURCHILL**  
**Special Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 12:00 pm in Council Chambers**

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**PRESENT:** Mayor Michael Spence  
Deputy Mayor Heather Botelho  
Councilor Terry Stover  
Councilor Mike Iwanowsky  
Councilor Louise Lawrie  
Albert Meijering, Chief Administrative Officer  
Roxanne Chan, Chief Financial Officer

**REGRETS:** Rebecca Allen, Executive Assistant

**ALSO PRESENT:** Bill Watkins, Manitoba Conservation  
Ron Bazan, Environment Canada  
Julie Roberts, Environment Canada

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Michael Spence called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by M. Iwanowsky and seconded by H. Botelho**

**074/09** RESOLVED THAT the agenda for Special Meeting be accepted.

**CARRIED**

**3. BUSINESS OF SPECIAL MEETING**

**3.1 Environment Canada – Discussion on Polar Bears**

Environment Canada is doing a reassessment of the 2008 report discussing the special concerns regarding polar bears. They would like to know if the community has any concerns with the addition of polar bears to schedule 1 . Species at Risk. There is conflicted information on the polar bears. It is believed by specialists from the south that they are declining, and by the residents of the north that they are increasing. Environment Canada is looking at the genetics in various areas that polar bears frequent to determine which information is accurate.

A major issue is what the effect on tourism would be. If the polar bear is identified as a species at risk, an assessment would need to be made and prohibitions enforced. There would be laws against killing, harming or harassing the animal. If the polar bear is identified as a species at risk, the community would be allowed to provide input into the management plan.

Environment Canada is looking for community input and recommendations that they can take to the government on whether the polar bear should be included as an endangered species at risk. Once the recommendations are reviewed and a decision made, the Minister will present to Mayor and Council.

**4. Adjournment**

**Moved by L. Lawrie and seconded by H. Botelho**

**075/09** WHEREAS the business of the Special Meeting has now been completed;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council do now adjourn.

**CARRIED**

The meeting concluded at 1:00 p.m.

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Michael Spence  
Mayor

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Albert Meijering  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Recapitulation**

**Motions:**

**Moved by M. Iwanowsky and seconded by H. Botelho**

**074/09 RESOLVED THAT** the agenda for Special Meeting be accepted.

**CARRIED**

**Moved by L. Lawrie and seconded by H. Botelho**

**075/09 WHEREAS** the business of the Special Meeting has now been completed;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council do now adjourn.

**CARRIED**

The meeting concluded at 1:00 p.m.