



# Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

## MINUTES OF THE ALBERNI VALLEY/BAMFIELD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015

Regional District Board Room, 3008 Fifth Avenue, Port Alberni, BC

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- DIRECTORS** John McNabb, Chair, Electoral Area "E" (Beaver Creek)
- PRESENT:** Mike Kokura, Director, Electoral Area "B" (Beaufort)  
Penny Cote, Director, Electoral Area "D" (Sproat Lake)  
Mike Ruttan, Director, City of Port Alberni  
Keith Wyton, Director, Electoral Area "A" (Bamfield)
- REGRETS:** John Jack, Councillor, Huu-ay-aht First Nation  
Lucas Banton, Director, Electoral Area "F" (Cherry Creek)  
Wilfred Cootes, Councillor, Uchucklesaht Tribe Government  
Jack McLeman, Councillor, City of Port Alberni
- INVITED** Dr. Daryl Lund, GP
- GUESTS:** Dr. Sam Williams, Chief of Staff  
Dr. Wendy Johnsen, Medical Director
- STAFF PRESENT:** Wendy Thomson, Manager of Administrative Services  
Andrew McGifford, Manager of Finance  
Shelli Lyle, Administrative Assistant

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

### 2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were conducted around the table.

### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*MOVED: Director Cote*

*SECONDED: Director Wyton*

*THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.*

**CARRIED**

### 4. INVITED GUESTS

Dr. Lund, GP and President of Alberni Valley Medical Society, Dr. Sam Williams, Chief of Staff, WCGH and Dr. Wendy Johnson, Medical Director. The invited guest provide an overview of their role with regards to health care services in the Alberni Valley.

## **5. REPORTS**

### **a. Improving Delivery of Health Services - Alberni Valley**

Dr. Johnsen provided an overview of Island Health's restructuring according to geographical areas, Central Island is now Geographical Area 2. Island Health's vision is regional integration and organization of services appropriate to the geographical area for better patient care. Each region will have a team consisting of a Director and Medical Director to oversee services. For Geographical Area 2 which includes the Alberni-Clayoquot region, Ms. Marie Duppreault is the Director and Dr. Wendy Johnsen is the Medical Director.

The Manager of Administrative Services and the Acting Manager of Finance provided an overview of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional Hospital District's function.

### **b. Doctors Issues/Needs**

Dr. Lund reported that the biggest challenge is manpower. There is a lack of physicians and nursing staff across BC. Locally, they are currently recruiting for an internist as one of the two in the Alberni Valley is retiring. In 2025, 75% of general practitioners in the Alberni Valley will be retiring.

There were discussions regarding the University of BC's International Medical Graduate (IMG) Program and medical students trained outside of Canada who are unable to practice in BC.

The ACRHD could assist the medical system by lobbying the provincial government and UBC to execute a comprehensive manpower review.

There were discussions regarding seniors and the need for more care facilities. There are usually 25-30 Alternate Level of Care (ALC) patients waiting to get into residential care, currently that number is 72-75 which is 120-140% capacity.

### **c. Lines of Communication – ACRD/WCGH**

The ACHN Coordinator Marcie DeWitt will get in touch with Dr. Lund and be invited to the physicians meeting to explain the Health Network and how they can assist.

### **d. Alberni-Clayoquot Health Network Update – Penny Cote**

Director Cote explained the mandate of the Health Network and gave an overview of the Strategic Plan and how the Table of Partners and Coordinators efforts to date have assisted in improving the health indicators of the area.

**6. OTHER REPORTS**

Mayor Ruttan reported he will be meeting with the Island Mayors and a topic of discussion will be the shortage of doctors and nurses.

**7. ADJOURN**

*MOVED: Director Kokura*

*SECONDED: Director Ruttan*

*THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:31 pm.*

**CARRIED**

Certified Correct:

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John McNabb,  
Chairperson

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Wendy Thomson,  
Manager of Administrative Services