



PRESS RELEASE

Port Alberni  
Wednesday, May 8, 2019

The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District has a long relationship supporting the Alberni Valley Drag Racing Association (AVDRA) who, for many years, has put on “Thunder in the Valley”. Both organizations have been examining the feasibility of the AVDRA’s request to hold the event at the Alberni Valley Regional Airport (AVRA), which is nearing the completion of its \$8 million upgrade.

After a lengthy review of technical and legal information, the ACRD Board of Directors have made the decision at their meeting of May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to not permit the AVDRA to hold their annual drag race event on the AVRA runway. This difficult decision was made in order to protect the interests of the users and leaseholders at the AVRA and the significant ongoing capital investment at the AVRA made by the taxpayers.

The Board understands the importance of this event to the region and has directed staff to report back with options to consider a financial contribution towards the 2019 drag race event being hosted on Stamp Avenue within the City of Port Alberni. Further, the Board has directed staff to assist the AVDRA to explore a feasible long-term home for the drag races.

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