

**PRESENTATION TO ACRD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
RE GRANT IN AID TO CITY OF PORT ALBERNI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

HIGHLIGHTS OF WORK IN 2022

Reconciliation

- Community Economic Development Initiative
- Wolf Tower completion (two successful grant applications)

Business Retention

- Assist tenants at Dock + Food Hub as needed
- Assist other local small businesses (employees, training, financing, negotiations with City)
- Support efforts to secure fibre for local mills (2 San mills in ACRD plus PE)
- Circular Economy initiative with VICEDA
- Support for CCCU project
- Shop and Eat Local campaigns

Business Attraction

- Advocacy for CME Floating Drydock
- Choose PA website
- Continue Provincial Nominee Program
- Recruitment of Physicians
- Train Station RFP
- Food Truck Pod at Clutesi Haven Marina
- Douglas Magazine story and Roundtable
- Work with developers
- Host visits from firms/individuals we are attempting to attract here
- Train Station RFP

Diversification of the Economy

- PA becomes headquarters for Coastal Restoration Society
- Tech attraction initiative with VICEDA
- MRDT and AVT; Explore Port Alberni
- Location scouting for films
- Sponsor Community Workforce Response Grants with North Island College (successful)
- Support growth of blue economy (COS, Innovation Working Group member)
- Innovation Economy
- Expression of Interest for Somass Lands
- Assist Makerspace

Grant Writing

- Local Food Infrastructure Program grant application (not successful)
- Roger Creek Trail connector grant application (successful)
- Somass Lands Keystone Project (outcome in late March 2023)

**PRESENTATION TO ACRD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
RE GRANT IN AID TO CITY OF PORT ALBERNI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (cont'd)**

WORK PLAN FOR 2023

- Adhere to City's Corporate Strategic Plan
- Accomplish 1 project of significance with Tseshaht First Nation and Hupacasath First Nation
- Attract 2 new doctors and 3 other health care professionals
- Attract 1 new hotel
- Attract 1 independent film
- Take part in 1 Ocean Cities Climate Challenge
- Grant applications
- Light industry component to Somass lands
- Deconstruction & circular economy approach to buildings on Somass lands
- Assist asset mapping for arts and other sectors
- Land 1 Provincial Nominee Program entrepreneur
- Continue developing trail network
- Blue green economies technology centre
- Assist AVT in tourism marketing
- Tenant in Train Station
- Lead Vancouver Island Outdoor Recreation Tech Sector

CONTEXT OF OUR WORK IN 2023

- Living up to UNDRIP/DRIPA
- Labour shortages
- Supply chain challenges
- Shortage of Fibre
- APD Uncertainty
- Social Issues
- Cost of Living Increases / Rising Interest Rates
- Continuing environmental issues
- Shortage of good rental accommodation