



Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

MINUTES OF THE ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2025, 10:00 AM

Hybrid - Zoom/Board Room, 3008 Fifth Avenue, Port Alberni, BC

MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Vaida Siga, Director, Area C – Long Beach
Cindy Solda, Councilor, City of Port Alberni
Jamie Tattrie, Member at Large
Kat Belisle, Member at Large

REGRETS:

Nicole Uzelman, Member at Large
Amber Severinson, Member at Large
Deanna Spencer, Member at Large
Deserray McClary, Member at Large

STAFF PRESENT:

Heather Zenner, Manager of Administrative Services
Sara Darling, City of Port Alberni

Note: Quorum was not achieved for this committee meeting; therefore, meeting was held for informational purposes.

The meeting can be viewed on the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District website at:

<https://www.acrd.bc.ca/events/9-9-2025/>

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

The Chairperson recognized this meeting is being held throughout the Nuu-chah-nulth territories.

The Chairperson reported this meeting is being recorded and livestreamed to YouTube on the Regional District website.

Introductions - Committee Members and Staff present in the Boardroom and via Zoom.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. DECLARATIONS

4. MINUTES

5. PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- a. **Jacob Burnley, Transit Planner, Seth Wright, Senior Government Relation Manager, BC Transit, Future Service Plan for Port Alberni and Alberni Valley**
- b. **Adam Bishop, Manager of Accessible Transit, BC Transit, Custom Transit Services**

BC Transit provided a presentation highlighting the Future Service Plan and Custom Transit Services (also referred to as HandyDART).

Committee requested feedback on emergencies and how decisions are made with respect to service interruptions. BC Transit acknowledged there were some recent challenges with the Mount Underwood Fire with communications and the impact this had on users.

Committee expressed that there have been some recent complaints regarding HandyDART service. Complaints to BC Transit can be sent via a form on the Contact Us link on the BC Transit website, or directly to Seth Wright at swright@bctransit.com.

Committee enquired about how to access HandyDART. HandyDART application is found online on the BCTransit website, applicants are then contacted by the local HandyDART office to assess needs and potentially conduct a site assessment of the requested pick-up location, no physician referral is required.

6. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

- a. **ALBERNI CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT**
Planning Accessible Events in the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
- b. **ALBERNI CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT**
Sproat Lake Accessible Parking and Picnic Table Update

Committee shared information regarding the improvements at Sproat Lake Provincial Park. The committee is appreciative of the accessible parking improvements and the installation of the accessible picnic table. Committee members who utilize wheelchairs noted that gravel is tough to maneuver with a wheeled device. Mobi mat would need to be installed to access the beach as the sandy portion is not accessible (not boat launch).

7. REQUEST FOR DECISIONS

8. REPORTS

a. Burde Street Update, Verbal Update – S. Darling

City has made some infrastructure improvements; bump outs and letdowns have been installed. Extension of the sidewalk and reduce the distance the pedestrians have to cross the road. Enhanced visibility makes the intersections safer. The letdowns support improve accessibility and make the intersections easier to navigate. Bike lanes have been identified, encouraging active transportation.

b. City Hall Lobby Update, Verbal Update – S. Darling

Have moved their front desk to the foyer of the city hall to create more office space. Move has increased accessibility

c. ACRD Accessibility Training, Verbal Update – H. Zenner

All ACRD staff will be taking Accessibility Training in September, followed by a session for People Leaders, and a separate session for communications and engagement staff.

9. LATE BUSINESS

No Frills/WINNERS have recently installed 'Not all disabilities are visible' parking spots in the parking lot.

10. QUESTION PERIOD

Questions/Comments from the public. The Manager of Administrative Services advised there were no questions or comments respecting an agenda topic from public:

- Participating in Person in the ACRD Board Room
- Participating in the Zoom webinar
- Submissions received by email at responses@acrd.bc.ca.

11. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 am.

Certified Correct:

Cindy Solda

Cindy Solda,
Chairperson

Heather Zenner

Heather Zenner,
Manager of Administrative Services