



# Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

## ALBERNI VALLEY REGIONAL AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020, 1:30PM

Due to COVID-19, the meeting will be held via Zoom Video Conferencing

### AGENDA

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	PAGE #
1. <b><u>CALL TO ORDER</u></b>	
Recognition of Territories.	
2. <b><u>ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON FOR 2020</u></b>	
3. <b><u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</u></b> <i>(motion to approve, including late items requires 2/3 majority vote)</i>	
4. <b><u>MINUTES</u></b>	
a. <b>Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee Meeting -         September 19, 2019.</b>	<b>3-4</b>
<i>THAT the minutes of the Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee         meeting held on September 19, 2019 be received.</i>	
5. <b><u>PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS &amp; PRESENTATIONS</u></b>	
6. <b><u>REQUEST FOR DECISIONS</u></b>	
a. <b>Request for Decision</b>	<b>5-9</b>
Amended Terms of Reference – Committee Membership	
<i>THAT the Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee receive the         amended Terms of Reference as presented for the Committee.</i>	
b. <b>Request for Decision</b>	<b>10-12</b>
Cascadia Air Support Letter Request	
<i>THAT the Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee recommends that         the ACRD Board of Directors direct staff to respond to Cascadia Air outlining         current air traffic authorizations at the AVRA and that their request will be         further considered as part of the AVRA long-term vision.</i>	

**7. REPORTS**

- a. **Information Report – Alberni Valley Regional Airport Land Transfer and Runway Expansion Timelines – May 2020 (R. Williams)** **13-17**
- b. **Information Report –Verbal- Upcoming activities at the AVRA– May 2020 (M. Fortune)**
- c. **Information Report – 2020 Budget Item Request for Creation of AVRA Visionary Plan.** **18**

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**9. LATE BUSINESS**  
*(requires 2/3 majority vote)*

**10. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting of the AVRA Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday July 23, 2020 at 1:30 pm via Zoom.

**11. ADJOURN**



# Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

## MINUTES OF THE ALBERNI VALLEY REGIONAL AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019, 1:30PM

Alberni Valley Regional Airport – Terminal Building – 188 Airport Rd. Port Alberni BC

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### DIRECTORS

Cindy Solda, Chair, City of Port Alberni

### PRESENT:

Penny Cote, Director, Electoral Area “D” (Sproat Lake)

Bob Kanngiesser, Member at Large, Alberni Valley

Mike Ruttan, Member at Large, Alberni Valley

Shelley Chrest, Alberni Port Authority

Dan Savard, Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce

### REGRETS:

Richard Watts, Councillor, Tseshaht First Nation

Steven Tatoosh, Chief Councillor, Hupacasath First Nation

Michael Hoff, Member at Large, Electoral Area “D” (Sproat Lake)

### STAFF PRESENT:

Rob Williams, General Manager of Environmental Services

Mark Fortune, Airport Superintendant

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 1:49PM.

The Chairperson recognized the meeting today is being held in the Tseshaht First Nation and the Hupacasath First Nation Territories.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*MOVED: P. Cote*

*SECONDED: S. Crest*

*THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.*

**CARRIED**

### 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

a. **Alberni Valley & Bamfield Services Committee Minutes – March 26, 2019**

*MOVED: M. Ruttan*

*SECONDED: P. Cote*

*THAT the minutes of the Alberni Valley and Bamfield Services Committee meeting held on March 26, 2019 be adopted.*

**CARRIED**

**4. REPORTS**

- a. Alberni Valley Regional Airport - 2018 Board Orientation Presentation
- b. Alberni Valley Regional Airport - Expansion Updates

*MOVED: S. Crest*

*SECONDED: D. Savard*

*THAT the Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee receives the Alberni-Valley Regional Airport (AVRA)- 2018 Board Orientation Presentation and the AVRA Expansion Update Report(s) for September 19, 2019.*

- c. Alberni Valley Regional Airport Tour

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Alberni Valley Drag Races – Verbal Update**
- b. **Meeting Dates**
- c. **Scheduling of Meetings to be every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every second month beginning in November.**

**6. ADJOURN**

*MOVED: S. Crest*

*SECONDED: C. Solda*

*THAT the meeting be adjourned at 2:03PM.*

**CARRIED**

Certified Correct:

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Cindy Solda,  
Chairperson

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Wendy Thomson,  
Manager of Administrative Services



## **REQUEST FOR DECISION**

**To:** Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee

**From:** Wendy Thomson, General Manager of Administrative Services

**Meeting Date:** May 21, 2020

**Subject:** **Amended Terms of Reference – Committee Membership**

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### **Recommendation:**

THAT the Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee receive the amended Terms of Reference as presented for the Committee.

### **Summary**

The Alberni Valley Regional Airport (AVRA) Advisory Committee was established by the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) Board of Directors in 2018 to facilitate participation from local government, business and community interests within the Alberni Valley on matters associated with the development of the Alberni Valley Regional Airport.

Current membership on the Committee consists of the following:

#### **Outside Appointments:**

- One Member each nominated by the Tseshaht First Nation & Hupacasath First Nation
- One Member each nominated by the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce and Port Alberni Port Authority
- Two members at-large representing the business community in the Alberni Valley (nominated by the AVBSC)
- One Member at Large representing Electoral Area "D" (Sproat Lake) (nominated by the AVBSC)

#### **ACRD Director Appointments:**

- One ACRD Director from the City of Port Alberni (nominated by the AVBSC)
- One ACRD Director from the Alberni Valley Electoral Areas: Beaufort, Sproat Lake, Beaver Creek, Cherry Creek (nominated by the AVBSC)

### **Background:**

In February 2020, the ACRD received a request from the Uchucklesaht Tribe Government (UTG) to join the (AVRA) service. The ACRD Board of Directors adopted an amending bylaw (Bylaw 791-3) at their regular meeting on April 22, 2020 which amended the boundaries of the AVRA service to include the UTG as a full participating member.

With the addition of the UTG to the AVRA service, the terms of reference for the AVRA Advisory Committee has been amended to include representation from UTG. The ACRD Board of Directors at their regular meeting held on May 13, 2020, approved the amended terms of reference for the AVRA Advisory Committee to include membership from the UTG and appointed Director Wilfred Cootes to represent the UTG on the Committee.

Attached please find the amended terms of reference for receipt by the AVRA Advisory Committee.



Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wendy Thomson, General Manager of Administrative Services



## **Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District**

### **Terms of Reference Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee**

#### **Introduction**

The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District has formed the Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee to facilitate participation from local government, First Nations, business and community interests within the Alberni Valley on matters associated with the development of the Alberni Valley Regional Airport.

The Airport Advisory Committee is a standing committee of the ACRD and reports directly to the Alberni Valley & Bamfield Services Committee.

#### **Definitions**

**ACRD** means the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District.

**Airport** means the Alberni Valley Regional Airport.

**AVBSC** means the Alberni Valley & Bamfield Services Committee, a standing committee of the ACRD with representation from the City of Port Alberni, Uchucklesaht Tribe Government, Huu-ay-aht First Nation and Electoral Areas “A” (Bamfield), “B” (Beaufort), “D” (Sproat Lake), “E” (Beaver Creek) and “F” (Cherry Creek).

**Board** means the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board of Directors.

**Committee** means the Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee.

#### **Objective**

The Committee reviews, reports and advises the AVBSC on matters concerning the long term development of the Airport.

#### **Scope of Work**

To achieve this objective, the Committee will review and advise on the following:

- a. Promoting and marketing the Airport
- b. Encouraging the development of improved air services to the region

## **Terms of Reference – Alberni Valley Airport Advisory Committee, 2020**

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- c. Review and make recommendations on identified Airport matters as requested by the AVBSC
- d. Gather and provide community input with respect to Airport plans and activities impacting the community
- e. Review and provide input on issues impacting the Airport and Airport lands
- f. Advise on matters relating to Airport services such as; development planning, economic development, operations, maintenance and safety.

### **Membership**

In order to provide representation from all areas served by the Airport, as well as business and community interests, membership of the Committee is as follows:

- a. One (1) member nominated from the Tseshaht First Nation
- b. One (1) member nominated from the Hupacasath First Nation
- c. One (1) member nominated from the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce
- d. One (1) member nominated from the Port Alberni Port Authority
- e. Two (2) members at-large representing the business community in the Alberni Valley nominated by the AVBSC
- f. One (1) member at-large representing Electoral Area “D” (Sproat Lake) nominated by the AVBSC
- g. One (1) ACRD Director from the City of Port Alberni nominated by the AVBSC
- h. One (1) ACRD Director from the Alberni Valley Electoral Areas (Beaufort, Sproat Lake, Beaver Creek, Cherry Creek) nominated by the AVBSC
- i. The ACRD Director (1) from the Uchucklesaht Tribe Government

### **Appointment and Term**

Upon recommendation from the AVBSC, members shall be appointed by the ACRD Board of Directors for a two-year term.

Upon recommendation of the AVBSC, the ACRD Board may, at any time, remove any member of the Committee and any member of the Committee may resign at any time upon sending written notice to the Chairperson of the Committee.

Upon recommendation from the AVBSC, Members may stand for re-appointment by the ACRD Board at the conclusion of their term.

Non ACRD members of the Committee serve without remuneration.

## **Terms of Reference – Alberni Valley Airport Advisory Committee, 2020**

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In the event of a vacancy occurring during the regular term of office, the vacancy may be filled for the remainder of the term by an alternate nominated by the AVBSC and approved by the ACRD Board of Directors.

### **Chair**

The Committee shall, at its first inaugural meeting annually, elect a Chairperson from amongst its members.

### **Meeting Procedures**

The meetings of the Committee shall be called by the Committee Chairperson and shall be held quarterly on the day and time agreed to by the Committee members.

The Chair of the Committee may call a special meeting of the Committee.

A majority of the Committee members shall represent a quorum, one of whom must be a Director of the ACRD Board.

Meetings of the Committee shall be conducted and held in accordance with the ACRD's Procedures Bylaw.

ACRD staff will provide support to the Committee including preparing agendas and reports, recording minutes of all meetings and ensuring Committee agendas, minutes, etc. are forwarded electronically for circulation to all members.

### **Reporting**

Committee recommendations must be adopted by the Committee by way of motions, prior to presentation for consideration by the AVBSC.

The Committee will provide a status report to the AVBSC following each meeting.

The AVBSC will report to the ACRD Board annually on the activities of the Committee.

Regional District staff will provide advice and professional assistance to the Committee including drafting correspondence and reports.

Amended by the ACRD Board	May 13, 2020
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## REQUEST FOR DECISION

**To:** Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee  
**From:** Rob Williams, General Manager of Environmental Services  
**Meeting Date:** May 21, 2020  
**Subject:** Cascadia Air Support Letter Request

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### **Recommendation:**

*THAT the Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee recommends that the ACRD Board of Directors direct staff to respond to Cascadia Air outlining current air traffic authorizations at the AVRA and that their request will be further considered as part of the AVRA long-term vision.*

### **Desired Outcome:**

Additional chartered air service be considered for the Alberni Valley Regional Airport.

### **Background:**

The ACRD Airport Manager recently received the attached information from Cascadia Air (CA). In summary, Cascadia Air is looking to launch a new Vancouver Island air taxi service between Victoria and Port Hardy with accessible stops in-between. Cascadia Air is specifically requesting a letter from the ACRD supporting the concept of Cascadia Air providing scheduled air service from the Alberni Valley Regional Airport (AVRA). Cascadia Air would submit the ACRD support letter to Transport Canada with their application to add the AVRA as a scheduled point of service on AOC 7732.

ACRD staff have no prior history with Cascadia Air. However, adding scheduled air service at the AVRA is not currently available as the facility is deemed a registered aerodrome by Transport Canada and not a certified aerodrome or airport. Registered aerodromes do not require the same standards and regulation as certified airports. The recent major capital infrastructure investment at the AVRA will allow for expanded day and night operations as well as higher performance aircraft. These upgrades could also help achieve certified airport status if the ACRD Board chose to go this direction. This will be discussed as part of the visioning exercise with the Advisory Committee. However, it should be noted that moving to a certified airport results in a much higher service level and operating cost.

Under the current status of registered aerodrome, Cascadia Air can operate a charter service out of the AVRA without special authorization. Considering the ACRD is in the very early stages of developing a long-term vision for the AVRA, staff recommend that a formal response be provided to Cascadia Air outlining the current status and permitted uses at the AVRA and that their request will be further considered with the visioning exercise.

### **Time Requirements – Staff & Elected Officials:**

A small amount of staff time will be required to draft the letter of support and possibly move forward with next steps.

### **Options Considered:**

Invite Cascadia Air to be a delegation at an upcoming ACRD Committee meeting to learn more about their business plan and their initiative to operate out of the Alberni Valley.

Submitted by:   
Rob Williams, MSc, General Manager of Environmental Services

Approved by:   
Douglas Holmes, BBA, CPA, CA, Chief Administrative Officer

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District  
3008 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Port Alberni, BC  
V9Y 2E3

Dear ACRD,

Cascadia Air is a 703 Air Taxi based in Campbell River BC. We are embarking on a new revolution in the aviation industry and we are hoping that the ACRD will be a part of this amazing transformation of air travel as we know it.

As a “hybrid” Scheduled airline and Charter company, we are offering an on demand flight system never seen before in aviation. Our initial launch will cover Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast and will allow passengers a unique way of booking and travelling in the most cost effective way while bringing economic development and prosperity to the regions we will provide service to with our Sky Routes™.

Our Island operations from Victoria International to Port Hardy and all accessible airports in between along with other partnerships has a huge economic potential for both the local residents and tourism industry.

Cascadia Air wishes to meet with your board to present our unique business plan and show you how our company will positively affect the entire regions of Tofino, Port Alberni and beyond.

Please consider our applications and forward any questions to myself.

Thank you so much,

Jeremy Barrett  
Chief Operations Officer / Chief Pilot  
Cascadia Northern Air Inc.  
587.877.0911 cell  
800.818.6099 main



## REPORT FOR INFORMATION

**To:** Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee

**From:** Rob Williams, General Manager of Environmental Services/  
Mark Fortune, Airport Manager

**Meeting Date:** May 21, 2020

**Subject:** Alberni Valley Regional Airport Land Transfer & Runway Expansion Timelines

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### Report:

The following is a background on the history and timelines of the land transfer between the Province and the ACRD for the Alberni Valley Regional Airport (AVRA) lands. Timelines regarding the runway expansion project are also provided.

In 1988 a process was underway to establish an airport at the current site of the AVRA. The previous airport had been located at the Somas Estuary and the possibility of expansion and on-going maintenance at that site was problematic. The selection of the AVRA lands followed various studies and analyses including the Alberni Valley Airport Site Selection Study – which compared the current airport site to other alternatives.

The location of the AVRA and the surrounding lands within the flight path were on lands owned by MacMillan Bloedel Limited (MB) and were Managed Forest lands within Tree Farm License 44 (TFL 44). MB began a review of the possibility of providing these lands in February 1988. The ACRD provided various analysis to MB to help in this review including definition of the impacts to surrounding forest lands. MB indicated that a land trade was unlikely given the complexity and effort to execute such a transaction.

Transport Canada was consulted to determine the impacts to lands surrounding the runway. Discussion and analysis of lands continues in 1988 with MB. The area impacted by the airport for the runway and flight paths is refined, ownership of the subject lands confirmed and MB agrees that a land exchange is the appropriate mechanism as “850 acres of privately owned managed forest land (Managed Forest Unit 74 within Tree Farm Licence 44) will be adversely affected”. It is agreed that the ACRD will pursue approval for a land exchange from the Minister of Forests and Lands. As requested by MB, the ACRD is to complete the Timber Cruise for the subject lands surrounding the proposed airport site. MB suggests the Ministry may assume costs of the Timber Cruise but it is up to the ACRD to make the arrangements.

ACRD letter to Minister of Forests and Lands states that the reason not to continue with the airport at the current Somass Flats is due to the impact of arrival and departure corridors to the surrounding lands – owned by MB. The Airport Site Selection Study was commissioned to determine best alternative.

An Issue Update by the Ministry recognizes up to 345 hectares involved with the new proposed airport lands, MB prefers land exchange and local Forest District has no objection. “The Ministry supports the establishment of a new airport facility and supports the concept of a land exchange to obtain the required acreage...” ACRD to pay all costs of the exchange with timber harvesting rights remaining with the Province. Ministry seeks the lands to be exchanged.

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) is executed between the ACRD and the Province for the proposed land exchange regarding the new Alberni Airport Facility, the Province is to undertake the land exchange with the ACRD covering the costs.

Location of the access road requires the ACRD to develop the portion from Coleman Road to the new facility, road is constructed to meet the objectives of the Ministry of Forests and Lands harvesting plans. This is an additional cost to the ACRD that has benefitted FLNRO and their tenure holders in the airport area.

In 1989 the ACRD is provided the first invoices by the Province to be paid to meet its obligations for land exchange. These are for both sets of land – the parcels surrounding the airport site and the lands to be exchanged with MB – costs are in the order of \$127,000.

In 1990 the Province writes to the ACRD regarding surrounding lands advising that it will manage lands for “...valuable products while maintaining the desired clearance for the flight path.”

In 1993 Paul Pashnik District Manager states “Our commitment at the time of the airport land transfer was to manage the area under the approach paths as productive forest, with the proviso that tree heights were to be below the glide path elevation...”

1995 in response to proposed woodlot ACRD states “any design parameters relevant to airport operations should be acknowledged and retained (e.g. 2% slopes under both flight paths):”

1997 the Ministry shares the Christmas tree policy and regulations with ACRD. The notice to intending applicants for the proposed Christmas tree licenses states “Trees and any other obstacles must not penetrate Obstacle Limitation Surfaces”.

The Ministry of Forests assures the ACRD in 1998 that Christmas Tree Permits require licensees to maintain the integrity of OLS described by transport Canada.

### **Summary of Land Transfer Timeline**

1988, April 13 – Transport Canada Aviation Group recommended 2.5% take-off/approach slope.

1988, May 12 – MacMillan & Bloedel (M & B) recommends 850 acres (344 hectares) required vs 640 acres (259 hectares), as previously suggested.

1988, May 27 – Ministry of Forests (MOF) supports establishment of new airport and concept of land exchange with ACRD paying all cost of the land exchange.

1988, July 12 – Memorandum of Understanding between MOF and ACRD land exchange for the airport.

1989, April 11 – MOF road building specifications provided to ACRD detailing the specifications that Airport Road must be built to for their pending Timber Sale.

1989, October 13 – ACRD receives invoice for land exchange costs \$127,302.30.

1990, April 11 – MOF letter to ACRD, Timber sale requirements for clearing approach paths.

1990, May 16 – License of Occupation received for Airport.

1991, October 18 – Crown Grant of an Estate in Fee Simple, Airport Lands to ACRD.

1993 – AVRA opened.

1995, March 1 – ACRD letter to MOF in response to proposed woodlot. Includes, “any design parameters in place relevant to airport operations should be acknowledged and retained, (e.g. 2% slopes under both flight paths)”.

1995, October 16 – ACRD letter to Shannon Dairy RE: advertised woodlot. “The tree height in the woodlot is limited to a 2% gradient calculated from the end of the strip.”

1996, February 22 – Greenmax Resources awarded woodlot W1479.

1997, March 18 – letter from ACRD to MOF, ACRD has no concerns with the woodlot plan.

1998, August 19 – Transport Canada inspection with MOF and ACRD staff. Recommended agreement with MOF to manage height restrictions. MOF staff agreed to this.

1998, September 24 – MOF to ACRD letter “clauses in all Christmas Tree documents and the Woodlot document which requires that the licenses maintain the integrity of the flight path consistent with the Obstacle Limitation Surfaces as described by Transport Canada.” Then states “Please notify me if there are any changes to the standards...”.

1999, September 21 – Letter from David McBride. Includes discussion on managing Transport Canada height restrictions.

2001, January 11 – Email from Weyerhaeuser to ACRD and Cindy Stern at MOF regarding road construction (includes copy of SRW).

2015, May 1 – ACRD met with Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNR) – South Island District Acting District Manager & staff to identify the proposal for expanding the airport. At the meeting the Acting District Manager indicated that a Major Project Manager would be assigned to a project of this size (>\$1 million dollars).

2015, May 17 – ACRD met with FLNR – South Island District staff to discuss application process for additional Crown lands for AVRA expansion.

2015, August 28 – ACRD applied for additional Crown Land for AVRA expansion.

2015, November 25 – ACRD met with Minister Thomson, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations to request support for the project.

2016, February 17 – Received letter from Front Counter BC (FCBC) indicating that the ACRD Crown land application has been accepted and has been assigned to Jeff Hallworth (Land Officer).

2016, March 14 – ACRD received a letter from Minister Thomson, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations indicating “our ministry currently does not have funding for large scale infrastructure projects”.

2016, March 29 – ACRD met with Craig Sutherland, ADM Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

2016, May 30 – ACRD appointed Phil Mackenzie to begin preparing a compensation proposal for Greenmax. The next several months were a struggle to find required personnel and information to complete required appraisals.

2016, August 9 – ACRD receives License of Occupation for SD 70 Christmas Tree farm.

2016, September 14 – Director Osborne and Director McLeman met with Greenmax Resources regarding outstanding issues.

2016, September 21 – ACRD receives License of Occupation for Verbrugge Christmas Tree permit area.

2016, September 21 – ACRD receives permission to relocate NW industrial road based on Island Timberlands Statutory Right of Way. FLNRO recommended relocation of layout which will increase the impact on the woodlot and decrease construction costs.

2016, September 22 – FLNRO advises it is pursuing alternate methods to manage Greenmax road (Nahmint Forest Service Road).

2017 – ACRD requests that the Province remove 85 hectares of woodlot in order to maintain OLS height requirements.

2018 – the Province removes the requested 85 hectares of woodlot.

2019 & 2020 – ACRD receives proposals from the Alberni Valley Drag Racing Association (AVDRA) to host their annual drag race event at the AVRA. After a comprehensive review of the proposal and numerous other related pieces of information, the ACRD Board denies the proposals in the interest of protecting the large public investment at the AVRA. Further, on Dec 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 the ACRD receives correspondence from FLNRO that the 2020 proposal from the AVDRA to host their drag race event at the AVRA is not consistent with the Crown Grant for the airport lands. The ACRD will be further investigating this interpretation of the land transfer from the Province in order to help inform permitted future uses of the airport lands.

### **AVRA Runway Expansion Timeline**

2016, March – Discussion and design development for NW Industrial road required to implement an Instrument Approach Procedure (IAP) for AVRA.

2016, April 25 – Runway expansion program begins with Bowerman Excavating.

2016, April 25 – Runway distance reduced to 2000' to accommodate construction (issued NOTAM).

2016, July 18 – Airport closed to fixed wing traffic due to construction (issued NOTAM).

2016, Sept 30 – Runway closure due to adverse weather.

2016, Oct/Nov – Heavy rainfall events cause sedimentation impacting construction.

2016, December 09 – Runway closure extended to March 15, 2017 pending weather. Prior Permission Required (PPR), arrivals and departures considered on a case by case basis.

2017, February – Raylec awarded BCAAP LED Medium Intensity lighting project (Feb – Aug timeline).

2017, May 19 – Last asphalt lift applied to new runway.

2017, May 21 – PPR first aircraft to arrive at AVRA C-172 followed by Coulson B727.

2017, June/July – Runway markings and lighting installation completed along the runway.

2017, July 14 – Field Electrical building (FEC) commissioning begins.

2017, Mid July – Soft opening for full length runway without the requirement of PPR.

2017, August 19 – Couslon complaint of dusty runway edges due to lack of vegetation replacement.

2017, August 23 – Bowerman awarded the NW industrial road lowering project.

2017, September – Repurposed asphalt product (RAP) shouldering of new runway and Hydro seeding.

2017, Sep to Nov – NW Industrial road drainage ditch under construction.

2017, Sept to Nov – Warming shed, access road and building relocated to new site as requested by SD 70 to clear the runway 30 OLS approach slope.

2017, October – Instrument Approach Design awarded to Direct Approach Consulting.

2018, May – Instrument Approach Procedure submitted to Nav Canada for review.

2018, July – Nahmint Forest Service Road (FSR) gate permit received by FLNR.

2018, July – Nahmint FSR lower project tendered. Prices received were above available budget limits and therefore the project is put on hold, pending future available funds.

2018, September – SD70 cancels forest education program at AVRA.

2018, October – Nahmint FSR gate permit extended to 2019.

2019, February – Nahmint FSR lowering road project submitted for BCAAP funding which was denied in May 2019.

2019, March – Mulching of Christmas tree farm plantations absorbed by tenure realignments.

2019, March – Runway 12 OLS clearing and turtle habitat upgrade complete.

2019, May – BCAAP AWOS awarded to support Instrument Approach Procedure.

2019, September – IAP flight test carried out to support Nav Canada application.

2019, September – NW road substantially completed.

2019, December – Nahmint FSR gate permit extended to Aug 2020.

Submitted by:   
Rob Williams, MSc, General Manager of Environmental Services

  
Mark Fortune, Airport Manager

Approved by:   
Douglas Holmes, BBA, CPA, CA, Chief Administrative Officer



## INFORMATION REPORT

**To:** Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee

**From:** Rob Williams, General Manager of Environmental Services

**Meeting Date:** May 21, 2020

**Subject:** 2020 Budget Item for the Creation of an AVRA Vision

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### Report:

The ACRD was successful with an Alternate Approval Process in the summer of 2015 for the borrowing of \$6 million dollars for a major capital improvement to the Alberni Valley Regional Airport that included expansion of the runway, enhanced lighting and a GPS approach system. Extensive removal of identified aviation obstacles was required in order to fully utilize the functionality of the new lighting and GPS approach system. Obstacle removal has included topping and removal of trees within the runway approach, as well as lowering of the Northwest Industrial Road. An operational procedure has also been established for the Nahmint Forest Service Road to prevent aviation obstacle issues with road traffic. Further, the ACRD has requested to the Province that this procedure remain in-place indefinitely until grant funds may be accessed to permanently lower the road. As alternative, there is another nearby forest service road just east of the Nahmind Forest Service Road that forest users could take instead that has open access.

The airport expansion project is nearing completion with the runway construction complete, new lighting installed, GPS system designed, and a majority of the obstacles cleared with only a small amount of tree topping remaining. Upon final removal of approach obstacles, the ACRD will be able to activate the precision lighting system which will provide vertical guidance to the runway and then test and register the GPS approach with NAV Canada. It is anticipated that the precision lighting will be activated Spring 2020 and the GPS system registered and operational by Fall 2020.

The ACRD Board of Directors formed the Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee to facilitate input from local government, business and community interests within the Alberni Valley on matters associated with the development of the Alberni Valley Regional Airport. This is also as a result of the significant capital investment made with respect to the runway expansion, lighting upgrade and GPS approach. A focus of the newly formed committee will be helping the ACRD Board create a long-term vision for the airport. This is necessary considering the various possible directions the airport could be marketed and utilized.

ACRD staff have recommended that the ACRD Board of Directors budget \$10,000 for the creation of a long-term vision for the Alberni Valley Regional Airport. The 2020 Financial Plan includes these funds and the Plan is scheduled to be adopted on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020. If approved, the funds will be used to hire a local consultant to facilitate a workshop style idea gathering session and then draft a plan for the Board's approval. ACRD staff and the consultant would work closely with the Alberni Valley Regional Airport Advisory Committee through this process.

Submitted by:   
Rob Williams, MSc, General Manager of Environmental Services

Approved by:   
Douglas Holmes, BBA, CPA, CA, Chief Administrative Officer