



Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL PARK WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025, 5:30 PM

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

MEMBERS

Keith Wyton, Chairperson, Bamfield MAL

PRESENT:

Justin Fraser, Alberni Fish and Game Club

Kimi Hashimoto, Side by Side, ATV, Dirt Bike Vancouver Island

Chris Hall, Riders of Alberni Valley

Dave Coombs, Mid Island Snow Blazers; Sproat Lake Water Sports

Russ Moen, Cherry Creek MAL

Dave Morton, Transition Towns; Nature Group; Ocean Friendly PA

Brian Clozza, Backcountry Horsemen

Russell Dyson, Sproat Lake MAL

James Willock, Bamfield Community Affairs

Les Toth, Beaufort MAL

Annette Bailey, Alberni Valley Nature Club; BC Field Ornithologists

Wendy Friberg, PA BroomBusters

Steve Kendall, AV Hill Climbers

Joe Lamoureux, PA Rotary

Mel Francoeur, Backcountry Horsemen

Judy Carlson, Alberni Valley Outdoor Club; Tuesday Walkers Club

REGRETS:

Dennis Stofer, LTT affected property owners

Brian Callender, Twin City Runners

Barb Baker, Alpine Club of Canada

STAFF PRESENT:

Michael McGregor, Land and Resources Coordinator

Lyndsey Page, Community Services Coordinator

Eddie Kunderman, Operations Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

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

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions – Working Group Members and staff present.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED: K. Wyton

SECONDED: R. Dyson

THAT the agenda be approved as circulated with the following late item:

7. (a) Review of guidance letter sent from Daniel Sailland on July 25, 2025.

CARRIED

4. **PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

- a. **Great Central Boat Lake Launch Governance** – Joe Lamoureux from the Sproat Lake Parks Commission requested that the Great Central Lake boat launch be reclassified from a Sproat Lake Parks asset to a Regional Parks asset under ACRD governance. There was a discussion around the desire to see future infrastructure improvements at the site that would enhance recreational access and support emergency rescue access to the lake.

A letter submitted by Dave Clozza regarding the Great Central Lake boat launch was received at the meeting and will be included as an attachment to the minutes.

MOVED: J. Fraser

SECONDED: D. Coombs

THAT the Regional Parks Working Group recommend that the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board of Directors approve the transfer of the Great Central Lake boat launch from the Sproat Lake Community Parks service to the Regional Parks service, with consideration given to future infrastructure improvements that support emergency rescue access and public consultation during the design phase.

CARRIED

5. **DISCUSSION**

- a. **Maquinna Trails (ROAV)** – Michael McGregor
Michael McGregor provided an update on the Riders of the Alberni Valley's (ROAV) proposal to partner with the ACRD on a Section 57 Crown Land application for a multi-use trail network in the Maquinna area. The ACRD Board of Directors has directed staff to explore the feasibility and report back as part of the 2026 workplan.

b. Log Train Trail Allowable Uses – Michael McGregor

Michael presented five potential management options for the Log Train Trail, ranging from multi-use access to divestment.

MOVED: R. Moen

SECONDED: D. Morton

THAT the Regional Parks Working Group recommend that the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board of Directors support, in principle, Option 5 for the Log Train Trail, designating the northern portion for multi-use including motorized access, and the southern portion for non-motorized use with enforcement.

DEFEATED

MOVED: R. Dyson

SECONDED: J. Lamoureux

THAT the Regional Parks Working Group recommend the continued occupation of the Log Train Trail by the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, that divestiture of the trail not be considered an option, and that the Working Group continue to evaluate future options for the trail, including multi-use and/or a split-use approach.

CARRIED

c. Regional Parks Linear Asset Condition Report – Michael McGregor

Michael presented findings from recent asset condition reports, noting several bridges on the Log Train Trail require repair or replacement. The report will be presented to the ACRD Board of Directors at a later date.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

7. LATE BUSINESS

a. Review of guidance letter sent from Daniel Sailland on July 25, 2025 – Michael McGregor

Michael provided a reminder of the Working Group's role in facilitating collaborative discussions on complex topics and developing community-focused solutions. A letter from Daniel Sailland, CAO, was referenced, outlining the Code of Conduct and terms of reference. Members were encouraged to engage in good faith within the group and use this forum as the appropriate channel for communicating recommendations to the ACRD Board.

8. ADJOURN

MOVED: D. Morton

SECONDED: W. Friberg

THAT this meeting be adjourned at 7:46 PM.

CARRIED

Certified Correct:

Keith Wyton,
Chairperson

Lyndsey Page,
Community Services Coordinator

Why the Great Central Lake 'Public Boat Launch' should be supported by the ACRD.

The Sproat Lake Parks Commission has a valid point in that the Great Central lake public boat ramp is used by many people throughout the year by the boating public beyond their service area.

I visited the Great Central lake 'public' boat ramp on the 2025 August long weekend. There was 17 trucks with boat trailers parked in the boat launch area, as well as along the gravel access road. The boater that I personally talked to on my visitation day was from Nanaimo, he mentioned that his family uses the public ramp annually. The private ramp's parking area was overflowing down the paved road well past the fish plant.

The public boat ramp is a valley jewel that the Valley should continue to support, as it is one of Port Alberni's many features of why we all care to live and work here. As Sproat lake inevitably becomes over-crowded, and the boating public learns about the beautiful lake virtually next door, the private ramp will become ever more popular.

- it is critical to maintain public access for all to Great Central Lake.
- the ramp is functional in its present state, and from my personal 20+ years of ramp usage, appears to be effective with little to very minimal maintenance.
- Omega Pacific Hatchery should be solicited for their ramp concerns and needs.
- the ramp's physical size (larger than private ramp with more direct access) would make it more effective in emergency situations in which large equipment or just sheer volume that might be launched. A case in point of unforeseen emergencies would be the last few summer's wildfire events.

Therefore, let it be resolved that the Great Central Lake public boat ramp continue to be part of PA's welcoming legacy, supported by the ACRD for future use by both valley residents, visitors, and as well as being prepared for future unforeseen circumstances.

Brian Clozza

BCHBC Representative to Regional Parks Working Group