



# Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

## MINUTES OF THE RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2016

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

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**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Tony Bennett, Electoral Area "C" (Long Beach)  
Penny Cote, Director, Electoral Area "D" (Sproat Lake)  
Mike Ruttan, Mayor, City of Port Alberni  
Josie Osborne, Mayor, District of Tofino  
Pam Craig, Electoral Area "E" (Beaver Creek)

**STAFF PRESENT:** Russell Dyson, Chief Administrative Officer  
Shelli Lyle, Administrative Assistant

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The CAO called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

**The CAO recognized the meeting this morning is being held in the Tseshaht First Nation and the Hupacasath First Nation Traditional Territories.**

### 2. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON FOR 2016

The CAO conducted elections for Chairperson of the Reconciliation Committee for 2016.

The CAO requested nominations for the position of Chairperson for the Reconciliation Committee for the first time.

Director Pam Craig nominated Director Penny Cote for the position of Chairperson for the Reconciliation Committee for 2016. Director Cote accepted the nomination.

The CAO requested nominations for the position of Chairperson for the Reconciliation Committee for the second and third time and being no further nominations, the CAO declared Director Cote to the position of Chairperson Reconciliation Committee for 2016.

*MOVED: Director Craig*

*SECONDED: Director Osborne*

**CARRIED**

### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*MOVED: Director Bennett*

*SECONDED: Director Ruttan*

*THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.*

**CARRIED**

#### **4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**a. Reconciliation Committee Meeting - July 8, 2015.**

*MOVED: Director Bennett*

*SECONDED: Director Ruttan*

*THAT the minutes of the Reconciliation Committee meeting held on July 8, 2015 be adopted.*

**CARRIED**

**b. Reconciliation Committee Meeting with the Port Alberni Friendship Centre -  
Notes for meeting held October 20, 2015**

*MOVED: Director Bennett*

*SECONDED: Director Craig*

*THAT the meeting notes for the Reconciliation Committee meeting with the Port Alberni Friendship Centre held on October 20, 2015 be received.*

**CARRIED**

#### **5. DELEGATIONS**

**a. Deb Foxcroft, NTC President – Discussion on Reconciliation**

NTC President, Deb Foxcroft requested an update on what the committee has done to date.

- Three (3) Maa-Nulth members sitting on the ACRD Board.
- June 17, 2013 meeting with Dr. Chief Robert Joseph; learning the history of residential schools, an awakening for people.
- May 22, 2013 ACRD Directors declared 2013 the Year of Reconciliation
- September 22, 2013 ACRD Directors participated in the Year of Reconciliation walk
- 2103 ACRD Reconciliation Committee formed
- November 6, 2013 CAO attended MARR 101 Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Learning Series presentation
- June 18, 2014 John Rampanen Reconciliation Education Session
- September 2014 Reconciliation sessions/hearings at UBCM Convention
- Recognition of Traditional Territories at Regional District Meetings

- ACRD Website has a page on Reconciliation
- Jane Elliott's workshop, brown eyes – blue eyes
- Director Cote working with IH WCGH representative, Ellen Brown and Dr. Sam Williams on Reconciliation initiatives and training.
- Friendship Center meetings October 20, 2015 & March 25, 2014
- Letters of support provided upon request
- March 27, 2015 John Rampanen presented nananiqsuu haahuupa Sharing the Grandparents Teachings for local government, first nations, ACRD organizations and businesses.
- April 11, 2015 John Rampanen AVICC Workshop Building Cultural Bridges Reconciliation in Action
- September 30, 2015 ACRD Directors and Staff participation in Orange Shirt Day: Residential School Children Remembered
- July 22, 2015 Reconciliation Committee Terms of Reference adopted
- July 23, 2015 meeting request with Council of Ha'wiih to provide update of Reconciliation Committees activities.
- June 2015 Director Bennett attended the community healing and welcoming back of residential school survivors in Hesquiaht

President Foxcroft acknowledged that the ACRD has made reconciliation a priority. As Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council President, she stated her role is to advocate and lobby on behalf of the First Nations on whatever their issues are. In BC NTC is pretty unique, strong tribal council, long history in working together. NTC meets monthly with the nations, each nation has their own governance structures, their own priorities and agendas in their communities, the NTC is there to support by providing education, health, nursing, mental health, some buy back services. President Foxcroft thinks the important part is the ACRD has started, NTC recognizes the regional district's vision and commitment to do the work, it's not going to be easy work, need to determine how we can come together with some common issues, suggested educating yourselves on the United Nations Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Reconciliation and child welfare is about speaking the truth in a loving caring way. Need to set the stage with a comfortable and safe atmosphere, it can be difficult as we are speaking the truth. President Foxcroft acknowledged Mayor Osborne regarding the tragedy that took place in Tofino and explained it was really important to involve the nations. Vice President Ken Watts has initiated a meeting bringing together the Nations, WC Mayors, Chairs, and staff in the coming months. Take it one step at a time; there are short term, midterm and long term goals. President Foxcroft will speak with the nations to see if they are willing and able to be involved, thanked the committee for making reconciliation a priority and will report and update the members.

Thoughts and Ideas from NTC are:

- Public awareness, true information and history, a plaque that tells the story, a map, signage

- Relationship building, education and awareness and understanding, ongoing process
- Inform the Nations of this meeting, see what opportunities they see, get them involved
- Aboriginal day do something jointly.
- Find a place for an indigenous art
- A day of honoring the survivors
- A march for the missing and murdered women
- Invite each other to events
- Signage getting the government to change, name changes in parks and facilities
- Examine the Truth and Reconciliation Recommendations

The CAO will consult with President Foxcroft regarding a facilitator and interest. President Foxcroft will ask the nations at the meeting in February if they are interested and want to attend, set the date using the next meeting they are in attendance in Port Alberni.

## 6. REPORTS

### a. **Review and Reconfirm of Terms of Reference for the Reconciliation Committee**

*MOVED: Director Ruttan*

*SECONDED: Director Bennett*

*THAT the Terms of Reference for the Reconciliation Committee be re-confirmed.*

**CARRIED**

### b. **Review of Reconciliation Activities To Date**

### c. **Next Steps**

*MOVED: Director Bennett*

*SECONDED: Director Ruttan*

*THAT the Reconciliation Committee recommends the ACRD Board of Directors send a letter to the Port Alberni Friendship Center following up on items put forward (Elders Luncheon, AGM) at the October 20, 2015 meeting and inviting them to attend a regular Board meeting to provide an update on their programs and activities.*

**CARRIED**

*MOVED: Director Bennett*

*SECONDED: Director Osborne*

*THAT the Reconciliation Committee recommends the ACRD Board of Directors considered funding through the budget process to conduct a workshop regarding the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and specific local government actions from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission , with First Nations leaders being invited to attend.*

**CARRIED**

**7. ADJOURN**

*MOVED: Director Bennett*

*SECONDED: Director Ruttan*

*THAT the meeting be adjourned at 11:07 am.*

**CARRIED**

Certified Correct:



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Penny Cote  
Chairperson



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Russell Dyson,  
Chief Administrative Officer