



# Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

## MINUTES OF THE ALBERNI VALLEY EMERGENCY PLANNING LIAISON GROUP MEETING

**HELD ON THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2017, 1:30 PM**

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

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**PRESENT:** Dan Holder, ACRD  
Mike Kokura, ACRD Director  
Tim Pley, City of Port Alberni  
Hugh Braker, Tseshaht First Nation  
Charlie Starratt, Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department  
Jim Kraneveldt, Catalyst Paper  
Mike Ruttan, City of Port Alberni  
Denis Sauve, City of Port Alberni  
Bruce Patterson, BC Ambulance  
Dave Wiwchar, The Peak  
Mike Riddalls, AV Search & Rescue  
Kaz Takeuchi, Island Health  
Mike Carter, Port Alberni Port Authority  
Kelly Gilday, Port Alberni Fire Department

**STAFF:** Russell Dyson, Chief Administrative Officer  
Dan Holder, Emergency/Fire Service Coordinator Contractor  
Shellie Lyle, Administrative Assistant

### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The CAO called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

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

### 2. **INTRODUCTIONS**

Introductions were conducted around the table.

### 3. **PRESENTATIONS**

### 4. **REPORTS**

- a. Exercise Coastal Response Final Report – R. Dyson

The CAO explained that the report was prepared with the perspective on how to improve the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the report was received by the ACRD Board and endorsed in the ACRD's 5 year financial plan. The recommendations summarized on page 35 references more equipment within the facility, alternative facilities for a Level 3 EOC and how to locate there, and working with partners to ensure personnel are trained and prepared. The Emergency Coordinator will be reaching out to the those section heads and utilizing them to plan and prepare for the operation of the EOC in the future.

The CAO attended the final workshop and explained the province will follow up with a Deputy Ministers committee to implement the identified deficiencies. There will also be additional events in the future. The "Salish Sea" exercise will involve the sinking of a BC ferry in Salt Spring Island. The commitment is there and there are plans in place to move forward regarding major events.

The province along with school teachers has also developed a "Master of Disaster" program for grade 6. School District #70 has not taken advantage of this program as of yet. The Emergency Coordinator is involved with the "Hike to High Ground" event with the High School.

**a. Alberni Valley Emergency Planning – R Dyson**

Terms of Reference Alberni Valley Emergency Policy Group

Terms of Reference Alberni Valley Emergency Planning Liaison Group

The CAO explained the Terms of Reference for the AV Emergency Planning Groups and explained the need for the two distinct groups. The Policy Group will engage politicians which will assist the Liaison Group to work and coordinate together as members of emergency response.

**b. EOC Level Three positions**

The CAO reviewed the EOC Level Three document. The CAO thanked the group for all their work and dedication. Tim Pley, City of Port Alberni CAO thanked Russell Dyson for all his work and support.

**c. ESS Level 1 – Red Cross Volunteers – Update – D. Holder**

Dan Holder handed out a document prepared by the Canadian Red Cross "Partnership Report Back Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District 2016". Dan reported there are eleven trained Emergency Social Services personnel (ESS). Will be looking for team leaders in Electoral Areas Beaver Creek, Cherry Creek and Sproat Lake to spear head initiatives. There are many facilities, need an inventory and contacts to provide to communities.

**d. Regional Training – L. Myres**

Linda Myers reported discussions with Keith Orchiston, District of Tofino Emergency Program Coordinator regarding the inclusion of EOC training and encouraged the committee to include other communities in training and exercises.

**e. Emergency Planning – Committees Restructuring – D. Holder**

The committee reviewed the “Emergency Program – Proposed New Structure”

Dan explained an Operations working group was established and this group will meet quarterly.

**f. VHF Radio System – A. Winney**

Dan Holder spoke on behalf of Al Winney, Arrowsmith Amateur Radio Club regarding the Multijurisdictional Radio Interoperability Project (MRIP) linking the Mid Island Emergency Coordinators and Managers (MIECM) and its operational partners. The projects vision is to create a radio communication network through standardized EMBC radio frequencies (VHF). The Vertex VX-4600 VHF cost is \$520 plus taxes. Paul Peters, Emergency Telecommunications Coordinator is heading up an exercise “Sweeper” which will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, this exercise will involve the amateur radio people to test the ability to communicate.

Bamfield will be delivering training this weekend and will have 11 amateur radio operators trained.

**g. Round Table Reports**

Mike Riddalls, AVSAR – 47 members, 36 days of call out last year, learned from ECR and as a result are replacing old equipment.

Hugh Braker, Tseshaht First Nation - has applied for flood mitigation funding. Tseshaht Tsunami warning system is live and residents in Beaver Creek can now hear the siren. TFN has bridge concerns and welcome any study's. The staff and community members have taken emergency preparedness training,

Kelly Gilday, PA Fire Chief - Hupacasath First Nation has a tower will investigate and continue to test the pager system for the emergency program.

Bruce Patterson, BC Ambulance - CRU trailer has been active for 6 years and only been tasked twice, want to divest and the AV Search and Rescue has stepped up and will take ownership. There was some rain damage, which will be fixed prior to handing over along with most of the supplies inside. Bamfield now has a First Responder. BC Ambulance is attaining new Motorola radios. There have been many overdoses in the community, the biggest concern being fentanyl, a small amount is very toxic might want to think about bringing your own PPE and wearing masks.

Mike Carter, PAPA – CRU trailer can be stored at the Port Authority although it is slightly in the inundation zone. Kinder Morgan Transmountain is investing in four new bases located in Sidney, Beecher Bay, Nanaimo and Port Alberni. The Port Alberni base will

have an office located between APD and PAPA, a warehouse and Marina, building could start as early as June and employ 17 people.

Mike Lowery is presenting May 16 @1:00 pm at the Port Alberni City Hall.

**5. NEXT MEETING**

**The next meeting of the Alberni Valley Emergency Planning Liaison Group is Thursday, June 22, 2017, 1:30 pm in the Regional District Board Room.**

**6. ADJOURN**

*THE meeting adjourned at 2:32 pm.*