



**Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District**

**Highway Connector Committee**

**Minutes**

**Wednesday, February 6, 2008**

**Regional District Board Room**

Present: Hira Chopra, Chair, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District  
Mike Kokura, Director, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District  
Mayor Dianne St. Jacques, District of Ucluelet  
Mayor John Fraser, District of Tofino  
Garry Haggard  
Christopher Dodds, Island Timberlands  
Gillian Trumper  
Patty Edwards, MLA's Office  
Dewayne Parfitt  
Bob Kangiesser, Chair, Port Alberni Port Authority

Staff: Bob Harper, Administrator  
Wendy Thomson, Deputy Corporate Secretary  
Drew Hadfield, Manager of Environmental Services  
Robert Gunn

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:11 p.m.
2. The Chairperson welcomed Gary Haggard to the Committee.
3. Introductions were conducted around the table.

**Minutes**

4. Moved by M. Kokura, seconded by G. Trumper, "That the minutes from the November 29, 2007 Highway Connector Committee meeting be adopted as circulated."

"Carried"

**Reports**

5. The Administrator provided an overview of the Highway 4 - Connector via Horne Lake - Final Report. He highlighted portions of the report and discussions ensued.
6. Director Kokura said this is a very encouraging study. He stressed that time was of the essence and the Committee should move on the report.
7. G. Haggard said his trucks would use the new route. The height and slope of the

proposed route would not impact their use of the road.

8. G. Trumper recommended staff meet with Regional District of Nanaimo Director, Dave Bartram as soon as possible and bring him up to speed with the proposed route. Horne Lake is in Mr. Bartram's electoral area.
9. D. Parfitt stressed the need to include the tourism aspect in the lobbying efforts for the new route. He said the Province wants to build tourism and the current road is a deterrent to the tourism industry in our area. He also recommended getting the Ministry of Parks on side as the new route would alleviate a lot of the problems with parking at Cathedral Grove.
10. Moved by G. Trumper, seconded by M. Kokura, "That Highway 4 Connector via Horne Lake Final Report prepared by R.F. Binnie & Associates Ltd. be received."

"Carried"

#### Next Steps

11. Discussions ensued regarding what the next steps of the Highway Connector Committee should be. The Highway Connector Committee decided on the following lobbying efforts for the proposed highway connector:
  - a. Sit down with Peter Wightman, District Manager, Ministry of Transportation, present the report and identify next steps.
  - b. Meet with the Assistant Deputy Ministry, Ministry of Transportation
  - c. Make a presentation to the Regional Transportation Advisory Committee
  - d. Make presentations to the neighbouring Municipalities and Regional Districts.
  - e. Meet with the Minister of Transportation, Minister of Tourism, Minister of Economic Development and Minister of Parks
12. Director McRae stressed the importance of the Committee having all their ducks in a row before meeting with the Minister of Transportation.
13. G. Trumper stressed the need to have economic information when meeting with the Minister. She also stressed the need to keep the environmental issues in mind.
14. Director Kokura said the Committee needs to get very active on the proposed route. He

said the Alberni Valley is the only Community that doesn't have a good link to highway 19.

15. Director St. Jacques and Director Fraser entered the meeting at 12:45 p.m.
16. R. Gunn stressed the need to conduct another traffic count to determine the percentage of people traveling to the Alberni-Clayoquot Region and beyond.
17. The Chairperson asked the Administrator to investigate putting up a sign on the side of the highway near Loon Lake that says *Proposed Charile Haggard Connector*.

**Next Meeting**

18. The next meeting of the Highway Connector Committee will be Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12 noon in the Regional District Board Room.
19. Moved by G. Trumper, seconded by M. Kokura, "That this meeting now stand adjourned."
20. The meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Certified Correct:

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Hira Chopra,  
Chairperson

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Robert A. Harper,  
Administrator