



MINUTES OF THE ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JUNE 11, 2013, 9:00AM

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

- MEMBERS** Jack McLeman, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, Co-Chair
- PRESENT:** Darren DeLuca, Port Alberni Port Authority, Co-Chair
Neil Malbon, Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce
Kevin Somerville, Western Forest Products
Randy Orr, Island Timberlands
Rob Cole, City of Port Alberni
Mike Lang, Port Alberni Labour Council
Gillian Trumper, Port Alberni Port Authority
Patty Edwards, MLA's Office
- OBSERVERS:** Deb Foxcroft, Tseshah First Nation
Cindy Stern, Tseshah First Nation
- STAFF PRESENT:** Russell Dyson, Chief Administrative Officer
Wendy Thomson, Manager of Administrative Services
Robert Gunn, Committee Secretariat
Pat Deakin, Economic Development Manager, City of Port Alberni

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED: G. Trumper

SECONDED: N. Malbon

THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

a. Transportation Committee Meeting held Tuesday, May 21, 2013

MOVED: M. Lang

SECONDED: G. Trumper

THAT the minutes of the Alberni-Clayoquot Transportation Committee Meeting held on Thursday, May 21, 2013 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

5. CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION/INFORMATION

a. Letters of Support

Western Forest Products
Port Alberni & District Labour Council
Community Futures

MOVED: G. Trumper

SECONDED: J. McLeman

THAT the Committee receive the letters of support from Western Forest Products, Port Alberni & District Labour Council and Community Futures.

CARRIED

b. Transportation Infrastructure Funding Conference – September 2013

MOVED: G. Trumper

SECONDED: R. Cole

THAT the Committee receive the correspondence regarding the Transportation Infrastructure Funding Conference.

CARRIED

6. ADMINISTRATION

a. Committee Secretariat – Robert Gunn

Role and Responsibilities

R. Dyson reported the ACRD has retained the services of Mr. Robert Gunn to provide support to the Alberni-Clayoquot Transportation Committee.

7. REPORTS

a. Tseshaht Presentation – J. McLeman (verbal)

J. McLeman reported on the recent presentation to the Tseshaht First Nation Council. An overview was provided on the two proposed Highway Connector routes. C. Stern advised that the Tseshaht First Nation wants to make sure their interests are addressed at the very early stages.

b. Port Authority Expansion Plans – D. DeLuca (verbal)

D. DeLuca provided an update on Port Alberni Port Authority map reserve and

expansion plans. The map reserve is a planning tool for local governments. The notice of establishment of section 17 designated use area from the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations was circulated to the Committee.

**c. Proposed Vancouver Island Transportation Strategy –
D. DeLuca (verbal)**

D. DeLuca provided a brief overview of the Vancouver Island Transportation Strategy proposed in the BC Liberal's platform – The strategy is expected to unfold by next spring. The new Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure is the Honourable Todd Stone.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

**a. Economic Impact Studies
Alberni Connector Business Case**

The Committee was provided with copies of the Alberni Connector Highway 19 to Highway 4 Business Case produced by Apex Engineering Ltd. and funded by the Port Alberni Port Authority. D. DeLuca provided a brief overview of the report. The analysis focuses on the Lacey Lake route option.

K. Somerville advised that Western Forest Products supports an alternate highway connector route. He noted there may be issues around Horne Lake with cabin owners, rock climbers and Karst protection.

D. DeLuca reported that the Business Case is now a public document. The report will be emailed to the Committee.

b. Economic Impact Assessment Study - Funding

D. DeLuca reported that at the last Alberni-Clayoquot Transportation Committee meeting the PA Port Authority was requested to fund a \$5,000 economic impact study on the proposed Lacey Lake route. Before moving forward with this project, the PA Port Authority requires a terms of reference. The Committee discussed funding required to conduct an in-depth study. D. DeLuca, J. McLeman and P. Deakin will work with R. Gunn on the terms of reference, scope and required funding for the economic impact assessment study and report back to the Committee.

**c. Communication Strategy
Local Governments, First Nations, Public**

The Committee discussed a communications strategy. R. Gunn will develop a communications strategy including; news release, newsletter and exhibition plan for consideration by the Committee.

G. Trumper recommended including the Vancouver Island Economic Development Association in all VIEDA in all communications.

R. Cole reported that Cindy Solda will be attending the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) meeting in a couple of weeks. She will provide AVICC with information on activities of the Alberni-Clayoquot Transportation Committee.

R. Dyson encouraged communications and support from neighbouring communities and other industries, including agriculture. The Committee will include this as part of the communications strategy.

G. Trumper reported she has spoken to Joe Stanhope, Chair of the Nanaimo Regional District regarding the Alberni-Clayoquot Transportation Committee. She will be providing him with more information on the Committee and the proposed route. W. Thomson will continue to provide the Area "H" Director with activities of the Committee.

MOVED: J. McLeman

SECONDED: G. Trumper

THAT the Committee accept all correspondence and reports.

CARRIED

d. Meeting with Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

The Committee reviewed the draft letter to Minister Stone requesting a meeting as soon as possible to discuss the highway 19 connector. C. Stern recommended the first paragraph be amended to include First Nations as observers on the Committee. The Committee agreed to a few modifications to the letter and will include the Committee Terms of Reference.

MOVED: G. Trumper

SECONDED: J. McLeman

THAT the Alberni-Clayoquot Transportation Committee send letter to Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure requesting a meeting as soon as possible to discuss the alternatives and a business case for establishing a connection from the Alberni Valley through Horne Lake to Highway 19.

CARRIED

R. Gunn to amend the letter and circulate to Committee Members for input. The letter will go out to the Minister by the end of the day.

9. NEW BUSINESS

R. Dyson reported the Regional District is undertaking a review of transportation in the region. The report is looking at needs of interconnection between communities and First Nations in the region and will address all modes of transportation.

The next meeting of the Alberni-Clayoquot Transportation Committee will be held on **Tuesday, July 9th at 9:00 am in the Regional District Board Room, 3008 Fifth Avenue, Port Alberni, BC.** R. Orr will try to arrange a tour of the Lacey Lake route following the meeting on July 9th.

10. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 am.