



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, July 30, 2013, 9:00am

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

AGENDA

	PAGE #
1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	
2. <u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</u> <i>(motion to approve, including late items requires 2/3 majority vote)</i>	
3. <u>ADOPTION OF MINUTES</u>	
a. Alberni-Clayoquot Transportation Committee Meeting held June 11, 2013.	3-7
<i>THAT the minutes of the Transportation Committee meeting held on June 11, 2013 be adopted.</i>	
4. <u>PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS</u>	
a. PowerPoint presentation on the proposed route – R. Gunn/ P. Deakin	
5. <u>CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION/INFORMATION</u>	
a. Transportation Estimates July 19, 2013 – Derrick Harder, Research Officer – New Democrat Official Opposition	8-9
b. Letter from Minister Stone re: Appointment, July 5, 2013	10
c. Letters of Support	11-16
Community Futures	
City of Port Alberni	
Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce	
District of Tofino	
Tofino-Long Beach Chamber of Commerce	
Uchucklesaht Tribe Government	
<i>THAT the Transportation Committee receives the correspondence for information.</i>	

6. REPORTS

- a. **Report on proposed Route Tour – held on July 16, 2013** (verbal)
- b. **Comox Valley Mayors Meeting, August 1st, 2013 – Darren Daluca**
(verbal)
- c. **Port Alberni Port Authority Meeting with Minister Stone – Darren Daluca** (verbal)

THAT the Transportation Committee receives reports a – c.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. **Communication Strategy**
- b. **Preparation for Meeting with the Minister**
 - Documentation
 - Select members to present

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. ADJOURN



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, Tseshaht First Nation
Cindy Stern, Tseshaht 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.

From: [Wendy Thomson](mailto:Wendy.Thomson)
To: [Brenda Sauve](mailto:Brenda.Sauve)
Subject: FW: transportation estimates
Date: Thursday, July 25, 2013 11:02:23 AM

From: Darren DeLuca [<mailto:dfdeluca@shaw.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2013 10:26 AM
To: Wendy Thomson
Subject: FW: transportation estimates

From: Pat Deakin [mailto:patrick_deakin@portalberni.ca]
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2013 11:54 AM
To: Councillor Jack McLeman (jmcln@shaw.ca); Darren DeLuca (dfdeluca@shaw.ca)
Subject: FW: transportation estimates

The Minister's answer to Scott Fraser's question (below) indicates the Vancouver Island Transportation Strategy process is being launched in the Fall.

Pat Deakin
Economic Development Manager
City of Port Alberni

Phone 250.720.2527
Mobile 250.720.9117
Email patrick_deakin@portalberni.ca
Website www.portalberni.ca

4850 Argyle Street
Port Alberni, BC
V9Y 1V8

From: Fraser, Scott [<mailto:S.Fraser@leg.bc.ca>]
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2013 10:59 AM
To: Pat Deakin
Subject: Fw: transportation estimates

From: Harder, Derrick
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2013 10:49 AM
To: Fraser, Scott
Subject: transportation estimates

Hi Scott;
Here's your Q from yesterday's transportation estimates in case you'd like to send it out to anyone

locally

S. Fraser: Thanks to the minister and his staff for being here to provide the information that we are all seeking to get here.

I've worked closely with some of your staff, and I appreciate the improvements that happened on Highway 4 between Port Alberni and the west coast — Tofino, Ucluelet and the Nuu-chah-nulth territories. There was a bad accident there with paramedics, and that actually spurred on some significant changes. I appreciate that and the work and the time your staff put into that.

Highway 4 going to Port Alberni from the east side of the Island is what I will ask about. One of your predecessors, Kevin Falcon, said I was like the salmon coming back, asking the questions. But it is of concern for the city of Port Alberni, certainly. Their hopes and aspirations for an economic diversification are, partly at least, around highway improvements. There's just the one access now. It is a bottleneck. It gets shut down.

Always, previously, whichever minister it has been in the place.... The studies have shown, I've been told, that the traffic numbers do not warrant an alternative route. I don't know about any of the other access, the Highway 4 connector accesses, or whatever. But the studies have shown that it's not feasible, at this time at least.

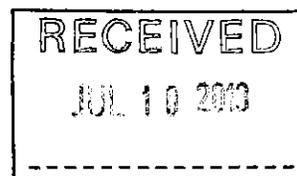
I know the mayor and council have still been pushing very hard, so I'm back again, like the salmon, pushing hard. Has there been any changes of thought because of the economic plans that the city of Port Alberni has? Maybe that's a good reason to rethink this, about an alternative access or a highway connector for Highway 4.

Hon. T. Stone: You can be the salmon for as long as you want. My goal here, to the member, is to answer your questions and, hopefully, help you with projects that are important to the people in your constituency. So I applaud you for continuing to come back and make those priorities known. With respect to the specific road in question, Highway 4 from east of Port Alberni, obviously we are all well aware that there have been a number of studies done — one quite recent that has looked at the economic viability of this and whether there was a strong business case or not. Clearly, we know where the city of Port Alberni stands and a lot of the business interests in Port Alberni. My suggestion at this point.... Let me back up. This particular.... A new route is not in the ministry's plans at the present time. That being said, it's exactly these kinds of projects that I encourage people to bring forward as part of the Vancouver Island transportation strategy. We will be launching that process this fall.

Derrick Harder
Research Officer
New Democrat Official Opposition
derrick.harder@leg.bc.ca | 250.356.5188

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<http://www.portalberni.ca>

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JUL - 5 2013

Jack McLeman, Co-Chair
Darren Deluca, Co-Chair
Alberni-Clayoquot Transportation Committee
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
3008 Fifth Avenue
Port Alberni BC V9Y 2E3

Reference: 217716

Dear Jack McLeman and Darren Deluca:

Re: Appointment

Thank you for your letter of June 11, 2013, congratulating me on my appointment as Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure.

I appreciate your kind words about my appointment. It is an honour to serve British Columbians as their Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, and I am committed strengthening our economy and communities through effective investment in our infrastructure. I will draw on the insights and experience of our community and government leaders, stakeholders and members of the public as we make important decisions for our shared future. I value the contributions of municipal leaders, and I welcome the opportunity to work with the Alberni-Clayoquot Transportation Committee, Regional District and Port Alberni Port Authority in the months and years ahead.

With respect to your request to meet to discuss transportation priorities in your region, my schedule for the next several months is still being confirmed; however, my staff would be glad to assist you in this regard and can be reached at 250 387-1978 or via e-mail at Minister.Transportation@gov.bc.ca

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Todd Stone
Minister

June 6, 2013

Alberni Clayoquot Transportation Committee
3008 Fifth Avenue
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 2E3

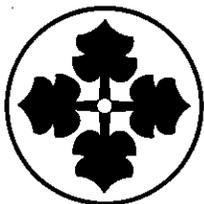
We are writing to express our support in principle for the efforts of the Port Alberni Port Authority and the Alberni Clayoquot Regional District to develop an alternative road crossing between the Alberni Valley and the East Coast of Vancouver Island. We feel that a shorter and safer crossing from the Alberni Valley to Highway 19 than that offered by the existing Highway 4, will be of benefit to our membership by providing the following:

- New economic and tourism opportunities for our people;
- Reduced travel time to Courtenay and Campbell River and beyond;
- Greater security and reduced risk from highway closures;
- Improved access to health care services, especially once the new hospitals are completed; and
- Improved highway safety.

Sincerely,



Lori Camire
Executive Director



Office of the Mayor

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

City Hall
4850 Argyle Street,
Port Alberni, B.C. V9Y 1V8
Telephone: (250) 723-2146 Fax: (250) 723-1003

June 11, 2013

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District - Transportation Committee
3008 Fifth Avenue
Port Alberni, BC
V9Y 2E3

Dear Committee Members:

RE: Alternative Highway for Alberni Valley

On behalf of Council for the City of Port Alberni I am pleased to provide this letter expressing our support in principal for the efforts of the Port Alberni Port Authority (PAPA) and Alberni Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) to develop an alternative road crossing between the Alberni Valley and the East Coast of Vancouver Island.

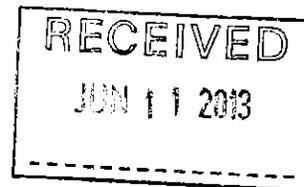
Efficient and effective transportation infrastructure is vital to our region's growth and continued prosperity through the movement of people and goods. The development of an alternate highway is closely aligned with our interests of facilitating increased tourism in the region and also increasing our capacity for trade and distribution both regional and internationally.

We commend your efforts to realize this beneficial project and we look forward to cooperating further with the many other local governments, business sectors, community groups and individuals who collectively share this vision.

Yours truly,
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI



John Douglas
Mayor



June 7, 2013

Mr. Darren DeLuca & Mr. Jack McLeman
Co-Chairs
Alberni Clayoquot Transportation Committee
C/O Alberni Regional District
3008 – Fifth Avenue
Port Alberni, BC
V9Y 2E3

Dear Darren & Jack:

On behalf of the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce I wish to confirm our full support of the Transportation Committee's push toward an alternative road connecting the Alberni Valley to the East Coast of Vancouver Island.

In consultation with many of our members through a Business Retention Survey, contracted through the Chamber of Commerce, we have discovered an overwhelming level of support for this objective.

The business community clearly believes that a second, and shorter route to the East Coast would bring increased economic and tourism opportunities to our area. As well, with the growth and prosperity being noticed throughout the Comox Valley, we collectively believe that shorter travel times are absolutely necessary for the economic benefit of all. A second route would allow for improved access to health services from the entire west coast of Vancouver Island and of course the development of a new route would in turn make our current option safer and more reliable.

With the goal and the need to develop the Alberni Valley and the West Coast of Vancouver Island into world renowned travel destinations we absolutely must consider the importance of viable travel options. Our residents, business operators and tourism visitors deserve this consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
ALBERNI VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

William Collette
Executive Director

Cc: Neil Malbon – Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce – Committee Member

2533 Port Alberni Hwy
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 8P2
Tel: 250.724.6535
Fax: 250.724.6560

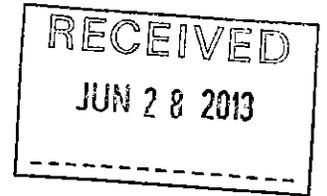
office@albernichamber.ca



DISTRICT OF TOFINO

P.O. Box 9, 121 3rd Street, Tofino, B.C. V0R 2Z0

Telephone: 250.725.3229 | Fax: 250.725.3775 | Email: jarmstrong@tofino.ca | Website: www.tofino.ca



June 20, 2013

Jack McLeman
Co-Chair, Alberni-Clayoquot Transportation Committee
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
3008 5th Ave
Port Alberni BC V9Y 2E3

LGMA 0230-20 / CR 1073

Dear Jack McLeman:

Re: New Highway Connecting the Alberni Region to Highway 19

Thank you for your correspondence dated May 23, 2013 regarding the above noted topic.

At the Council meeting held on May 14, 2013 the following resolution was passed regarding your correspondence.

Resolution No. 415/13

THAT the District of Tofino Council supports the joint Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District/ Port Alberni Port Authority initiative to construct a new Provincial highway on Vancouver Island that connects the Port Alberni Valley with Highway 19 on the east coast.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 250.725.3229 local 57 or by email at jarmstrong@tofino.ca.

Sincerely,

Jane Armstrong
Manager of Corporate Services

JA/kh

Cc: Darren Deluca, Co-Chair, Port Alberni Port Authority



June 4, 2013

Alberni-Clayoquot Transportation Committee
3008 Fifth Avenue
Port Alberni, BC
V9Y 2E3

To Whom It May Concern:

Our organization supports and represents a diverse group of over 300 business owners in the Tofino-Long Beach area. We are writing to express our support in principle for the efforts of the Port Alberni Port Authority and the Alberni Clayoquot Regional District to develop an alternative road crossing between the Alberni Valley and the east coast of Vancouver Island. We feel that a shorter, safer crossing from Port Alberni to Highway 19 than that offered by the existing Highway 4 will provide the following benefits to our membership:

- New economic and tourism opportunities
- Reduced travel time to the Comox Valley and beyond
- Greater security and reduced risk from highway closures
- Improved access to health care services, especially once the new hospitals are built
- Improved highway safety

Our support for this initiative in no way prejudices our present or future discussions with government on land or forestry matters.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Steven, president

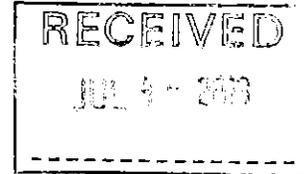
Box 249, Tofino British Columbia V0R 2Z0 Tel: 250.725.3153
E-mail: executivedirector@tofinochamber.org Web: www.tofinochamber.org

Since 1939

Uchucklesaht Tribe



Government



June 26, 2013

To: Alberni Clayoquot Transportation Committee
3008 5th Avenue
Port Alberni, BC
V9Y 2E3

Re: Alternative Road Crossing

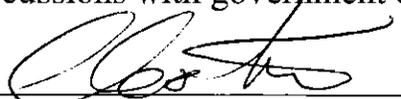
Hello ACTC:

The Uchucklesaht Tribe is writing to express our support in principle for the efforts of the Port Alberni Port Authority and the Alberni Clayoquot Regional District to develop an alternative road crossing between the Alberni Valley and the East Coast of Vancouver Island.

We feel that a shorter and safer crossing from the Alberni Valley to Highway 19 than that offered by the existing Highway 4 will be of a benefit to our members by providing the following:

- New Economic and Tourism Opportunities ;
- Reduced Travel Time to Courtenay and Campbell River;
- Greater Security and Reduced Risk from highway closures;
- Improved Access to Health Care Services, especially once the new hospitals are completed; and
- Improved Highway Safety

Our support for this initiative in no way prejudices our present or future discussions with government on land or forestry matters.


Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes