



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF MOUNT WADDINGTON

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

June 21, 2022 at 2:00pm

Board Room, RDMW Administrative Office, 2044 McNeill Road, Port McNeill, BC

- Chair: In Person: Andrew Hory
- Directors: In Person: Dennis Buchanan, Sandra Daniels, Rod Sherrell, Gaby Wickstrom
Zoom: Kevin Cameron, Janet Dorward, Dennis Dugas, James Furney
- Staff: In person: Greg Fletcher, Administrator; Pat English, Manager of Economic Development,
Zoom: Patrick Donaghy, Operations Manager, Nicole McDowell, Recording Secretary;
Megan Hanacek, Rural Resident Attraction Coordinator; Natalie Stewart, Tourism
Coordinator.
- Public Zoom: David Mills – Watershed Salmon Society
David Leitch/Aniko Nelson–SRD/Stacey Marsh – Campbell River Hospital Foundation

Resolution
No.

CALL TO ORDER

2:04 PM

The Chair opened the meeting by acknowledging that this meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Kwak'waka speaking peoples and that June 22 is National Indigenous Peoples Day.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

134/2022

THAT the RDMW Board of Directors June 21, 2022 Meeting Agenda be approved as amended.

B. DELEGATIONS & RECOGNITIONS

1. David Mills – Watershed Watch Salmon Society (Powerpoint presentation)
 - *Reported on the interception of BC salmon by fishermen from Southeast Alaska.*
 - *2021 was the 3rd highest value and volume of commercial salmon fishery in Alaska, whereas many BC commercial fisheries were closed for conservation purposes.*
 - *Districts 101-106 which occur just at the northern end of the Queen Charlotte Islands. Fish in these area are staged mostly to end up down south. Impacts range from Northern and South Coast Vancouver Island to Revelstoke. For example, Smith Inlet Sockeye interception by the Alaskan Fishery was 63% of the total run.*
 - *Skeena River Chinook fishery was closed last week, however, Alaska has changed the way abundance is calculated, which translates to Alaskan Fisheries allowing an additional harvest of 60,000 to bring the total to 110,000 in 2022.*
 - *An additional issue is the Seine fishing, Canadian Seine fishers are required to monitor, record and release their by-catch in logbooks with the least possible harm. Alaskan fishers are not required to handle Canadian fish in the same manner, this means that there is an assumption that Alaskan fishers are not sorting, or releasing their bycatch until the end of the day. Without records as to what is being returned and if the fish are alive when returned, it could explain why there such dramatic decreases in stock returns to Canadian waters.*
 - *The Pacific Salmon Treaty was signed in 1985 with the intent that both countries received equal benefits to salmon production in their waters. Although both Canadian and Southeast Alaskan exploitation rates have been declining since 1980, Canadian rates are declining significantly faster than Alaska's rates. This*

leads to the conclusion that Southeast Alaska fishing is pulling heavily from Canadian populations, which in turn is limiting or eliminating Canadian commercial fisheries.

- There is a need to develop a coordinated response.
- There is a State of Knowledge Report, Interception Maps and additional information that can be viewed at www.alaskasdirtysecret.com

Questions:

- How are percentages of fish removed verified?
 - o Some data is from scales provided by Alaska Department Fish & Game, some from returned coded wire tags, as well as information from biologists on staff.
- It seems that the Pacific Salmon Treaty has not been successful in it's declaration. Is the ask from the Board to further enforce the Pacific Salmon Treaty by providing letters of support?
 - o Yes. Watershed Watch has also sent a letter to the Governor of Alaska, especially given that the fact that the Pacific Salmon Treaty will not be renegotiated until 2028, and the negotiations will be done by Global Affairs Canada and not DFO, which means that there may not be the same level of awareness to the critical levels of where the fisheries are currently at what the impact of the current fishing practices will create the anticipated levels will be in the future.
- Where is the science coming from?
 - o The report was created by biologists and fisheries experts leading that report, it is however, limited to the data available currently. There are definite correlations between the volume of fish being taken in Alaska and the decline of fish returning to our river systems.
- Have you scheduled any presentations with local First Nations?
 - o Presentations are currently scheduled with Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa-Sot'Em First Nations and the Watershed Watch Society will be happy to present to any local North Island First Nations as well.
- Dixon Entrance is the key interception area in Canadian waters but disputed by the USA – is DFO currently patrolling these waters?
 - o Unable to speak specifically to Dixon Entrance, but DFO patrols have not returned to the same levels that they were at in the 80's.
- The Role of the International Joint Commission was supposed to meet to review the Pacific Salmon Treaty, are they still meeting and do you know who has been appointed?
 - o Yes, they are still meeting, but am unable to provide specific names at this time. On any sort of "in window" decisions, participants have a veto. So Alaska has a veto to any changes over the treaty before it's renegotiated formerly. Additionally on the Pacific Salmon Commission, there is a lack of decision making from both North and Central Coast First Nations who are increasingly fishing these stocks.
- Is the successful Halibut treaty a reasonable model to try and follow for salmon?
 - o Unfortunately, at this time, there does not appear to be any discussion around this. The Minister of Fisheries & Ocean (DFO), as well as the Minister for Land, Water & Resource need to have discussions with their Alaskan counterparts. DFO scientists should be responsible for the quantification of the impact of interception as opposed to non-profits.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

135/2022

THAT a letter be sent to Minister of Fisheries & Ocean (Canada) and the Minister for Land, Water and Resource Stewardship and Minister Responsible for Fisheries (BC) requesting that action be taken to address the inequitable level of interception by Alaskan fisheries of salmon originating in BC waters.

Chair Hory thanked the Delegation on behalf of the Board and asked that the power point presentation provided be forwarded to the Directors.

2. David Leitch, Strathcona Regional District & Stacey Marsh – Campbell River Hospital Foundation
 - Update to the Just Like Home Program, as first presented in 2019
 - Received a private donation of \$500,000 that was subject to the community providing operating funds for the program. There was also an indication from this donor that once the program is up and running, there is the possibility of an annual donation as well.
 - The Strathcona Regional District has approved a Service Bylaw for this program, which is generating a small income from a levy of no more than \$0.023 per thousand of regional assessed value.
 - RDMW had agreed to make a similar annual contribution, however, there is no need to move forward with funds requisition yet, as the project is just at the 50% mark for completion.
 - One house is up and running and a 2nd building has been planned, including purchase of the land for same, inclusive of servicing.
 - So far, \$600,000 of the \$2,000,000 required has been raised.
 - Campbell River Hospital foundation has an active fundraising campaign ongoing for this project.
 - The Campbell River Hospital serves 32 communities on Northern Vancouver Island and the North Coast which covers approximately 57,000 residents.
 - Campbell River Hospital is the first point of referral for emergencies, illness, strokes, heart attacks, workplace accidents and disease.
 - One of the biggest issues that health care staff are seeing is that due to costs of travel and out of town accommodation, many are not seeking medical care as quickly as they might, which translates to many requiring more extensive care than they would have needed if they had accessed medical care earlier.
 - The North Island and rural communities that access Campbell River Hospital make up anywhere from 12-28% of total people seen annually at the Campbell River Hospital.
 - It is shown that patients tend to heal faster and suffer from less stress when family members are able to be close.
 - The “Lodge” will feature:
 - 10 separate sleeping rooms with ensuite bathrooms
 - Communal living space with shared kitchen
 - Day use common and shower facilities
 - Guest Laundry facilities
 - RV parking
 - The ongoing operating costs will be funded from the Strathcona Regional District.
 - The homes are located 200 steps from the hospital, which makes them accessible to everyone.

Chair Hory thanked the Delegation on behalf of the Board noting that the Regional District has been supportive of this program in conjunction with the Strathcona Regional District since the inception and as North Islanders, are collectively aware of the challenges of long-distance medical travel.

C. MINUTES

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

136/2022

THAT the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting held May 17, 2022 be adopted as presented.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
137/2022 That the Correspondence on the table be received and filed.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
138/2022 THAT the Cheque Registry for May 31, 2022 be received and filed.

D. STAFF REPORTS

1. Administrator Report (June 14, 2022): *Also noted:*
 - Administrator participated in a nationwide FCM webinar on home energy local government support with Josephine Schrott of Ecotrust Canada on May 27th
 - Working with the Province to correct 2021 Census Electoral Area populations to reflect the new boundaries approved in 2018

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
139/2022 THAT funds from Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) funds be allocated to the Climate Action Fund established in 2013.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
140/2022 THAT the Chilton Arena Energy Reduction Green and Inclusive Community Program Grant Contribution Agreement from the Government of Canada be approved.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
141/2022 THAT the June 14, 2022 Administrator's Report be received and filed.

a) Travel Report – No Travel Report

2. a) Manager of Economic Development (June 14, 2022) *also noted:*
 - Although Statistics Canada does provide unemployment statistics, they are amalgamated as whole for Campbell River North and do not dive down to individual communities within the Mount Waddington Regional District. The RRAP Coordinator is reaching out to local employers to gain first-hand knowledge of where the gaps are and possible ways to assist with connecting employers and potential staff.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
142/2022 THAT a contract not exceeding \$7,300 be concluded with Love Local Marketing to develop and deliver a digital advertising campaign to support the Home-Based Knowledge Worker Attraction Initiative.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
143/2022 That an application be made to the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction for a grant to prepare a labour market partnership report to encourage, support and facilitate strategies to address labour market issues in Northern Vancouver Island be supported, and that such support includes a contribution of \$20,000 to the project.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
144/2022 THAT the June 14, 2022 Economic Development Manager Report be received and filed.

b) Rural Resident Attraction Coordinator Report (June 15, 2022) Presented by Pat English.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
145/2022 THAT the June, 2022 Rural Resident Attraction Coordinator Report be received and filed.

c) Tourism Coordinator Report (June 14, 2022), Presented by Natalie Stewart

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
146/2022 THAT the June 14, 2022 Tourism Coordinator Report be received and filed.

3. Manager of Operations (June 15, 2022)

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
147/2022 THAT the June 15, 2022 Manager of Operations report be received and filed.

4. Planning and Development Services (June 15, 2022) *Also noted:*

- *Working with GNN First Nation to assist with civic addressing for the new daycare.*
- *Trip was made to Winter Harbour to participate in a meeting with the Winter Harbour Rate Payers Association meeting.*

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
148/2022 THAT the June 15, 2022 Planning and Development Services report be received and filed.

E. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Finance Report (June 16, 2022) Presented by the Administrator.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
149/2022 THAT the June 16, 2022 Finance Report be received and filed.

2. Single Source Report by Finance Clerk MacEachern

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
150/2022 THAT the June 14, 2022 Single Source be received and filed.

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
151/2022 That the amended guidelines for Rural Tourism Action Grant applications to state as per MRDT motion 22/19 be approved.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
152/2022 To receive and file the verbal report from Chair Andrew Hory on the funding issues faced by ICET which will run out of funding in 2 years unless additional funds are provided by the Province.

G. BYLAWS AND PERMITS

1. Regional District of Mount Waddington Election Bylaw No, 1011, 2022 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd reading.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**
153/2022 THAT Bylaw No. 1011, Cited as "Regional District of Mount Waddington Election Bylaw No, 1011, 2022 "receive 1st, 2nd and 3rd reading.

1. Bylaw No. 1011 for adoption

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

154/2022 THAT Bylaw No. 1011 be adopted.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 2022 06 07 North Coast Regional District Labour Market Study for Commercial Fishing Sector

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

155/2022 THAT a letter of support for the Labour Market Study for Commercial Fishing Sector be sent via the BC Commercial Fishing Association to the following: Sector Labour Market Partnerships Program, Workforce Innovation and Division Responsibilities for Skills Training, Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Training.

I. OTHER BUSINESS / DIRECTORS REPORTS / NEXT MEETING

Electoral Area Updates:

Area "A" - Broughton / Malcolm Island / Mainland

- *Salmon Days are coming up*

Area "B" – Coal Harbour / Quatsino / Winter Harbour

- *Attended the Annual Fire Chief Convention*
- *Coal Harbour School gym has been approved for use (although the original curtains on the stage are still in place).*

Area "C"- Hyde Creek / Rupert

- *Gearing up for Hyde Creek days on July 2, with lots of volunteers. Music will start at 4:00pm. Tickets are available at various local businesses.*
- *Knotweed? Hyde Creek has definite areas of concern. Patrick advised that Spectrum Contracting will be working on the eradication process.*

Area "D"- Nimpkish Valley / Woss

- *Will be attending WRA meeting scheduled for June 22*
- *The swimming pool will not be opening, due to a few issues, including the lack of lifeguards*
- *New restaurant has opened in Woss: Hot Shot Café*

2. Municipal Updates:

Village of Alert Bay

- *June Sports last weekend went quite well.*
- *Meeting with 'Namgis and Whe-La-La U on the 28th to discuss township revitalization.*
- *Celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Day today.*

Village of Port Alice

- *Fire hall upgrades starting, thank you to Town of Port McNeill for the doors.*
- *Tourist Information Centre relocating to the recreation centre, bigger size.*
- *OCP work starting.*
- *Costs for the kayak centre has grown exponentially.*

District of Port Hardy

- *PHSS held the totem pole unveiling ceremony, very beautiful and moving.*
- *Pride events will be happening all weekend.*
- *FILOMI days scheduled for July 15-17.*
- *Eagerly awaiting news on the aquaculture license renewal.*

- Thank you to the Regional District for support with the Sustainable Power Project
- June 9th, Department of Fisheries and Oceans participated in a meeting on the area-based aquaculture program and pilot program projects. At this time, there are no plans to have this in Port Hardy.
- Grad ceremony on June 10th. Thank you to all the businesses who provided grants to PHSS Grads.
- Meeting of Mayors from Sayward to Port Hardy, which was organized by Mayor Mark Baker of Sayward, to discuss cell service and avenues available to extend it for all of highway 19 north of Sayward. This is an important tool, especially in the event of emergency situations.
- Thank you to Island Health for the virtual health meeting held on June 16. Thank you to Port McNeill Mayor Wickstrom and Council for arranging this.

Town of Port McNeill

- Meeting with VIHA has been shared on social media and Town of Port McNeill website. Positive feedback received from the public, including the main message of working collaboratively with Island Health.
- Canada Day celebration happening on July 1 at 11:00am and ending with a family dance from 3:30 to 4:30.
- Port McNeill is in a daycare crisis, Huckleberry House will be closing its doors on July 1. The town is working diligently to find a solution. Only found out about this 5 days ago.

Questions/Comments – None

Next Meetings of the Board of Directors: Regular Meeting: July 19, 2022 at 2:00 pm

156/2022

ADJOURNMENT TIME 4:08 PM

CHAIR

SECRETARY

