



# REGIONAL DISTRICT OF MOUNT WADDINGTON

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### MEETING MINUTES

May 16, 2023 at 2:00pm

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

- Chair: Andrew Hory
- Directors: In Person: Pat Corbett-Labatt, Dennis Dugas, James Furney, Michelle Pottage, David Summers, Kathryn Wykes  
Zoom: Dennis Buchanan, Kevin Cameron, Michelle Pottage
- Staff: In person: David Kim, Administrator, Pat English, Manager of Economic Development, Patrick Donaghy, Operations Manager: June Kwon, Planning Assistant  
Zoom: Nadine Weldon, Recording Secretary; Nicole McDowell; Megan Hanacek, Rural Resident Attraction Coordinator.
- Public Zoom: Kathy O'Reilly

Resolution No. **CALL TO ORDER** **2:03 PM**

*The Chair opened the meeting by acknowledging that this meeting is taking place on the traditional territory of the Kwak'waka speaking peoples.*

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**  
120/2023 THAT the RDMW Board of Directors May 16, 2023 Meeting Agenda be approved as amended.

#### DELEGATIONS & RECOGNITIONS

Strathcona Regional District – Aniko Nelson, Stacey Marsh, Renee LaBoucane

##### 1) The Connected Coast Project

- Review of the connected coast backbone network which runs from Prince Rupert to Haida Gwaii, south to Vancouver and around Vancouver Island. This will provide service to 154 communities including 56 First Nation communities, as well as 12 Coast Guard sites and 25 Early Earthquake warning sensors.
- This service is provided via subsea cable.
- This project is being managed by the Strathcona Regional District and City West. The SRD role is advocate for communities within the Strathcona Regional District.
- To date 1300km of subsea cable has been deployed with 70 landing sites constructed.
- Currently north of Prince Rupert is connected and live.
- Within the Regional District of Mount Waddington, there will be 26 landing sites, including 5 lighthouses.
- To prevent accidental seabed cable damage, the cable locations are geo mapped and the locations are available from the Strathcona Regional District.
- The Strathcona Regional District will own and operate the connected coast system for five years (this was part of the funding agreement).
- The Backbone Fiber system will be an open network for any service provider (for last mile connections).
- The average speed is anticipated to be 1gb download and 100mb upload.
- There is no requirement for communities to connect to the backbone service, but it will be in place if it's needed.
- There will be funding made available for any community that requests financial

assistance from City West. Additionally, 20% of sale profits will be rolled back into the individual communities.

2) Just Like Home Project

- Service was established to provide temporary affordable housing while accessing services at Campbell River Hospital.
- Campbell River Hospital serves 32 communities inclusive of North Vancouver Island and Central Coast, which has approximately 60,000 residents.
- Almost 20% of people who access the Campbell River Hospital are from the Mount Waddington Regional District.
- There is an overwhelming proportion of people who do not access care at the Campbell River hospital due to financial and transportation restrictions for travel.
- The Just Like Home facility will have 10 bedrooms with ensuites, communal lounge and communal kitchen. Will also include laundry facilities. There will also be RV lots available.
- It is anticipated that this would alleviate some of the stress of overcrowding in the hospital and allow people to heal quicker if they are within a home-like situation.
- The current cost for the building is \$2,600,000.00. Ongoing operational costs will be covered by the Strathcona Regional District.
- There is a "Because You Care" lottery, with a grand prize of \$20,000.00 and 2 tickets to anywhere WestJet flies, as one of the current fundraising projects.
- Accommodation parameters have not yet been established but will be managed by the Strathcona Regional District.

3) SRD Regional Transportation Study

- Preliminary findings of the 2023 transportation services for connecting remote communities to Campbell River were presented to the SRD Board.
- Communities involved include Kyuquot, Zeballos, Nuchatlaht First Nation, Tahsis, Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation, Gold River, Woss, Upper Campbell Lake, Sayward Valley, Sayward
- Several different types of operational models and service partnerships are being reviewed, including discussions with BC Transit, Regional District of Mount Waddington and the City of Campbell River.

**MINUTES**

**Moved/Seconded/CARRIED**

121/2023 THAT the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting held April 18, 2023 be adopted as amended.

**Moved/Seconded/CARRIED**

122/2023 That the Correspondence on the table be received and filed.

**Moved/Seconded/CARRIED**

123/2023 THAT the Cheque Registry for April 30, 2023 be received and filed.

**STAFF REPORTS**

1. Administrator Report: *Noted:*

- Transit Update:

- o Cumulative revenue from January to April, 2023 was \$20,00 which has risen by 10% year over year.
- o The ridership rose by 10% for the same period, resulting in 9,540 trips.

- Campsite Update:
  - o Bere Point cumulative revenue for from January to April was \$57,000.00 which is an increase of 2% year of year.
  - o Link River cumulative revenue for January to April was \$16,600 which is an increase of 24% year over year.
  
- Hiring Status: Currently undergoing recruitment for the following positions
  - o Economic Development Officer
  - o Finance Clerk 2
  - o Executive Assistant
  - o Planning Manager posting will follow upon organizational restructure

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

124/2023 THAT the verbal May 16, 2023 Administrator's Report be received.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

125/2023 THAT the Travel Report be approved as presented.

2. Manager of Economic Development – No Report
  
- b) Rural Resident Attraction Coordinator Report (May 5, 2023) Presented by Megan Hanacek.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

126/2023 THAT the May 5, 2023 Rural Resident Attraction Coordinator Report be received and filed.

- c) Tourism Coordinator Report (May 5, 2023), presented by Pat English

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

127/2023 THAT the May 5, 2023 Tourism Coordinator Report be received and filed.

3. Manager of Operations (May 5, 2023) *also noted:*
  - *The 7 Mile Landfill and Malcolm Island Recycling Depot Grinder project has begun.*
  - *There were four contractors who submitted bids for this. The scope of work and costs are set at \$13,000.00, however, a review will be done after 4 days of work to determine if the six days provided for in the contract will be sufficient time.*
  - *MOTI asked the Manager of Operations what the plans for a knotweed program for the Regional District. The Manager of Operations advised that the Regional District was not successful in funding requests this year. MOTI has advised they may be able to provide assistance within communities that they are working on in the Regional District.*
  - *There may be a large special report from the Manager of Operations at the June board meeting with regards to 7 Mile Landfill closure planning. Anticipate having a design operation closure plan, a follow up to the Solid Waste Management Plan, which was done back in 2020.*
  - *In the fall, the big 7 Mile Operator Contract is coming due, there are few changes that will need to be made before it goes out for bid.*

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

128/2023 THAT the May 5, 2023 Manager of Operations Solid Waste report be received and filed.

4. Planning Assistant Report (April 6, 2023):

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

129/2023 THAT the April 6, 2023 Planning Assistant be received and filed.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

1. Finance Report – Presented by the Administrator.

- Auditors completed their visit in the first week of May and will present at the June Board meeting.
- Recruitment is ongoing for the Manager of Finance and Finance Clerk 2 positions.
- Moving of the accounting software (Vadim) to the cloud has been initiated and purchase of the budget software called “Citywide”, it is the plan to integrate the two financial systems to provide staff with current programming. This will allow finance staff to draft the budget and monitor the status in real time. This will free up finance staff resources, which will allow for better collaboration and coordination throughout the organization.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

130/2023 THAT the verbal Finance Report be received and filed.

2. Single Source Report by Finance Clerk MacEachern

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

131/2023 THAT the April 30, 2023 Single Source be received and filed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Planning Committee:**

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

132/2023 THAT Development Variance Permit 2023-DVP-02 be approved.

**BYLAWS AND PERMITS**

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

133/2023 THAT Bylaw No. 1030, cited as “Regional District of Mount Waddington Malcolm Island Solid Waste Bylaw No. 812, Amendment Bylaw No. 1030 be adopted.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Strathcona Regional District Board – North Island Natural Resources

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

134/2023 THAT the report from the Strathcona Regional District Chair, Mark Baker be received and filed.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

135/2023 THAT the Regional District of Mount Waddington supports the creation of a Natural Resource Committee as a standing committee.

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

136/2023 THAT Chair Andrew Hory will poll the

2. Rogers Communications Tower – Sointula

- The community is very happy that Rogers has agreed to withdraw the application of the proposed telecommunication tower at 165 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Sointula

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

137/2023 THAT the Rogers Communication Tower correspondence be received and filed.



## **OTHER BUSINESS / DIRECTORS REPORTS / NEXT MEETING**

### Electoral Area Updates:

#### Area "A" - Broughton / Malcolm Island / Mainland

- *No update on the APP contract for the Sointula Clinic, currently there are 70 people on the physician schedule for May.*
- *Local seniors had a mother's day plant loonie auction, was a great event.*
- *The May Long weekend ball tournament is this weekend, includes food, beer garden, market and dance.*
- *Went camping at Bere Point, it was wonderful.*

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

- *Ongoing meetings with Island Health*

#### Area "C"- Hyde Creek / Rupert

- *Stay hydrated with this heat and check on your neighbors.*

#### Area "D"- Nimpkish Valley / Woss

- *Woss sign is almost complete.*
- *Did a walk through the Heritage park.*
- *The plumber attended to hook up water for the pool.*
- *The concrete contractor attended to look at cracks in the pool area.*
- *Found out last Wednesday that the medical clinic in Woss has been closed. Reasons stated that there was no replacement receptionist for the current employee who is retiring, as well as that the building is unsafe for union employees.*
- *Dave contacted Island Health but was told that there is no one available to act as a receptionist for the clinic. Dave was advised that a former nurse did apply for the reception position but had not heard back.*
- *The clinic is very important to the community as the current physician*

## **2. Municipal Updates:**

### Village of Alert Bay

- *Community hall roof is being replaced.*
- *Community meetings are going to resume (had stopped due to COVID)*
- *...UMISTA*
- *Four cruise ships have stopped in to date this year.*

### Village of Port Alice

- *Construction ongoing at Lions Park, phase 1 completed and working into Phase 2*
- *OCP is ongoing.*

### District of Port Hardy

- *Community clean up and spring clean happen.*
- *North Island Seniors housing working with ...*
- *FILOMI days are upcoming for July 14, 15 & 16<sup>th</sup>. Food vendors needed.*
- *The Salmon Enhancement Program workshop will be happening in Port Hardy on May 19, 20 and 21. Currently there are over 200 participants registered.*
- *Hardy Bay Seniors held a Mock Coronation Ceremony and tea event, it was well attended.*
- *Attended the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women event, it was shocking the number of women from the North Island that are missing or murdered. It needs to be as public as possible.*
- *Attended a 2-day Emergency Operations Centre essentials training at the Image Room in Port McNeill. This was facilitated by Marjorie Giroux, Emergency Coordinator the Regional District and taught by the Justice Institute.*

- *Attended a breakfast meeting with Island Health this morning. Pat reiterated the sooner the ER can be open 24/7 the better. The recruitment process continues to be challenging.*
- *Pat was invited to participate in talks with the Royal BC Museum engagement regarding repatriation of their belongings.*

Town of Port McNeill

- *Spent a couple weeks in Sointula, got to see the community in its traditional state.*
- *Moving towards sharing the role of Economic Development officer with Alert Bay, as Port McNeill does not have full-time requirements for this position.*
- *Logger Sports are upcoming.*

Questions/Comments – None

Next Meetings of the Board of Directors: Regular Meeting: June 20, 2023 at 2:00 pm

138/2023

**ADJOURNMENT**

**TIME 4:01 PM**



---

CHAIR



---

SECRETARY