



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF MOUNT WADDINGTON

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

September 11, 2023 at 2:00pm

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

Chair: Andrew Hory
Directors: In Person: Dennis Buchanan, Pat Corbett-Labatt, Dennis Dugas, James Furney, Michelle Pottage, Brent Schmidt (alternate for Kathryn Wykes)
Zoom: Kevin Cameron

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: John Tidbury

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.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved/Seconded/**CARRIED**

183/2023 THAT the RDMW Board of Directors September 11, 2023 Meeting Agenda be approved as presented.

DELEGATIONS & RECOGNITIONS

1. Tallest Totem Pole Project – Johnathan Henderson, Kwakwaka'wakw hereditary Chief, Community Artist Liaison Manager, U'mista Cultural Centre & Duncan Kennedy, Indigenext
 - Introduction of Johnathan Henderson & Duncan Kennedy
 - Preliminary stages of planning out how best to replace the world's tallest totem pole located in Alert Bay.
 - This is a project of the heart.
 - The project want is to replace the totem pole, providing togetherness, unity, showing who the totem pole represents and provide a historic acknowledgement of the 17 tribes of the Kwak'waka speaking peoples.
 - This is a project of celebration, of artists past and present.
 - The plan is to sit with all 32 hereditary chiefs in the hopes of the stamp of approval to move forward. It would be great to get approval from all BC First Nations, but the 17 tribes represented on the pole are the first group to be reached out to.
 - This is an opportunity to connect and further truth and reconciliation. Connection is the correction.
 - The team currently consists of Indigenext, Johnathan Henderson and Robert Chamberlin.
 - A letter of support from the Mount Waddington Regional District would give strength to future funding requests.
 - It is believed that this project will be significant sign of reconciliation as well as provide huge economic impact through Indigenous Culture Tourism.
 - The present pole is unsafe and there is concern that it will fall over, potentially damaging the big houses or homes close by.

- The pole has been a significant tourism dollar generator as unique draw for visitors.
- Discussion of what to do with the current pole includes laying it down next to the new pole, with a roof structure over to provide some shelter from the elements. As this is not a memorial totem pole, there will be a defined procedure and process put into place by a group of representatives from the Kwak'waka peoples.
- The original pole was one log which was transported as one piece from Holberg to Alert Bay, but once in Alert Bay, it was cut into two pieces.
- Wei Wai Kum First Nation believe that they will be able to provide logs (fibre) for the new pole.
- Currently, the plan is for the new pole to be carved on 'Namgis Territory (carve on site), with collaboration from multi-nation artists.
- It has not been determined if the old pole will remain standing while the new pole is being carved.

Chair Andrew Hory and the Board thanked Johnathan Henderson & Duncan Kennedy for their presentation.

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED

184/2023 THAT the Regional District of Mount Waddington provide a letter of support for the Kwakwaka'wakw Sovereignty Pole project.

MINUTES

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED

185/2023 THAT the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting held August 15, 2023 be adopted as presented.

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED

186/2023 That the Correspondence on the table be received and filed.

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED

187/2023 THAT the Cheque Registries for August 24, 2023 be received and filed.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Administrator Report: *Noted:*

- Transit Update:
 - o Cumulative revenue from January to August was \$43,000, which is a 1% decrease year over year.
 - o Ridership rose by 3% resulting in a total of 19,000 trips.
- Campsite Update:
 - o Bere Point cumulative revenue from January to August was \$84,000.00 which is an increase of 6% year over year.
 - o Link River cumulative revenue for January to August was \$30,000 which is an increase of 5% year over year.
- Hiring Status:
 - o Successful recruitment for the following positions
 - Economic Development Officer–Jackie Challis started on September 5
 - Final candidate for Executive Assistant will start on November 1, 2023
- Woss Clinic receptionist – reopened, thanks to all the hard work of Electoral Area D Director David Summers for spearheading this.

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED
188/2023 THAT the verbal September 11, 2023 Administrator's Report be received.

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED
189/2023 THAT the September 11, 2023 Travel Report be approved.

2. Manager of Economic Development – Verbal Report
 - o Working to wrap up projects and providing Jackie with a rundown of all the ongoing projects.
 - o Seaweed contract

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED
190/2023 THAT the verbal September 11, 2023, Economic Development report be received and filed.

- b) Rural Resident Attraction Coordinator Report (September 4, 2023) Presented by Megan Hanacek.

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED
191/2023 THAT the September 4, 2023 Rural Resident Attraction Coordinator Report be received and filed.

- c) Tourism Coordinator Report (September 4, 2023)

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED
192/2023 THAT the September 4, 2023 Tourism Coordinator Report be received and filed.

3. Manager of Operations (September 6, 2023) *also noted:*

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED
193/2023 *THAT staff be directed to write a letter of support from the RDMW Board to the Town of Port McNeill in its application to the Fire Chiefs Association of British Columbia for funding to construct a live fire training facility.*

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED
194/2023 THAT the September 6, 2023 Manager of Operations Solid Waste report be received and filed.

4. Planning Assistant Report (September 1, 2023):

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED
195/2023 THAT the September 1, 2023 Planning Assistant be received and filed.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Finance Report – CAO verbal report, *Also noted:*
 - *The 2022 Local Government Data Entry report has been filed with the Province.*
 - *A corporate wide asset management initiative has been started with the launch of the collection of the corporate asset inventory data.*

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED
196/2023 THAT the September 11, 2023 Verbal Finance Report be received and filed.

2. Single Source Report by Finance Clerk MacEachern

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED
197/2023 THAT the August 24, 2023 Single Source be received and filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EA.MRDT

- *Discussion re: Sointula FO Hall.*
- *\$90,000 of reserve funds have been requested.*
- *Request to increase the gas tax funding from \$90,000 to \$130,000 due to inflation.*

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED

198/2023 THAT the original gas tax funding amount of \$90,000 be increased by \$40,000 to a total of \$130,000 due to inflation. \$260,0000. Total cost of project.

AND THAT an additional \$90,000 be funded from Reserve Funds.

BYLAWS AND PERMITS

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED

199/2023 THAT Bylaw No. 1032, 2023, 2024 Permissive Tax Bylaw receive 3rd reading.

Moved/Seconded/CARRIED

200/2023 THAT Bylaw No. 1032, 2023, 2024 Permissive Tax Bylaw be adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

OTHER BUSINESS / DIRECTORS REPORTS / NEXT MEETING

Electoral Area Updates:

Area "A" - Broughton / Malcolm Island / Mainland

- *The Finish Organization (FO) hall repairs are scheduled to start late September.*
- *The Senior's Guide has been updated and distributed.*

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

- *Pleased that the hiring process for the Executive Assistant is*

Area "C"- Hyde Creek / Rupert

- *No report.*

Area "D"- Nimpkish Valley / Woss

- *David Rushton passed away last week, was a great director and person.*
- *Thank you to David Kim for all the assistance in getting the Woss Clinic back up and running.*
- *The Trail project is going to get started shortly, there is one spot that still needs clearing.*
- *The Pool opening has been delayed, volunteers completed a long list of work, but there was work that required professional contractor work – quotes came in at \$34,000.00.*

2. Municipal Updates:

Village of Alert Bay

- *Paving on Larch street done in conjunction with 'Namgis First Nation was completed.*
- *Observation wall was reporting low water levels. Alert Bay CAO sent a request to the Ministry of Environment to provide assistance, turned out to be a faulty sensor, so a big relief.*

Village of Port Alice

- August was quiet.
- Children's circus at the arena
- Thank you to the Board for funding offered from the Board for the Port Alice Golf Club power issues.

District of Port Hardy

- Loaves and Fishes took over the Harvest Food bank. As an organization they provide service to the entire North Island.
- North Island Seniors Housing Foundation has an RFP available, closing on September 17, 2023. Any information/feedback for seniors housing would be appreciated. Hoping to expand the current seniors housing in Port Hardy.
- Happy to see wetter weather coming, as Port Hardy has been on water conservation since May. Drought level 5 has been the status for months on the North Island.
- Aunties Kitchen Food Truck has opened in Port Hardy. It is a part of the Kwakwaka'wakw Health Centre, they will be circulating to different nations to provide free food service.
- The District had an independent contractor to review the operations department, which will result in some reorganization within the District. Also, deputy CAO has given his notice as he has accepted a position as the CAO of Lions Bay.

Town of Port McNeill

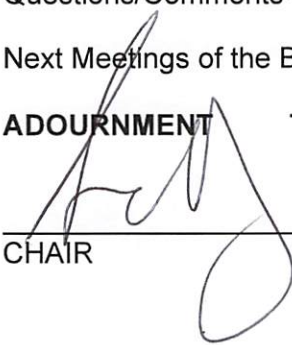
- Fall Fair happened over the weekend.
- The Music Fest went well.
- Big yacht in town, with 14 new crew. Here for a week and back in October.
- Dave Rushton will be truly missed.

Questions/Comments – None

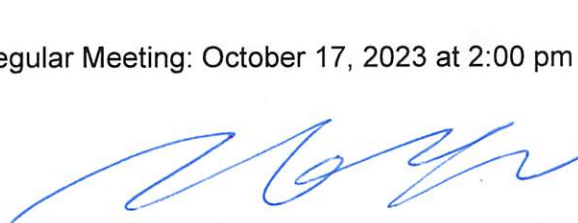
Next Meetings of the Board of Directors: Regular Meeting: October 17, 2023 at 2:00 pm

2021/2023

ADJOURNMENT TIME 3:23 PM



CHAIR



SECRETARY