

RECEIVED

OCT 03 2024

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Alberni Valley Museum  
and Heritage Commission



Heritage Commission Meeting  
September 4, 2024

Minutes

Location:  
AV Museum

Attendees:

ACRD  
City Council  
Community at Large  
Historical Society  
Industrial Heritage  
Maritime Heritage  
School District 70  
Staff

Penny Cote  
Charles Mealey  
Colin Schult  
Gareth Flostrand  
Richard Spencer  
Don Jones  
Pam Craig  
Willa Thorpe

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council	<input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development
<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering/PW
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CAO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parks, Rec. & Heritage
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance	<input type="checkbox"/> Development Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Safety
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agenda	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

File # 0540-20-AVMT-C *RCM Oct 15/24*

Regrets:

Chamber of Commerce  
Community Arts Council  
Hupačasath First Nation  
McLean Mill  
čišaaʔath (Tseshaht) First Nation

Called to Order: 7:03pm

1. Moved by Pam that the agenda of the September 4, 2024 meeting be approved as amended.
2. Moved by Colin that the minutes of the June 5, 2024 meeting be approved as circulated.
3. Old Business
  - a. Train Station – update to exterior doors
    - i. On June 10, Council passed the motion as provided by the Heritage Commission at the June meeting:  
*Enable the addition of a total of two exterior doors on the east side (facing Kingsway Ave.) so long as both doors appear period-specific from the exterior*
4. Correspondence – none
5. New Business
  - a. Election of Chair
    - i. Gareth has been voted in by acclamation
  - b. Port Alberni Association for Community Living – Employment Opportunities
    - i. Heritage Commission member organizations are encouraged to reach out to the Community Employment Program with any part-time employment opportunities they may have:  
MG Walker  
communityemployment@paacl.ca



# Heritage Commission Meeting September 4, 2024 Minutes

778-421-0717 opt. 3 ext. 3

## 6. Reports

- a. Chamber of Commerce – no report
- b. McLean Mill



## McLean Mill National Historic Site Update, Sept 4, 2024

Prepared by Elliot Drew

The season was almost a regular season with no major catastrophes or global issues to effect business and visitors. We saw the return of large group tours and various community events throughout the summer. Our new heritage strategy launched in July with the expanded signage for our Self Guided Walking tour and an admission model that has been met with mostly positive feedback. While our campground saw a slow start, we built to a 25% total occupancy for August making it our busiest month ever. Rentals are slower this year as the affordability crunch has forced people to rethink where they are spending their pennies, but we are still receiving inquiries for 2025.

Our 4 summer students took on a lot this year to manage the day to day running of our operation and I am so thankful to them for all their hard work in delivering a positive and enjoyable experience to our guests. The great work Richard has done over the past year has paid dividends, keeping us organized and building our heritage value proposition. We continue to work on our plan to expand our ability to tell the story of our history through this amazing site. Renovations continue to slowly improve our space as I have time to work on them. The back storage room of the McLean Hall and the new snack bar in Admin are steadily transforming to prepare for new and exciting things.

Our biggest news of the year has been in the works since May and we are please to welcome the One Mile Productions team to the site for most of September and October, while they shoot their upcoming film. This has been an encompassing and time-consuming project for me but will be a great showcase for our site and our community. Over the coming months this will be our main focus and will require closing the site completely for part of this time.

As always, we a proud of our role in sharing our site and our heritage with all our visitors.

MONTH:	YTD AUG	TOTAL DAYS:	107	TOTAL HOURS:	642
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DATE	# of Parties	# of Visitors	LOCAL	BC	CAN	US	INTERN
2024	1373	3759	340	211	79	65	214
2023	955	2657	339	218	45	55	207

## IMPORTANT DATES:

Sept 2, 2024 – Oct 22, 2024	One Mile Productions – Movie Shoot
Sept 7, 2024	Wedding
Sept 18, 2024	PAPA Conference Social
Sept 24, 2024	National Forest Week Activities SD70






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c. Historical Society

- i. Our wonderful volunteers took some time off during July & August for a much-deserved rest. The Archives stayed open and a “more slender” crew held the fort. Research was ongoing, as was sorting and organizing our paper trails. The volunteers put in 386 hours during the summer. Way to go ladies!
- ii. Donations for our “paper history” are still coming in. Any donations with photos are given to the Museum for their photograph collection. We received an old map (1909), which one of our volunteers is busy repairing.
- iii. All our volunteers will be getting together for an afternoon tea on Monday, Sept. 9th. What a lovely way to hear about all their projects, especially from those who don’t work the same day as you. Thank you to Diane Dobson for hosting this event!
- iv. The Archives are open Tues-Thurs., 11am to 3 pm.

d. Industrial Heritage Society



**Western Vancouver Island  
Industrial Heritage Society**


**September 4, 2024 Report to the Heritage Commission**

1. Over the past three months, the Industrial Heritage Centre has seen multiple school groups and Parks and Rec Groups visit, as volunteers put on their regular program for the groups.
2. In July, we hired James Mollet as our 2024 Summer Student, with funding from Canada Summer Jobs. James spent the summer helping around the shop, learning from some of our senior volunteers and providing guided tours and information to visitors.
3. 2024 Train Operations kicked off on June 28<sup>th</sup> and ran every Friday, Saturday and Sunday through the summer, with special events taking place on Canada Day and BC Day. The train saw 5,226 passengers ride over 33 days (average of 158 passengers/day).
4. The WVIHS applied for and was awarded a grant from the Alberni Valley Community Forest for upgrades to the Alberni Pacific Railway passenger cars and crew speeder. We look forward to being able to begin doing some much-needed refurbishments to these this fall.
5. Over the Labour Day Long Weekend, we hosted our annual Antique Trucks and Machinery Show, which had a good turnout. Some trucks arrived from out of town, including the Mayors Choice winner Ryan Bakken with Pacific Peterbilt and their 2025 unit. Another draw was on Sunday when the Port Alberni Fire Department brought their new “Tower” truck with a 100ft ladder which was put on display beside Port Alberni's First Firetruck, a 192 Chevrolet.
6. Planning has begun as we move closer to fall with new projects starting soon, and planning for fall and Christmas events, including the annual Santa Train. Stay tuned!



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- e. Maritime Heritage Society



**Port Alberni Maritime Heritage Society**  
**September 4, 2024 Report to the Heritage Commission**

**Fall Season Open Hours**  
Our summer season has now ended as our summer staff have either returned to school or have gone on to other commitments. The Gallery and the Lighthouse are now open from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm Tuesday through Saturday, at least until the Saturday before Thanksgiving. Tours may be arranged with our Facility Coordinator, Dale Gross, by contacting him at the below-noted contact information.

**Art Sale Exhibit and Fund Raiser**  
Our Facility Coordinator will be working with the Alberni Valley Museum's Education Curator to develop children's maritime programs which can be given to school groups during the Fall, Winter and Spring months.

**Lighthouse Upgrade**  
The society raised a total of \$44,600 for our Lighthouse Upgrade project. Our iconic Lighthouse now looks beautiful with new white metal siding and red trim, the fallen-down gutter has been re-installed, the broken sign has been fixed and our HVAC system, which broke down July 1, now provides cooling and heat. Come have a look! We have approximately \$6,000 of unspent funding which we will use to paint the upper portion of the Lighthouse.

**Upcoming Tour**  
On Tuesday September 17<sup>th</sup> our Facility Coordinator will be giving a tour of the Gallery and the Lighthouse to a group from Vancouver which is coming specifically to visit our two little pocket museums.

**Contact Information**

Telephone	250-723-6164
Website	<a href="http://portalbernimaritimeheritage.ca">portalbernimaritimeheritage.ca</a>
Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/maritimediscoverycentre">maritimediscoverycentre</a>
Email	<a href="mailto:portalbernimhs@gmail.com">portalbernimhs@gmail.com</a>

- f. Regional District
- i. Rode train and inspected track between Parksville and Port Alberni with the Island Corridor Foundation and discussed potential return of freight on rail
  - ii. Attending UBCM for a week on September 14
- g. Community Arts Council – no report





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h. School District

- i. Newly posted to the school district website is the Pacific Rim Resource Guide: Mental Health and Support Resources for Children, Youth and Families. This is a living document which means it will require regular updating and revisions to remain current.
- ii. Reminder that once again Access Zones are in place around schools. Police have the authority to arrest or issue tickets to anyone found impeding access, disrupting or interfering with educational activities or attempting to intimidate an individual within 20 metres of school property.
- iii. The media has been reminding the public of the Premier's request to school districts to restrict (ban) the use of cell phones in schools. Pacific Rim did update the district Administrative Procedure on the use of cell phones in schools – the key phrase in these procedures is, "It is expected that students will not access or use personally owned devices during instructional time unless permission is granted by the supervising staff...."
- iv. Early Learning and Childcare: Summer Pop Up Play events give families and children the chance to engage with others, access services and establish new relationships. Kindergarten Orcas – successful transition to Kindergarten Program – past 8 years. Focus on play-based learning and building a positive relationship with school.
- v. Pacific Rim School district has the new position of Healthy Schools Manager, Kirsten Nesbitt, to coordinate school lunches.

i. Community at Large

September Activities Around Town

Valley Vonka Bars are back for Sale – 1,000 bars with Golden tickets hidden. \$4 donation is suggested

September is Literacy month – Raise a Reader, all donations matched 100% [literacyalberni.ca/donate](http://literacyalberni.ca/donate)

5-8 Alberni District Fall Fair, Thursday 5pm to Sunday at 5pm

6-7 VIPW takes over the Alberni Fall Fair – AV Multiplex – Free with Admission to the Fair

7 – Fall Fair Parade – 9am Marshalling on Bute Street, Parade @ 11am along 10th Ave to the Fairgrounds

7 – Heifers and Hors D'Oeuvres – Cabin at Shannon Farms \$100/ticket

10 – Story Book Lantern Walk 6-9pm CMHA – World Suicide Awareness Day @ Blair Park



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- 11 – Barkley Sounds Community Choir rehearsals 7-9pm every Wed. @ AV United Church
- 12 and 26 – Knit Nights at the Museum 6-8pm
- 14 – Portal Players – clothing and costume Sale fundraiser @4pm @ the Theatre
- 14 – Sowing Seed Conference 9-430 @ BW Barclay – PacificCARE – CCRR Program
- 14 – Financial Education Workshop – free – 10 key principles and mistakes to avoid when investing 11-1230 @ Literacy Alberni
- 14 – Special Olympics registration 1030-12 @ Rainbow Lanes
- 14-15 – Port Alberni Toy Run – 40th Anniversary. Bikes arrive in town around noon and ride to Glenwood, bike games, kids' games, vendors, beer garden. Dance at night, Pancake Breakfast and then Poker Run  
patoyrun@gmail.com
- 15 – Terry Fox Run registration starts @ 930 @ RCL Run starts @ 10 – organized by AV Lions Club
- 15 – Send Air Jump Jam @ Williamson Park 12-5
- 15 – Family Farms Day 11-3 [www.avfood.ca/events](http://www.avfood.ca/events)
- 17 – NIC Orientation Event 11-1
- 18 – AVTTS present Free Owatchet – a disc. on restoring Dry Creek at the Somass Lands 7pm Char's Landing
- 19 – Summit Beauty Bar – 1 year Birthday event
- 19 – All the Rage with No Big Dill market – 7685 McKenzie Rd 5-8pm – Final pop-up market
- 20 – Dog and Cat teeth cleaning @ Bosleys 10am-6pm
- 21 – First Annual Equinox Garlic Festival – Harbour Quay 9am-2pm, calling all garlic lovers, growers, eaters or the curious
- 25th – Connect with your City – Open House 6pm, meet the dedicated staff Echo Centre 6-8pm. Wide range of games and activities, games for kids, snacks and drinks, interactive displays
- 26-30 – 1984 Heck No, how are we 40 years past Orwell? All grads from '84...or any year, or even didn't grads, come for a reunion, donations to Dry Grad '25
- 27 – Tour De Rock fundraiser @530pm @ RCL – tix \$25/30 - Chicken Cordon Bleu. Riders piped in at approx. 530, intros then dinner then Auction

j. City Council





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## CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

An information report summarizing the Regular meeting of Council held August 12, 2024.  
These are not the official minutes. For more information, please contact the Corporate Services  
department at 250.723.2146 or email: [corp\\_serv@portalberni.ca](mailto:corp_serv@portalberni.ca).

### ■ BYLAWS

"Waterworks Bylaw No. 5107, 2024", "Sewer Connection and Regulation Bylaw No. 5108, 2024" and "Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Bylaw No. 5109, 2024" were adopted. These amendments are required in order to apply new rates applicable to water consumption/connections, sewer fees/connections as well as solid waste disposal to ensure:

- revenue sufficiency for system maintenance and capital replacements;
- rate equity for fairness;
- resource conservation to improve management and reduce operating costs.

"Official Community Plan Amendment (3830 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue) Bylaw No. 5094" and "Zoning Bylaw Amendment (3830 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue) Bylaw No. 5113" were introduced, given first and second reading, and advanced to a Public Hearing to be held Monday, September 9, 2024 at 6:00 pm in City Hall, Council Chambers.

These bylaws, upon adoption, will enable a multi-residential development at 3830 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

### ■ CORRESPONDENCE

**Alberni Valley Tyee Club | Salmon Festival**  
Council authorized the Alberni Valley Tyee Club access to the Somass Lands public walkway on Thursday, August 29, 2024 to Monday, September 2, 2024 for the purpose of the Salmon Festival weigh station.

**Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation | Community Donation**  
Council supported the recommendation from the Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation to provide a donation to the Navy League Cadet Corps 113 in the amount of \$5,000 towards the purchase of a boat trailer to help with launching and transportation of their vessels to training locations.

Council supported the recommendation from the Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation to provide a donation to the Western Vancouver Island Industrial Heritage Society in the amount of \$5,000 towards the upgrading and maintenance of the Speeder and passenger cars for use in this

year's run along the waterfront and special theme events.

**Laura Donovan | Suicide Prevention Support for Children**

Council directed staff to provide a letter addressed to the Minister of Education in support of improved suicide prevention for children.

**Long Shot Events | Alberni Shores Event**

Council directed staff to prepare a letter requesting further information from Long Shot Events on their organization and their proposed event (Alberni Shores Festival).

Council also received their correspondence summary which included letters from:

- a. Truck Loggers Association | ForestryWorksforBC Campaign
- b. Ministry of Agriculture and Food | Drought Challenges
- c. Ministry of Municipal Affairs | Invitation to meet with the Health Authorities of BC during the upcoming UBCM Convention
- d. Environment Assessment Office | Review of the Environmental Assessment Act, 2018
- e. BC Emergency Health Services | Port Alberni receiving Community Paramedic
- f. Adventure Sport Park | Survey Results
- g. BC Care Providers Association | Home Health – Intermunicipal Business Licence
- h. BC Wildfire Service | Provincial Wildfire Update – July 16, 2024
- i. North Island College | Strategic Plan and Year 3 Dashboard Report
- j. City of Abashiri | Condolences for Councillor John Douglas
- k. Ministry of Housing | Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing Update [SSMUH]
- l. Public Safety Canada – Crime Prevention Branch | National Strategy to Reduce Gun and Gang Violence
- m. Tetra Tech | Dam Safety Review – Lizard Lake Dam and Bainbridge Dam
- n. BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program | 2024/25 Program Intake
- o. Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy | Community Wood Smoke





## Heritage Commission Meeting September 4, 2024 Minutes

Reduction Program and Environmental Data  
Quality Assurance Regulation (EDGAR)

- p. R. Toso, Mobius Books | Argyle Street Design
- q. Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District | News  
Release – Rail Corridor Study
- r. Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District |  
Keeping you Connected June 2024

### ■ NEW BUSINESS

Public Bench Standards | Recommendations  
from the July 29th Committee of the Whole  
Council directed staff to develop City-wide park,  
memorial and pedestrian bench standards  
including a placement strategy associated with  
a needs analysis and to terminate the contract  
for bench placement and advertising effective  
December 31, 2024.

Corporate Strategic Plan Review  
Council received the report 'Corporate Strategic  
Plan Review' dated July 29, 2024.

2024 Council Committee Appointments  
THAT amendments to the Council appointments  
to Committees and Council representatives to  
public bodies, commissions and select  
committees was approved, as follows:

- August Deputy Mayor [Councillor Todd  
Patola]
- Community Investment Program [Councillor  
Cindy Solda]
- Liaison, AV Community Forest Corporation  
[Councillor Deb Haggard]
- Liaison, Learning Council/North Island  
College [Councillor Dustin Dame]
- Liaison, School District #70 [Councillor Charles  
Mealey]
- Member, Tsawak-qin Public Advisory Group  
[Councillor Deb Haggard]

City of Port Alberni Event Support

Council consider providing approval to events  
and festivals for a 5 [five] year period subject to  
event organizers working with City administration  
for operational items and costing.

### ■ QUESTION PERIOD

N. Anderson

Commented about concerns raised about  
Argyle Street Design for parking and inquired  
about the timing of a by-election.

### ■ COUNCIL MEETINGS

The City of Port Alberni now offers hybrid Council  
and Committee of the Whole meetings.

We encourage you to remain informed on City  
business and community topics through the  
following options:

- Attend in-person in City Hall, Council  
Chambers, located at 4850 Argyle Street
- Livestream @ [www.portalberni.ca](http://www.portalberni.ca)
- Join online or by phone using MS Teams

Regular Council meetings are held at 2:00 pm on  
the second and fourth Monday of each month.  
All meeting recordings are posted on the City  
website for viewing.

Complete Council agendas including all  
correspondence and reports are available at  
[portalberni.ca](http://portalberni.ca). Generally, these are posted the  
Friday before each Regular Council meeting and  
are archived on the site.

The Council Summary is prepared following each  
regular Council meeting and posted on the City's  
website. You can also visit the City website and  
sign up to receive summaries delivered directly to  
your inbox.

For more information related to Council  
meetings, including how to participate, please  
visit [www.portalberni.ca/council](http://www.portalberni.ca/council). You may also  
contact the Corporate Services department at  
250.723.2146 or email [corp\\_serv@portalberni.ca](mailto:corp_serv@portalberni.ca).

### ■ MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>

6:00 pm – Committee of the Whole  
Council Chambers

Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>

7:00 pm – Alberni Valley Heritage Commission  
Alberni Valley Museum

Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>

2:00 pm – Regular Council  
Council Chambers





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k. Museum

i. Summer camps

Year	Camp	Participants	Total
2024	Culture Connections (1)	11	40
	Camp Roots	13	
	Dino Camp	12	
	Culture Connections (2)	4	
2023	Art Extravaganza	12	44
	Culture Connections	8	
	Camp Roots (1)	10	
	Camp Roots (2)	8	
	Dino Camp	6	
2022	Camp Roots	13	13
2021	Camp Roots (1)	13	33
	Dino Camp	8	
	Camp Roots (2)	12	

ii. Film Fest

1. Films will be shown at 5pm on the third Sunday of each month
2. Tickets for the films go on sale this week

Season	Date	Film
Fall 2024	Sept. 15	Thelma
	Oct. 20	Great Escaper
	Nov. 17	Boy in the Woods
Winter 2025	Jan. 19	To be announced
	Feb. 16	
	Mar. 16	
	Apr. 20	

iii. Sheila Perry, our new Manager of Culture, starts on October 1

I. Hupačasath First Nation – no report

m. čišaaʔath (Tseshaht) First Nation – no report

7. Next Meeting

a. October 2, 7pm (AV Museum)

8. Moved by Colin to adjourn at 8:09pm.