



Heritage Commission Meeting

June 6th, 2025

Minutes

Location: Maritime Discovery Centre

RECEIVED

OCT 06 2025

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Attendees:

ACRD	Penny Cote
City Council	Charles Mealey
Chamber of Commerce	Jolleen Dick- REGRETS
Community Arts Council	Jane Victoria King
Community at Large	Colin Schult - REGRETS
Historical Society	Gareth Flostrand
Industrial Heritage	Leslie Walerius
Maritime Heritage	Ken Watson
McLean Mill	Richard Spencer
SD 70 – Pacific Rim	Pam Craig - REGRETS
Staff	Sheila Perry

<input type="checkbox"/> Council	<input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporate Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Safety
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agenda	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

File # RCM Oct 14
0540-20-AVMHC-2025

Regrets: Hupačasath First Nation
čišaaʔath (Tseshaht) First Nation

Visitors: Angela Skaley, CAC

Called to Order at 7:01 pm by Chair Gareth Flostrand:

Note: At the end of the meeting, Chair Gareth Flostrand announced her resignation from the Commission effective immediately. On behalf of City Council and the Heritage Commission, Charles Mealey thanked Gareth for her many years of dedicated service and extended best wishes for her future endeavours.

1. Moved by Penny Cote that the agenda of the May 7th, 2025 meeting be approved.
2. Moved by Ken Watson that the minutes of the April 2nd, 2025 meeting be approved as circulated.
Moved by Penny Cote to accept the consent agenda containing monthly reports for April be approved as circulated.
3. Old Business
 - a. HC @ Alberni District Fall Fair – the Chair read aloud a letter from City Council approving the Commission's participation in the 2025 ADFP as well as an update from the sub-committee. Staff advised that ADFP organizers welcome the Commission's participation as this year marks the 80th anniversary of the Fair. Staff will work with the ADFP on options and report back as soon as possible.
 - b. Volunteer Acknowledgement SM Initiative – Ken Watson moved that the Volunteer Acknowledgement SM Initiative be tabled until early 2026 as the immediate focus for the Commission is the Fall Fair. Seconded by Leslie Walerius. Carried.



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4. Correspondence

5. New Business

JULY 1ST COMMUNITY EVENT – After much discussion, participating organization agreed to change the event name to “Celebrate PA!”.

DEACCESSION – Staff presented a report (attached) recommending the deaccessioning and disposal of three historic firearms and one rifle case from the permanent collection of the Alberni Valley Museum (AVM).

Penny Cote moved the following, seconded by Ken Watson:

MOTION:

That the Port Alberni Heritage Commission recommends to Port Alberni City Council the formal deaccessioning of the following items from the Alberni Valley Museum Collection, in accordance with Section 11 of the AVM Collections Policy (2016):

- 1971.80.2 – Winchester Model 1897 Shotgun
- 1976.26.1 – Savage Model 1899 Rifle
- 1976.27.1 – Ithaca Hammerless Shotgun
- Un-accessioned – Large Rifle Gun Storage Case

And further, that the Commission recommends the City authorize staff to pursue disposal of these items through public museums or educational institutions, and, if declined, through public sale in accordance with City asset disposal procedures.

Be it also resolved that any funds resulting from this disposal be restricted for the exclusive use of supporting the care and stewardship of the Museum's permanent collection.

DISCUSSION: Staff suggested that due to the lack of provenance as well as the overall quality and general availability of each rifle, interest by other museums, educational institutions, and public institutions would be limited and therefore does not warrant the staff time associated with trying to re-house the artefacts. In addition, any institution looking to acquire similar artefacts would have access to them through the sale process.



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AMENDED MOTION:

Penny Cote amended the following, seconded by Ken Watson:

That the Port Alberni Heritage Commission recommends to Port Alberni City Council the formal deaccessioning of the following items from the Alberni Valley Museum Collection, in accordance with Section 11 of the AVM Collections Policy (2016):

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- Un-accessioned – Large Rifle Gun Storage Case

And further, that the Commission recommends City Council authorize staff to pursue disposal of these items through public sale in accordance with City asset disposal procedures.

Be it also resolved that any funds resulting from this disposal be restricted for the exclusive use of supporting the care and stewardship of the Museum's permanent collection.

Carried as amended.



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6. REPORTS

A. Community Arts Council

CAC MONTHLY REPORT

May 23, 2025, prepared by Angela Skaley

Visitor Attendance for April: 874

- The 2026 exhibit year was juried by staff and board members, with the finalized schedule to be announced in July.
- The Gift Shop has welcomed new artists, an updated prints display and new prints.
- The ADSS Student Exhibit is now on, titled "Voice Unveiled", sponsored by the Toy Run.
- Our next fundraiser, the Solstice Crafty Cruise is a collaboration with V9Y Catering, sponsored by Dog Mountain Brewing and featuring DJ Spindaddy. We are currently sourcing a locally made craft by an Alberni Valley artist.
- We are currently hiring for two summer students for our children's Summer Camps.
- We are happy to announce funding received by the AV Community Foundation, and acceptance into the Business/Arts Artsvest Program.

Upcoming Events & Exhibitions:

- **May 24 and 25:** Dock+ Mural Painting at the Dock+
- **May 29:** Opening Reception for the ADSS Student Exhibit, titled "Voices Unveiled"
- **May 31:** Kids Workshop in collaboration with the Museum
- **May 31:** "It's serving... art!" pride watercolour workshop
- **June 5:** Watercolour Wednesday
- **June 8:** Pride Drop-In workshop at the Grove
- **June 14:** Port Day, with a creative activity by artist Kalin McDowell
- **June 19:** Watercolour Wednesday
- **June 20:** Summer Solstice Crafty Cruise, aboard the Frances Barkley



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B. SD 70 – Pacific Rim

Heritage Commission Report May 7 2025:

1. **International Education and Newcomers** – planning and registration for the 2025/26 International program is expecting students from Germany, Spain, Japan, Netherlands, Mexico, Italy, Austria, Czech Republic and Taiwan. We currently have 26 active home stay families hosting two students each.
 - One student’s story highlight this year was of a student from Germany who embraced the experience by joining leadership class, volunteered at school events and eventually became the Sr. Girl’s Basketball Team Manager at ADSS. She proudly looked after the Sr. Girls on their trip to the Provincials. She was the delight of the team and coaches when she proclaimed to everyone on the bus
 - “ I LOVE MY LIFE, I LOVE MY LOVE HERE – I don’t want to go home ever!”
2. **Networks of Inquiry and Indigenous Education** - The purpose of NOIIE is to create a just society where every learner crosses the stage with dignity, purpose and options. Eight school teams in Pacific Rim submitted case studies from Howitt Elementary, Wickaninnish Community School, Bamfield Community School, ADSS, Maquinna elementary, Tsuma-as Elementary and Ucluelet Elementary. Topics ranged from fostering connection of students to nature, to building confidence and resiliency in young students through the ‘big buddies’ program, to empower youth to overcome trauma, to engage grade 8 learners to be curious, to increase Nuu-chah-nulth language and culture, to creative problem solving and critical thinking and to more opportunities for imaginative play.
3. Little Mermaid – A Magical Musical Adventure - at ADSS May 9, at 7:00pm and May 10, at 1:00pm and 7:00pm.

C. Chamber of Commerce – NO REPORT



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D. McLean Mill

McLean Mill National Historic Site Update, June 3rd, 2025

Prepared by Elliot Drew

May was the last push to prep and get open for the 2025 season. We opened May 16th and are now staffed Wed-Sun, 10am-4pm. Both the Self Guided Sign Tour and the Children's Stamp Tour are available during this time. We have painted the interior of the McLean Hall and installed the exhibit about the restoration of the Site to be displayed when the space is not being used for an event. This is all covered under our regular admission of \$10 Adult, \$5 Senior and Student, with all Children 7 and under Free. Our Local Season pass is only \$15 and grants anyone with a V9Y postal code admission for the entire season. We remind everyone that admission is only during staffed hours, and the Site remains free to explore otherwise.

While events for May were few, we continue to work to fill our calendar with multiple wedding tours and are once again courting the film industry for this summer. We did host the AVCOC AGM on May 16th with help from our partners at V9Y Culinary.

While we are excited to be open the winter season has been hard on the Mill and a section of the waste conveyor has collapsed causing us to close the section of the grounds behind the Mill. City staff are looking at the situation and hopefully long term plans are being considered for keeping this cornerstone of our heritage intact for the future.

We have also just received notice that Mosaic will be demolishing the McLean Barn in the coming days due to safety concerns.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Grad Photo Day – Jun 21st

Wedding – Jun 28th

Start 7 days a Week Operation – June 30th

Wedding – July 12th

As always, we are proud to be the steward of this local treasure and deeply grateful to share its story with our guests.



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E. Historical Society

ALBERNI DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT
JUNE 4, 2025

- Our AGM was held Thursday, May 29, 2025 in the museum. The staff of the museum surprised us with a 60th Birthday cake & a lovely card. A Huge thank you to our friends at the museum.
- The elected Board consists of: Diane Best; Judy Carlson; Marlene Dietrich; Diane Dobson; Gareth Flostrand; Katy Lekich; Maxine Munsil; Glenda Noiles; Marta Williamson.
- Join us at Echo Centre, Thursday June 12 and help us celebrate our 60th Birthday. The theme is "Reminiscence of the "Mall". We will have guest speakers, photographs & memorabilia. And of course, Birthday Cake! Free admission!
- Volunteer hours last month were 244 3/4.
- Our latest Facebook article by Diane Dobson is "Parker's Hobby Corner". Read and forward it to someone you think might be interested in the History of the Alberni Valley.
- The Archives is open Tues-Thur. 11am to 3 pm.



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F. Maritime Heritage Society



Port Alberni Maritime Heritage Society
Report to the Heritage Commission
June 4, 2025

Hours of Operation

The Gallery and the Lighthouse are currently open for regular public viewing with hours as follows:

- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday 11am to 3pm

Starting on June 30, our Summer hours take effect and we will be open as follows:

- Tuesday to Sunday (Six days/wk) 9:30am to 4:30pm. Closed on Mondays.

Exhibit Guide Positions

We are currently recruiting for Exhibit Guide Positions. During our summer season these Exhibit Guides welcome visitors to the Gallery and Lighthouse and provide tours of our exhibits. In addition, they help plan and deliver our weekly children's programs and special events such as Pirate Day. See our facebook page for job posting specifics. If you, or someone you know is interested in one of these positions please submit a resume to ken-watson@shaw.ca by June 14th. Thanks to the Canada Summer Jobs Program for funding towards these positions.

Summer Programs

We will once again be offering summer programs geared towards children and youth at the Gallery and the Lighthouse. Maritime themed crafts, games and stories are hosted for children each Saturday morning thought the summer. The Pirate day event for children will be on Saturday July 26th.

"Teak Lady" Restoration

Our volunteers are continuing the renovation of this little vessel. Thanks to Beaver Creek Home Center and McLean & Higgens Plumbing for generous donations of needed materials. If you are interested in knowing more about this vessel's interesting local and international history check the blog on our website. We hope to have the Teak Lady back at the Boatyard before "Port Day" celebrations on June 14th.

Membership Renewal

We are struggling to maintain membership levels needed to support our provincial gaming funding. If you haven't yet renewed or would like to be a new member please contact Don Jones at mdjones@shaw.ca or 250 731-7212.

Contact Information

Telephone	250-723-6164
Website	portalbernimaritimeheritage.ca
Facebook	maritimediscoverycentre
Email	portalbernimhs@gmail.com

Respectfully Submitted

Ken Watson , PAMHS President



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G. Industrial Heritage Society

1. General WVIHS Information:

Requested Information:

- a. Heritage Commission Awards:
APR Manager Richard Spencer – Alb.Pac.Railway
- b. AV Museum Collection Policy:
Representatives: Bob East (Heritage Centre)
Bruce Holland (Alb.Pac. Railway)
- c. Heritage Commission Alternate:
APR Manager Richard Spencer

2. Alberni Pacific Railway – Richard Spencer, APR Manager

* The APR is prepping for our start up weekend on June 7th.

* The 2025 class of 7 new APR crew members have now been rules qualified.

The APR now has 24 qualified crew members.

*Work carry's on in the shop, on the track and in the office preparing for 2025 operations, including prepping our two locomotives, the No. 11 and No. 7.

3. Industrial Heritage Centre – David Hooper, Bob East & Paul Blake

May Events: (David Hooper)

MAY 3- HOSTING "Model A" club from the Mainland, incl. members of "BC Vintage Trucks Museum" in Cloversale

May 6 – hosting Alberni Elementary Kindergarten Class

Upcoming Events: (David Hooper)

June 9 - hosting three School class visits:

Maquinna Elementary Gr. 2 visit at Heritage Centre

June 21 – Volunteer Fire Dept. Anniversaries (Sproat Lake & Coombs

Sproat Lake requesting 1939 Ford

Coombs requesting 1928 Chev. (60th Anniversary)

July 1st – Canada Day Event at Harbour Quay

July 12-13 – BC Forest Discovery Centre, Duncan – AHS Truck show

July 19 – Rotary "Color Fest" at Blair Park – invitation to participate

August 24 – Parksville Railway Days – Parksville Museum

August 30-31 – WVIHS Antique Trucks & Machinery Show

September 6 – ADFF – Fall Fair Parade

October 4 – Alberni Co-op Members Day Event – Glenwood Centre

Donations Received: Major Supporter: (Bob East)



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May 27 - We have lost a great exhibit and our reliable low-bed tractor when the Kingsley Trucking went into receivership and the Marmon and Volve were picked up and returned. These 2 units have been on loan to the I.H.S. for 9 years.

We have a usable Plan "B" truck but, we will have to pay Insurance and maintenance = an extra annual expense.

Industrial Heritage Centre – Shop: (Bob East)

The IHC is in the process to repurpose the 1906 Bloedel Stewart and Welsh SAFE. It has been relocated and now on display in the front entrance of the IHC. It has been in the IHC collection since Franklin River Office closed.

This time of year, the mechanics are preparing the trucks for parades, local events and upcoming trips to Coombs Fire Dept (60th Anniversary), Lake Cowichan Days Parade and Duncan Truck Show. This involves: maintenance (oil to brakes), cleaning, polishing.

4. WVIHS Memberships

* Memberships are now available for 2025.

Anyone wanting to renew a membership or become a member of the WVIHS can do so by visiting the Industrial Heritage Center during open hours or going online to www.ihsporalberni.ca/membership.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Leslie Walerius
Western Vancouver Island Industrial Heritage Society



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H. City Council



CITY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

An information report summarizing the Regular meeting of Council held May 26, 2025.
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.

STAFF REPORTS

Quarterly Departmental Report

Council received the Fire department Quarterly Report for the period January 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025.

BYLAWS

"**Respectful Behaviour Bylaw No. 5129, 2025**" was adopted. This bylaw will provide clear expectations for conduct in City facilities and at City events and reinforce the City's commitment to maintaining a safe, inclusive and respectful civic environment.

CORRESPONDENCE

Council received their correspondence summary which included letters from:

- a. Union of BC Municipalities | 2025 Resolutions
- b. AVICC | Reforming the Local Government Act – A Roadmap
- c. North Coast Regional District | Pacific Northern Gas Proposed Increase of Natural Gas Delivery Rates
- d. ACRD Board Highlights | April 2025
- e. ACRD Media Release | NIC Greenhouse Propagation Course
- f. Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce Media Release | Board Appointments
- g. AV Museum and Heritage Commission Minutes | April 2, 2025

REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA

Council released for public consumption that terms of the months of operation be revised for Unit 17 in Spirit Square at Harbour Quay from May 1st through October 31st to June 1st through September 30th and that following advertisement, should there be no applications received, that staff offer the unit free of charge to the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce for the 2025 season.

Council released for public consumption amendment of the "City of Port Alberni 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5123, 2025" by transferring \$7,000 from Line 21190 – Receptions and Other Services & Line 21259 - Other

Common Services to Line 21110 – Mayor & 21130 – Council, to provide an option for Council benefits coverage for dependents.

NEW BUSINESS

Master Plan Update

Council amended the "City of Port Alberni 2025-2029 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5123, 2025" for the purpose of Capital Plan changes for Master Planning projects as follows:

- a) Reallocate \$26,000 from project #24004, "Fire Services Master Plan", to project #24001, "Parks, Recreation & Culture Master Plan";
- b) Reallocate \$124,000 from project #24004, "Fire Services Master Plan", to proposed 2026 capital project "Development Cost Charges Update".

2025 UBCM Resolutions

Council received a report outlining previously submitted resolutions that were endorsed for consideration at the 2025 Union of BC Municipalities [UBCM] Convention taking place in September 2025 related to fibre decline and the need for sustainable fibre models, and regarding establishing a framework for intergovernmental relations with First Nations.

Community Heritage Commission | 2025 Alberni District Fall Fair

Council authorized the Community Heritage Commission to participate in the 2025 Alberni District Fall Fair to host an information and engagement booth, and to conduct a short community survey regarding cultural and heritage awareness, interests, and future initiatives.

Development Variance Permit (DVP 125) | 4691 Gertrude Street

Council authorized the issuance of Development Variance Permit No. 125 granting the following variance to the Zoning Bylaw with conditions at 4691 Gertrude Street:

- Vary Section 6.7.4 to increase the permitted height of a fence from the rear of the required front yard setback to the rear of the property to 2.44 metres for a variance of 0.64 metres.



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Paper Mill Dam Maintenance

Council received a report regarding maintenance operations at Paper Mill Dam Park during the summer months, in light of the recent reduction in the maintenance budget.

QESITON PERIOD

R. Smith inquired about changes to Council benefits to include dependents.

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
- 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. 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. You may also contact the Corporate Services department at 250.723.2146 or email corp_serv@portalberni.ca.

MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

Wednesday, June 4th

7:00 p.m. | Heritage Commission
Alberni Valley Museum

Monday, June 9th

2:00 pm | Regular Council
Council Chambers

Monday, June 16th

6:00 p.m. | Committee of the Whole
Council Chambers



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I. Regional District – no report

**Highlights from the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD)
Board of Directors Meetings - April 2025**

APRIL 9 & 23

DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- The team from KPMG, made up of Lead Audit Engagement Partner Lenora Lee and Senior Manager Cameron Rice-Gural, presented the 2024 ACRD Audit Findings Report, and the Board approved the 2024 Audited Financial Statements.
- Marcie DeWitt, Coordinator of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional Health Network, presented a summary of the 2023-2024 activities for the network.
- MLA for Mid-Island Pacific Rim Josie Osborne provided a 2025 update on the MLA office. She also explained the services they provide to the Board and their constituents.
- Inspector Kim Bruce, Officer in Charge for the Port Alberni RCMP, presented the 2025 First Quarter Policing Report.

CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

The Board of Directors will provide letters of support to:

- The Alberni District Fall Fair Association supporting their application to the Province of British Columbia's Ministry of Tourism New Destination Events Program Grant
- The Alberni Valley Hospice Society confirming that their services extend to residents within the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, specifically including residents in the Alberni Valley including Beaver Creek, Beaufort, Cherry Creek, Bamfield, and Sproat Lake outside of the boundaries of the City of Port Alberni, while also supporting their grant application to the Province of British Columbia's Gaming Grant program.
- Huu-ay-aht First Nations for their application to the Government of Canada's Active Transport Grant.

REQUEST FOR DECISION

- The Board of Directors approved amending the Island Rai Corridor Consulting Services contract with HDR Inc. to include a track and bridge condition assessment of Port Alberni Subdivisions in the amount of \$61,800 (excluding GST).
- The Board of Directors supported the grant funding application to UBCM for the application-based funding program, Next Generation 911 for up to \$75,000 to purchase equipment for the Region's volunteer fire departments.
- The Board of Directors approved a Service Agreement with Tseshaht First Nation to provide Custom Transit services to the Tsahaheh Reserve.
- The Board of Directors directed staff to proceed with the refurbishment of the Welcome to the Alberni Valley highway sign.
- The Board of Directors amended the Development Procedures and Fees Bylaw to exempt Temporary Use Permit application fees for agri-tourism uses that comply with Provincial regulations.

PLANNING MATTERS

Permits issued:

- Development Variances:
 - DVD25002 - 18440 Pacific Rim Highway (Sproat Lake)
- Temporary Use Permits:
 - TUP24009 - Hook Bay, Alberni Inlet (Bamfield)
 - TUP24012 - 245 Albion Crescent (Long Beach)

Permits considered a first time and proceeding to public input:

- Temporary Use Permits:
 - TUP24008 - 10404 Marina Vista Drive (Sproat Lake)

J.



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**Highlights from the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD)
Board of Directors Meetings - April 2025**

APRIL 9 & 23

CELEBRATING SUCCESS



The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District and their project partners, Hupačasath First Nation and North Island College, are pleased to announce that 10 students graduated this year from the Greenhouse Propagation and Production course.

PLANNING MATTERS (CONTINUED)

Rezoning and Bylaws

- Deferred:
 - RF24015 - 6088 Cottam Road (Cherry Creek) deferred to allow staff to work with the applicant to address concerns raised by the public.
- Approved:
 - RE24012 - 6320 & 6326 Beaver Creek Road (Beaver Creek)

STAFF REPORTS

- The Board of Directors received a staff report for information on the CoNEXT Climate Preparedness Hub Summary. CoNEXT is a climate preparedness program to empower community leaders and staff in small, rural and remote communities in BC in adapting to climate change and building resilience. The program ran from Fall 2024 to Spring 2025.



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT
REGIONAL DISTRICT

MEETINGS

- Accessibility Committee** - May 13, 10 am - ACRD Board Room/Zoom
- West Coast Committee (Grant in Aid)** - May 14, 10 am - ACRD Board Room/Zoom
- Board of Directors** - May 14, 1:30 pm - followed by the Regional Hospital District Meeting - ACRD Board Room/Zoom
- Emergency Program Executive Committee Program** - May 15, 10 am - ACRD Board Room/Zoom
- Committee-of-the-Whole (Grant in Aid)** - May 21, 10 am - ACRD Board Room/Zoom
- Alberni Valley & Bamfield Services Committee (Grant in Aid)** - May 21, 1:30 pm - ACRD Board Room/Zoom
- Board of Directors** - May 28, 1:30 pm - House of Huu-ay-aht (171 Nookemus Rd.)/Zoom
- Board meetings are typically held in the ACRD boardroom and virtually. Join by:**
1. Attend in person at the ACRD boardroom
 2. Apply to appear as a delegate
 3. Register to participate in a Board or Committee meeting via Zoom Webinar
 4. Submit questions or comments on an agenda to responses@acrd.bc.ca
 5. Visit the Regional District website at www.acrd.bc.ca for further details on public participation in meetings.



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- K. Community at Large – NO REPORT FOR APRIL
- L. Museum

AVM | MAY AT A GLANCE

GENERAL ATTENDANCE:	1470
TOTAL ATTENDANCE:	1641
PROGRAMS:	18
INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS (STRUCTURED LEARNING):	113
HOURS OPEN TO PUBLIC:	147
OBJECT CARED FOR:	~5.400
REPOSITORY AGREEMENTS:	7

EXHIBITIONS |

Resist (18 March – 12 July, 2025)



Still Standing
By Sharon Allman



Grids and Strings and Other
Things
By Terry Aske



Fighting The Current
By Diana Bartelings



Resisting Change
By Darlene Bayley

Resist is an exhibition featuring artworks by members of the Fibre Art Network, a cooperative based in Western Canada dedicated to advancing fibre as an art form. In this context, the double entendre of *Resist* refers both to the techniques employed in fabric manipulation and to methods of social activism. Visitors are encouraged to explore the diverse techniques applied to fabric while also reflecting on contemporary issues concerning the human condition.

PROGRAMS | FAMILY/CHILDRENS PROGRAMS: 10 TOTAL

- Wonder Workshops (6-12 years)
- Birthday Parties (Ages 5-10 years)
- Museum Minis – Pre-K
- SD 70 – School Tours

ADULT PROGRAMS: 8 TOTAL

- Kumihimo Workshop
- Cordage Workshop
- Spinners & Weavers | Knitters
- TIFF Film Series



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- M. Hupačasath First Nation – no report
- N. čišaaʔaṭḥ (Tseshaht) First Nation – no report

- 7. Next Meeting
 - A. September 3rd, 7pm (AVM)
- 8. Moved by Ken Watson to adjourn at 9:30 pm.



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Attachment:

HERITAGE COMMISSION REPORT | Recommendation for Deaccessioning of Firearms and Rifle Storage Case from the AVM Collection

TO: PORT ALBERNI HERITAGE COMMISSION
FROM: DIRECTOR OF CULTURE
DATE: JUNE 4, 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report recommends the deaccessioning and disposal of three historic firearms and one rifle case from the permanent collection of the Alberni Valley Museum (AVM):

1. Winchester Model 1897 Pump-Action 12-Gauge Shotgun (Accession No. 1971.80.2)
2. Savage Model 1899 "Smokeless Steel" Lever Action Rifle (Accession No. 1976.26.1)
3. Ithaca Hammerless Double Barrel 12-Gauge Shotgun (Accession No. 1976.27.1)
4. Large Rifle Gun Case (Un-accessioned storage case used for firearms)

These objects no longer meet the criteria for inclusion in the Museum's permanent collection. Their continued storage imposes unnecessary regulatory, financial, and curatorial burdens.

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

Recent review and research identified these artefacts as:

- Lacking relevant local provenance or interpretive value to Port Alberni or the Alberni Valley
- Rarely or never exhibited since accessioning in the 1970s
- Removed from public display due to changing legislation and safety concerns
- Requiring disproportionate resources for storage, licensing, insurance, and regulatory compliance
- Inadequately aligned with AVM's current collection development goals
- The large rifle storage case, designed to house these firearms, is also no longer required and occupies valuable storage space

Collections Policy Alignment

Under Section 11 of the AVM Collections Policy (2016), deaccessioning is appropriate when:

- Objects fall outside the Museum's collecting mandate (11.a.ii)
- They pose preservation or safety concerns (11.a.i, iv, x)
- They are duplicative or lack a definable purpose (11.a.v)
- They require resources that cannot be ethically justified (5.b.v, 7, 8, and 11.b.iv)



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CONCLUSION | Each of the three firearms and the associated storage case satisfy multiple criteria for deaccessioning.

DEACCESSION SUMMARY

1. Winchester Model 1897 (Acc. No. 1971.80.2)
 - High-production U.S. firearm with no regional connection
 - Requires enhanced security or restricted display infrastructure
2. Savage Model 1899 (Acc. No. 1976.26.1)
 - Owned by settler William R. Piggott but lacks significant local narrative or interpretive context
 - More relevant to (US) national rather than regional firearm history
3. Ithaca Hammerless Double Barrel (Acc. No. 1976.27.1)
 - Owned by early resident John F. Bledsoe; limited educational use; common model
4. Large Rifle Gun Case
 - Purpose-built for the firearms listed above
 - No longer required and consumes significant exhibition and storage space.

PROPOSED DISPOSITION PLAN

In accordance with Policy 11.d, the following disposal options are recommended:

1. Primary Option: Offer the firearms to museums, educational institutions, or public institutions. Staff recommends not exercising this option as the artefacts in question have little provenance information as well as the overall quality and general availability fall short of museum quality.
2. Secondary Option: Offer firearms and the storage case for public sale via:
 - Auction with public notice, or
 - Licensed firearms dealer (where legal and appropriate),
 - and in accordance with City of Port Alberni's asset disposal procedures

Note: Any funds realized from the sale of these artefacts shall be restricted for use in the care, display, conservation, and documentation of the Museum's permanent collection.

3. Final Option (if necessary): Disposal through destruction, but only if the items are deemed hazardous and all other means of disposal are exhausted.