



**Alberni Valley Museum and Heritage Commission
Meeting of Wednesday November 2, 2016
7:00 pm in the AV Museum**

Minutes

Attending:

Bert Simpson
Judy Carlson
Penny Cote
David Taberner
Gareth Flostrand
Pam Craig
Marta Williamson
Dan Washington
Jamie Morton, Manager of Museum, Heritage and Culture

Regrets:

John Douglas
Libby Manson
Neil Malbon
Jolleen Dick
Paul McDougall

Called to order 7:05 PM.

1. Moved by Pam Craig, seconded by Penny Cote, that the agenda of the November 2, 2016 meeting be approved.
2. Moved by Pam Craig, seconded by Penny Cote, that the minutes of the October 5 meeting, as amended, be approved.
3. Correspondence
 - No correspondence.

4. Reminder of Commission's Christmas Social & Heritage Awards – December
 - a. Distributed food contribution sign-up list.
 - b. Asked for additional award recipient suggestions.
5. Updates:
 - a. Arts, Culture, and Heritage Plan:
 - i. Gareth Flostrand summarized the October 26 stakeholders' group meeting, at which consultant Nene Kraneveldt presented the strategy for moving forward in preparing the plan – gathering data through interviews and public events, before packaging results in a community-specific form. Gareth Flostrand noted the need to have such a plan in place.
 - ii. Marta Williamson mentioned the recent examples prepared for other communities – Coquitlam, Nanaimo, Tofino, for instance – as prototypes for the Port Alberni plan – and noted how such a plan can provide a lifeline for the arts, culture, & heritage sector.
 - iii. Gareth Flostrand reminded the Commission that culture and heritage was presented as one of the “pillars” of the City's Strategic Plan.
 - b. City of Port Alberni Online Budget Survey
 - i. Jamie Morton noted that this was being undertaken as an early phase of budget development, and provided a mechanism for supporting the cause of heritage and the AV Museum into 2017.

6. Reports:

6.1 Pam Craig reported for the School Board

- Tim Masso, a 13-year old Grade 8 student, is teaching Nuuchaltn language in Ucluelet Secondary School.
- The Early Year Centre at EJ Dunn was featured on Global Television – it links service providers with students and parents.
- A “Neighbourhood of Learning” has been established at ADSS – an early adopter of this model, which provides various resources, with easy access for students.

6.2 Marta Williamson reported for the Community Arts Council

- Exhibit opening at Rollin Art Centre on November 12 – “Art College Brats”, featuring Chris Doman and Pam Holl Hunt.
- Fiddle & Dance performance with The Fitzgeralds – November 20, 2-4 PM, at the ADSS auditorium – tickets \$20.
- Mistletoe Market at the Rollin Art Centre – December 8-9.
- Colouring book fundraiser, using art from local artists – 30 pages.
- Connie Watts is working on a panel, with student involvement, for the 8th Avenue Learning Centre/VAST – should be done by December.

6.3 Jamie Morton [for John Douglas] reported for PAMHS

- Gallery opening and various programs have been extended into the fall, with the hiring of part-time coordinator Nicole Shanks-Startup.

- The shelter over the *Swan* – built with ACRD funding and volunteer labour – & timbers from McLean Mill – is nearly complete – future plans are to provide a viewing deck and continue with the restoration of the vessel.

6.4 Gareth Flostrand reported for the Community at Large.

- New local businesses/owners – Double R Meats, NIC cafeteria, “Boundless Beauty” clothing, expansion of Boomerang Café, Saasin Gift Shop, etc.
- November 13 – the final film in the 2016 Fall series of the AV Museum’s Film Fest, “This Changes Everything”.
- The Timbre Choir presents “The Gift”, Sunday November 27 at 2:30 PM at the ADSS auditorium.
- Folkfest AGM – November 14 at 4:00 PM – basement at Abbeyfield.
- Canadian Red Cross Loan Cupboard and Community Policing Office – both looking for volunteers.
- Many Christmas Craft Fairs coming up – weekends of November 5, 12, 19.
- The Blue Marlin’s Christmas Sail Past – December 4.

6.5 Judy Carlson reported for the ADHS

- October 20 – Lynne Bowen presented on Italian immigration – good talk & good audience response.
- Contributed knitting patterns to the AV Museum’s WWI sock-knitting program.

6.6.a David Taberner reported for the WVIHS.

- November 14-17 – BCIT practicum to be hosted.
- Santa Run train coming up on December 10-11, now with 5 runs on Saturday, and 4 on Sunday – tickets for sale at Echo Centre starting November 14.
- Visitation at McLean Mill is down by a few hundred for the June-October season.
- 2016 gaming grant came through – operating funds.
- New railway volunteers – conductor, firemen, and trainees.

6.6.b Bert Simpson reported for the WVIHS.

- Problems with “Bertha” – the society’s primary highway tractor – seems to be in the driveline – Scott Robinson of Kingsley Trucking has loaned the organization a newer highway tractor for temporary use.
- Salvaging rail etc. from the Catalyst rail operation.
- Progress continues on the restoration of the WVIHS Baldwin #112 locomotive.
- David Hooper has released another *Spot News* newsletter.
- Industrial Art Show – Train Station, November 17-19, featuring work of Doug Harrison and Michael Dean.

6.7 Dan Washington reported for the City of Port Alberni.

- Budget process – starting this year with the online poll to get public input – to be followed by public meetings.
- The Salmon Festival next year will be held at Tyee Landing – expected that the Clutesi Marina will be a construction zone in 2017.

6.8 Jamie Morton reported for the AV Museum.

- Very pleased to have the travelling exhibit from the Royal BC Museum in place – “BC’s War: 1914-1918” – Shelley Harding is working with ADSS Civilizations class to produce panels on some Alberni participants, to provide more local content – official opening is Wednesday, November 9, at 7:00 PM.
- “Vacation Land” has been tucked away, and will be remounted in January 2017.
- Educational programming is being developed for the WWI exhibit, and a sock-knitting program, using WWI patterns from the ADHS, is proving very popular.
- Film Fest – the final film in the fall series, “This Changes Everything”, to be shown on November 13 – this has been a popular series, well-received by the community.
- Planning underway for a Shaw TV Community Access program dealing with local heritage – to be produced and presented by Gerald Labute, with input from the AV Museum.
- Budget process underway – a number of concerns, in the circumstances.

6.9 Penny Cote reported for the ACRD

- November 11 – Remembrance Day ceremony at Glenwood Centre.
- Noting possible UBCM funding opportunity for arts and culture – materials to be forwarded to Jamie Morton for distribution to Heritage Commission members.
- Budget time at the ACRD – grant-in-aid proposals should be submitted soon.
- February 3-4 the Alberni Valley is hosting the Island Agricultural Show at Glenwood Centre – could have some heritage opportunity – the AV Museum offered to provide a tour of its facilities for participants, as a breakout option.

6.10 David Taberner and Bert Simpson [for Neil Malbon] reported for McLean Mill.

- Foot bridge at salmon counting fence, and interpretive trail development, at Kitsuksis Creek.
- Restaurant is still unfinished – Liz Malbon did well with off-site prepared and delivered food this summer – but a very confused project, and much more costly than anticipated.
- Roughly 6,300 visitors in July & August – down a little from previous years – special events fairly well attended.
- Three more cruise ship tours anticipated this fall.
- Fire pump failure – possible \$65,000 repair cost – temporary system is in place.
- Kitchen project moving forward again.
- 60-site campground going in next door.
- Shooting under way for promotional videos – coordinated by the Chamber of Commerce.

7. Other Business:

- Bert Simpson reported briefly on his 50th high school graduation reunion – noted some of the social changes from that time in Port Alberni – which led to a more general discussion.

8. Next Meeting

- 6:30 PM, Wednesday, December 7, 2015, at Echo Centre for the business meeting, followed by the Christmas Social and Heritage Awards at the AV Museum at 7:00.

9. Adjournment

- Moved at 8:28 by David Taberner to adjourn the meeting.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "G Flostrand".

Gareth Flostrand, Chair
Alberni Valley Museum and Heritage Commission

Davina Hartwell, City Clerk
City of Port Alberni