

RECEIVED

FEB 13 2024

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Alberni Valley Museum
and Heritage Commission



Heritage Commission Meeting
January 3, 2024
Minutes

Location:
AV Museum

Attendees:
Community at Large
Historical Society
Industrial Heritage
Maritime Heritage
School District 70
Staff

Colin Schult
Gareth Flostrand
Richard Spencer
Ken Watson, Don Jones
Pam Craig
Willa Thorpe

- Council
 - Mayor
 - CAO
 - Finance
 - Corporate Services
 - Agenda
 - Economic Development
 - Engineering/PW
 - Parks, Rec. & Heritage
 - Development Services
 - Community Safety
 - Other _____
- File # RCM Feb 26/24
0540-20-AMHS

Regrets:
ACRD
Chamber of Commerce
City Council
Community Arts Council
Hupačasath First Nation
McLean Mill
čišaaʔath (Tseshaht) First Nation

Called to order: 7:04pm

1. Moved by Pam, seconded by Colin, that the agenda of the January 3, 2023 meeting be approved as circulated.
2. Moved by Pam, seconded by Ken, that the minutes of the December 6, 2023 meeting be approved as amended.
3. Old Business
 - a. Heritage Week 2024
 - i. Local organizations are welcome to post their Heritage Week events for free on Heritage BC's website: <https://heritagebc.ca/events-activities/heritage-week/layer-by-layer/heritage-week-host/>
4. Correspondence
 - a. Commission Reappointment – Colin Schult
 - b. 2024 Meeting Schedule
5. New Business – none



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6. Reports

a. Maritime Heritage Society



PAMHS Report to the Heritage Commission
January 3, 2024

The PAMHS recent activities as well as upcoming events are summarized below:

- **2024 Memberships** – In order to help boost membership and involvement in the PAMHS the membership fee for 2024 has been reduced to \$10. If you are a past member or would like to be a new member, please give us a call or stop by the Gallery to sign up.
- **Maritime Art Display** - A new temporary display of maritime related art created by local artists is currently in the planning stages. Art selected for display will also be available to purchase. Our display chair, Dave Cox is working on this exciting new with input and assistance from our friends at the Community Arts Council. This new display is scheduled to open in Spring of 2024
- **Lighthouse Upgrade Fundraising** – We are fundraising for required exterior upgrades to our iconic waterfront lighthouse structure. We reached out to several of the leading businesses in the Alberni Valley before Christmas and have had some positive responses. So far, we have raised \$14,000 towards this project.
- **Space Rentals Available** – The Lighthouse and Gallery are available for special event rentals on a very affordable basis. For 2024 we already have one wedding booking in January. Check our Facebook page or contact our Facilities Coordinator for rates and availability.
- **Open Hours** – We have now resumed our normal “winter hours” schedule. We are open from 11am-4pm, Fridays to Monday. Closed Tuesdays to Thursday. In addition, groups can still make bookings to view our Gallery by contacting our Facilities Coordinator, Chris Johnson by telephone, email, or our FB page. Our contact information is:

Tel. 250 723-6164
Web portalbernimaritimeheritage.ca
FB [maritimediscoverycentre](https://www.facebook.com/maritimediscoverycentre)
Email portalbernimhs@gmail.com

b. Historical Society

- i. Happy New Year and Best Wishes for a Healthy & Happy 2024!
- ii. A big thank you to all our very dedicated volunteers for putting in 226 3/4 volunteer hours in December.
- iii. The Archive volunteers took a much-needed break during the Holiday Season. We are now back at work, Tuesday – Thursday, 11 am – 3 pm.
- iv. 2024 Historical Society membership is now due. \$10 per calendar year. You can pay by cash, cheque or e-transfer.



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c. Regional District



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT

KEEPING YOU CONNECTED

**Highlights from the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
(ACRD) Board of Directors Meeting - December 13, 2023**

DECEMBER 13 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

SWEARING IN NEW BOARD MEMBER




After serving Uchucklesaht Tribe on the ACRD Board for almost 10 years, Chief Wilfred Cootes handed over his Tribe's seat to Moriah Cootes. She was sworn in as a Director for the ACRD by General Manager of Administrative Services Wendy Thomson and welcomed by Vice-Chair Deb Haggard.

Later in the day, at the regular Board of Directors meeting, the Board of Directors wished Wendy Thomson good luck in her retirement, as her last day as the General Manager of Administrative Services was December 15. Wendy will be missed at the ACRD after working there for over 30 years in various positions. Good luck Wendy!

DECEMBER 13 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

INCLUSIVE REGIONAL GOVERNANCE
The Board of Directors awarded the Inclusive Regional Governance Consulting Services contract to ECOPLAN International. Phase 1 is for \$44,895, with additional phases at a cost of \$20,000, subject to grant funding. ECOPLAN will guide the ACRD's inclusive regional governance project. The ACRD worked with the ECOPLAN in the past when exploring the relationship between the Regional District and self-governing First Nations, prior to the Maa-nulth Nations joining the Board.

PAID PARKING AT LONG BEACH AIRPORT
Following a six-month pilot project exploring the feasibility of parking at at Long Beach Airport, the Board approved a bylaw that would make paid parking permanent. The pilot has shown that revenues during the summer months generate positive revenue, whereas costs exceed revenue in the winter with an annual positive income of \$1,200 for the year. There are additional benefits that have resulted from the pilot including stall licensing and improved parking monitoring and reduced illegal camping problems.

PROVINCIAL GROWING COMMUNITIES FUND
The Board approved the allocation of the Provincial Growing Communities Fund grant of \$1.9 million. The funding is allocated to the following projects:

- Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department west side fire hall
- Beaver Creek Fire Department feasibility study for future of existing hall
- Sproat Lake Fire Department expansion of Hall #3 Harold Bishop
- Beaver Creek Water System capital upgrades
- West Coast Transit bus and shelter construction
- Alberni Valley Aquatics – Proposed Service feasibility study
- Long Beach Airport wastewater treatment plant upgrade
- ACRD Office feasibility study for future of building

Have a safe and happy holiday season

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Holiday Closures

<p>ACRD office <small>3308 Fifth Avenue, Port Alberni</small></p> <p>December 23-January 1</p>	<p>Third Avenue Recycling Depot <small>8630 Third Avenue, Port Alberni</small></p> <p>Christmas Day and New Year's Day Closing at noon on December 24 & 31</p>
<p>Alberni Valley Sort'nGo Centre <small>Formerly AV Landfill 1080 McCoy Lake Road Port Alberni</small></p> <p>Christmas Day and New Year's Day</p>	<p>West Coast Landfill <small>1600 Keesee Hwy Road, Tofino</small></p> <p>Christmas Day and New Year's Day</p>

The emergency line for Beaver Creek Water is 250-206-0021.
The emergency line for Millstream Water is 250-726-6106.

250-720-2700 www.acrd.bc.ca 3008 Fifth Ave. @ACRDgov



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- d. Community Arts Council
 - i. Gallery
 - 1. Mistletoe Market – was very successful this year. In fact, the final day we set a record for sales, at close to \$900.
 - 2. Next exhibit is “A Life’s Work”, a special exhibit featuring the works of the late E.J. Miller-Towle. It opens January 30. Meet and greet February 3rd, 1-3pm.
 - ii. Workshops, 2024
 - 1. Jim Sears, - intro to using coloured Pencils – Saturday, February 24, at the Grove Gallery.
 - 2. Susan Shaefer – Making Waves – acrylic painting – Sat., April 13 ,10-230pm
 - 3. Susan Shaefer – Limited Palette – acrylic painting – Sat., June 8, 10-230pm
 - 4. Cheryl Frehlich – two-day beginner workshop on paverpol.
 - iii. Fundraisers
 - 1. Greater Victoria Police Chorus – Sunday April 14, 2:30pm
 - 2. Hilltop Nurseries – Mother’s Day
 - 3. Book Sale – Mother’s Day weekend, Athletic Hall
 - iv. Board Members – We are currently looking for more board members. We have one new board member, Angela Skaley, but we are also losing a member, Sue Thomas.
 - v. AGM – February 22, 2024 700pm at the Grove Gallery
- e. Chamber of Commerce – no report
- f. McLean Mill
 - i. We have finished 2023 with a sprint in December. After a restful November, the days leading up to the Holidays have been quite busy at McLean Mill.
 - ii. We kicked off the month on Dec 2 with a 28-person tour for Club Trofeo, an exotic Car Club from Vancouver, who were amazed at the insight into the hard reality of 1930’s working life. It was also fun to tour the parking lot full of high-end cars and have them share some of their adventures with us.
 - iii. We were also very honoured to host holiday gatherings for the Port Authority, Hertel’s Meats and NTC. While we chose not to completely deck out the courtyard with lights this year, we could not resist decorating the Hall to add to the festive ambiance for our rentals.
 - iv. The practical side of working on-site during the winter also took up a fair bit of time. Raking leaves, cleaning gutters, and ensuring that we are ready for the winter weather was a daily theme over the month. We have also



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completed cataloguing and packing up the office, cookhouse, bunkhouse, and any other artefacts that need to be store for the winter. This has been and ongoing project to ensure that we are properly tending the assets we have been entrusted to care for.

- v. We are also excited to see other projects onsite completed with the Arnold McLean house porch and siding repaired; we will once again be able to allow visitors to explore this building. Storage space for the pieces removed from the Barn is coming along and a complete upgrade of the fire system for the Courtyard buildings has been completed. We are grateful to the City and staff for their efforts to ensure that our local historical treasure is cared for.
 - vi. On top of all this, we continued our reflections on the past season and planning for 2024. We are working hard on a new project for May that I hope to announce soon as well as putting together the pieces for next year's returning events.
 - vii. We at McLean Mill wish you all the happiest of Holiday Seasons and a safe, prosperous, and hopefully "uneventful" 2024.
- g. City Council – no report



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h. Industrial Heritage Society



**Western Vancouver Island
Industrial Heritage Society**

January 3rd, 2024 Report to the Heritage Commission

1. WVIHS Members held a well-attended Christmas social gathering on December 12th. After that, activity at the Industrial Heritage Center and APR Roundhouse started to slow for the holidays with volunteers getting a well-deserved break.
2. 'Tis the season to be planning. The crew at the Industrial Heritage Center have been project planning for 2024, which includes continued restoration work to the '58 Hayes. We are also beginning to plan activities and events for 2024, including the annual Antique Trucks & Machinery Show.
3. Railcar Inspector Mike Moy came to the APR in December to inspect our rolling stock and locomotives, to ensure that the equipment is in accordance with railway regulations. The inspection confirmed that no major repairs are needed to operate (other than the #8427 – orange diesel, which has needed a new axle for the last 5 years), and that only minor servicing is required. We plan to begin this work at the end of January.
4. As we continue to plan towards rail operations in 2024 our rail management committee has been hard at work ensuring the community is aware of our intentions for the operations of the Alberni Pacific Railway. We have published multiple campaigns on social media, as well as a story through the 'Scoop on Port Alberni' and are currently in discussion with the 'Alberni Valley News'. We have seen a lot of support over the last few months for a return to operations for the APR.
5. Mark your calendars! Our Annual General Meeting will be held on February 21st, 2024. Location and Guest Speaker to be announced.
6. Memberships can now be renewed for 2024. 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.ihportalberni.ca/membership.

i. School District

- i. The next Public Meeting for Pacific Rim School District is January 23, 2024, at 5pm at Ecole Alberni Elementary.
- ii. Students return to class Jan 8, 2024, after Winter Break.
- iii. December was a month of winter celebrations in all schools in Pacific Rim, Band concerts, Winter Wonderland trips and much more.



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- iv. Totem Invitational Event Is Jan 11, 12 and 13 at ADSS. 2024 is the 68th Annual Totem Tournament. The event began in 1955 with 4 Boys Teams and now the event has evolved into – slogan of “It’s Kinda a Big Deal” with Boys and Girls teams, Cheerleaders, Dancers, Pep Band, and a Full house of spectators every game. The first game is ADSS Senior Girls at 5pm on Jan 11 followed by ADSS Senior Boys at 7pm. Tickets are \$10 for adults or \$25 weekend pass.
- v. The District has posted on the Pacific Rim Website an item for “Community Consultation on Disposal of Property”. The School Act requires School districts to conduct public consultation in preparation for disposal of district properties when the district no longer requires property for educational purposes. The ministry of Education and Child Care must approve prior to disposing of property. All the details are listed on the website.

- j. Community at Large
 - i. January Activities Around Town
 - 6 – Tree-cycling – bring your tress to Echo (back parking lot) to be chipped for use around the City, by donation to KidSport
 - 11-13 – TOTEM 68
 - 12 -Business Leaders breakfast – event by AVCOC @ Smitty’s Tix \$33.23-38.55 8am, speaker John Jack ACRD Chairperson
 - 13 – Kama’s Wellness Day – Argyle House 10-5 – celebrate Life and Health of Kama Dawn
 - 15 – Snowed in Comedy Tour @ Capitol Theatre 730pm
 - 19 – Winter Showcase 2024 – Capitol Theatre 730 and 20 2pm \$10 tix @ Door
 - 20 – A Mystical Wellness Fair at BW Barclay 10am – psychics, mediums, etc
 - 21 – Winter Film Fest – Paramount 5pm – Mr Dressup: The Magic of Make Believe

- k. Museum
 - i. We are thrilled that Dr. Jennifer Robinson, our Manager of Culture, will be starting on March 4. Jen has worked with the Museum for the past 10 years on a variety of projects with the Survivors of the Alberni Indian Residential School and George Clutesi exhibit.
 - ii. We are still in the process of interviewing for our Education Curator role.
 - iii. Travelling Exhibits: Eyes on the Skies finished today, and The Ones We Met will run February 8 – May 11.
 - iv. The biennial Art Show will run June 6 – August 31.



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- v. We have recently applied for two summer students through the Young Canada Works grant program.
- vi. We are in the midst of finalizing our spring and summer program, camp and event offerings.

- l. Hupačasath First Nation – no report

- m. čišaaʔath (Tseshah) First Nation – no report

- 7. Next Meeting
 - a. February 7 → 7pm (AV Museum)

- 8. Moved by Colin to adjourn at 7:41pm.