CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

AGENDA - REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
Monday, February 12, 2024 @ 2:00 PM
In the City Hall Council Chambers & Via Video-Conference
4850 Argyle Street, Port Alberni, BC

The following pages list all agenda items received by the deadline [12:00 noon on the Wednesday before the scheduled meeting]. A sample resolution is provided for most items in italics for the consideration of Council. For a complete copy of the agenda including all correspondence and reports please refer to the City's website portalberni.ca or contact Corporate Services at 250.723.2146 or by email corp_serv@portalberni.ca

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A. CALL TO ORDER & APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

1. Council would like to acknowledge and recognize that we work, live and play in the City of Port Alberni which is situated on the unceded territories of the Tseshaht [ċišaaʔatḥ] and Hupačasath First Nations.
2. Late items identified by Councillors.
3. Late items identified by the Corporate Officer.
4. Notice of Video Recording (live-streaming and recorded/broadcast on YouTube).

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES - Page 8

1. Minutes of the Special meeting held at 12:00 pm and Regular Council meeting held at 2:00 pm on January 22, 2024, as presented.

C. DELEGATIONS

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Includes items carried forward from previous Council meetings.

1. **Five Year Financial Plan Q&A Summary** - Page 18
   Summary of questions and responses as it relates to the 2024-2028 Financial Planning process.

E. STAFF REPORTS

Members of the public may be recognized by Council to speak to a report if the report is a response to their correspondence or an application.

1. **Accounts**
   THAT the certification of the Director of Finance dated February 12, 2024, be received and the cheques numbered _____ to _____ inclusive, in payment of accounts totalling $ _____, be approved.

F. BYLAWS

Bylaws are required for the adoption of regulations, financial plans, changes to land use policy and to approve borrowing. A bylaw requires four separate resolutions to be adopted and must be considered over a minimum of two [2] Council meetings. Each reading enables Council to reflect on the bylaw before proceeding further.

1. **Reserve Fund Establishment Bylaw, Amendment No. 1, Bylaw No. 5086-1, 2024 | Recommendation from the January 29th Committee of the Whole** - Page 19

   a. *THAT "Reserve Fund Establishment Bylaw, Amendment No. 1, Bylaw No. 5086-1, 2024", be now introduced and read a first time.*

   b. *THAT "Reserve Fund Establishment Bylaw, Amendment No. 1, Bylaw No. 5086-1, 2024", be read a second time.*

   c. *THAT "Reserve Fund Establishment Bylaw, Amendment No. 1, Bylaw No. 5086-1, 2024", be read a third time.*

2. **Fees and Charges Bylaw, Amendment No. 5, Bylaw No. 5100, 2024| Recommendation from the January 29th Committee of the Whole** - Page 22

   a. *THAT "Fees and Charges Bylaw, Amendment No. 5, Bylaw No. 5100, 2024", be now introduced and read a first time.*

   b. *THAT "Fees and Charges Bylaw, Amendment No. 5, Bylaw No. 5100, 2024", be read a second time.*

   c. *THAT "Fees and Charges Bylaw, Amendment No. 5, Bylaw No. 5100, 2024", be read a third time.*

3. **City of Port Alberni 2024-2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024** - Page 29
   Report dated February 6, 2024 from the Director of Finance requesting Council consideration for first reading of the proposed bylaw.

   THAT "City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024" be now introduced and read a first time.

4. **Zoning Bylaw Amendment | 3045, 3053, 3063 Kingsway Avenue** - Page 68
   Report dated February 2, 2024 from the Manager of Planning requesting Council rescind first reading of Bylaw 5096.
   THAT first reading of "Zoning Amendment (3045, 3053, 3063 Kingsway Avenue) Bylaw No. 5096", be rescinded.

5. **OCP and Zoning Bylaw Amendments | 2780 Burde Street** - Page 75
   Report dated February 2, 2024 from the Development Services Planner requesting Council consideration for final adoption of the proposed bylaws.

   a. *THAT "Official Community Plan Amendment (2780 Burde Street) Bylaw No. 5084" be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Corporate Officer and numbered 5084.*

   b. *THAT "Zoning Amendment (2780 Burde Street) Bylaw No. 5085" be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Corporate Officer and numbered 5085.*

G. CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

Correspondence addressed to the Mayor and Council where there is a specific request may be included on an agenda. Correspondence regarding personnel matters, legal action and/or items of a confidential nature will not be included. Correspondence addressed to Council that is administrative or operational in nature will be circulated to Council weekly and referred to the appropriate department for review and follow-up where necessary.

1. **Alberni Athletics Soccer Club [AASC] | Upper Island Soccer Association Mini World Cup** - Page 82

   Letter dated January 16, 2024 from the AASC regarding hosting the Upper Island Soccer Association Mini World Cup.

   THAT Council direct staff to prepare a letter of welcome addressed to the athletes of the tournament and that staff work with the Alberni Athletics Soccer Club to ensure fields are in tournament ready condition; and

   FURTHER, THAT Council appoints [insert name] to participate in the Upper Island Soccer Association Mini World Cup opening ceremony taking place April 27, 2024.

2. **Coastline Endurance Running | Trail Running Series** - Page 83

   Letter received February 5, 2024 from Coastline Endurance Running requesting Council authorization for access to City streets/trails for a trail running event.

   THAT Council authorize Coastline Endurance Running access to City streets/trails on Saturday, June 1, 2024 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm for the purpose of a trail running event starting at the EJ Dunn Elementary School and following the route as outlined in the attached map subject to:

   - *the notification of emergency services and BC Transit*
   - *consultation with all affected businesses/residents*
   - *implementation of a Traffic Safety Plan to be approved by the City of Port Alberni, including qualified Traffic Control personnel as required*
   - *provision of standard liability insurance in the amount of $5M [minimum]*
   - *event organizers responsible for removal of all flagging tape and stakes*
   - *event organizers acknowledge that these trails are open to the public and as such trails will need to be shared accordingly*
   - *event organizers acknowledge trails will be enjoyed as-is*

3. **Wounded Warrior Run BC** - Page 86

   Letter dated February 5, 2024 from Director, Jacqueline Zweng requesting access to City streets for the Wounded Warrior Run 2024.

   THAT Council authorize Wounded Warrior Run BC access to City streets on Thursday, February 29, 2024 for the purpose of a Wounded Warrior Run from Hwy 4 [Johnston Rd.] to Gertrude St. to Roger St. to Victoria Quay, ending at the Port Alberni Legion Branch #293 subject to:

   - *the notification of emergency services and BC Transit*
   - *consultation with all affected businesses/residents*
   - *implementation of a Traffic Safety Plan* to *be approved by the City of Port Alberni, including qualified Traffic Control personnel as required*
   - *provision of standard liability insurance in the amount of $5M [minimum]*

4. **Ridge View Health & Performance | McLean Mill 10K** - Page 88
Letter received February 5, 2024 from Ridge View Health & Performance requesting access to McLean Mill National Historic Site for the annual McLean Mill 10K.

THAT Council authorize Ridge View Health & Performance access to McLean Mill National Historic Site on Sunday, April 7, 2024 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm for the purpose of a 10K running event starting at the McLean Mill and following the route as outlined in the attached map subject to:

- *the notification of emergency services*
- *consultation with all affected businesses/residents*
- *implementation of a Traffic Safety Plan to be approved by the City of Port Alberni, including qualified Traffic Control personnel as required*
- *provision of standard liability insurance in the amount of $5M [minimum]*

5. **Tseshaht First Nation | Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy** - Page 90
Copy of the draft *Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy* for Council consideration of endorsement.
https://tseshaht.com/alberni-valley-toxic-poisoned-drugs-opioid-crisis-strategy-draft/

a. *THAT Council for the City of Port Alberni support the draft Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy as prepared by the Tseshaht First Nation in collaboration with many partners in the Alberni Valley.*

b. *THAT Council support next steps with respect to implementation and advocacy for resourcing the Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy through a smaller political working group/action team.*

c. *THAT Council direct staff to prepare a letter of support and authorize the Mayor in signing the Declaration of Commitment with respect to the Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy, as circulated.*

H. PROCLAMATIONS

1. **BC Epilepsy Society** - Page 94
Email dated January 18, 2024 requesting that March 26, 2024 be proclaimed as 'International PURPLE DAY®' in Port Alberni.

THAT Council, on behalf of BC Epilepsy Society, proclaim March 26, 2024 as 'International PURPLE DAY®' in Port Alberni.

2. **Parkinson Society British Columbia** - Page 97
Email dated January 18, 2024 requesting that the month of April 2024 be proclaimed as 'Parkinson's Awareness Month' in Port Alberni.

THAT Council, on behalf of Parkinson Society of BC, proclaim the month of April 2024 as 'Parkinson's Awareness Month' in Port Alberni.

I. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

Correspondence found here provides information to Council. Correspondence regarding personnel matters, legal action and/or items of a confidential nature will not be included. Correspondence addressed to Council that is administrative or operational in nature will be circulated to Council weekly and referred to the appropriate department for review and follow-up where necessary.

1. **Correspondence Summary** - Page 100
   a. Ministry of Post Secondary Education and Future Skills | Follow up letter Re: 2023 UBCM Convention Meeting
   b. Pacific Rim School District | Appointment of City Representatives
   c. Regional District of Nanaimo | Legislative Reform Initiative Update
   d. Okanagan Basin Water Board | B.C.'s Invasive Mussel Defence Program
   e. Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction | Follow up letter Re: 2023 UBCM Convention Meeting and Local Community Accessibility Grant Program
   f. Forest Enhancement Society of BC | 2023 Accomplishments Report www.fesbc.ca
   g. Prime Minister | Responding to Council's January 2, 2024 letter calling for a ceasefire in Gaza
   h. District of Sicamous | Support for Bill-34
   i. City of Abbotsford | Seeking support for proposed UBCM Resolution Re: Detox Centres
   j. Ministry of Municipal Affairs | Condolences for former Councillor Helen Poon
   k. Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation | 2024 – 2029 Forest Stewardship Plan
   l. Wildsafe BC Alberni Valley | Annual Report 2023
   m. Advisory Planning Committee | Minutes of December 21, 2023

J. REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA

1. Council releases for public consumption authorization for the Mayor and Corporate Officer to execute an agreement between Libberock Holdings Inc. and the City of Port Alberni to lease a portion of the upper floor of 4835 Argyle Street, in the amount of $4,222 per month inclusive of utilities & taxes for one year, with the option to either renew at $5,000 per month for a further five-year term [2025-2028] or alternatively, purchase the building.

2. Council releases for public consumption Notice of its Intent to lease City owned property at 3100 Kingsway Avenue, Port Alberni to Twin City Brewing Company Ltd. for the operation of a year-round craft brew pub and restaurant for a ten-year term at a rate of $2,200 per month plus GST, in consideration of a maximum of $184,440 contributed by the tenant in capital improvements, for a term of 10 years with the option to renew the lease for a further 5 years, subject to the advertised Notice of Intent to lease receiving no objections.

K. COUNCIL REPORTS

1. **Council and Regional District Reports** - Page 243
   THAT the Council reports outlining recent meetings and events related to the City's business, be received.

L. NEW BUSINESS

New items of business requiring Council direction as well as an opportunity for Council to raise issues as a result of the business of the meeting or to identify new items for subsequent meetings by way of a 'Notice of Motion'.

1. **Justice for Dontay [Lucas] | Recommendation from the January 29th Committee of the Whole**
   THAT Council begin the process of engaging with Dontay's family to find a space dedicated to celebrating Dontay Lucas' life.

2. **School District 70 Social Justice 12 | Recommendation from the January 29th Committee of the Whole**
   THAT Council, pending the blessing of Indigenous elders, support the painting of an Indigenous crosswalk, and further, include the necessary funding in the Financial Plan.

3. **Asset Retirement Obligations Policy | Recommendation from the January 29th Committee of the Whole**
   THAT Council approve Policy 3009-4 'Asset Retirement Obligations'.

4. **Broombusters Invasive Plant Society | Recommendation from the February 5th Committee of the Whole**
   THAT Council direct staff to bring back a proposal to coordinate a joint City-wide Broombusting event with Broombusters Invasive Plant Society.

5. **Overview of 2024-2028 Financial Plan Process | Recommendation from the February 5th Committee of the Whole**
   THAT Council direct staff to review all user fees ensuring cost recovery, review Development Cost Charges and work towards ensuring that all residents of the Alberni Valley pay appropriately for services.

6. **FCM | 2024 Annual Conference and Trade Show | Authorize Council Registration** - Page 251
   Report dated January 19, 2024 from the Deputy Director of Corporate Services requesting Council authorization for member attendance at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference.

   THAT Council authorize [name to be inserted] to participate with the Mayor in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2024 'Redefining our Future' Annual Conference and Trade Show taking place June 6 – 9, 2024 in Calgary, AB with authorization to include reimbursement of expenses incurred as per Travel Policy 3009-2.

7. **Port Alberni CAT Blueprint Strategies | Toxic Drugs** - Page 253
Report dated February 5, 2024 from the Manager of Community Safety and Social Development regarding the Port Alberni Community Action Team Blueprint Strategy Document.

THAT City of Port Alberni Council endorse the Port Alberni Community Action Team document entitled 'Blueprint of Transformative Strategies to the Toxic Drugs Catastrophe for the Alberni Valley and British Columbia' dated February 5, 2024.

8. **Motorized Vehicles on Municipal Lands | Parks and the Log Train Trail [Cllr. Haggard]** - Page 322
THAT Council direct administration to review all current signage and barriers on the Log Train Trail in order to ensure that the trail remains free of motorized vehicles;

AND FURTHER, THAT Council direct administration to prepare a letter to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and Mosaic Forest Management stating that the City does not support motorized vehicles on the Log Train Trail and that the City portion of the trail will remain for hikers/bikers only.

M. QUESTION PERIOD

An opportunity for the public to ask questions of Council on decisions or recommendations made during the course of the meeting. A maximum of three [3] questions will be permitted per speaker. For those participating electronically, please use the 'Raise your Hand' feature.

N. ADJOURNMENT

That the meeting adjourn at PM.

MINUTES OF THE IN-CAMERA MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY, January 22, 2024 @ 12:00 PM
City Hall Committee Room | 4850 Argyle Street, Port Alberni, BC

PRESENT: Mayor S. Minions
Councillor D. Dame
Councillor J. Douglas
Councillor D. Haggard
Councillor C. Mealey @12:20 pm
Councillor T. Patola
Councillor C. Solda

Staff: M. Fox, Chief Administrative Officer
S. Smith, Director of Development Services | Deputy CAO
D. Monteith, Director of Corporate Services
A. McGifford, Director of Finance
W. Thorpe, Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture

Call to order: @ 12:00 p.m.

MOVED and SECONDED, THAT Council conduct a special Council meeting closed to the public on the basis that one or more matters covered under Section 90 of the Community Charter will be considered, specifically outlined as follows:

Section 90 (1)(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements and where the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Mayor

Corporate Officer

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
Monday, January 22, 2024 @ 2:00 PM
In the City Hall Council Chambers & Via Video-Conference
4850 Argyle Street, Port Alberni, BC

Present: Mayor S. Minions
Councillor D. Dame
Councillor J. Douglas
Councillor D. Haggard
Councillor C. Mealey
Councillor C. Solda
Councillor T. Patola

Staff: M. Fox, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Monteith, Director of Corporate Services
A. McGifford, Director of Finance
H. Stevenson, Planner
S. Darling, Deputy Director of Corporate Services | Recording Secretary
Jeff Pelech, Manager of Information Services

Gallery: 4

A. ***CALL TO ORDER & APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA***

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the agenda be amended to include an item under 'Correspondence for Information' I(d) | Union of BC Municipalities Local Government RCMP Committee Appointments and an item under 'New Business' L.11 | UBCM Housing Summit. The agenda was then adopted, as amended.
CARRIED

B. ***ADOPTION OF MINUTES***

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the Minutes of the Special meeting held at 9:30 am and Regular Council meeting held at 2:00 pm on January 8, 2024, be adopted, as presented.
CARRIED

C. ***DELEGATIONS***

D. ***UNFINISHED BUSINESS***

E. ***STAFF REPORTS***

1. **Accounts**
   Item paused to permit staff to collect required information.

F. ***BYLAWS***

G. ***CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION***

1. **Todd Doherty, MP Cariboo-Prince George | Shadow Minister for Mental Health and Suicide Prevention**
   MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to display the 988 Suicide Crisis Helpline poster in all City facilities.
   CARRIED | Res. No. 24-15

H. PROCLAMATIONS

1. **Kinsmen Club of Port Alberni**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council on behalf of Kinsmen Club of Port Alberni, proclaim February 16 – 23, 2024 as 'Kinsmen and Kinette Week' in Port Alberni and authorize flying the Kin Canada flag at City Hall in recognition.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-16

2. **Heritage BC**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, on behalf of Heritage BC, proclaim the week of February 19 – 25, 2024 as 'Heritage Week' in Port Alberni.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-17

I. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

The Director of Corporate Services summarized correspondence to Council as follows:

a. Vancouver Island Regional Library | 2024 Budget Increase
b. Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General | Follow up letter Re: 2023 UBCM Convention Meeting
c. Alberni Valley Museum and Heritage Commission Minutes | December 6, 2023
d. Union of BC Municipalities Local Government RCMP Committee Appointments

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council nominate Councillor Patola [Solda as alternate] to be considered by UBCM for the Local Government RCMP Contract Management Committee.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-18

E. STAFF REPORTS CONTINUED....

1. **Accounts**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the certification of the Director of Finance dated January 22, 2024, be received and the cheques numbered 154182 to 154286 inclusive, in payment of accounts totalling $ 1,655,484.07, be approved.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-19

J. REPORT FROM IN-CAMERA

Council released for public consumption, the appointment of Jack Roland to the Advisory Planning Commission for a two-year term commencing January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025 and John McNabb to the Board of Variance for a three-year term commencing January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2026.

K. COUNCIL REPORTS

1. **Council and Regional District Reports**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the Council reports outlining recent meetings and events related to the City's business, be received.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-20

L. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Connect the Quays Pathway**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council approve the final $1,253,411 in the 2024-2028 Financial Plan for the Connect the Quays Pathway project, ensuring the funding is available to action the project as planned and completing the third and final phase along Dry Creek and Roger Creek following the required policies, utilizing funding from the Growing Communities Fund.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-21

2. **Western Vancouver Island Heritage Society [WVIIHS]**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to enter into formal agreements with the Western Vancouver Island Industrial Heritage Society regarding activities at the Roundhouse and McLean Mill.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council amend the motion by removing the word 'staff' and replacing it with 'administration' and removing 'enter into formal agreements' and replacing it with 'negotiate a formal agreement' and following the period add 'and return the agreement to Council for approval'.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-22

Main Motion as Amended

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct administration to negotiate a formal agreement with the Western Vancouver Island Industrial Heritage Society regarding activities at the Roundhouse and McLean Mill and return the agreement to Council for approval.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-23

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council include $125,000 as part of the 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan discussion for the purpose of relocating the Two Spot locomotive to the Train Station.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council amend the motion to add the words 'up to' prior to the '$125,000' and following the period add 'with final decision to come following the completion of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan'.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-24

Main Motion as Amended

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council include up to $125,000 as part of the 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan discussion for the purpose of relocating the Two Spot locomotive to the Train Station, with final decision to come following the completion of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-25

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct administration to defer acting on any rail crossings, associated track, or provision grants for the operation of the Alberni Pacific Railway, until the results of the grant application to the Island Coastal Economic Trust are available to the public.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-26

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to obtain a quote from the Municipal Insurance Association of BC to add the Western Vancouver Island Heritage Society as an Associate Member to the City's current insurance policy.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-27

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to confirm with the Western Vancouver Island Industrial Heritage Society [WVIIHS] any outstanding items from the third-party contractor's safety plan requirements and for the WVIIHS to provide the City with a quote for infrastructure replacement at the Old Time Logging Show far Council consideration during the 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan review.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-28

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to obtain a quote from Municipal Insurance Association of BC for insurance coverage for the Old Time Logging Show, and for the City to explore entering into a formal agreement with Mosaic for the purpose of accessing Mosaic's land for the Old Time Logging Show.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-29

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council request that the Western Vancouver Island Industrial Heritage Society prepare a community focused train operational plan for the first season featuring a speeder use and community events.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-30

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to contact Technical Safety BC to clarify what is required to operate on the short track route as proposed by the Alberni Pacific Railway.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-31

3. **2024 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities AGM & Convention Resolution Submission**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct staff to submit the following resolutions for consideration at the 2024 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities [AVICC] AGM & Convention:

That AVICC & UBCM urgently request the Province of British Columbia to provide modern and reliable communications, such as Starlink, to responding agencies that are handling motor vehicle incidents on the province's behalf to ensure seamless communication and enhance the safety and effectiveness of responders;

And further, that the Province of British Columbia collaborate with telecommunication providers to improve overall communications infrastructure in areas where motor vehicle incidents occur frequently including expanding coverage, improving network reliability, and exploring innovative solutions to address communication challenges in remote and underserved areas.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-32

That AVICC & UBCM urgently appeal to the Province of British Columbia to take immediate steps to adequately staff and operate pre-hospital care services autonomously, assuming full responsibility for pre-hospital care, alleviating the burden on local governments and ensuring the provision of efficient and effective emergency medical services OR alternatively, that the Province of British Columbia take immediate steps to provide adequate funding to local governments to cover the cost of Fire Department First Responder programs to help alleviate the financial strain on local governments and ensure the continued provision of essential pre-hospital care services.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-33

That AVICC & UBCM urgently appeal to the Province of British Columbia to develop an equitable Police Services funding program for all BC municipalities and regional districts that takes into account the financial capacity and population size of each jurisdiction, as well as the additional demands placed on police services due to systemic social issues outside of a municipality's mandate.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-34

That AVICC & UBCM appeal to the Province of British Columbia to provide long-term sustainable funding for public libraries in BC;

And further, that the Province ensures that BC libraries receive regular increases to Provincial Government funding in subsequent years.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-35

That that AVICC & UBCM appeal to the Province of British Columbia to increase funding for rural colleges in British Columbia to support their operations, programs, and services;

And further, that the Province develop a standard of college funding more closely reflecting the real costs of providing required training and education to the population of rural British Columbia.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-36

4. **RCMP Contract and Administrative Services 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct funding within the 2024-2028 Financial Plan related to RCMP contract and administrative services as follows:
- *Fund 32 of 34 RCMP officers as per the contract commitment and as based on actual utilization;*
- *Allocate funds from the Emergency Reserve to fund Community Policing services in 2024, moving to taxation for the years 2025 forward.*

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council amend the motion, second bullet point, by removing 'Emergency Reserve' and replacing it with 'Surplus' and adding 'and that Council consider' prior to 'moving to taxation for the years 2025 forward'.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-37

Council requested that the motion be voted on separately.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council postpone the motion related to RCMP Contract and Administrative Services 2024-2028 Financial Plan to the January 29th Committee of the Whole meeting.
DEFEATED

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council amend the motion as follows:

- *Fund 32 RCMP officers from taxation and 2 [two] RCMP officers from surplus as per the contract commitment and as based on actual utilizatian.*

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-38

Main Motion as Amended
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct funding within the 2024-2028 Financial Plan related to RCMP contract and administrative services as follows:

- *Fund 32 RCMP officers from taxation and 2 [two] RCMP officers from surplus as per the contract commitment and as based on actual utilization.*

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-39

Main Motion as Amended
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council direct funding within the 2024-2028 Financial Plan related to RCMP contract and administrative services as follows:

- *Allocate funds from Surplus to fund Community Policing services in 2024, and that Council consider moving to taxation for the years 2025 forward.*

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-40

5. **Community Action Team**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council endorse establishment of a City administrative committee for the Port Alberni Community Action Team, and further recommend that the City obtain insurance coverage for appropriate members and volunteers.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-41

6. **Vancouver Island Regional Library**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council engage in further discussion prior to renewal of the lease between the City of Port Alberni and the Vancouver Island Regional Library.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-42

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT discussions related to renewal of the lease between the City of Port Alberni and the Vancouver Island Regional Library be moved to an In-Camera meeting of Council.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-43

7. **Technical Safety BC**
Item moved to be included for consideration with L.2. | Western Vancouver Island Heritage Society.

8. **Traffic Advisory Committee**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council approve the Terms of Reference for the Traffic Advisory Committee, as presented.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-44

Councillor Dame left the meeting at 3:27 pm and returned at 3:30 pm.

9. **Development Variance Permit DVP 120 | 4821 Heath Road**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council authorize the issuance of Development Variance Permit No. 120 and that the Director of Corporate Services be authorized to sign the permit granting the following variances to the Zoning Bylaw at 4821 Heath Road:

i. Vary Section 5.10.2 RR2 Site Development Regulations to increase the Maximum Coverage from 33% to 38% for a variance of 5%.

ii. Vary Section 6.12.1 Projections to increase the maximum projection of an Open Porch into a required front yard from 1.85 m (6.1 ft) to 4.18 m (13.7 ft) for a variance of 2.33 m (7.6 ft).

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-45

10. **5170 Argyle Street [Port Pub] | Remedial Action**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, pursuant Sections 72 and 73 of the Community Charter, considers that the property at 5170 Argyle St and having a legal description of: LT 24 BLK 86 DL 1 ALD PL VIP197 & LT 23 BLK 86 DL1 ALD PL VIP197 (the "Property") is in an unsafe condition and that the structure on the Property (the "Structure") contravenes the BC Building Code and the Port Alberni Building Standards Bylaw No. 4975, 2018.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-46

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, pursuant to Sections 72 and 74 of the Community Charter, declares that the Structure and the discarded materials and refuse about the Structure on the Property are a nuisance and are so dilapidated and unclean as to be offensive to the community.

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-47

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, pursuant to Section 72, 73 and 74 of the Community Charter, resolves that:

a. 1052162 BC Ltd., being the registered owner of the Property (the "Owner"), is hereby required to:

i. carry out the following work within 30 days of the date that notice of this Resolution is sent to the Owner:

1. Repair the exterior walls of the Structure, including coping and flashing, to restore the integrity of the building envelope to a condition sufficient to protect the Structure from the weather and from infestations of insects, rodents and other pests, including without limitation by:

a. remediating any holes, breaks, loose or rotting boards or timbers and any other condition which might permit the entry of insects, rodents or other pests to the interior of the walls or the interior of the Structure;

b. Applying paint, stain or other protective coating to the exterior walls so as to adequately protect them against deterioration;

2. Remove or permanently cover all graffiti from the exteriar of the Structure;

3. *Replace/repair all broken or missing handrailing on staircases;*
4. *Replace all broken, cracked or otherwise compromised exterior windows to a weathertight condition which operates to provide light and ventilation;*
5. *Replace or repair all damaged, decayed or deteriorated window sashes, window frames and casings;*
6. *Replace or repair all exterior doors of the Structure so that they are weathertight, operational, fit tightly within their frames when closed and self closers are operational with no binding, and locked so as to prevent entry, with at least one entrance door capable of being locked from both inside and outside;*
7. *Replace or repair all interior entrance doors and door frames for each unit to be fitted with proper fitting door in good operating condition and provide locking door knobs;*
8. *Replace or repair the roof of the Structure to a watertight condition with no leaks;*
9. *All drywall repairs to be completed for fire separation and integrity of building;*
10. *An engineer and/or architect must attend, inspect and sign off on the replacement and repair of the fire safety and exit issues;*
11. *Replace or repair all fire escapes and devises for safe exiting, stairs to a safe and clean condition free from rot, holes, cracks, excessive wear and warping, or hazardous obstructions;*
12. *Have licensed electrician inspect and repair all electrical to ensure oll lighting, cover plates and smoke and co2 detectors to be in working operation;*
13. *Have a licensed plumber evaluate and make repairs to all communal washrooms, as required inclusive of showers, toilets and hot water tanks;*
14. *Replace or repair all fire protections systems, heat detections, smoke detections, fire alarms, fire extinguishers, sprinkler systems, exit signs, emergency lighting, annunciator panel, fire separations and means of egress required by the BC Building Code and BC Fire Code to a functional and unobstructed condition;*
15. *Remove and properly dispose of all refuse from the interior and exterior common spaces of the Property, including food waste, combustibles, non-combustibles, furniture, appliances, tires, construction waste, stripped or wrecked automobiles, trucks, trailers, boats, vessels or machinery; parts or components of any of the aforementioned, to an appropriate disposal site;*
16. *Designate a space or area for daily refuse on premises and not in emergency egress areas;*
17. *Eliminate all rodents, vermin and insects and soiling's from the Structure;*

18. *Permanently remove all objects placed, stored, or maintained upon any hallways, or entrance way which may interfere with access or egress to or from the Building in case of fire or other emergency, including all access areas on the Property; and*
19. *Prepare a Fire Safety Plan in cooperation with Port Alberni Fire Department and Approved from Fire Prevention Officer.*

CARRIED | Res. No. 24-48

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, pursuant to Section 78 of the Community Charter, direct staff to advise the Owner that the Owner may request that Council reconsider this Resolution by providing written notice within 14 days of the date on which notice of the Remedial Action Requirement was sent to the Owner.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-49

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council, pursuant to Section 17 of the Community Charter, authorizes City staff to carry out any requirement set out in Paragraph 3 of this Resolution which the Owner fails to complete within the time permitted by this Resolution, and to recover the cost of carrying out such requirement from the Owner as a debt.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-50

10. **UBCM Housing Summit**
MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT Council authorize virtual attendance for interested Council members at the UBCM Housing Summit taking place February 13 & 14, 2024.
CARRIED | Res. No. 24-51

M. ***QUESTION PERIOD***

Kim Bottman
Asked clarifying questions related to AVICC resolution submissions and the remedial action process.

N. ***ADJOURNMENT***

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the meeting adjourn at 3:51 pm.
CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Mayor

Corporate Officer

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

2024 - 2028 Financial Plan Questions & Responses

The following is an active document reflecting questions and responses in relation to the 2024-2028 Financial Plan. This is a living document and as such, will continue to be updated accordingly throughout the Financial Planning process. Citizens are encouraged to engage throughout the process by submitting comments/questions to council@portalberni.ca.

Date	Q or C	QUESTION/COMMENT	RESPONSE
February 5 CoW			
Public Input/Question Period	C	Need to identify areas for cost recovery i.e. development fees, water, sewer, equitable fees for service across the Alberni Valley.	*Staff are reviewing the fees and charges for all service delivery. As the Financial Plan process continues, Council may request specific information to inform and amend revenue projections in the 2024-2028 Financial Plan.*
	Q	Is the proposed 16.86% tax increase for 2024 or all years in the 5-year Financial Plan?	*The proposed 16.86 % tax increase is for the 2024 year.*
	C	Request for more information related to the 0.63% increase for Contingency Funds.	*The increase relates to returning the contingency funding to previous levels. This was reduced in 2023 to $100,000, down from $200,000. This is increasing to $275,000 in 2024 year of the Financial Plan.*
	Q	Is the Rollin Art Centre (revenue?) back in the budget and where will it be utilized?	*Rollin Art Centre did not receive revenue in prior years given the lease rate of $1 per annum. Any lease moving forward will consider the operations and asset management contribution to ensure the building is allocating the revenues received toward the future renewal costs of this asset. Council will consider this when presented with the lease and recommended allocation to reserves.*
	Q	Will the Financial Plan include funding for Harbour Quay clean up?	*Cost estimates for maintenance upgrades at the Harbour Quay will be included in the Financial Plan for 2025. Regular maintenance will continue on an annual basis.*
	Q	Will Alberni Pacific Division Sawmill continue to pay taxes?	*Alberni Pacific Division Sawmill continues to pay major industry & light industry tax rates.*
	Q	What is the approximate percentage of taxation required to return the contingency fund reserve back to a sufficient position?	*This is operational contingency, not a reserve. The increase is $175,000 (increase from $100,000 to $275,000 in draft Financial Plan) or an increase of 0.63% of the taxation increase. This was lowered in 2023 to achieve a lower taxation.*
	Q	What does the proposed 2.74% increase for Police Services include?	*Of the proposed 2.74% increase, 2.01% is attributed to the RCMP contract increase with the remainder attributed to administration costs.*
	Q	Request for clarity in relation to the proposed Carbon Offset 0.02% increase?	*With the ceasing of the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP), the Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) was established to provide predictable, stable funding for municipalities, regional districts, and Modern Treaty Nations to accelerate local climate action and implement projects. Contributions received are placed in a reserve. Recommendations on how to use funding will be forthcoming to Council.*
	C	Support increasing of Equipment Replacement Reserve Fund (ERRF).	*The proposed Plan reflects a contribution of $400,000 in 2024 which is $50,000 under previous annual contributions of $450,000. 2025 proposes a return to the full amount.*

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

BYLAW NO. 5086-1

A BYLAW TO AMEND "RESERVE FUND ESTABLISHMENT BYLAW NO. 5086, 2023"

WHEREAS Section 188 (2) of the *Community Charter*, S.B.C. 2003, c. 26, as amended, authorizes a local government to establish by bylaw reserve funds for a specified purpose and direct that money be placed to the credit of the reserve fund; and

WHEREAS Section 189 (1) of the *Community Charter* authorizes the local government to provide for the expenditure of money in a reserve fund and interest earned on it for the purposes specified in the bylaw establishing the reserve fund;

WHEREAS section 137 of the *Community Charter* provides that the power to adopt a bylaw includes the power to amend or repeal it;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the City of Port Alberni wishes to amend Bylaw No. 5086 for the purpose of adding Schedule "A";

NOW THEREFORE THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ALBERNI, IN OPEN MEETING ASSEMBLED, ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Title

1.1 This Bylaw may be known and cited for all purposes as **"Reserve Fund Establishment Bylaw, Amendment No. 1, Bylaw No 5086-1, 2024"**.

2. Amendments

2.1 "Reserve Fund Establishment Bylaw No. 5086, 2023" is hereby amended by adding Schedule "A" attached to and forming part of this Bylaw.

READ A FIRST TIME this day of , 2024.

READ A SECOND TIME this day of , 2024.

READ A THIRD TIME this day of , 2024.

ADOPTED this day of , 2024.

Mayor **Corporate Officer**

DRAFT

SCHEDULE "A" to Bylaw 5086

Reserve Fund	Purpose
	Statutory Reserves
Park Acquisition Reserve	Funded by the sale of park land or receipt of monies from amounts paid in lieu of provision of park land on subdivision with the intent to acquire park land.
Land Sale Reserve Fund	Funded by revenue generated from the sale of City owned lands. To provide funding for the assembly and marketing of land and related development costs; to purchase lands required for the City's use and, for servicing or upgrading of City owned parcels and facilities.
	Non - Statutory Reserves
Capital Works Reserve	Funded by Taxation. Funding for General Capital projects from taxation are set aside in this reserve. The reserved funds will be used for new capital and the extension or renewal of existing capital infrastructure.
Canada Community - Building Fund Reserve	Funded by reoccurring senior government grants. The reserved funds will be used on projects eligible for the Canada Community - Building Fund Agreement. Projects are limited to the scope set out in the agreement with the Union of British Columbia Municipalities and the Federal Government. Canada Community - Building funds are to be deposited and tracked within the Reserve, inclusive of any interest earned.
Equipment Replacement Reserve Fund	Funded by Taxation and proceeds from the sale of old equipment. Annual contributions are made to offset the cost to replace equipment identified within the equipment replacement renewal program. The intent is to set sufficient funding aside to provide for depreciation and obsolescence of machinery and equipment after useful life.
Parks & Recreation Capital Reserve	Funded by 10% of Parks and Recreation revenues and by 100% of revenues collected from the sale of logs from parks. Expenditures from this reserve are limited to the City's Parks & Recreation properties and facilities.
Alberni Valley Community Forest Reserve	Funded by dividends received from Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation. The Reserve was established for the purpose of holding dividends received. Use of funds will be at the discretion of Council, following consultation with the AVCF board. Annually, $10,000 to be distributed to support a special community project(s) identified by the Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation Board.

Carbon Fund Reserve	Funded by taxation and carbon grant revenues provided by senior government. Used to fund eligible projects that are in scope of grant agreements and intended to reduce the City's greenhouse gas emissions.
Loss on Taxation Reserve	Funded by taxation or allocation of surplus. Funds are used to mitigate the risk of significant taxable assessment in the event of loss of major industry tax revenues or assessment appeals of material value. Further funds could be utilized to support purchase of property where a strategic need to act has been identified.
RCMP Surplus Reserve	Funded by RCMP annual contract surplus. Purpose to use as contingency in the event of any major crime investigations. To fund public safety programs and any retroactive RCMP costs that are approved within the Financial Plan.
Sewer Infrastructure Capital Reserve	Funded by Sewer fees and charges. Purpose to fund capital projects proposed through the annual financial plan process in conjunction with the City's Asset Management Plans that provide constructing, altering, repairing new and aging sewer equipment and infrastructure including linear assets, and buildings.
Water Infrastructure Capital Reserve	Funded by Water fees and charges. Purpose to fund capital projects proposed through the annual financial plan process in conjunction with the City's Asset Management Plans that provide constructing, altering, repairing new and aging water equipment and infrastructure including linear assets, and buildings.
Aquatic Centre Replacement Reserve	Funded by taxation or surplus allocation. Purpose is to fund replacement of the aquatic centre facilities, pool facilities and future costs of repairing, altering, and expanding the future aquatic centre over time.
Asset Management – General Infrastructure Replacement Reserve	Funded by taxation or surplus allocation. To fund capital projects proposed through the annual financial plan process in conjunction with the City's Asset Management Plans that repair, alter, upgrade or replace aging infrastructure in the City including Technological infrastructure (Not including water and sewer service infrastructure).
Strategic Priorities Reserve	Funded by taxation or surplus allocation. Purpose to support strategic priorities and initiatives, including operating initiatives, social issues and/or Council contingency funding.
McLean Mill Projects Reserve	Funded by Taxation, Surplus allocation, and Grant funding. Purpose to fund McLean Mill historic and non-historic infrastructure projects at the McLean Mill National Historic Site.
Museum Reserve	Purpose to fund Museum projects from monies contributed by community donations.

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

BYLAW NO. 5100

A BYLAW TO AMEND FEES AND CHARGES BYLAW, 2007, BYLAW NO. 4665

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORT ALBERNI IN OPEN MEETING ASSEMBLED ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. **Title**

   This Bylaw may be known and cited for all purposes as **"Fees and Charges Bylaw, Amendment No. 5, Bylaw No. 5100, 2024"**.

2. **Amendments**

   Fees and Charges Bylaw, 2007, Bylaw No. 4665 is hereby amended as follows:

   Schedule "A" attached to Fees and Charges Bylaw, 2007, Bylaw No. 4665 is hereby deleted and the Schedule "A" attached hereto is substituted therefore.

3. **Repeal**

   "Fees and Charges Bylaw, 2007, Amendment No. 3, Bylaw No. 4831" and "Fees and Charges Bylaw, 2007, Amendment No. 4, Bylaw No. 4880" are hereby repealed.

READ A FIRST TIME this day of , 2024.

READ A SECOND TIME this day of , 2024.

READ A THIRD TIME this day of , 2024.

FINALLY ADOPTED this day of , 2024.

Mayor **Corporate Officer**

SCHEDULE "A" TO BYLAW NO. 4665		
	SERVICE OR COMMODITY	**AMOUNT OF FEE**
A.	**RECORDS AND COPYING**	
1.	For locating and retrieving a record	$ 10.00 per ¼ hour or portion thereof
2.	For producing a record manually	$ 10.00 per ¼ hour or portion thereof
3.	For preparing a record for disclosure	$ 10.00 per ¼ hour or portion thereof
4.	For shipping copies	actual cost of shipping method chosen by applicant plus $ 10.00 per ¼ hour or portion thereof of staff time to arrange shipping
5.	For copying records a) photocopies & computer printouts d) CD burning	 $ 0.50/page – black and white - $0.75 colour $ 25.00/disc
6.	Oversized copying	$10.00 per sheet up to 3'; $3.00 per foot thereafter
7.	Copies of List of Electors	$15.00
8.	Tax Demand Notice Copy	$15.00
9.	Certificate of Outstanding Taxes/Utilities (to other than owner)	$20.00 searched electronically; $30.00 searched manually
10.	Provision of Tax Information to Mortgage Companies	$ 4.00 per folio – electronic $ 5.00 per folio - paper
11.	BC Online searches	$25.00
B.	**GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS**	
1.	Returned cheques	$40.00
2.	Interest on past due accounts receivable (terms net 30 days)	2% per month compounded
3.	Administrative Cost Recovery Fee based on gross invoice total before taxes – exceptions include pre-established or set fee billings determined by bylaw, policy or agreement	10%
4.	Penalty on past due utility billings	5%
5.	Credit card processing fee	3.00%

SCHEDULE "A" TO BYLAW NO. 4665		
	SERVICE OR COMMODITY	**AMOUNT OF FEE**
C.	**ENGINEERING AND PLANNING SERVICES**	
1.	Curb/Sidewalk Crossing Installation a) Sidewalk and Curb Crossing b) Concrete Curb Crossing c) Asphalt Curb Crossing	 $390.00/metre $82.00/metre $40.00/metre
	Where there is an application to relocate a sidewalk or curb crossing, the land owner must pay in addition to the above fees, for the removal and repair of the existing crossing (measured distance to include transition). These fees do not include installation of the driveway surface required between the sidewalk or curb and the property line which is the responsibility of the land owner.	
2.	Sanitary/Storm Sewer Connection Charge a) 150 mm or less - Single Storm or Sanitary - Both sewers in same trench - Sewers in separate trench	 $3,500.00 $5,500.00 $6,000.00
	b) 200 mm and above	The cost of installing the connection as estimated by the City Engineer.
	c) Additional charge for work on arterial roads or excavations over 2m	$1,000.00
3.	Water Connection Charges a) City Residents - 25 mm	 $2,600.00
	- larger than 25 mm	the cost of installing the connection as estimated by the City Engineer.
	b) Non-City Residents - 25 mm	$2,600.00 or the cost of installing the connection as estimated by the City Engineer, whichever is greater.
	- larger than 25 mm	the cost of installing the connection as estimated by the City Engineer.
4.	Utilities Investigation Charge a) Sanitary/Storm Sewer, Water Service Certification or Decommissioning	 $1,000.00
	b) Utility Callout	$80.00

SCHEDULE "A" TO BYLAW NO. 4665		
	SERVICE OR COMMODITY	**AMOUNT OF FEE**
5.	Planning and Land Development Application Fees	
	a) OCP and/or Zoning Bylaw Amendment	
	1. residential under 1-hectare total area	$450.00 + Public Hearing fee
	2. residential over 1-hectare total area	$600.00 + Public Hearing fee
	3. multi-family; commercial; guest house; industrial and institutional	$700.00 + Public Hearing fee
	b) Development Variance Permit (DVP)	$600.00
	c) Development Permit (DP)	$600.00
	d) Combined DVP and DP	$700.00
	e) Temporary Use Permit	$700.00
	f) Amendment to Land Use Contract	$800.00
	g) Application to Board of Variance	$400.00
	h) Application for Subdivision and Preliminary Approval	$700.00
	i) Subdivision Administration and Final Approval Fee	$300 per lot created
	j) Extension of Preliminary Layout Approval Period	$300.00
	k) Building Strata Conversion Approval Fee	$700.00 + $150.00 per unit
	l) Public Hearing (application for bylaw amendment or any matter that a public hearing is required)	$500.00 (refundable if no public hearing held)
6.	Planning/Zoning Documents	
	a) Copy of Zoning Bylaw, including Zoning District Map (or draft of Zoning Bylaw, including Zoning District Map)	$100.00
	b) Zoning District Map (only)	$60.00
	c) Official Community Plan Bylaw (including Map)	$100.00
	d) Official Community Plan Map (only)	$60.00
	e) Development Permit Area Map (only)	$60.00
	f) Subdivision Bylaw (excluding Schedule "B" Specifications)	$20.00
	g) Vacant Building Registration Permit	$1,000.00
7.	Liquor Licence Applications	
	a) Application requiring public input meeting	$500.00
	b) Application not requiring public input meeting	$250.00
8.	Miscellaneous Works Permits	
	a) Permit to Perform Work on City Streets	$50.00
	b) Permit to Use City Fire Hydrant	See Waterworks bylaw
	c) Permit for Temporary Closure of a City Street	$50.00
	d) Permit for Extraordinary Traffic	$50.00
	e) Permit for Use of Blasting Explosives	$50.00
	f) Permit for Removal or Deposit of Soil	$50.00
	g) Waste Discharge Permit	$50.00

SCHEDULE "A" TO BYLAW NO. 4665		
	SERVICE OR COMMODITY	**AMOUNT OF FEE**
9.	Miscellaneous City Maps a) A1 Size Map Plot b) A0 Size Map Plot c) Map Set (Colour Drawings) d) 11 x 17 photocopies: colour black & white e) 8 ½ x 11 photocopies: colour black & white f) Copy Legal/Plot Plans g) Orthophoto Plots	 $20.00/sheet $30.00/sheet $350.00/mapbook $4.00/sheet $2.00/sheet $2.00/sheet $1.00/sheet $13.00/each $10.00/sq.ft.
10.	Miscellaneous Administrative Services a) Property Record Search b) Letters of "Comfort" regarding encroachments or legal non-conformities. c) Letters from Fire Prevention Office regarding status of outstanding Fire Commissioners Orders and Inspection Reports with Deficiencies. d) Information from Fire Department or Engineering Department hydrant testing records regarding water pressures and flows.	 $75.00 $50.00 $40.00 $35.00
D.	**LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES**	
1.	Criminal Record Search a) Any volunteer, non-profit organization operating within the City of Port Alberni b) All other persons not eligible for the $0 fee pursuant to a) above c) fingerprint fee that may be required for criminal record search d) check required for Chauffeur Permit	 $ 0 $30.00 $30.00 $30.00
2.	Visa Applications/Police Certificates	$35.00
3.	Special Occasion Licenses a) Liquor permits/private Functions (admittance by pre-sold ticket or invitation only) b) Beer Gardens/Public Functions (non-ticketed, free admittance)	 $20.00 per day $90.00 total
4.	Traffic Accident Report	$25.00
5.	Investigational Report	$25.00
6.	Certificate of Analysis	$10.00
7.	a) VHS Tapes/Audio Cassettes b) CD/DVD burning	$40.00 $25.00
8.	Photograph	$1.00 each

SCHEDULE "A" TO BYLAW NO. 4665		
	SERVICE OR COMMODITY	**AMOUNT OF FEE**
9.	Diagram (sketch, not to scale measurements)	$10.00
10.	Plan Drawing (ident service, scaled drawing)	$100.00
11.	Vehicle Identification Report	$50.00
E.	**MUSEUM SERVICES**	
1.	Historic Photograph Reproduction Fees a) Computer Scan and laser print	$20.00/ each
2.	Photocopy historic documents	$0.50/ page - $0.75 Colour
3.	Research Fee/special orders (plus materials)	$10.00 per ¼ hour or portion thereof
4.	Shipping	$12.00 + actual cost
F.	**FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES** **(Fire Control Bylaw, 2015, Bylaw No. 4876)**	
1.	Work done to effect compliance with an order to maintain hydrant area in default of owner (s. 17(g))	Actual cost
2.	Fire Department standby – contact person not arriving within 30 minutes after alarm (s. 18(d)(ii))	Actual cost
3.	Fire Safety Plan review (s.20(a)(iii))	$100.00
4.	Vacant building – securing premises (s. 23(d))	Actual cost
5.	Damaged building – securing premises (s. 24(a))	Actual cost
6.	Nuisance investigation, response and abatement (s. 27(a))	Actual cost
7.	Mitigation, clean-up, transport, disposal of dangerous goods (s. 27(b)	Actual cost
8.	False Alarm attendance – 4th alarm and subsequent alarms (s. 28(a))	$200.00
9.	Work done to effect compliance with an order in default of owner (s. 29(f))	Actual cost
10.	Re-inspection or follow up to an order (s. 31(a))	$100.00

	(Solid-Fuel Burning Appliance Emissions Bylaw 2012, Bylaw No. 4802)	
11.	Inspection Fee – solid fuel burning devices (i.e. wood stove, pellet stoves	$100.00 upon completion of Inspection Report
	(Building Bylaw No. 5077)	
12.	Inspection of Storage Tanks: For each litre of liquid capacity	½ cent per litre with a minimum of $20 for any one permit
	(Misc.)	
13.	Testing of Private Fire Hose – Pass or Fail	$15.00 per length

DRAFT

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Regular Council Meeting
For the Meeting of February 12, 2024

Date: February 6, 2024
File No: 1720-20-2024 - 2028

To: Mayor & Council
From: M. Fox, CAO
Subject: **"City of Port Alberni 2024-2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024" | Introduce & Consider 1st Reading**

Prepared by:	Supervisor:	CAO Concurrence:
Andrew McGifford	*Mike Fox*	Mike Fox, CAO
Director of Finance	*Chief Administrative Officer*	

RECOMMENDATION[S]

THAT "City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024" be now introduced and read a first time.

PURPOSE

That Council considering giving first reading of the *"City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024"* and thereby formally introducing the bylaw.

BACKGROUND

The *Community Charter* requires that a municipality must have a financial plan that is adopted annually. The *Community Charter* goes further to state that the planning period for a financial plan is 5 years, that period being the year in which the plan is specified to come into force and the following 4 years. In addition to the Financial Plan needing to set out objectives and policies of the municipality, the process must also include a process of public consultation/engagement prior to its adoption.

In advance of Council being asked to consider 1st reading of the proposed bylaw, the City's Director of Finance, at a Committee of the Whole meeting held Monday, February 5, 2024 provided members of the Committee with a high-level overview of the City's draft five-year plan.

ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

1) That *"City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024,* be now introduced and read a first time.
2) Provide alternate direction.

ANALYSIS

The proposed *"City of Port Alberni 2024– 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024"* focuses on continuing the current levels of service and implementation of the *2023-2027 Corporate Strategic Plan* priorities. The proposed Financial Plan includes an 16.86% increase in general taxation in 2024 over the previous year. Council

will have opportunities to review and amend the Financial Plan prior to final adoption, which is required to be completed by May 15, 2024.

Updated annually, the City's five-year Financial Plan includes budgeted revenues and expenditures to deliver day-to-day services to the community, implement strategic initiatives, invest in infrastructure, and enable long-term funding strategies for future infrastructure requirements. In large part this Financial Plan was approved previously within the 2023-2027 Financial Plan with changes based on utilization and cost increases for the current levels of service.

Tax rates for 2024 will be set by separate bylaw and presented to Council in April 2024, subsequent to final adoption of the *"City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024"* and receipt of BC Assessment's Revised Roll.

The *Community Charter* requires reporting on objectives and statements of policy on certain revenues and taxes in each municipality's Five-Year Financial Plan such as:

- proportion of total revenue sourced from property value taxes, parcel taxes, fees and charges, proceeds from borrowing, and other;
- allocation of property taxes by class of property [i.e. residential, commercial, industrial]; and
- permissive tax exemptions.

In BC, all municipalities must consider the proposed tax rates for each property class in conjunction with the objectives and policies presented in the Financial Plan. The intent of the disclosure of a municipality's objectives and policies is to promote accountability and transparency to the public.

Council is asked to consider giving first reading to the *"City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024"* to formally introduce the bylaw and permit the opportunity for review, provision of alternative direction, and amendments within legislative deadlines.

IMPLICATIONS

The final impact of the annual "Five-Year Financial Plan' will not be confirmed until April 2024. The province requires adoption of the 'Financial Plan' and associated bylaws before May 15th of each year.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following schedule was included in the presentation materials at the Committee of the Whole held February 5, 2024:

Date	Meeting	Purpose
February 5, 2024	CoW	Director of Finance to provide an overview and summarize the City's proposed Five-Year Financial Plan
February 12, 2024	RCM	Financial Plan Introduced and Council to consider First Reading | *"City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024"*
February 20, 2024	CoW	Public Engagement Session
March 4, 2024	CoW	Public Engagement Session
March 11, 2024	RCM	Council to consider Second Reading | *"City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024"*
March 25, 2024	RCM	Address any follow up - Council to consider Third Reading | *"City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024"*
April 8, 2024	RCM	Address any follow up - Council to consider Final Adoption | *"City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024"*

Council has the ability to schedule additional CoW meetings should they be required. The City will continue to communicate regarding opportunities for public engagement including details as to how citizens may participate throughout the process. As questions are asked, they will be documented and included in the Question & Answer tracking sheet.

BYLAWS/PLANS/POLICIES

"City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024

SUMMARY

- The 2024–2028 draft Financial Plan identifies a proposed tax increase of 16.86% in the 2024 year;
- Council will review the assessed values and tax shares to consider allocation for each property classification at a future date;
- The Plan will be reviewed and confirmed by Council throughout the financial planning process and a tentative schedule is outlined above, that is subject to change if required;
- Council can balance the need to fund improvements in the community and continue current levels of service, while understanding the need to balance the impact of taxation to all taxpayers in the community;
- Adoption must occur prior to May 15, 2024.

ATTACHMENTS/REFERENCE MATERIALS

- *Draft "City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024"*
- *Draft Financial Plan 2024-2028 dated February 12, 2024*

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
BYLAW NO. 5097

A BYLAW TO ESTABLISH A FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN

WHEREAS Section 165 of the *Community Charter* stipulates that a municipality must have a financial plan that is adopted on an annual basis;

NOW THEREFORE, the Municipal Council of the City of Port Alberni in open meeting assembled hereby enacts as follows:

1. Schedules 'A' & 'B' attached hereto and forming part of this Bylaw is hereby adopted and is the Financial Plan of the City of Port Alberni for the five-year period from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2028.

2. This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as "*City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024*" and shall become effective upon adoption.

READ A FIRST TIME this day of , 2024.

READ A SECOND TIME this day of , 2024.

READ A THIRD TIME this day of , 2024.

FINALLY ADOPTED this day of , 2024.

Mayor

Corporate Officer

DRAFT

SCHEDULE A TO BYLAW NO. 5097
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL PLAN 2024 - 2028

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Revenue					
Taxes					
Property Taxes	32,440,323	35,630,330	38,895,453	41,081,179	43,066,313
Other Taxes	835,453	860,702	886,716	913,518	941,131
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	231,750	231,761	231,772	231,787	231,795
Fees and Charges					
Sales of Service	4,904,967	5,031,949	5,177,557	5,345,730	5,502,267
Sales of Service/Utilities	7,613,843	7,871,234	8,272,581	8,624,247	8,750,340
Service to other Government	72,100	72,100	74,263	76,491	78,786
User Fees/Fines	622,135	636,171	650,588	665,396	680,608
Rentals	180,993	186,422	192,015	197,776	203,709
Interest/Penalties/Miscellaneous	1,263,372	1,275,063	1,291,888	1,309,232	1,327,110
Grants/Other Governments	1,125,000	1,156,650	1,189,250	1,222,828	1,257,412
Other Contributions	139,900	89,900	89,900	89,900	89,900
	49,429,836	53,042,282	56,951,983	59,758,084	62,129,371
Expenses					
Debt Interest	580,082	580,082	580,082	580,082	580,082
Capital Expenses	7,010,089	9,033,411	7,295,181	5,933,074	5,409,407
Other Municipal Purposes					
General Municipal	5,811,126	6,076,220	6,209,808	6,320,465	6,521,001
Police Services	9,582,621	10,008,072	10,327,465	10,678,813	10,991,970
Fire Services	4,827,053	4,986,543	5,112,752	5,242,415	5,375,643
Other Protective Services	449,040	458,622	470,896	513,538	496,556
Transportation Services	6,497,624	6,661,009	6,848,261	7,040,583	7,240,224
Environmental Health and Development	3,303,434	3,672,107	3,638,305	3,680,860	3,802,633
Parks and Recreation	7,049,166	7,346,121	7,559,122	7,779,337	8,004,679
Cultural	1,873,847	2,094,699	2,167,288	2,244,589	2,325,290
Water	2,146,469	2,215,509	2,279,676	2,345,644	2,413,645
Sewer	1,849,760	1,908,458	1,964,827	2,022,768	2,082,493
Contingency	275,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
	51,255,311	55,340,853	54,753,663	54,682,168	55,543,623
Revenue Over (Under) Expenses Before Other	(1,825,475)	(2,298,571)	2,198,320	5,075,916	6,585,748
Other					
Debt Proceeds	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Principal	(572,870)	(572,870)	(572,870)	(572,870)	(572,870)
Transfer from Equipment Replacement Reserve	520,914	2,949,311	1,206,674	520,192	607,551
Transfer from Land Sale Reserve	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer from Cemetery Trust	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Transfer from (to) Reserves	1,875,431	(79,870)	(2,834,124)	(5,025,238)	(6,622,429)
	1,825,475	2,298,571	(2,198,320)	(5,075,916)	(6,585,748)
Balanced Budget	0	-	-	-	-

SCHEDULE B TO BYLAW NO. 5097
REVENUE POLICY DISCLOSURE

Objectives and Policies

The City of Port Alberni's *2023 – 2027 Corporate Strategic Plan [Strategic Plan]* provides municipal objectives and policy direction. The *"City of Port Alberni 2024 – 2028 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 5097, 2024"* [*Financial Plan*] will continue with initiatives arising from these stated priorities related directly to revenue generation, property taxation, and permissive tax exemptions until alternate direction has been made for an updated Corporate Strategic Plan.

The *Financial Plan* seeks continued levels of service that are currently provided for the community, and where required, additional resources to support that level of service have been added.

Proportion of Revenue from Funding Sources

Property Taxes – The majority of the City of Port Alberni's revenue arises from property taxation; in 2023, approximately 68% in the *Financial Plan*.

The *Financial Plan* proposes an 16.86% increase in property taxes collected for 2024, with increases in subsequent years decreasing from 9.83% to 4.83%. Property tax increases over the previous five years were lower than those projected for the next five years. The projected annual tax increases will allow for successful implementation of corporate strategic priorities set out by Council in the *Strategic Plan,* as well commitments to capital projects, collective bargaining agreements, and projects that require debt service.

2024-2028 Annual Tax Rates

2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
16.86%	9.83%	9.16%	5.62%	4.83%

Parcel Taxes – No new parcel tax levies are proposed in the *Financial Plan*.

Fees and Charges – In 2024, approximately 25% of the City of Port Alberni's revenues will be derived from fees and charges. Services funded through fees and charges include water and sewer utilities, solid waste collection and disposal, building inspection, cemetery operations and a portion of the parks, recreation, heritage and cultural services. City Council has directed that, where possible, it is preferable to charge a user fee for services that are identifiable to specific users instead of levying a general tax to all property owners.

Other Sources – Other revenue sources are rentals of City-owned property, interest/penalties, payments in lieu of taxes and grants from senior governments. In 2024, approximately 2% of the City of Port Alberni's revenues will be derived from these other sources.

Revenue from some rentals and interest are increasing based on CPI and prescribed interest rates now in the 3% to 5% range. Grants from senior governments vary significantly from year to year depending on successful application for conditional funding.

Distribution of Property Taxes among Property Classes

Council will provide the policy direction which will be incorporated in the *Financial Plan.* The previous year tax shares were allocated as follows:

Class 1 – Residential - Tax increases will reflect the 16.86% for this class [share to be confirmed by Council]. Between 2005 and 2023 the share of property taxation paid by Class 1 increased from 40.00% to 60.81%.

Class 4 – Major Industry - In 2006, Council directed that significant tax reductions be provided for Class 4 taxpayers over a five-year period in response to continued market weakness in the coastal forest industry and higher than average municipal tax rates for Major Industry in Port Alberni. These reductions were implemented in 2006. The City subsequently further committed that through 2013 to 2017 there would be no increase in taxes for Major Industry as part of the agreement to purchase Catalyst's sewage lagoon infrastructure. The above noted reductions and freezes resulted in the Major Industry share of taxation decreasing from 41.80% in 2005 to 18.71% in 2023.

Class 5 - Light Industry – Growth has occurred in the Class 5 property classification since 2019. Historically the rate of Class 4 and 5 were the same. These classes were delinked in 2021. The tax share of Class 5 was 2.54% in 2023.

Class 6 – Business In committing to successful implementation of Council's *Strategic Plan* business rates will be reviewed to allocate the increase of 16.86%. Business property tax rates had a taxation share of 17.60% in 2023.

Other Classes Approximately 0.35% of total taxation arises from the other property classes in Port Alberni. Council will consider the share of taxation paid by other classes for 2024 to allocate the tax increase of 16.86%.

Permissive Tax Exemptions

Permissive tax exemptions are provided by the City of Port Alberni as permitted under the *Community Charter* and in compliance with Council policy. Permissive tax exemptions must also fall within the budget constraints identified by Council to be considered for approval. Council approved the "Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 5090, 2023" in effect for the years 2024 to 2027.

Generally, permissive tax exemptions are a means for Council to support organizations within the community which further Council's objectives of enhancing quality of life (economic, social, and cultural) and delivering services economically. Specifically, the policy allows for annual application by eligible organizations for permissive tax exemptions on the lands or buildings they occupy, and who provide for:

- athletic or recreational programs or facilities for youth;
- services and facilities for persons requiring additional supports; mental wellness and addictions;
- programming for youth and seniors;
- protection and maintenance of important community heritage;
- arts, cultural or educational programs or facilities;
- emergency or rescue services;
- services for the public in a formal partnership with the City or;
- preservation of an environmentally or ecologically sensitive area designated within the Official Community Plan;

Eligible organizations may be considered for tax exemptions exceeding one year (to a maximum of 10 years) where it is demonstrated that the services/benefits they offer to the community are of duration equal to or greater than the period of tax exemption.

In 2023, 56 organizations were approved, with a total annual property tax exemption value of approximately $313,111.39.

Revitalization Tax Exemptions

Council adopted "*City of Port Alberni Revitalization Tax Exemption Program, Bylaw No.4824"* in 2013, an aggressive bylaw designed to encourage revitalization of the uptown area. Council amended the Bylaw in March 2016 to include Harbour Quay and City owned properties to the Schedule of eligible properties. Also, in 2016, Council adopted a new Revitalization Tax Exemption Bylaw covering all other commercial areas. Council's objective is to stimulate growth and development in the City's commercial areas by encouraging investment in new commercial space and improvements to existing commercial buildings. In 2023, one application was received and approved. This approved application experienced the first tax exemption in 2024 and is in effect for a period of ten years [expires December 31, 2033].

Strategic Community Investment (SCI) and Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing (TFRS) Funds

The Strategic Community Investment Fund Plan is an unconditional grant from the Province to municipalities to assist in provision of basic services. The Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Fund returns net revenues from traffic violations to municipalities responsible for policing costs.

The City is expecting to receive approximately $550,000 in 2024. Performance targets are not expected to change from 2023 to 2024. SCI and TFRS funds are allocated to general revenue to support local government service delivery.

Community Gaming Funding

On October 23, 2007 the City of Port Alberni and the Province of BC signed the Host Financial Assistance Agreement providing for the transfer to the City (Host) of ten (10%) percent of net gaming revenue from the casino located within the City's boundaries. The budget assumes that the City of Port Alberni will continue to receive a share of gaming revenue through the five years of this Financial Plan. It should be noted that there is no long-term agreement in place with the Province.

Community gaming funds must be applied to Eligible Costs only. Eligible Costs are defined by the Province as "the costs and expenses incurred by the Host for any purpose that is of public benefit to the Host and within the lawful authority of the Host."

2023 Funding Allocation	Funds ($) Allocated
McLean Mill National Historic Site Operations	$204,015
Visitor Centre Funding	103,000
Offset Economic Development	140,000
Community Investment Plan/Grants in Aid	33,200
Total commitments	**$480,215**

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

FINANCIAL PLAN

2024-2028

February 12, 2024

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL PLAN 2024 - 2028

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Revenue					
Taxes					
Property Taxes	32,440,323	35,630,330	38,895,453	41,081,179	43,066,313
Other Taxes	835,453	860,702	886,716	913,518	941,131
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	231,750	231,761	231,772	231,787	231,795
Fees and Charges					
Sales of Service	4,904,967	5,031,949	5,177,557	5,345,730	5,502,267
Sales of Service/Utilities	7,613,843	7,871,234	8,272,581	8,624,247	8,750,340
Service to other Government	72,100	72,100	74,263	76,491	78,786
User Fees/Fines	622,135	636,171	650,588	665,396	680,608
Rentals	180,993	186,422	192,015	197,776	203,709
Interest/Penalties/Miscellaneous	1,263,372	1,275,063	1,291,888	1,309,232	1,327,110
Grants/Other Governments	1,125,000	1,156,650	1,189,250	1,222,828	1,257,412
Other Contributions	139,900	89,900	89,900	89,900	89,900
	49,429,836	53,042,282	56,951,983	59,758,084	62,129,371
Expenses					
Debt Interest	580,082	580,082	580,082	580,082	580,082
Capital Expenses	7,010,089	9,033,411	7,295,181	5,933,074	5,409,407
Other Municipal Purposes					
General Municipal	5,811,126	6,076,220	6,209,808	6,320,465	6,521,001
Police Services	9,582,621	10,008,072	10,327,465	10,678,813	10,991,970
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Water	2,146,469	2,215,509	2,279,676	2,345,644	2,413,645
Sewer	1,849,760	1,908,458	1,964,827	2,022,768	2,082,493
Contingency	275,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
	51,255,311	55,340,853	54,753,663	54,682,168	55,543,623
Revenue Over (Under) Expenses Before Other	(1,825,475)	(2,298,571)	2,198,320	5,075,916	6,585,748
Other					
Debt Proceeds	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Principal	(572,870)	(572,870)	(572,870)	(572,870)	(572,870)
Transfer from Equipment Replacement Reserve	520,914	2,949,311	1,206,674	520,192	607,551
Transfer from Land Sale Reserve	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer from Cemetery Trust	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Transfer from (to) Reserves	1,875,431	(79,870)	(2,834,124)	(5,025,238)	(6,622,429)
	1,825,475	2,298,571	(2,198,320)	(5,075,916)	(6,585,748)
Balanced Budget	0	-	-	-	-

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
GENERAL FUND - REVENUE
2024-2028 FINANCIAL PLAN

		Budget 2023	Budget 2024	Increase $	Increase %	Budget 2025	Increase %	Budget 2026	Increase %	Budget 2027	Increase %	Budget 2028	Increase %
	REAL PROPERTY TAXES												
11111	General Purposes - Taxes	27,547,134	32,228,652	4,681,518	16.99%	35,418,659	9.90%	38,683,782	9.22%	40,869,508	5.65%	42,854,642	4.86%
11112	Debt Purposes - Taxes	211,671	211,671	-	0.00%	211,671	0.00%	211,671	0.00%	211,671	0.00%	211,671	0.00%
	TAX LEVY	27,758,805	32,440,323	4,681,518	16.86%	35,630,330	9.83%	38,895,453	9.16%	41,081,179	5.62%	43,066,313	4.83%
11211	Special Area Levy	18,000	18,540	540	3.00%	19,282	4.00%	20,053	4.00%	20,855	4.00%	21,689	4.00%
	SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	18,000	18,540	540	3.00%	19,282	4.00%	20,053	4.00%	20,855	4.00%	21,689	4.00%
11910	Utility Tax 1%	786,028	816,913	30,885	3.93%	841,420	3.00%	866,663	3.00%	892,663	3.00%	919,442	3.00%
	TAXES	28,562,833	33,275,776	4,712,943	16.50%	36,491,032	9.66%	39,782,169	9.02%	41,994,697	5.56%	44,007,444	4.79%
	FEDERAL GOVERNMENT												
12110	Federal Building Grant	520	550	30	5.77%	561	2.00%	572	1.96%	587	2.62%	595	1.36%
12210	CBC Grant	3,500	6,000	2,500	71.43%	6,000	0.00%	6,000	0.00%	6,000	0.00%	6,000	0.00%
	PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT												
12310	Provincial Government Grant	54,000	54,000	-	0.00%	54,000	0.00%	54,000	0.00%	54,000	0.00%	54,000	0.00%
12410	BC Hydro	106,000	106,000	-	0.00%	106,000	0.00%	106,000	0.00%	106,000	0.00%	106,000	0.00%
12411	Public Housing Grant (in lieu of taxes)	65,000	65,000	-	0.00%	65,000	0.00%	65,000	0.00%	65,000	0.00%	65,000	0.00%
	OTHER ENTITIES												
12910	University of Victoria	225	200	(25)	-11.11%	200	0.00%	200	0.00%	200	0.00%	200	0.00%
	GRANTS IN LIEU OF TAXES	229,245	231,750	2,505	1.09%	231,761	0.00%	231,772	0.00%	231,787	0.01%	231,795	0.00%
	SERVICES PROVIDED TO GOVERNMENT												
13121	PRISONER EXPENSE RECOVERY	50,000	70,000	20,000	40.00%	72,100	3.00%	74,263	3.00%	76,491	3.00%	78,786	3.00%
	SALES OF SERVICES												
14120	ADMINISTRATION SERVICE CHARGE	25,500	25,500	-	0.00%	25,500	0.00%	25,500	0.00%	25,500	0.00%	25,500	0.00%
14221	Law Enforcement Service Charge	191,500	192,500	1,000	0.52%	198,275	3.00%	204,223	3.00%	210,350	3.00%	216,660	3.00%
14241	Fire Department Service Charge	198,490	279,333	80,843	40.73%	296,449	6.13%	296,484	0.01%	313,979	5.90%	314,540	0.18%
	PROTECTIVE SERVICES	389,990	471,833	81,843	20.99%	494,724	4.85%	500,707	1.21%	524,329	4.72%	531,200	1.31%
14310	Public Works Service Charge	77,800	77,800	-	0.00%	77,800	0.00%	77,800	0.00%	77,800	0.00%	77,800	0.00%
14400	Public Transit Revenue	288,349	301,845	13,496	4.68%	310,900	3.00%	320,227	3.00%	329,834	3.00%	339,729	3.00%
	TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	366,149	379,645	13,496	3.69%	388,700	2.39%	398,027	2.40%	407,634	2.41%	417,529	2.43%
14433	Commercial Solid Waste Collection	-	15,000	15,000		15,450	3.00%	15,914	3.00%	16,391	3.00%	16,883	3.00%
14434	Residential Solid Waste Collection	1,409,780	1,519,211	109,431	7.76%	1,561,387	2.78%	1,623,843	4.00%	1,688,797	4.00%	1,756,349	4.00%
14434	Recycle BC Collection Incentive	293,183	296,115	2,932	1.00%	299,076	1.00%	311,039	4.00%	323,480	4.00%	336,419	4.00%
	CURBSIDE WASTE COLLECTION	1,702,963	1,830,326	127,363	7.48%	1,875,913	2.49%	1,950,796	3.99%	2,028,668	3.99%	2,109,651	3.99%
14516	PUBLIC HEALTH-CEMETERIES	86,000	58,700	(27,300)	-31.74%	60,461	3.00%	62,275	3.00%	64,143	3.00%	66,067	3.00%
14550	PLANNING ADMINISTRATION	66,712	45,000	(21,712)	-32.55%	45,000	0.00%	45,000	0.00%	45,000	0.00%	45,000	0.00%
14560	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	8,500	65,000	56,500	664.71%	10,000	-84.62%	10,000	0.00%	10,000	0.00%	10,000	0.00%
14600	Marine Commercial Building	63,000	90,000	27,000	42.86%	92,700	3.00%	95,481	3.00%	98,345	3.00%	101,296	3.00%
14601	Port Building	27,560	50,000	22,440	81.42%	51,500	3.00%	53,045	3.00%	54,636	3.00%	56,275	3.00%
14602	Market Square	30,600	25,000	(5,600)	-18.30%	25,750	3.00%	26,523	3.00%	27,318	3.00%	28,138	3.00%
14690	A. H. Q. Miscellaneous Revenue	500	250	(250)	-50.00%	250	0.00%	250	0.00%	250	0.00%	250	0.00%

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
GENERAL FUND - REVENUE
2024-2028 FINANCIAL PLAN

		Budget 2023	Budget 2024	Increase $	Increase %	Budget 2025	Increase %	Budget 2026	Increase %	Budget 2027	Increase %	Budget 2028	Increase %
	ALBERNI HARBOUR QUAY	121,660	165,250	43,590	35.83%	170,200	3.00%	175,299	3.00%	180,549	2.99%	185,959	3.00%
	RECREATION SERVICES												
	RECREATION FACILITIES												
14710	Gyro Youth Centre	6,000	6,500	500	8.33%	6,695	3.00%	6,896	3.00%	7,103	3.00%	7,316	3.00%
14712	Echo '67 Centre	200,520	206,786	6,266	3.12%	212,989	3.00%	219,379	3.00%	225,960	3.00%	232,739	3.00%
14714	Glenwood Centre	27,950	39,050	11,100	39.71%	40,222	3.00%	41,428	3.00%	42,671	3.00%	43,951	3.00%
14716	Echo Aquatic Centre	39,000	32,000	(7,000)	-17.95%	32,960	3.00%	33,949	3.00%	34,967	3.00%	36,016	3.00%
14718	AV Multiplex	499,000	647,000	148,000	29.66%	726,410	12.27%	746,402	2.75%	766,994	2.76%	788,204	2.77%
14720	Stadium & Athletic Fields	18,000	19,500	1,500	8.33%	20,085	3.00%	20,688	3.00%	21,308	3.00%	21,947	3.00%
	RECREATION PROGRAMS												
	SPORT PROGRAMS												
14730	Glenwood Centre	1,500	1,500	-	0.00%	1,530	2.00%	1,561	2.03%	1,592	1.99%	1,624	2.01%
14732	Echo Aquatic Centre	182,000	203,500	21,500	11.81%	209,605	3.00%	215,893	3.00%	222,370	3.00%	229,041	3.00%
14734	AV Multiplex	38,500	34,100	(4,400)	-11.43%	35,123	3.00%	36,177	3.00%	37,262	3.00%	38,380	3.00%
	LEISURE PROGRAMS												
14738	Children's Programs	229,500	275,000	45,500	19.83%	283,250	3.00%	291,748	3.00%	300,500	3.00%	309,515	3.00%
14740	Youth Programs & Services	10,000	10,180	180	1.80%	10,485	3.00%	10,800	3.00%	11,124	3.00%	11,458	3.00%
14742	Adult Programs	68,400	85,000	16,600	24.27%	87,550	3.00%	90,176	3.00%	92,882	3.00%	95,668	3.00%
14750	Special Events	1,000	1,000	-	0.00%	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%
	COMMUNITY SERVICES												
14760	Community Services Misc. Revenue	5,500	19,350	13,850	251.82%	10,300	-46.77%	10,609	3.00%	10,927	3.00%	11,255	3.00%
14770	Contributions & Grants	140,447	140,447	-	0.00%	140,447	0.00%	140,447	0.00%	140,447	0.00%	140,447	0.00%
	RECREATION SERVICES	1,467,317	1,720,913	253,596	17.28%	1,818,651	5.68%	1,867,153	2.67%	1,917,107	2.68%	1,968,561	2.68%
	CULTURAL SERVICES												
	MUSEUM SERVICES												
14810	Museum-Sales & Service	35,800	39,400	3,600	10.06%	39,400	0.00%	39,400	0.00%	39,400	0.00%	39,400	0.00%
14820	Museum-Federal Grants	3,400	3,400	-	0.00%	3,400	0.00%	3,400	0.00%	3,400	0.00%	3,400	0.00%
14830	Museum-Provincial Grants	68,000	100,000	32,000	47.06%	100,000	0.00%	100,000	0.00%	100,000	0.00%	100,000	0.00%
	CULTURAL SERVICES	107,200	142,800	35,600	33.21%	142,800	0.00%	142,800	0.00%	142,800	0.00%	142,800	0.00%
	SALES OF SERVICES	4,341,991	4,904,967	562,976	12.97%	5,031,949	2.59%	5,177,557	2.89%	5,345,730	3.25%	5,502,267	2.93%
	OTHER REVENUE OWN SOURCES												
15110	Business License Fees	170,000	190,000	20,000	11.76%	191,900	1.00%	193,819	1.00%	195,757	1.00%	197,715	1.00%
15160	Dog License Fees	13,500	13,635	135	1.00%	13,771	1.00%	13,909	1.00%	14,048	1.00%	14,189	1.00%
15170	Building & Plumbing Permit Fees	400,000	400,000	-	0.00%	412,000	3.00%	424,360	3.00%	437,091	3.00%	450,204	3.00%
15181	Other Const/Demolition Permit Fees	500	500	-	0.00%	500	0.00%	500	0.00%	500	0.00%	500	0.00%
15190	Vacant Bldg. Registration Permit Fees	1,000	1,000	-	0.00%	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%
	LICENCES & PERMITS	585,000	605,135	20,135	3.44%	619,171	2.32%	633,588	2.33%	648,396	2.34%	663,608	2.35%
15210	FINES & PARKING TICKETS	17,000	17,000	-	0.00%	17,000	0.00%	17,000	0.00%	17,000	0.00%	17,000	0.00%
15320	RENTALS	186,090	180,993	(5,097)	-2.74%	186,422	3.00%	192,015	3.00%	197,776	3.00%	203,709	3.00%
15510	Interest On Investments	300,000	400,000	100,000	33.33%	400,000	0.00%	400,000	0.00%	400,000	0.00%	400,000	0.00%
15590	Other Interest	146,000	306,000	160,000	109.59%	306,000	0.00%	306,000	0.00%	306,000	0.00%	306,000	0.00%
	RETURN ON INVESTMENTS	446,000	706,000	260,000	58.30%	706,000	0.00%	706,000	0.00%	706,000	0.00%	706,000	0.00%

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
GENERAL FUND - REVENUE
2024-2028 FINANCIAL PLAN

		Budget 2023	Budget 2024	Increase $	Increase %	Budget 2025	Increase %	Budget 2026	Increase %	Budget 2027	Increase %	Budget 2028	Increase %
15611	Current Tax Penalties	190,000	210,000	20,000	10.53%	216,300	3.00%	222,789	3.00%	229,473	3.00%	236,357	3.00%
15621	Arrears & Delinquent Tax Interest	53,600	53,600	-	0.00%	55,208	3.00%	56,864	3.00%	58,570	3.00%	60,327	3.00%
15625	Residential Garbage Penalties	20,000	20,000	-	0.00%	20,000	0.00%	20,000	0.00%	20,000	0.00%	20,000	0.00%
	PENALTIES & INTEREST	263,600	283,600	20,000	7.59%	291,508	2.79%	299,653	2.79%	308,043	2.80%	316,684	2.81%
15930	Miscellaneous Revenue	230,500	239,782	9,282	4.03%	242,205	1.01%	249,471	3.00%	256,955	3.00%	264,663	3.00%
15940	Miscellaneous Revenue-IT Services	33,000	33,990	990	3.00%	35,350	4.00%	36,764	4.00%	38,234	4.00%	39,763	4.00%
	MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	263,500	273,772	10,272	3.90%	277,555	1.38%	286,235	3.13%	295,189	3.13%	304,426	3.13%
	OTHER REVENUE OWN SOURCES	1,761,190	2,066,500	305,310	17.34%	2,097,656	1.51%	2,134,491	1.76%	2,172,404	1.78%	2,211,427	1.80%
	UNCONDITIONAL TRANSFERS OTHER GOV'T												
	PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT												
16212	Small Community Protection Grant	255,000	210,000	(45,000)	-17.65%	216,300	3.00%	222,789	3.00%	229,473	3.00%	236,357	3.00%
16214	Revenue Sharing - Traffic Fines	345,000	345,000	-	0.00%	355,350	3.00%	366,011	3.00%	376,991	3.00%	388,301	3.00%
16215	Community Gaming Revenue	520,000	500,000	(20,000)	-3.85%	515,000	3.00%	530,450	3.00%	546,364	3.00%	562,754	3.00%
	UNCOND TFRS OTHER GOV'T	1,120,000	1,055,000	(65,000)	-5.80%	1,086,650	3.00%	1,119,250	3.00%	1,152,828	3.00%	1,187,412	3.00%
	CONDITIONAL TRANSFERS OTHER												
18120	Grants/Contributions UBCM/FCM	-	-			-	0.00%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
18121	Grants/Contributions Other	70,000	70,000	-	0.00%	70,000	0.00%	70,000	0.00%	70,000	0.00%	70,000	0.00%
	CONDITIONAL TRANSFERS - OTHER	70,000	70,000	-	0.00%	70,000	0.00%	70,000	0.00%	70,000	0.00%	70,000	0.00%
	OTHER TRANSFERS & COLLECTIONS												
19110	Cemetery Trust Fund	2,000	2,000	-	0.00%	2,000	0.00%	2,000	0.00%	2,000	0.00%	2,000	0.00%
19114	Operating Funds From Prior Years	532,253	-	(532,253)	-100.00%	400,000		400,000	0.00%	400,000	0.00%	400,000	0.00%
19115	Transfer from RCMP Surplus Reserve	204,490	193,116	(11,374)	-5.56%	-		-		-		-	
	TRANSFERS FROM OWN RESERVES	738,743	195,116	(543,627)	-73.59%	402,000	106.03%	402,000	0.00%	402,000	0.00%	402,000	0.00%
	COLLECTIONS FOR OTHER GOV'T												
19811	Non-Residential School Tax	1,783,987	1,875,000	91,013	5.10%	1,931,250	3.00%	1,989,188	3.00%	2,048,863	3.00%	2,110,329	3.00%
19812	Residential School Tax	4,467,708	5,200,000	732,292	16.39%	5,356,000	3.00%	5,516,680	3.00%	5,682,180	3.00%	5,852,646	3.00%
	COLLECTIONS FOR OTHER GOV'T	6,251,695	7,075,000	823,305	13.17%	7,287,250	3.00%	7,505,868	3.00%	7,731,043	3.00%	7,962,975	3.00%
	REGIONAL GOVERNMENT												
19820	Alberni-Clayoquot Regional Hosp Dist.	682,652	685,000	2,348	0.34%	685,000	0.00%	685,000	0.00%	685,000	0.00%	685,000	0.00%
19821	Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District	1,770,580	2,033,571	262,991	14.85%	2,094,578	3.00%	2,157,415	3.00%	2,222,138	3.00%	2,288,802	3.00%
	REGIONAL GOVERNMENT	2,453,232	2,718,571	265,339	10.82%	2,779,578	2.24%	2,842,415	2.26%	2,907,138	2.28%	2,973,802	2.29%
	JOINT BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS												
19830	Municipal Finance Authority	700	1,200	500	71.43%	1,236	3.00%	1,273	2.99%	1,311	2.99%	1,351	3.05%
19831	BC Assessment	190,000	220,000	30,000	15.79%	226,600	3.00%	233,398	3.00%	240,400	3.00%	247,612	3.00%
	JOINT BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS	190,700	221,200	30,500	15.99%	227,836	3.00%	234,671	3.00%	241,711	3.00%	248,963	3.00%
	OTHER TRANSFERS, COLLECTIONS	8,895,627	10,014,771	1,119,144	12.58%	10,294,664	2.79%	10,582,954	2.80%	10,879,892	2.81%	11,185,740	2.81%
	GENERAL FUND REVENUE	**45,769,629**	**51,883,880**	6,114,251	13.36%	**55,777,812**	**7.51%**	**59,574,456**	**6.81%**	**62,325,829**	**4.62%**	**64,876,871**	**4.09%**

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
GENERAL FUND - EXPENSE
2024-2028 FINANCIAL PLAN

		Budget 2023	Budget 2024	Increase %	Budget 2025	Increase %	Budget 2026	Increase %	Budget 2027	Increase %	Budget 2028	Increase %
	GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE											
	LEGISLATIVE											
21110	Mayor	72,070	74,724	3.68%	78,265	4.74%	81,983	4.75%	85,887	4.76%	89,985	4.77%
21130	Council	193,052	201,961	4.61%	211,280	4.61%	221,046	4.62%	231,280	4.63%	242,003	4.64%
21190	Receptions and Other Services	34,260	46,880	36.84%	45,592	-2.75%	57,105	25.25%	51,670	-9.52%	50,290	-2.67%
	LEGISLATIVE	299,382	323,565	8.08%	335,137	3.58%	360,134	7.46%	368,837	2.42%	382,278	3.64%
	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION											
	ADMINISTRATIVE											
21211	Chief Administrative Officer	235,020	338,984	44.24%	378,172	11.56%	391,401	3.50%	402,879	2.93%	414,706	2.94%
21212	Corporate Services	678,929	812,438	19.66%	782,694	-3.66%	753,475	-3.73%	774,475	2.79%	796,537	2.85%
21215	Legal Services	25,000	25,000	0.00%	25,000	0.00%	25,000	0.00%	25,000	0.00%	25,000	0.00%
21216	Bylaw Enforcement	449,373	474,853	5.67%	489,418	3.07%	500,407	2.25%	513,235	2.56%	526,394	2.56%
22140	Parking Enforcement	-	-		25,000		25,000	0.00%	25,000	0.00%	25,000	0.00%
21217	Bylaw Enforcement Vehicles	20,769	21,362	2.86%	21,973	2.86%	22,602	2.86%	23,250	2.87%	23,914	2.86%
21218	Public Safety Building	48,000	59,727	24.43%	60,522	1.33%	62,080	2.57%	63,673	2.57%	65,312	2.57%
	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT											
21221	Financial Management Administration	999,412	1,034,184	3.48%	1,103,581	6.71%	1,133,965	2.75%	1,165,261	2.76%	1,197,445	2.76%
21225	External Audit	32,000	32,960	3.00%	33,949	3.00%	34,967	3.00%	36,016	3.00%	37,097	3.00%
21226	Purchasing Administration	147,350	134,015	-9.05%	138,093	3.04%	141,274	2.30%	144,550	2.32%	147,925	2.33%
21229	Other Financial Management	66,812	79,290	18.68%	60,791	-23.33%	62,348	2.56%	63,975	2.61%	65,677	2.66%
	COMMON SERVICES											
21222	Administration Vehicle	12,271	12,639	3.00%	13,018	3.00%	13,409	3.00%	13,811	3.00%	14,225	3.00%
21252	City Hall	119,776	140,832	17.58%	145,465	3.29%	149,587	2.83%	153,826	2.83%	158,172	2.83%
21253	Other City Buildings	2,100	2,185	4.05%	2,270	3.89%	2,334	2.82%	2,406	3.08%	2,481	3.12%
21259	Other Common Services	503,140	671,462	33.45%	719,456	7.15%	734,308	2.06%	749,590	2.08%	765,315	2.10%
21260	Carbon Offsets	45,000	51,500	14.44%	53,045	3.00%	54,636	3.00%	56,275	3.00%	57,964	3.00%
	INFORMATION SERVICES											
21261	Information Services	854,216	968,488	13.38%	1,012,369	4.53%	1,055,504	4.26%	1,100,571	4.27%	1,147,564	4.27%
	OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES											
21282	Appraisals	-	-		27,500		-		-		-	
21283	Personnel (Human Resources)	385,823	435,976	13.00%	452,181	3.72%	421,448	-6.80%	430,986	2.26%	455,776	5.75%
21285	Employee Wellness (EFAP)	16,599	17,812	7.31%	18,477	3.73%	19,146	3.62%	19,841	3.63%	20,561	3.63%
	RECOVERIES											
21290	Administration Services Recovered	(503,000)	(530,000)	5.37%	(545,900)	3.00%	(562,277)	3.00%	(579,145)	3.00%	(596,520)	3.00%
	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	4,138,590	4,783,707	15.59%	5,017,074	4.88%	5,040,614	0.47%	5,185,475	2.87%	5,350,545	3.18%
21911	Election Expense	-	-		-		64,290		-		-	
21920	Training and Development	150,427	191,212	27.11%	196,948	3.00%	202,857	3.00%	208,943	3.00%	215,211	3.00%
21925	Council Travel and Development	71,100	76,000	6.89%	78,280	3.00%	80,628	3.00%	83,047	3.00%	85,539	3.00%
21930	Insurance	392,878	404,642	2.99%	416,781	3.00%	429,285	3.00%	442,163	3.00%	455,428	3.00%
21931	Damage Claims	21,000	21,000	0.00%	21,000	0.00%	21,000	0.00%	21,000	0.00%	21,000	0.00%
21950	Grants In Aid	11,000	11,000	0.00%	11,000	0.00%	11,000	0.00%	11,000	0.00%	11,000	0.00%
	OTHER GENERAL GOV'T SERVICES	646,405	703,854	8.89%	724,009	2.86%	809,060	11.75%	766,153	-5.30%	788,178	2.87%
	GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE	5,084,377	5,811,126	14.29%	6,076,220	4.56%	6,209,808	2.20%	6,320,465	1.78%	6,521,001	3.17%

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
GENERAL FUND - EXPENSE
2024-2028 FINANCIAL PLAN

		Budget 2023	Budget 2024	Increase %	Budget 2025	Increase %	Budget 2026	Increase %	Budget 2027	Increase %	Budget 2028	Increase %
	PROTECTIVE SERVICES											
22121	Police Services Contract	6,730,009	7,287,407	8.28%	7,622,452	4.60%	7,875,460	3.32%	8,141,534	3.38%	8,401,662	3.20%
22122	Police Services Administration	1,184,096	1,331,508	12.45%	1,379,480	3.60%	1,417,654	2.77%	1,456,947	2.77%	1,497,427	2.78%
22123	Police Services Consulting	33,000	36,000	9.09%	38,750	7.64%	38,750	0.00%	41,000	5.81%	41,000	0.00%
22130	Community Policing	154,490	159,292	3.11%	163,285	2.51%	168,703	3.32%	172,995	2.54%	177,499	2.60%
22160	Police Building Maintenance	195,886	196,663	0.40%	211,151	7.37%	217,406	2.96%	239,811	10.31%	230,311	-3.96%
22180	Detention & Custody of Prisoners	525,933	571,751	8.71%	592,954	3.71%	609,492	2.79%	626,526	2.79%	644,071	2.80%
	POLICE PROTECTION	8,823,414	9,582,621	8.60%	10,008,072	4.44%	10,327,465	3.19%	10,678,813	3.40%	10,991,970	2.93%
22411	Fire Protection Administration	399,819	415,283	3.87%	427,502	2.94%	439,562	2.82%	451,984	2.83%	464,778	2.83%
22421	Fire Crew	3,397,501	3,488,594	2.68%	3,571,786	2.38%	3,657,126	2.39%	3,744,705	2.39%	3,834,583	2.40%
22422	Personnel Expense	52,597	58,127	10.51%	59,973	3.18%	61,773	3.00%	63,626	3.00%	65,535	3.00%
22431	Communication System	8,560	8,901	3.98%	9,257	4.00%	9,535	3.00%	9,821	3.00%	10,115	2.99%
22440	Fire Investigation	2,000	2,080	4.00%	2,163	3.99%	2,228	3.01%	2,295	3.01%	2,364	3.01%
22441	Fire Prevention	172,095	183,927	6.88%	188,301	2.38%	192,733	2.35%	197,276	2.36%	201,934	2.36%
22471	Fire Building Maintenance	90,182	93,915	4.14%	97,612	3.94%	100,494	2.95%	103,448	2.94%	106,491	2.94%
22480	Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	203,066	494,043	143.29%	544,234	10.16%	560,500	2.99%	577,254	2.99%	594,510	2.99%
22481	Sundry Equipment Repair & Mtce	27,269	28,359	4.00%	29,493	4.00%	30,378	3.00%	31,290	3.00%	32,228	3.00%
22482	Fire Fighting Tools/Supplies Purchases	41,209	53,824	30.61%	56,222	4.46%	58,423	3.91%	60,716	3.92%	63,105	3.93%
	FIRE PROTECTION	4,394,298	4,827,053	9.85%	4,986,543	3.30%	5,112,752	2.53%	5,242,415	2.54%	5,375,643	2.54%
22510	Emergency Program (Tsunami Warning)	585	6,401	994.19%	2,027	-68.33%	2,088	3.01%	2,151	3.02%	2,215	2.98%
22921	Building & Plumbing Inspection	308,321	278,481	-9.68%	287,557	3.26%	294,744	2.50%	332,146	12.69%	309,770	-6.74%
22926	Building Inspector Vehicle	10,892	10,395	-4.56%	10,707	3.00%	11,028	3.00%	11,359	3.00%	11,699	2.99%
22931	Animal Control Services Contract	149,328	153,763	2.97%	158,331	2.97%	163,036	2.97%	167,882	2.97%	172,872	2.97%
	OTHER PROTECTION	468,541	442,639	-5.53%	456,595	3.15%	468,808	2.67%	511,387	9.08%	494,341	-3.33%
	PROTECTIVE SERVICES	13,686,838	14,858,714	8.56%	15,453,237	4.00%	15,911,113	2.96%	16,434,766	3.29%	16,864,169	2.61%
	TRANSPORTATION SERVICE											
	COMMON SERVICES											
23110	Engineering Administration	971,113	881,031	-9.28%	857,871	-2.63%	877,093	2.24%	896,773	2.24%	916,946	2.25%
23121	Engineering Consulting Services	50,000	50,000	0.00%	51,500	3.00%	53,045	3.00%	54,636	3.00%	56,275	3.00%
	PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION											
23129	Clerical & Reception-Operation	132,007	172,045	30.33%	178,098	3.52%	183,157	2.84%	188,368	2.85%	193,735	2.85%
23130	Supervision Operations	455,616	390,448	-14.30%	401,154	2.74%	412,181	2.75%	423,539	2.76%	435,238	2.76%
23134	Small Tools/Equipment/Supplies	43,212	55,303	27.98%	56,981	3.03%	58,681	2.98%	60,429	2.98%	62,230	2.98%
23136	Works Yard Maintenance	122,607	125,481	2.34%	132,845	5.87%	137,158	3.25%	141,582	3.23%	147,910	4.47%
23137	Main Building Maintenance	148,894	178,159	19.65%	183,985	3.27%	189,240	2.86%	194,648	2.86%	200,203	2.85%
23138	Shop Overhead	102,897	101,771	-1.09%	105,139	3.31%	108,119	2.83%	111,171	2.82%	114,315	2.83%
23160	General Equipment Maintenance	731,816	759,351	3.76%	783,654	3.20%	806,440	2.91%	829,777	2.89%	853,813	2.90%
23161	Vehicle Maintenance & Replacement	33,113	34,107	3.00%	35,471	4.00%	36,890	4.00%	38,365	4.00%	39,900	4.00%
23162	Supv Vehicle Mtce & Replacement	36,471	28,000	-23.23%	28,840	3.00%	29,705	3.00%	30,596	3.00%	31,514	3.00%
	COMMON SERVICES	2,827,746	2,775,696	-1.84%	2,815,538	1.44%	2,891,709	2.71%	2,969,884	2.70%	3,052,079	2.77%
	ROAD TRANSPORTATION											
	ROADS AND STREETS											
23205	Customer Service Requests-Streets	28,816	86,859	201.43%	89,897	3.50%	92,352	2.73%	94,881	2.74%	97,486	2.75%
23210	Small Tools/Supplies-Streets	2,286	2,354	2.97%	2,454	4.25%	2,498	1.79%	2,573	3.00%	2,650	2.99%

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
GENERAL FUND - EXPENSE
2024-2028 FINANCIAL PLAN

		Budget 2023	Budget 2024	Increase %	Budget 2025	Increase %	Budget 2026	Increase %	Budget 2027	Increase %	Budget 2028	Increase %
23220	Streets Inspections	42,775	45,033	5.28%	46,638	3.56%	47,894	2.69%	49,187	2.70%	50,520	2.71%
23231	Roadway Surfaces Maintenance	569,800	626,170	9.89%	646,562	3.26%	665,170	2.88%	684,335	2.88%	704,076	2.88%
23233	Road Allowance Maintenance	343,249	466,370	35.87%	482,271	3.41%	496,135	2.87%	510,398	2.87%	525,089	2.88%
23234	New Driveway Crossings	14,475	12,819	-11.44%	13,236	3.25%	13,617	2.88%	14,005	2.85%	14,405	2.86%
23236	Street Sweeping	198,933	201,522	1.30%	208,282	3.35%	214,144	2.81%	220,183	2.82%	226,402	2.82%
23237	Snow & Ice Removal	205,347	211,751	3.12%	219,785	3.79%	227,010	3.29%	234,464	3.28%	242,184	3.29%
	BRIDGES AND RETAINING WALLS											
23241	Bridges & Engineered Structures	27,938	26,681	-4.50%	27,482	3.00%	28,306	3.00%	29,155	3.00%	30,030	3.00%
	STREET LIGHTING											
23250	Overhead & Decorative Lighting	384,024	408,759	6.44%	421,665	3.16%	434,273	2.99%	447,259	2.99%	460,634	2.99%
23261	Signs & Traffic Marking	256,656	267,028	4.04%	275,683	3.24%	283,626	2.88%	291,804	2.88%	300,227	2.89%
23264	Traffic & Railroad Signals	24,831	25,218	1.56%	25,975	3.00%	26,754	3.00%	27,557	3.00%	28,384	3.00%
	PARKING											
23272	Off-Street Parking	18,000	17,946	-0.30%	18,563	3.44%	19,110	2.95%	19,674	2.95%	20,256	2.96%
	OTHER											
23291	Gravel	116,676	119,706	2.60%	123,526	3.19%	127,114	2.90%	130,809	2.91%	134,616	2.91%
	ROADS & STREETS	2,233,806	2,518,216	12.73%	2,602,019	3.33%	2,678,003	2.92%	2,756,284	2.92%	2,836,959	2.93%
	STORM DRAINAGE											
	OPEN DRAINAGE											
23311	Ditch, Creek & Dyke Maintenance	89,294	108,312	21.30%	112,149	3.54%	115,325	2.83%	118,567	2.81%	121,905	2.82%
	STORM SEWERS											
23331	Storm Sewer Maintenance	109,757	138,304	26.01%	142,998	3.39%	146,986	2.79%	151,062	2.77%	155,261	2.78%
23333	Storm Sewer Lift Station	78,720	52,657	-33.11%	54,572	3.64%	56,059	2.72%	57,573	2.70%	59,133	2.71%
23335	Storm Sewer Connections	144,237	114,062	-20.92%	117,852	3.32%	121,202	2.84%	124,630	2.83%	128,162	2.83%
	STORM DRAINAGE	422,008	413,335	-2.06%	427,571	3.44%	439,572	2.81%	451,832	2.79%	464,461	2.80%
	OTHER COMMON SERVICES											
23881	Training Program	69,458	125,634	80.88%	129,786	3.30%	133,488	2.85%	137,287	2.85%	141,199	2.85%
23882	Safety	22,010	41,642	89.20%	42,891	3.00%	44,178	3.00%	45,503	3.00%	46,868	3.00%
23884	Special Streets Work Orders	2,950	2,964	0.47%	3,053	3.00%	3,145	3.01%	3,239	2.99%	3,336	2.99%
	OTHER COMMON SERVICES	94,418	170,240	80.30%	175,730	3.22%	180,811	2.89%	186,029	2.89%	191,403	2.89%
	OTHER											
23510	PUBLIC TRANSIT	1,077,555	1,119,137	3.86%	1,155,151	3.22%	1,189,806	3.00%	1,225,500	3.00%	1,262,265	3.00%
	RECOVERIES											
23951	General Overhead Recovery	(893,000)	-	-100.00%	-		-		-		-	
23952	Main Building Expense Recovery	(24,000)	(24,000)	0.00%	(24,000)	0.00%	(24,000)	0.00%	(24,000)	0.00%	(24,000)	0.00%
23953	Shop Overhead Recovery	(107,800)	-	-100.00%								
23958	Equipment Charges Recovery	(587,800)	(400,000)	-31.95%	(416,000)	4.00%	(432,640)	4.00%	(449,946)	4.00%	(467,943)	4.00%
23959	Gravel Cost Recovery	(112,000)	(75,000)	-33.04%	(75,000)	0.00%	(75,000)	0.00%	(75,000)	0.00%	(75,000)	0.00%
	RECOVERIES	(1,724,600)	(499,000)	-71.07%	(515,000)	3.21%	(531,640)	3.23%	(548,946)	3.26%	(566,943)	3.28%
	TRANSPORTATION SERVICE	4,930,933	6,497,624	31.77%	6,661,009	2.51%	6,848,261	2.81%	7,040,583	2.81%	7,240,224	2.84%
	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES											
	SOLID WASTE COLLECTION											

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
GENERAL FUND - EXPENSE
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		Budget 2023	Budget 2024	Increase %	Budget 2025	Increase %	Budget 2026	Increase %	Budget 2027	Increase %	Budget 2028	Increase %
24320	Residential Waste Collection	762,527	880,573	15.48%	1,007,822	14.45%	990,507	-1.72%	1,019,022	2.88%	1,048,392	2.88%
24322	Solid Waste Containers Purchase & Mtce	15,500	51,088	229.60%	52,701	3.16%	65,331	23.97%	67,254	2.94%	69,235	2.95%
24323	Solid Waste Disposal Fees	525,000	550,000	4.76%	566,500	3.00%	583,485	3.00%	601,000	3.00%	619,030	3.00%
24324	City Facility Solid Waste Collection	12,240	6,203	-49.32%	6,423	3.55%	6,597	2.71%	6,778	2.74%	6,963	2.73%
	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	1,315,267	1,487,864	13.12%	1,633,446	9.78%	1,645,920	0.76%	1,694,054	2.92%	1,743,620	2.93%
	PUBLIC HEALTH											
25161	Cemetery Maintenance	14,855	14,510	-2.32%	15,037	3.63%	15,488	3.00%	15,953	3.00%	16,431	3.00%
25162	Interments	74,049	47,936	-35.26%	49,692	3.66%	51,094	2.82%	52,538	2.83%	54,026	2.83%
25163	Memorial Marker Installation	19,762	23,077	16.77%	23,897	3.55%	24,553	2.75%	25,220	2.72%	25,908	2.73%
	CEMETERIES	108,666	85,523	-21.30%	88,626	3.63%	91,135	2.83%	93,711	2.83%	96,365	2.83%
	PUBLIC HEALTH	108,666	85,523	-21.30%	88,626	3.63%	91,135	2.83%	93,711	2.83%	96,365	2.83%
	DEVELOPMENT SERVICES											
26129	Planning Administration	815,352	796,927	-2.26%	850,312	6.70%	980,017	15.25%	1,005,390	2.59%	1,031,535	2.60%
26132	Consulting Services - OCP	428,000	240,600	-43.79%	361,218	50.13%	166,855	-53.81%	117,510	-29.57%	145,000	23.39%
	RESEARCH AND PLANNING	1,243,352	1,037,527	-16.55%	1,211,530	16.77%	1,146,872	-5.34%	1,122,900	-2.09%	1,176,535	4.78%
26234	Business Development	86,000	65,800	-23.49%	69,156	5.10%	70,539	2.00%	71,950	2.00%	73,389	2.00%
26235	Economic Development	350,179	333,906	-4.65%	367,032	9.92%	375,478	2.30%	384,134	2.31%	393,005	2.31%
26237	Community Serv-Community Inv Program	33,200	33,200	0.00%	33,200	0.00%	33,200	0.00%	33,200	0.00%	33,200	0.00%
26238	Community Serv-Community Engagement	500	500	0.00%	500	0.00%	500	0.00%	500	0.00%	500	0.00%
	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	469,879	433,406	-7.76%	469,888	8.42%	479,717	2.09%	489,784	2.10%	500,094	2.11%
26701	Alberni Harbour Quay Overhead	18,727	19,289	3.00%	19,868	3.00%	20,464	3.00%	21,078	3.00%	21,078	0.00%
26770	Harbour Quay - Buildings Maintenance	138,328	136,825	-1.09%	144,719	5.77%	149,127	3.05%	153,212	2.74%	157,759	2.97%
	ALBERNI HARBOUR QUAY	157,055	156,114	-0.60%	164,587	5.43%	169,591	3.04%	174,290	2.77%	178,837	2.61%
	OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT											
26911	Chamber of Commerce Visitor Centre	100,000	103,000	3.00%	104,030	1.00%	105,070	1.00%	106,121	1.00%	107,182	1.00%
	OTHER	100,000	103,000	3.00%	104,030	1.00%	105,070	1.00%	106,121	1.00%	107,182	1.00%
	ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT	1,970,286	1,730,047	-12.19%	1,950,035	12.72%	1,901,250	-2.50%	1,893,095	-0.43%	1,962,648	3.67%
	PARKS, RECREATION & HERITAGE											
	RECREATION FACILITIES											
	ADMINISTRATION											
27110	Parks, Recreation & Heritage Mgmt Serv	585,207	603,077	3.05%	622,313	3.19%	639,646	2.79%	657,402	2.78%	675,688	2.78%
	COMMUNITY CENTRES AND HALLS											
27120	Gyro Youth Centre Maintenance	52,753	53,832	2.05%	58,625	8.90%	60,159	2.62%	61,730	2.61%	63,345	2.62%
27126	Glenwood Skate Shop	1,590	2,979	87.36%	3,081	3.42%	3,174	3.02%	3,269	2.99%	3,324	1.68%
27128	Glenwood Centre Maintenance	82,594	81,661	-1.13%	89,192	9.22%	91,427	2.51%	93,706	2.49%	96,045	2.50%
27129	Bob Dailey Stadium	10,233	16,880	64.96%	17,369	2.90%	17,777	2.35%	18,190	2.32%	18,615	2.34%
27130	Echo Activity Centre Maintenance	290,631	309,660	6.55%	316,267	2.13%	326,087	3.10%	336,664	3.24%	347,432	3.20%
27134	Echo Aquatic Maintenance	497,259	512,687	3.10%	538,742	5.08%	554,677	2.96%	571,328	3.00%	588,418	2.99%
27140	AV Multiplex Concessions	190,306	228,461	20.05%	236,392	3.47%	243,483	3.00%	250,788	3.00%	258,311	3.00%
27142	AV Multiplex Skate Shop	12,806	29,545	130.71%	30,687	3.87%	31,577	2.90%	32,494	2.90%	33,439	2.91%
27144	AV Multiplex Maintenance	969,610	1,001,017	3.24%	1,048,297	4.72%	1,079,848	3.01%	1,112,383	3.01%	1,145,456	2.97%
27146	Parks Building & Fieldhouses	130,665	140,710	7.69%	148,964	5.87%	153,148	2.81%	157,719	2.98%	162,475	3.02%
27148	Echo Park Complex	71,453	65,285	-8.63%	71,331	9.26%	73,639	3.24%	76,101	3.34%	78,657	3.36%

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
GENERAL FUND - EXPENSE
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		Budget 2023	Budget 2024	Increase %	Budget 2025	Increase %	Budget 2026	Increase %	Budget 2027	Increase %	Budget 2028	Increase %
	RECREATION PROGRAMS											
	SPORT PROGRAMS											
27156	Glenwood Centre Programs	49,393	68,927	39.55%	71,619	3.91%	73,768	3.00%	75,981	3.00%	78,260	3.00%
27160	Echo Aquatic Programs	729,724	847,498	16.14%	857,642	1.20%	883,124	2.97%	909,172	2.95%	935,920	2.94%
27163	AV Multiplex Programs	240,857	274,681	14.04%	283,743	3.30%	291,742	2.82%	299,930	2.81%	308,363	2.81%
	LEISURE PROGRAMS											
27166	Leisure Service Programs	274,136	287,255	4.79%	297,815	3.68%	306,069	2.77%	314,570	2.78%	323,327	2.78%
27170	Youth Services and Programs	16,000	6,046	-62.21%	6,273	3.75%	6,461	3.00%	6,655	3.00%	6,855	3.01%
27173	Children's Programs	266,676	321,721	20.64%	331,626	3.08%	340,645	2.72%	349,938	2.73%	359,512	2.74%
27180	Adult Programs	54,316	88,755	63.40%	89,124	0.42%	89,503	0.43%	89,893	0.44%	90,296	0.45%
	SPECIAL EVENTS											
27190	Special Events	13,250	13,250	0.00%	13,647	3.00%	14,057	3.00%	14,479	3.00%	14,913	3.00%
27198	Vehicle Maintenance & Repair	13,936	14,354	3.00%	14,785	3.00%	15,228	3.00%	15,685	3.00%	16,156	3.00%
	RECREATION FACILITIES & PROGRAMS	4,553,395	4,968,281	9.11%	5,147,534	3.61%	5,295,239	2.87%	5,448,077	2.89%	5,604,807	2.88%
	PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS											
27210	Parks & Facility Management Services	219,765	351,065	59.75%	361,057	2.85%	371,203	2.81%	381,639	2.81%	392,388	2.82%
27215	Parks Maintenance	1,097,103	1,122,923	2.35%	1,161,925	3.47%	1,195,179	2.86%	1,229,318	2.86%	1,264,480	2.86%
27220	Horticultural Services	357,036	379,143	6.19%	439,793	16.00%	454,020	3.23%	468,951	3.29%	483,511	3.10%
27225	Vehicles & Equipment Mtce & Repair	218,746	233,802	6.88%	241,988	3.50%	249,867	3.26%	257,961	3.24%	266,333	3.25%
27230	Parks Upgrading	53,095	69,952	31.75%	72,104	3.08%	74,242	2.97%	76,438	2.96%	78,699	2.96%
27499	Equipment Recovery	(73,000)	(76,000)	4.11%	(78,280)	3.00%	(80,628)	3.00%	(83,047)	3.00%	(85,539)	3.00%
	PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS	1,872,745	2,080,885	11.11%	2,198,587	5.66%	2,263,883	2.97%	2,331,260	2.98%	2,399,872	2.94%
	CULTURAL SERVICES											
27510	Museum Services	228,588	325,234	42.28%	346,925	6.67%	355,903	2.59%	365,149	2.60%	374,673	2.61%
27515	Museum Programs-Curatorial	76,500	120,297	57.25%	124,902	3.83%	128,493	2.88%	132,193	2.88%	136,003	2.88%
27516	Museum Programs-Permanent Exhibits	3,060	1,000	-67.32%	1,030	3.00%	1,061	3.01%	1,093	3.02%	1,126	3.02%
27517	Museum Programs-Temporary Exhibits	28,200	20,200	-28.37%	20,806	3.00%	21,430	3.00%	22,073	3.00%	22,735	3.00%
27530	Industrial Collections	39,125	40,657	3.92%	42,303	4.05%	43,521	2.88%	44,882	3.13%	46,240	3.03%
27550	Museum Maintenance	92,886	89,742	-3.38%	90,749	1.12%	93,368	2.89%	96,445	3.30%	99,432	3.10%
27600	Vancouver Island Regional Library	913,661	1,072,702	17.41%	1,265,788	18.00%	1,329,078	5.00%	1,395,532	5.00%	1,465,308	5.00%
27700	McLean Mill Operator Agreement	140,000	130,000	-7.14%	120,000	-7.69%	110,000	-8.33%	100,000	-9.09%	90,000	-10.00%
27710	McLean Mill City operations	76,079	74,015	-2.71%	82,196	11.05%	84,434	2.72%	87,222	3.30%	89,773	2.92%
	CULTURAL SERVICES	1,598,099	1,873,847	17.25%	2,094,699	11.79%	2,167,288	3.47%	2,244,589	3.57%	2,325,290	3.60%
	RECREATION & CULTURAL	8,024,239	8,923,013	11.20%	9,440,820	5.80%	9,726,410	3.03%	10,023,926	3.06%	10,329,969	3.05%
	TOTAL OPERATIONS EXPENSES	**35,120,606**	**39,393,911**	**12.17%**	**41,303,393**	**4.85%**	**42,333,897**	**2.49%**	**43,500,600**	**2.76%**	**44,757,996**	2.89%
	INTEREST & DEBT SERVICING											
28115	Interest on Prepaid Taxes	9,000	50,000	455.56%	50,000	0.00%	50,000	0.00%	50,000	0.00%	50,000	0.00%
28121	Interest Payments on Debentures	83,777	83,777	0.00%	83,777	0.00%	83,777	0.00%	83,777	0.00%	83,777	0.00%
28131	Principal Payments on Debentures	120,468	120,468	0.00%	120,468	0.00%	120,468	0.00%	120,468	0.00%	120,468	0.00%
28193	Banking Service Charges	8,100	8,200	1.23%	8,300	1.22%	8,400	1.20%	8,400	0.00%	8,400	0.00%
	FINANCING & BANK FEES	221,345	262,445	18.57%	262,545	0.04%	262,645	0.04%	262,645	0.00%	262,645	0.00%
	TOTAL OPERATIONS AND DEBT SERVICING	**35,341,951**	**39,656,356**	**12.21%**	**41,565,938**	**4.82%**	**42,596,542**	**2.48%**	**43,763,245**	**2.74%**	**45,020,641**	2.87%
	TRANSFERS TO RESERVES											
28910	Debt Reserve Fund Transfer	15,000	15,000	0.00%	15,000	0.00%	15,000	0.00%	15,000	0.00%	15,000	0.00%

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		Budget 2023	Budget 2024	Increase %	Budget 2025	Increase %	Budget 2026	Increase %	Budget 2027	Increase %	Budget 2028	Increase %
28222	Transfer to Equipment Replacement	34,000	34,000	0.00%	34,000	0.00%	34,000	0.00%	34,000	0.00%	34,000	0.00%
28230	Transfer to Capital Works Reserve	70,000	70,000	0.00%	70,000	0.00%	70,000	0.00%	70,000	0.00%	70,000	0.00%
	RESERVE TRANSFERS	119,000	119,000	0.00%	119,000	0.00%	119,000	0.00%	119,000	0.00%	119,000	0.00%
	TRANSFERS TO GENERAL CAPITAL RES.											
28220	Projects TBD Council Direction	-	-		(205,990)		2,017,353	-1079.3%	3,670,710	82.0%	4,591,373	25.1%
	Administration	500,000	130,000	-74.0%	-	-100.0%	-		250,000		595,325	138.1%
	Fire Department	-	45,000		117,000	160.0%	110,000	-6.0%	240,000	118.2%	-	-100.0%
	Transportation Services	-	272,078		290,880	6.9%	-	-100.0%	-		-	
	Paving and Road Construction	-	-		1,050,000		1,050,000	0.0%	1,050,000	0.0%	1,050,000	0.0%
	Traffic Upgrades	-	150,000		150,000	0.0%	50,000	-66.7%	33,000	-34.0%	33,000	0.0%
	Storm Drains	-	380,000		380,000	0.0%	380,000	0.0%	380,000	0.0%	461,892	21.6%
	Other Public Works Projects	-	15,000		-	-100.0%	-		-		-	
	Parks	76,500	197,225	157.8%	135,940	-31.1%	103,607	-23.8%	209,982	102.7%		-100.0%
	Cultural Services	30,000	30,000	0.0%	30,000	0.0%	30,000	0.0%	30,000	0.0%	119,900	299.7%
	Parks, Recreation and Heritage	335,000	599,450	78.9%	1,150,380	91.9%	1,835,000	59.5%	1,000,000	-45.5%	1,000,000	0.0%
	TOTAL GENERAL CAPITAL TRANSFERS	941,500	1,818,753	93.2%	3,098,210	70.3%	5,575,960	80.0%	6,863,692	23.1%	7,851,490	14.4%
	OTHER SERVICES											
	OTHER BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS											
29911	Contingency Funds	100,000	275,000	175.00%	300,000	9.09%	300,000	0.00%	300,000	0.00%	300,000	0.00%
	OTHER BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS	100,000	275,000	175.00%	300,000	200.00%	300,000	9.09%	300,000	0.00%	300,000	0.00%
	TOTAL OPERATIONS, DEBT SERVICING, RESERVE AND CAPITAL TRANSFERS, CONTINGENCY	**36,502,451**	**41,869,109**	**24.10%**	**45,083,148**	**23.51%**	**48,591,502**	**16.06%**	**51,045,937**	**13.23%**	**53,291,131**	**9.67%**
	TRANSFERS TO RESERVE ALLOWANCES											
28211	Transfers to Reserve Allowances	371,551	-	-100.00%	400,000		400,000	0.00%	400,000	0.00%	400,000	0.00%
	TAXES COLLECTED FOR OTHERS											
	REGIONAL DISTRICT											
28410	Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District	1,770,580	2,033,571	14.85%	2,094,578	3.00%	2,157,415	3.00%	2,222,138	3.00%	2,288,802	3.00%
	SCHOOL DISTRICTS											
28811	Non-Residential School Tax	1,783,987	1,875,000	5.10%	1,931,250	3.00%	1,989,188	3.00%	2,048,863	3.00%	2,110,329	3.00%
28812	Residential School Tax	4,467,708	5,200,000	16.39%	5,356,000	3.00%	5,516,680	3.00%	5,682,180	3.00%	5,852,646	3.00%
	REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS											
28820	Alberni-Clayoquot Regional Hosp District	682,652	685,000	0.34%	685,000	0.00%	685,000	0.00%	685,000	0.00%	685,000	0.00%
	JOINT BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS											
28830	Municipal Finance Authority	700	1,200	71.43%	1,236	3.00%	1,273	2.99%	1,311	2.99%	1,351	3.05%
28831	BC Assessment	190,000	220,000	15.79%	226,600	3.00%	233,398	3.00%	240,400	3.00%	247,612	3.00%
	TAXES COLLECTED FOR OTHERS	8,895,627	10,014,771	12.58%	10,294,664	2.79%	10,582,954	2.80%	10,879,892	2.81%	11,185,740	2.81%
	GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE	**45,769,629**	**51,883,880**	**13.36%**	**55,777,812**	**7.51%**	**59,574,456**	**6.81%**	**62,325,829**	**4.62%**	**64,876,871**	**4.09%**

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
SEWER FUND - REVENUE & EXPENSES
2024-2028 FINANCIAL PLAN

		Budget 2023	Budget 2024	Increase %	Budget 2025	Increase %	Budget 2026	Increase %	Budget 2027	Increase %	Budget 2028	Increase %
	SALES OF SERVICE											
94421	Sewer Fees	3,076,894	3,230,739	5.00%	3,392,276	5.00%	3,561,889	5.00%	3,739,984	5.00%	3,889,583	4.00%
94431	Sewer Connections	83,600	85,272	2.00%	86,977	2.00%	88,717	2.00%	90,491	2.00%	93,206	3.00%
94432	Service Charges Sundry	5,225	40,000	665.55%	41,200	3.00%	42,436	3.00%	43,709	3.00%	45,020	3.00%
94433	User Charges	20,900	21,318	2.00%	21,744	2.00%	22,179	2.00%	22,623	2.00%	23,302	3.00%
	OTHER SERVICES											
94441	Sewage Disposal Fees	73,150	74,613	2.00%	76,105	2.00%	77,627	2.00%	79,180	2.00%	81,555	3.00%
	SALES OF SERVICE	3,259,769	3,451,942	5.90%	3,618,302	4.82%	3,792,848	4.82%	3,975,987	4.83%	4,132,666	3.94%
	OTHER REVENUE FROM OWN SOURCE											
95590	Interest Income	24,000	24,000	0.00%	24,000	0.00%	24,000	0.00%	24,000	0.00%	24,000	0.00%
95611	Sewer Penalty	36,400	38,045	4.52%	39,765	4.52%	41,562	4.52%	43,441	4.52%	45,000	3.59%
91210	Sewer Local Improvement Charges	1,000	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%
	OTHER REVENUE	61,400	63,045	2.68%	64,765	2.73%	66,562	2.77%	68,441	2.82%	70,000	2.28%
	SEWER FUND REVENUE	**3,321,169**	**3,514,987**	**5.84%**	**3,683,067**	**4.78%**	**3,859,410**	**4.79%**	**4,044,428**	**4.79%**	**4,202,666**	**3.91%**
	ADMINISTRATION											
104210	Sewer Administration & Other	597,582	891,584	49.20%	919,317	3.11%	947,336	3.05%	976,255	3.05%	1,006,121	3.06%
	ENGINEERING SERVICES											
104221	Consulting Services	35,035	36,086	3.00%	37,169	3.00%	38,284	3.00%	39,432	3.00%	40,615	3.00%
	SEWER SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION											
104233	Customer Service Requests	75,496	32,704	-56.68%	33,765	3.24%	34,663	2.66%	35,588	2.67%	36,541	2.68%
104236	Small Tools/Equipment/Supplies	9,494	4,472	-52.90%	4,606	3.00%	4,745	3.02%	4,887	2.99%	5,034	3.01%
	SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM											
104240	Sewage Collection System Main	90,690	100,198	10.48%	103,512	3.31%	106,438	2.83%	109,428	2.81%	112,501	2.81%
104241	Sewer Service Connections	177,124	206,830	16.77%	213,574	3.26%	219,714	2.87%	226,019	2.87%	232,500	2.87%
	SEWER LIFT STATIONS											
104260	Sewage Lift Stations	330,099	305,642	-7.41%	315,577	3.25%	324,632	2.87%	333,892	2.85%	343,416	2.85%
	SEWER TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL											
104280	Sewage Treatment	357,454	271,244	-24.12%	279,938	3.21%	288,015	2.89%	296,267	2.87%	304,765	2.87%
	OTHER COMMON SERVICES											
104294	Special Work Orders	1,000	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%	1,000	0.00%
	SEWER SYSTEM	1,673,974	1,849,760	10.50%	1,908,458	3.17%	1,964,827	2.95%	2,022,768	2.95%	2,082,493	2.95%
	FISCAL SERVICES											
	DEBT											
108120	Interest Payments On Debentures	452,305	452,305	0.00%	452,305	0.00%	452,305	0.00%	452,305	0.00%	452,305	0.00%
108130	Principal Payments On Debentures	212,215	413,659	94.92%	413,659	0.00%	413,659	0.00%	413,659	0.00%	413,659	0.00%
	TOTAL DEBT	664,520	865,964	30.31%	865,964	0.00%	865,964	0.00%	865,964	0.00%	865,964	0.00%
	TRANSFER TO FUNDS AND RESERVES											
108220	Transfer To Sewer Capital Fund	980,675	797,263	-18.70%	906,645	13.72%	1,026,619	13.23%	1,153,696	12.38%	1,252,209	8.54%
108910	Debt Reserve Fund Transfer	2,000	2,000	0.00%	2,000	0.00%	2,000	0.00%	2,000	0.00%	2,000	0.00%
108211	Transfer to Reserves & Allowances	-	-		-		-		-		-	
108920	Transfer to Infrastructure Capital Reserve		-		-		-		-		-	
	TRANSFERS	982,675	799,263	-18.66%	908,645	13.69%	1,028,619	13.20%	1,155,696	12.35%	1,254,209	8.52%
	FISCAL SERVICES	1,647,195	1,665,227	1.09%	1,774,609	6.57%	1,894,583	6.76%	2,021,660	6.71%	2,120,173	4.87%
	EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSE	-	-		-		-		-		-	
	SEWER FUND EXPENSES	**3,321,169**	**3,514,987**	**5.84%**	**3,683,067**	**4.78%**	**3,859,410**	**4.79%**	**4,044,428**	**4.79%**	**4,202,666**	**3.91%**

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
WATER FUND - REVENUE & EXPENSES
2024-2028 FINANCIAL PLAN

		Budget 2023	Budget 2024	Increase %	Budget 2025	Increase %	Budget 2026	Increase %	Budget 2027	Increase %	Budget 2028	Increase %
	SALES OF SERVICE											
54421	Metered Sales	3,668,473	3,851,896	5.00%	4,005,972	4.00%	4,166,211	4.00%	4,332,859	4.00%	4,506,174	4.00%
54431	Connections	54,386	60,000	10.32%	60,000	0.00%	60,000	0.00%	60,000	0.00%	60,000	0.00%
54432	Turn-On Charges	1,500	1,500	0.00%	1,500	0.00%	1,500	0.00%	1,500	0.00%	1,500	0.00%
54433	Service Charges Sundry	50,000	50,000	0.00%	50,000	0.00%	50,000	0.00%	50,000	0.00%	50,000	0.00%
	SALES OF SERVICE	3,774,359	3,963,396	5.01%	4,117,472	3.89%	4,277,711	3.89%	4,444,359	3.90%	4,617,674	3.90%
	OTHER REVENUE FROM OWN SOURCE											
55590	Other Interest	90,460	100,460	11.05%	100,460	0.00%	100,460	0.00%	100,460	0.00%	100,460	0.00%
55611	Water Penalty	35,000	35,000	0.00%	35,000	0.00%	35,000	0.00%	35,000	0.00%	35,000	0.00%
	OTHER REVENUE	125,460	135,460	7.97%	135,460	0.00%	135,460	0.00%	135,460	0.00%	135,460	0.00%
	WATER FUND REVENUE	**3,899,819**	**4,098,856**	**5.10%**	**4,252,932**	**3.76%**	**4,413,171**	**3.77%**	**4,579,819**	**3.78%**	**4,753,134**	**3.78%**
	WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM											
	ADMINISTRATION											
64110	Water Administration & Other	494,316	895,089	81.08%	923,583	3.18%	951,728	3.05%	980,776	3.05%	1,010,790	3.06%
	ENGINEERING SERVICES											
64121	Engineering Consulting Services	30,000	30,000	0.00%	30,000	0.00%	30,000	0.00%	30,000	0.00%	30,000	0.00%
	WATER SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION											
64133	Customer Service Requests	106,589	20,756	-80.53%	21,448	3.33%	22,056	2.83%	22,679	2.82%	23,320	2.83%
64136	Small Tools/Equipment/Supplies	9,750	10,523	7.93%	10,866	3.26%	11,178	2.87%	11,499	2.87%	11,830	2.88%
	SERVICE OF SUPPLY											
64141	Supply Inspection & Operation	109,947	106,996	-2.68%	110,696	3.46%	113,780	2.79%	116,922	2.76%	120,158	2.77%
	PUMPING											
64161	Pumping Inspection & Operation	252,529	271,388	7.47%	280,218	3.25%	288,290	2.88%	296,558	2.87%	305,069	2.87%
	TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION											
64181	Transmission/Distribution System	332,336	380,556	14.51%	393,578	3.42%	404,670	2.82%	416,014	2.80%	427,682	2.80%
64183	Connections	267,918	86,841	-67.59%	89,479	3.04%	92,154	2.99%	94,909	2.99%	97,748	2.99%
64185	Meters	265,049	282,746	6.68%	291,950	3.26%	300,345	2.88%	308,983	2.88%	317,873	2.88%
64187	Hydrants	68,894	61,574	-10.63%	63,691	3.44%	65,475	2.80%	67,304	2.79%	69,175	2.78%
	WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM	1,937,328	2,146,469	10.80%	2,215,509	3.22%	2,279,676	2.90%	2,345,644	2.89%	2,413,645	2.90%
	FISCAL SERVICES											
	DEBT											
68120	Interest Payments On Debentures	44,000	44,000	0.00%	44,000	0.00%	44,000	0.00%	44,000	0.00%	44,000	0.00%
68130	Principal Payments On Debentures	38,743	38,743	0.00%	38,743	0.00%	38,743	0.00%	38,743	0.00%	38,743	0.00%
	DEBT	82,743	82,743	0.00%	82,743	0.00%	82,743	0.00%	82,743	0.00%	82,743	0.00%
	TRANSFERS TO FUNDS AND RESERVES											
68220	Transfers To Water Capital Fund	1,879,288	1,869,184	-0.54%	1,954,220	4.55%	2,050,292	4.92%	2,150,972	4.91%	2,256,286	4.90%
68910	Debt Reserve Fund Transfer	460	460	0.00%	460	0.00%	460	0.00%	460	0.00%	460	0.00%
	FISCAL SERVICES	1,962,491	1,952,387	-0.51%	2,037,423	4.36%	2,133,495	4.72%	2,234,175	4.72%	2,339,489	4.71%
	EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSE	-	-		-		-		-		-	
	WATER FUND EXPENSE	**3,899,819**	**4,098,856**	**5.10%**	**4,252,932**	**3.76%**	**4,413,171**	**3.77%**	**4,579,819**	**3.78%**	**4,753,134**	**3.78%**

Capital Project listing

2023 & Prior Year project in Progress

Unaudited - December 31, 2023

ACCT	PROJ	CAPITAL PROJECT	BUDGET
Administration			
485554	21004	Printer renewal - city wide	80,000
485532	20017	Welcome Sign	25,000
485620	22001	Council Chambers - A/V upgrades	75,000
485623	22003	GIS - Software upgrades - connectivity	45,000
485624	22004	Tempest - upgrades for E-com/e-apply, mobile	86,385
485625	22005	ERP Upgrades - accounting and payroll systems	50,000
485666	23001	Server Upgrade/Refresh - ERRF Cycle	325,000
485670	23006	Computer Equipment Replacement	86,000
Fire			
485351	19003	19 - Firehall - Structural Prep	88,000
485626	22006	Confined Space Equipment Replacement	30,000
485627	22007	Replace Garage Door Openers (7)	50,000
Transportation			
485560	21011	Replace 2007 Volvo Tandem Dump Truck #265	196,707
485561	21012	Replace 2005 Ford F350 W/Comp Body #520	120,532
485628	22008	Replace 2007 GMC 5500 W/SERVICE BOX #140	134,000
485629	22009	Replace 2009 DODGE 5500 SERVICE TRUCK #141	112,000
485630	22010	Replace 2007 GMC C5500 Utility Dump Trk #240	140,000
485633	22013	Replace 2007 JOHN DEERE TRACTOR 5625 #624	110,000
485634	22014	Replace 2010 KUBOTA F3680 MOWER #625	53,000
485671	23007	Replace 2007 Dodge Dakota	70,000
485672	23008	Replace Ladder Truck 2 (Aerial Platform Apparatus)	1,994,358
485673	23009	Replace 1998 GMC 4.5M3 Dump Truck #259	288,000
485674	23010	Replace 1999 GMC 4.5M3 Dump Truck #260	288,000
485675	23011	Replace 2004 Ford F450 w/Utility Dump Box #263	145,000
485676	23012	Replace 1997 Big 40 Diesel Miller Welder #393	10,000
485677	23013	Replace 2018 Freightliner Garbage Truck #401 - moved from 2024*	523,940
485678	23014	Replace 2005 Ford F250 4X4 Pickup #610	47,501

ACCT	PROJ	CAPITAL PROJECT	BUDGET
485679	23015	Replace 2005 GMC TC5500 152" WB (Hort) #614	145,000
485680	23016	Replace 2005 GMC TC5500 128" WB (Util) #615	145,000
485681	23017	Replace 2008 Ford Ranger 4X4 Pickup #627	83,500
485682	23018	Replace 2007 Dodge Caliber #721	50,600
Paving			
485567	21032	Redford & 10th Ave intersection - associated w/ signal repairs	35,000
485635	22015	7th Ave - Redford St to Bute St 180m (ptp, st, sani, wtr)	420,000
485636	22016	Argyle / 10th Roundabout (ptp, w, st, s) Design only	135,000
485637	22017	Argyle 1st to 3rd Avenue - CSO	100,000
485640	22019	Wallace - 4th to 6th Ave - Paving	60,000
485691	23027	Paving - Ship Creek Road	300,000
485683	23019	Road Network Survey	150,000
485684	23020	Anderson at North Park reconstruction	150,000
485685		Intersection Safety #1a Gertrude/Roger	230,000
485567	21032	10th Ave/Dunbar & 10th/Redford intersections	410,000
		Burde & Anderson Development	1,170,000
Traffic Upgrades			
485568	21033	Redford & 10th Ave intersection - signals & looping	20,000
485642	22023	3rd Ave/Argyle Street - Signal Controller Replacement	27,000
485685	23021	Intersection Safety #1a Gertrude/Roger	60,000
485686	23022	Traffic Signal Controller Replacement - 3rd Ave and Redford	96,000
Storm			
485524	20009	Relining program Multiple 6th Ave-Montrose to Melrose	300,000
485571	21035	Margaret St Storm Pump Upgrade	225,000
485639	22021	Wallace - 4th to 6th Ave - Storm	60,000
485641	22022	Anderson Road - Wallace to Maitland St	40,000
485643	22024	Re-lining Project (Coal Creek - 3rd Ave Xing/ South St - 2nd to 3rd/ 6th Ave - Mont to Mel)	300,000
485644	22025	CSO - 7th Ave-Redford to Bute 180m (ptp, st, sani, wtr)	95,000
		CSO Project aligned with sewer project	380,000
PW Other			
485573	21014	City Hall Window replacement	80,000
485586	21024	Child Care Spaces - Grant	5,183,103

ACCT	PROJ	CAPITAL PROJECT	BUDGET
Cultural Services			
485577	21018	McLean Mill Septic site upgrades	279,500
485689	23025	McLean Mill Capital Projects - Heritage	154,758
PRH	**(Parks)**		
485310	15482	Clock Tower Repair/Removal Plan	706,171
485542	20029	Connect The Quays	5,841,411
485549	21020	Train Station Seismic upgrades	860,000
485690	23026	Train Station - Phase II	320,000
485645	22026	Victoria Quay Millstone Park Connector Foot Bridge	115,000
485660	22040	22 - Tree planting	75,000
485669	23004	23- Tree planting	76,500
485687	23024	Linking Roger Creek Trails	725,978
485720	New	Kitsuksis Path Paving	55,000
	New	Echo Park Field upgrade	140,000
485688	23023	Lon Miles & Recreation Park field upgrades	100,000
Facilities Upgrade			
485667	23002	Curling Rink ice plant contribution	40,000
485668	23003	Somass Mill - redevelopment funding	2,200,000
Sewer Capital			
565438	20088	Johnston Rd Elizabeth to Gertrude 120m 300mm Reline	95,000
565439	20089	Harbour Rd/Bruce St Outfall Reline	100,000
565445	20095	SCADA upgrade	75,000
565448	21041	CSO consulting	80,000
565450	22061	Argyle Forcemain Somass River Crossing project	3,660,000
565451	22062	Argyle 1st to 3rd Avenue - CSO - design	15,000
565452	22063	2023 Capital project design	60,000
565453	22064	Anderson Road - Wallace to Maitland St	4,000
565454	22065	Argyle / 10th Roundabout (ptp, w, st, s) Design only	15,000
565455	22066	CSO - 7th Ave-Redford to Bute 180m ($79K in 2022 & $270K in 2023)	349,000
565457	22067	Sewer Crawler	115,000
565458	23071	Josephine Forcemain Detailed Design & Geotech	250,000
565459	23072	Small Capital Main Replacements	100,000

ACCT	PROJ	CAPITAL PROJECT	BUDGET
Water Capital			
525435	20085	SCADA Software Upgrade	75,000
525446	22051	Argyle / 10th Roundabout (ptp, w, st, s) Design only	15,000
525447	22052	Wallace - 4th to 6th Ave	10,000
525448	22053	Anderson Road - Wallace to Maitland St	40,000
525449	22054	Cowichan Reservoir to Burde St. New Twin Main Ph 6 - design	95,000
525451	22055	CSO - 7th Ave-Redford to Bute 180m (203K 2022)	203,000
525542	23050	Small Capital Water projects	100,000
525543	23051	Dunbar St-10th Ave to 11th Ave loop 200mm PVC	100,000
525544	23053	Bainbridge Plant to Cowichan Reservoir Supply Main Replacement	150,000
525545	23054	Cowichan Reservoir to Burde St. New Twin Main Ph 6	2,100,000
525546	23055	Burde St-11th Ave to Estevan 650m - Development	160,000
525547	23056	CSO - Argyle (1st-3rd) (240m st,w, CSO)	115,000
525548	23057	CSO - 6th Ave Bruce -Melrose	48,000
525550	23059	2023 Water meter replacements	300,000
525549	23058	CSO - Wallace 4th - 6th (120m)	25,000

OPERATING CAPITAL PROJECTS 2024 FUNDING SOURCES	Taxation	Land Sale	ERRF	Growing Communities Fund	Gas Tax	Grant Funding	RCMP Surplus	Capital Works	Carbon Reserve	Parks & Rec Reserve	Aquatic Centre Replacement	DCC (Combined)	AV Community Forest	Parkland Acquisition	Water Capital	Sewer Capital	Total Project Expenditure
STRATEGIC CAPITAL PROJECTS 2024																	
Connect the Quays pathway	-	-	-	1,253,411	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	1,253,411
Master Plan funding - combined	-	-	-	1,053,800	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	1,053,800
Tree funding - paused in 2024	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	2,307,211	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	2,307,211
ADMINISTRATION																	-
Network Switch replacement	130,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				-	-	-	-	130,000
Computer Equipment Replacement	-	-	86,400		-	-	-	-	-				-	-	-	-	86,400
	130,000	-	86,400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	216,400
FIRE DEPARTMENT																	-
Fueling Station	40,000																40,000
Replace Exhaust Extraction Equipment	5,000		43,068														48,068
	45,000	-	43,068	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	88,068
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES																	-
Prior year - Replace 2007 GMC 5500 W/SERVICE BOX #140 - cost escalation	67,000																67,000
Prior year - Replace 2009 DODGE 5500 SERVICE TRUCK #141	60,000																60,000
Replace 2008 Dodge Ram 2500 PU (Carpenter) #151	25,466		34,834														60,300
Replace 2006 LANGFAB DUMP PUP TRAILER - #367	28,143		45,657														73,800
Replace 1992 Ingersoll Rand Compressor/Trailer #377			29,600														29,600
Replace 1996 TRIPLE AXLE TILT TRAILER - #388	42,499		47,501														90,000
Replace 2007 FORD F350 PICKUP (CARPENTER) #622	35,970		39,030														75,000
Replace 2013 TORO MOWER #633	13,000		122,147														135,147
New - Manager of Operations - Compact SUV									43,000								43,000
New - Superintendent Roads and Drainage - Compact SUV									43,000								43,000
New - Facilities - Compact SUV									43,000								43,000
	272,078	-	318,769	-	-	-	-	-	129,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	719,847
PAVING & ROAD CONSTRUCTION																	-
Design for future Capital projects																	-
Capital plan designed in prior years on priority listing																	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TRAFFIC UPGRADES																	-
Intersection safety	150,000																150,000
	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	150,000
STORM																	-
CSO - 3rd Avenue Storm	380,000																380,000
	380,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	380,000
WORKS - OTHER																	
Crane replacement	15,000																15,000
Total Station Survey Instrument - ERRF			53,835														53,835
	15,000	-	53,835	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	68,835
PARKS																	
John Deer overseeder	16,675																16,675
Bob Dailey Track - Line repainting	23,000																23,000
Sports field upgrading	157,550																157,550
	197,225	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	197,225
CULTURAL SERVICES																	
McLean Mill Capital Projects (heritage)	30,000					89,900											119,900
	30,000	-	-	-	-	89,900	-	-					-	-	-	-	119,900
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE																	
Replace 1997 CLARKE FLOOR SCRUBBER - ERRF			18,842														18,842
Facilities Upgrade	599,450					50,000											649,450
	599,450	-	18,842	-	-	50,000	-	-					-	-	-	-	668,292
WATER WORKS																	
Watershed Masterplan													-		50,000		50,000
Franklin River Rd-Supply Main Replace.- Design - Ph 1															35,000		35,000
Light Plant															30,000		30,000
Water Masterplan													-		150,000		150,000
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	265,000	-	265,000
SEWER SYSTEM																	
Sewer Flow monitoring																30,000	30,000
Josephine Sewer Forcemain Replacement - design																105,000	105,000
CSO - 3rd Avenue Storm																72,311	72,311
CSO - Burde St - 9th to North Park																1,242,000	1,242,000
Decommission old lagoon - consulting/ARO																30,000	30,000
South Street raised sewer culvert replacement																150,000	150,000
Sewer Masterplan																200,000	200,000
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,829,311	1,829,311
																	-
TOTAL GENERAL CAPITAL 2024	1,818,753	-	520,914	2,307,211	-	139,900	-	-	129,000	-		-	-	-	265,000	1,829,311	7,010,089

OPERATING CAPITAL PROJECTS 2025 FUNDING SOURCES	Taxation	Land Sale	ERRF	Growing Communities	Gas Tax	Grant Funding	RCMP Surplus	Capital Works	Carbon Reserve	Parks & Rec Reserve	Aquatic Centre Replacement	DCC (Combined)	AV Community Forest	Parkland Acquisition	Water Capital	Sewer Capital	Total Project Expenditure
ADMINISTRATION																	-
Computer Equipment Replacement			88,848														88,848
	-	-	88,848	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	88,848
FIRE DEPARTMENT																	-
Turnout Gear	25,000																25,000
Replace 1998 Jordair Compressor			65,000														65,000
Replace 2011 CHEV SILVERADO 4X4 #13 (from 2024)			60,564														60,564
Replace 2006 Ford F550 Rescue Truck #8 (from 2021 & 24)			128,961														128,961
Reno - Showers to downstairs, separating /hot/warm/cold zones	TBD - study 2024																-
Parking lot upgrade	92,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	92,000
	117,000	-	254,525	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	371,525
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES																	
Replace 2008 Dodge Ram 3500 Flatdeck (shop) #150			46,182														46,182
Replace 2011 Freightliner Asphalt Patch Truck #266			415,000														415,000
Replace 2013 Volvo Dump Tandem Axle #267			194,386														194,386
2005 John Deere Loader #350			288,285														288,285
Replace 2005 Volvo Grader #355			306,818														306,818
Replace 1990 Britco Office Trailer #369			26,258														26,258
Replace 1996 Wells Cargo Trailer (Swr) #389			14,118														14,118
Replace 1995 BOMAG ROLLER #395			60,696														60,696
Replace 2004 CHEV 3500 CUBE VAN (used) #616			51,724														51,724
Replace 2006 FORD E350 15 PASSENGER VAN #619			62,016														62,016
Replace 2018 Freightliner Garbage Truck #402 - 2024	145,440		443,060														588,500
Replace 2018 Freightliner Garbage Truck #403	145,440		443,060														588,500
Replace 2012 Chev 3500 Service Truck #521			77,681														77,681
Solid Waste Pickup Truck - new			85,000														85,000
Replace 2014 Toyota Tacoma #522			50,470														50,470
Replace 2015 Ventrac Mower			41,184														41,184
	290,880	-	2,605,938	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	2,896,818
PAVING & ROAD CONSTRUCTION																	-
Design for future Capital projects	250,000																250,000
Capital plan designed in prior years on priority listing	800,000																800,000
																	-
																	-
	1,050,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	1,050,000
TRAFFIC UPGRADES																	-
Intersection safety	150,000																150,000
	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	150,000
STORM																	-
CSO projects	380,000																-
	380,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	380,000
WORKS-OTHER																	-
																	-
																	-
																	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	-
PARKS																	-
Bob Dailey Stadium - Paint	21,850																
Roger Creek Park - Zipline installation	34,500																
Tree Planting	79,590																79,590
	135,940	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	135,940
CULTURAL SERVICES																	-
McLean Mill Capital Projects	30,000					89,900											-
	30,000	-	-	-	-	89,900	-	-					-	-	-	-	119,900
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE																	-
Facilities Upgrade	1,150,380																-
	1,150,380	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	1,150,380
WATER WORKS																	-
Design for future Capital projects	-														-		-
Capital plan designed in prior years on priority listing	-														1,350,000		1,350,000
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	1,350,000	-	1,350,000
SEWER																	-
Design for future Capital projects																-	-
Sewer Flow monitoring																100,000	100,000
Capital plan designed in prior years on priority listing																40,000	40,000
																1,200,000	1,200,000
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	1,340,000	1,340,000
																	-
TOTAL CAPITAL 2025	**3,304,200**		**2,949,311**	**-**	**-**	**89,900**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**		**-**	**-**		**1,350,000**	**1,340,000**	**9,033,411**

OPERATING CAPITAL PROJECTS 2026 FUNDING SOURCES	Taxation	Land Sale	ERRF	Growing Communities	Gas Tax	Grant Funding	RCMP Surplus	Capital Works	Carbon Reserve	Parks & Rec Reserve	Aquatic Centre Replacement	DCC (Combined)	AV Community Forest	Parkland Acquisition	Water Capital	Sewer Capital	Total Project Expenditure
ADMINISTRATION																	-
Computer Equipment Replacement			90,325														90,325
	-	-	90,325	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	90,325
FIRE DEPARTMENT																	-
Parking lot renewal	110,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	110,000
	110,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	110,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES																	-
Replace 2014 TYMCO SWEEPER #411			367,220														367,220
Replace 2011 GMC SIERRA P/U #629			49,008														49,008
Replace 2013 TOYOTA TACOMA #630			35,006														35,006
Replace 2013 TOYOTA TACOMA #632			35,006														35,006
		-	486,240	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	486,240
PAVING & ROAD CONSTRUCTION																	-
Design for future Capital projects	250,000																250,000
Capital plan designed in prior years on priority listing	800,000																800,000
	1,050,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	1,050,000
TRAFFIC UPGRADES																	-
Traffic Signal Controller Replacement	50,000																50,000
	50,000																50,000
STORM																	-
CSO projects	380,000																380,000
	380,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	380,000
WORKS-OTHER																	-
Garbage Carts			630,109														-
	-	-	630,109	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	630,109
PARKS																	-
Maquinna trail - Bridge replacement	22,425																22,425
Tree Planting	81,182																81,182
	103,607	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	103,607
CULTURAL SERVICES																	-
McLean Mill Capital Projects	30,000					89,900											119,900
	30,000	-	-	-	-	89,900	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	119,900
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE																	-
Facilities Upgrade	1,835,000																1,835,000
	1,835,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	1,835,000
WATER WORKS																	
Design for future Capital projects															100,000	-	100,000
Capital plan designed in prior years on priority listing															1,200,000	-	1,200,000
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,300,000	-	1,300,000
SEWER SYSTEM																	-
Capital plan designed in prior years on priority listing																900,000	900,000
Sewer Flow monitoring																40,000	40,000
LWMP Update per regulatory requirements																200,000	200,000
Small Capital Main Replacements																	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,300,000	1,140,000	1,140,000
TOTAL CAPITAL 2026	3,558,607	-	1,206,674	-	-	89,900	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	1,300,000	1,140,000	7,295,181

OPERATING CAPITAL PROJECTS 2027 FUNDING SOURCES	Taxation	Land Sale	ERRF	Growing Communities	Gas Tax	Grant Funding	RCMP Surplus	Capital Works	Carbon Reserve	Parks & Rec Reserve	Aquatic Centre Replacement	DCC (Combined)	AV Community Forest	Parkland Acquisition	Water Capital	Sewer Capital	Total Project Expenditure
ADMINISTRATION																	-
ERP Replacement	250,000		250,000														500,000
Computer Equipment Replacement			95,325														95,325
	250,000	-	345,325	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	595,325
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES																	-
Replace 1992 HIWAY STREET SANDER #378			21,852														21,852
Replace 2014 NISSAN NV VAN 2500 SERIES (water) #523			57,130														57,130
Replace TYCROP TOP DRESSER #626			42,847														42,847
Replace 2015 Dodge Durango - BEO #130			53,038														53,038
		-	174,867	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	174,867
FIRE DEPARTMENT																	-
Replace Thermal Cameras	55,000																55,000
Fire Pump Test Pit	50,000																50,000
Replace portable Radios	85,000																85,000
Replace High Angle Rope Equipment	50,000																50,000
	240,000																240,000
PAVING & ROAD CONSTRUCTION																	-
Design for future Capital projects	250,000																250,000
Capital plan designed in prior years on priority listing	800,000																800,000
	1,050,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	1,050,000

TRAFFIC UPGRADES																	-
Traffic Signal Controller Replacement	33,000																33,000
	33,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	33,000
STORM																	-
CSO projects	380,000																380,000
	380,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	380,000
WORKS-OTHER																	-
																	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-
PARKS																	-
Quonset hut replacement	128,800																128,800
Tree Planting	81,182																81,182
	209,982	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	209,982
CULTURAL SERVICES																	-
McLean Mill Capital Projects	30,000					89,900											119,900
	30,000	-	-	-	-	89,900	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	119,900
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE																	-
Facilities Upgrade	1,000,000																1,000,000
	1,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	1,000,000
WATER WORKS																	
Design for future Capital projects															100,000		100,000
Capital plan designed in prior years on priority listing															1,200,000		1,200,000
																	-
															1,350,000		1,350,000
SEWER SYSTEM																	
Design for future Capital projects																1,200,000	1,200,000
Harbour Road Trunk Sewer Replacement (2022 project delayed - June 13, 2022) - Further investigation - maint. Work completed																300,000	300,000
CSO -Masterplan					-											230,000	230,000
Small Capital Main Replacements																100,000	100,000
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	1,830,000	1,830,000
TOTAL CAPITAL 2027	**2,142,982**	**-**	**520,192**	**-**	**-**	**89,900**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**		**-**	**-**	**-**	**1,350,000**	**1,830,000**	**5,933,074**

OPERATING CAPITAL PROJECTS 2028 FUNDING SOURCES	**Taxation**	**Land Sale**	**ERRF**	**Growing Communities**	**Gas Tax**	**Grant Funding**	**RCMP Surplus**	**Capital Works**	**Carbon Reserve**	**Parks & Rec Reserve**	**Aquatic Centre Replacement**	**DCC (Combined)**	**AV Community Forest**	**Parkland Acquisition**	**Water Capital**	**Sewer Capital**	**Total Project Expenditure**
ADMINISTRATION																	-
ERP Replacement	250,000		250,000														500,000
Computer Equipment Replacement			95,325														95,325
	250,000	-	345,325	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	595,325
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES																	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	-
FIRE DEPARTMENT																	-
SCBA Changeout			262,226														
	-		262,226														-
PAVING & ROAD CONSTRUCTION																	-
Design for future Capital projects	250,000																250,000
Capital plan designed in prior years on priority listing	800,000																800,000
	1,050,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	1,050,000
TRAFFIC UPGRADES																	-
Traffic Signal Controller Replacement	33,000																33,000
	33,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	33,000
STORM																	-
CSO projects	380,000																380,000
	380,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	380,000
WORKS-OTHER																	-
																	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-
PARKS																	-
Russell field - Basketball surface and backboard upgrade	34,500																
Tree Planting	81,182																81,182
	81,182	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	81,182
CULTURAL SERVICES																	-
McLean Mill Capital Projects	30,000					89,900											119,900
	30,000	-	-	-	-	89,900	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	119,900
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE																	-
Facilities Upgrade	500,000																-
	500,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-	-	-	500,000
WATER WORKS																	
Design for future Capital projects															100,000		100,000
Capital plan designed in prior years on priority listing															1,200,000		1,200,000
															1,350,000		1,350,000
SEWER SYSTEM																	-
Design for future Capital projects																1,200,000	1,200,000
Small Capital Main Replacements																100,000	100,000
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	-		1,300,000	1,300,000
TOTAL CAPITAL 2028	**2,324,182**	**-**	**607,551**	**-**	**-**	**89,900**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**		**-**	**-**	**-**	**1,350,000**	**1,300,000**	**5,409,407**

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
ALBERNI VALLEY COMMUNITY FOREST RESERVE
Unaudited

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
RECEIPTS						
Begininnig Balance	598,452	598,452	850,421	1,107,429	1,369,578	1,636,970
Dividends Received	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Donations Received	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	10,000	11,969	17,008	22,149	27,392	32,739
	10,000	261,969	267,008	272,149	277,392	282,739
EXPENSES						
Transfer to Other Funds	-	-	-	-		-
Projects and Expenses	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	-	251,969	257,008	262,149	267,392	272,739
FUND EQUITY - ENDING	2,749,958	3,001,927	3,258,935	3,521,084	3,788,476	4,061,215
Reserve balance	598,452	850,421	1,107,429	1,369,578	1,636,970	1,909,709

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Canada Community-Building Fund /Capital Works

Unaudited

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
RECEIPTS						
Investment Income	35,000	55,233	0	0	0	0
New Deal Gas Tax Funds	835,923	872,264	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-
	870,923	927,497	0	0	0	0
EXPENSES						
Gas Tax - capital projects - prior years		2,897,843	-	-		-
Gas Tax - operating to allocate in 2024	-	791,304	-	-		-
	(265,077)	3,689,147	-	-		-
REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	(265,077)	(2,761,650)	0	0	0	0
FUND EQUITY - ENDING	$ 2,761,650	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
CARBON TRUST RESERVE FUND
Unaudited

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Beginning Balance	305,119	504,409	389,809	496,809	698,809	900,809
Contributions	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Investment Income	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
	202,000	202,000	202,000	202,000	202,000	202,000
EXPENSES						
Transfer to Other Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Projects and Expenses						
Vehicle purchase		129,000				
Connect the Quays - use in future year		90,000				
Replace 2007 Dodge Caliber #721		22,600				
Operational - Climate Action planning resource	-	75,000	95,000	-	-	-
	-	316,600	95,000	-	-	-
REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	202,000	(114,600)	107,000	202,000	202,000	202,000
FUND BALANCE	504,409	389,809	496,809	698,809	900,809	1,102,809

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
CEMETERY TRUST FUND
Unaudited

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
RECEIPTS						
Sale Proceeds	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Investment Income	7,500	2,952	3,012	3,072	3,133	3,195
	10,500	5,952	6,012	6,072	6,133	6,195
EXPENSES						
Transfer to General Revenue	2,000	2,001	2,001	2,001	2,001	2,001
REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE	8,500	3,951	4,011	4,071	4,132	4,194
FUND EQUITY - ENDING	196,827	200,778	204,789	208,860	212,992	217,186

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
DEVELOPMENT COST CHARGES RESERVE FUND
Unaudited

	2023	2024	2025	2026		2027
RECEIPTS						
Contributions	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Investment Income	75,000	63,556	68,827	74,204	79,688	85,282
	275,000	263,556	268,827	274,204	279,688	285,282
EXPENSES						
Transfer to Other Funds	-	-	-	-		-
Acquisitions and Expenses	-	-	-	-		-
	-	-				
REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	275,000	263,556	268,827	274,204	279,688	285,282
FUND EQUITY - ENDING	3,177,801	3,441,357	3,710,184	3,984,388	4,264,076	4,549,357

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT RESERVE FUND
Unaudited

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Sale of Equipment	-	45,000				
Investment Income	104,523	104,523	70,913	34,179	28,125	36,479
Transfers from General Revenue	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000
Contributions - ERRF Schedule	704,297	725,426	761,697	799,782	839,771	881,760
	878,820	944,948	902,610	903,961	937,896	988,239
EXPENSES						
Prior year ERRF planned exp.	-	2,104,515				
ERRF funding borrowed (Train Station) - returned in 2025	-	-	(210,000)			
Equipment Purchases	-	520,914	2,949,311	1,206,674	520,192	345,325
	-	2,625,429	2,739,311	1,206,674	520,192	345,325
REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	878,820	(1,680,481)	(1,836,700)	(302,713)	417,704	642,914
FUND EQUITY - ENDING	5,226,129	3,545,648	1,708,948	1,406,235	1,823,939	2,049,149

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
GROWING COMMUNITIES FUND
Unaudited

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
RECEIPTS						
Balance forward	5,389,562	3,244,038	3,308,919	3,358,552	3,408,931	3,460,065
Investment Income	161,687	64,881	49,634	50,378	51,134	51,901
	5,551,249	3,308,919	3,358,552	3,408,931	3,460,065	3,511,966
EXPENSES **(Future projects will be identifed after MP)**						
General Fund - Masterplans	1,053,800	-	-	-	-	-
Connect the Quays - Phase 3	1,253,411			-	-	-
	2,307,211	-	-	-	-	-
REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES	3,244,038	3,308,919	3,358,552	3,408,931	3,460,065	3,511,966
Reserve Fund - Year end balance	3,244,038	3,308,919	3,358,552	3,408,931	3,460,065	3,511,966

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
LAND SALE RESERVE FUND
Unaudited

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
RECEIPTS						
Sale of Property	96,564	96,564	200,000	203,000	206,045	209,136
Investment Income	-	1,200,000	3,000	3,045	3,091	3,137
Transfer from RCMP Surplus	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer from Off Street Parking Res	-	-	-	-	-	-
	96,564	1,296,564	203,000	206,045	209,136	212,273
EXPENSES						
Transfer to Other Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Somass Funding - 2023		1,200,000	-	-	-	-
	-	1,200,000	-	-	-	-
REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	96,564	96,564	203,000	206,045	209,136	212,273
FUND EQUITY - ENDING	96,564	96,564	203,000	206,045	209,136	212,273

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

PARKLAND ACQUISITION RESERVE

Unaudited

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
RECEIPTS						
Investment Income	$ 10,000	$ 9,396	$ 6,452	$ 6,581	$ 6,713	$ 6,847
Sale of Parkland	-	-	-	-		-
Parkland Dedication Deposits	-	-	-	-		-
Historical correction	-	-	-	-		-
	10,000	9,396	6,452	6,581	6,713	6,847
EXPENSES						
Acquisition of Parkland	-	-	-	-		-
	-	-	-	-		-
REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES	10,000	9,396	6,452	6,581	6,713	6,847
FUND EQUITY - ENDING	$ 313,210	$ 322,606	$ 329,058	$ 335,640	$ 342,352	$ 349,199

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI
PARKS AND RECREATION CAPITAL RESERVE
Unaudited

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
RECEIPTS						
Balance forward	2,497,763	2,218,472	568,967	671,759	780,678	896,049
Investment Income	25,000	44,369	11,379	13,435	15,614	17,921
Recreation Services Surcharge	75,645	77,536	81,413	85,484	89,758	94,246
Other Deposits	25,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Transfers	-	-	-	-		-
Sale of Property	-	-	-	-		-
	2,623,408	2,350,378	671,759	780,678	896,049	1,018,216
EXPENSES						
Parks & Recreation - committed 2023 & prior	-	1,781,411	-	-		-
New expenditures	-	-				
	-	1,781,411	-	-		-
REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES	2,623,408	568,967	671,759	780,678	896,049	1,018,216
FUND EQUITY - ENDING	2,218,472	568,967	671,759	780,678	896,049	1,018,216

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Regular Council Meeting
For the Meeting of February 12, 2024

Date: February 2, 2024
File No: 3360-20-3045_3053_3063 Kingsway

To: Mayor and Council
From: M. Fox, CAO
Subject: **DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION – Zoning Bylaw Amendments at 3045, 3053, 3063 Kingsway Avenue, Port Alberni**
LOT 17 BLOCK 103 DISTRICT LOT 1 ALBERNI DISTRICT PLAN 197 (009-272-925)
LOT 18 BLOCK 103 DISTRICT LOT 1 ALBERNI DISTRICT PLAN 197 (009-272-968)
LOT 19 BLOCK 103 DISTRICT LOT 1 ALBERNI DISTRICT PLAN 197 (009-273-000)
Applicant: Streamside Homes Inc.

Prepared by:	Supervisor:	CAO Concurrence:
B. McLoughlin *Manager of Planning*	*S. Smith* *Dir. of Development Services | Deputy CAO*	*M. Fox, CAO*

RECOMMENDATION

THAT first reading of "Zoning Amendment (3045, 3053, 3063 Kingsway Avenue) Bylaw No. 5096" be rescinded.

PURPOSE

To rescind first reading of zoning amendment Bylaw No. 5096 for the property at 3045, 3053, and 3063 Kingsway Avenue to allow staff to complete statutory notice requirements.

BACKGROUND

On November 29, 2023, the provincial government passed *Bill 44 Housing Statutes (Residential Development) Amendment Act, 2023* which included several amendments to the *Local Government Act* (LGA) around residential development. Under *Section 646* of the LGA, a local government is now prohibited from holding a public hearing on a proposed zoning bylaw if:

a) *An official community plan is in effect for the area that is subject of the zoning bylaw;*
b) *The bylaw is consistent with the official community plan;*
c) *The sole purpose of the bylaw is to permit a development that is, in whole or in part, a residential development; and*
d) *The residential component of the development accounts for at least half of the gross floor area of all buildings and other structures proposed as part of the development.*

Under *Section 647* of the LGA, when a public hearing is prohibited, local governments must now give public notice prior to first reading of the amending bylaw.

Application Status

Council gave first reading to the amending Bylaw No. 5096 at the Regular Council meeting on December 11, 2023. Public notice was not provided prior to the meeting.

Subject Property and Site Context

The applicant is proposing a 25-unit multi-residential building at 3045, 3053 and 3063 Kingsway Avenue in the Uptown commercial area of the South Port Neighbourhood. A Comprehensive Development (CD) zone is proposed for the subject property to enable the residential infill development.

Location	On the east side of Kingsway Avenue approximately 70 metres south of Argyle Street.
Current OCP Land Use	Multi-Family Residential (MFR)
Total Area	1151.9 m2 (0.285 acres)

Figure 1 – Subject Property Map and Proposed Development

ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

1. *THAT first reading of "Zoning Amendment (3045, 3053, 3063 Kingsway Avenue) Bylaw No. 5096" be rescinded.*

2. *THAT Council decline and the bylaw does not proceed.*

3. *Council may direct staff to provide additional information.*

ANALYSIS

New housing legislation prohibits Council from holding a public hearing for amending Bylaw No. 5096 at 3045, 3053, 3063 Kingsway Avenue. In accordance with *section 646* of the LGA:

a) An OCP is in effect;
b) The amending bylaw is consistent with the OCP;
c) The purpose of the amending bylaw is to permit a residential development; and
d) The residential component is more than half the gross floor area.

However, where a public hearing cannot be held, the legislation requires public notice be given prior to Council's consideration of first reading. For the rezoning application to proceed, first reading of Bylaw No. 5096 would need to be rescinded, and statutory public notice provided prior to further consideration by Council.

IMPLICATIONS

If Council rescinds first reading of Bylaw No. 5096, staff will issue public notice as required by the recently updated *Local Government Act*. The amending bylaw will then be returned to Council for consideration of first reading.

COMMUNICATIONS

Section 646 of the LGA prohibits local governments from holding a public hearing for the proposed Zoning Bylaw amendment. However, the City is required to give public notice prior to first reading of the amending bylaw. The notice will be mailed to all owners and occupants of property within 100 metres and ads will be placed in the newspaper.

BYLAWS/PLANS/POLICIES

1. *Zoning Bylaw No. 5074, 2023*:
   Below is a summary of amending Bylaw No. 5096:

   a) Add new Comprehensive Development (CD) zone for 3045, 3053 and 3063 Kingsway Avenue to the Zoning Bylaw.

   b) Change the classification of 3045, 3053 and 3063 Kingsway Avenue to the new CD zone on the Zoning Bylaw map.

SUMMARY

Staff recommend that Council rescind first reading of amending Bylaw No. 5096 for the proposed multi-residential infill development at 3045, 3053 and 3063 Kingsway Avenue. Changes to the *Local Government Act* under Bill 44 require public notice to be given prior to consideration of first reading.

ATTACHMENTS/REFERENCE MATERIALS

- *Zoning Amendment (3045, 3053, 3063 Kingsway Avenue) Bylaw No. 5096*

C: *D. Monteith, Director of Corporote Services*
A. McGifford, Director of Finance
J. MacDonald, Directar of Infrastructure Services

J:\Engineering\Planning\Development Applications\ZoningAmend\ZON-2023\ZON_2023_03 - 3045_3053_3063_Kingsway Ave\Council

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

BYLAW NO. 5096

A BYLAW TO AMEND PORT ALBERNI ZONING BYLAW 5074

The Municipal Council of the City of Port Alberni in Open Meeting Assembled Enacts as follows:

1. Title

This Bylaw may be known and cited for all purposes as "**Zoning Amendment (3045, 3053, 3063 Kingsway Avenue) Bylaw No. 5096**".

2. Zoning Text Amendments

2.1 Adding the following text to Establishment of Zones Section 5.1:

"CD5 – Comprehensive Development – 3045, 3053, 3063 Kingsway Avenue"

2.2 Port Alberni Zoning Bylaw 5074 is hereby amended by adding the following text under Section 5:

CD5 – COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT – 3045, 3053, 3063 Kingsway Avenue

11.1 The purpose of this zone is to provide for in-fill development of a multi-residential building.

11.1.1 Permitted *uses*

Principal Uses	*Accessory Uses*
Multiple family dwellings	*Home occupation*

11.1.2 Site Development Regulations

Minimum Lot Area	1151 m^2	(12,389 ft^2)
Maximum *Coverage*	55%	
Minimum *Setbacks*:		
Front yard	1.8 m	(5.91 ft)
Rear yard	5.9 m	(19.36 ft)
Side yard (north)	3.4 m	(11.15 ft)
Side yard (south)	2.8 m	(9.19 ft)
Maximum *Floor Area Ratio*	1.62	
Maximum Height, Principal *Building*	18 m	
Maximum number of dwelling units:	25	

11.2 Parking

11.2.1 Vehicle parking will be provided at the following minimum rates:

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Type	Bed(s)	Spaces per Dwelling unit
Multi-family	Studio	0.75
Multi-family	1 bed	0.75
Multi-family	2 bed	1.25
Multi-family	3 bed	1.50

11.2.2 Secure bicycle storage will be provided at a rate of 0.96 spaces per dwelling unit.

11.3 Useable Open Space

A total of 395 m^2 of *Usable Open Space* will be provided at a rate of 15.8 m^2 per dwelling unit.

11.3.1 Notwithstanding section 6.27.2(c), required useable open space may consist exclusively of roof garden areas, private balconies, and private patios.

11.4 Landscaping

11.4.1 Landscape screening will be provided along the side and rear property lines except where vehicle access is provided.

11.5 Signage

11.5.1 All signage must meet the requirements for multi-family zones in Port Alberni Sign Bylaw No. 4843.

11.6 Conditions of *Use*

(a) Limits to *Home Occupation* listed as section 6.15.6(f) apply to this zone.

(b) Notwithstanding section 11.1.2, a minimum side yard setback of 1.15 m is permitted for an *underground parking* structure to a maximum height of 3.5 m above grade.

11.7 Schedule A to Zoning bylaw Amendment No. 5096 (Site Plan)

[site plan to be attached when finalized prior to 2nd Reading]

---

3. Zoning Map Amendments

3.1 The properties legally described as:

a) Lot 17, Block 103, District Lot 1, Alberni District, Plan VIP197, PID: 009-272-925 located at 3045 Kingsway Avenue; and
b) Lot 18, Block 103, District Lot 1, Alberni District, Plan VIP197, PID: 009-272-968 located at 3053 Kingsway Avenue; and

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c) Lot 19, Block 103, District Lot 1, Alberni District, Plan VIP197, PID: 009-273-000 located at 3063 Kingsway Avenue,

as shown outlined in heavy black line on Schedule A attached hereto and forming part of this bylaw, are hereby rezoned from a mix of 'RM2 Medium Density Multi-Residential' and 'C7 Core Business' zones to "CD5 Comprehensive Development - 3045, 3053, 3063 Kingsway Avenue'.

3.2 Schedule "A" (Zoning Map) which forms an integral part of Port Alberni Zoning Bylaw 5074 is hereby amended to denote the zoning outlined in Section 2 above.

READ A FIRST TIME this 11th day of December, 2023.

READ A SECOND TIME this day of , 2024.

READ A THIRD TIME this day of , 2024.

ADOPTED this day of , 2024.

Mayor

Corporate Officer

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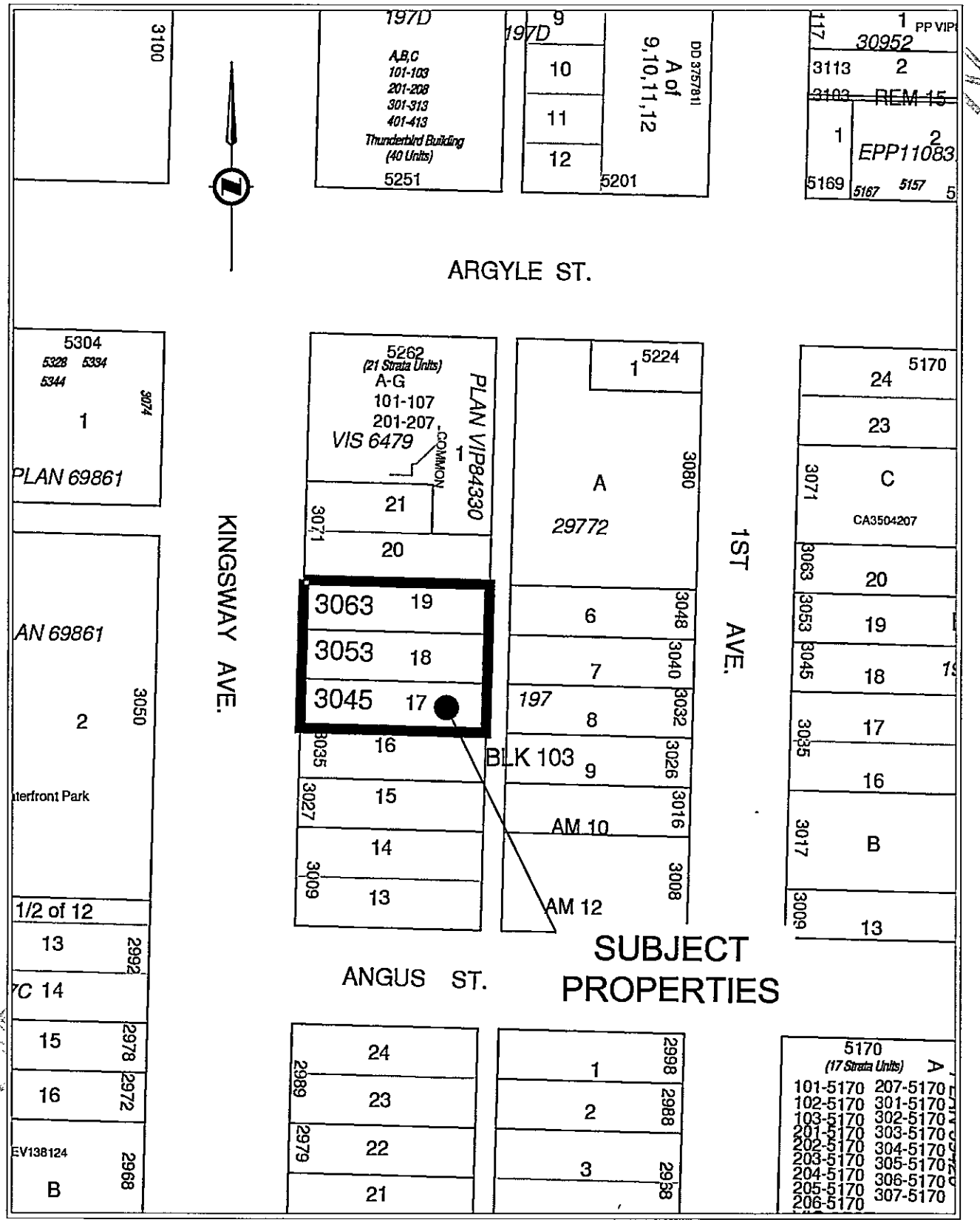
Schedule "A" to Bylaw No. 5096



CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Regular Council Meeting
For the Meeting of February 12, 2024

Date: February 2, 2024
File No: 3360-20-2780 Burde

To: Mayor and Council
From: M. Fox, CAO
Subject: **DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION – OCP and Zoning Bylaw Amendments at 2780 Burde Street, Port Alberni**
LOT B (SEE PLAN EP71136), BLOCK 27, DISTRICT LOT 139, ALBERNI DISTRCT, PLAN 1562 (PID: 024-836-117)
Applicant: B. Elliott

Prepared by:	Supervisor:	Director:	CAO Concurrence:
H. Stevenson *Planner I*	*B. McLoughlin* *Manager of Planning*	*S. Smith, Dir. of Development Services | Deputy CAO*	*M. Fox, CAO*

RECOMMENDATION

1. *THAT "Official Community Plan Amendment (2780 Burde Street) Bylaw No. 5084" be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Corporate Officer and numbered 5084.*

2. *THAT "Zoning Amendment (2780 Burde Street) Bylaw No. 5085" be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Corporate Officer and numbered 5085.*

PURPOSE

The City has received an application to amend the Official Community Plan (OCP) and Zoning Bylaw at 2780 Burde Street. The amending bylaws (No. 5084 and 5085) would change the property's OCP land use designation to *Residential (RES)*, and the zoning to *RR2 Semi Rural Residential*. This would enable construction of a single-detached dwelling.

BACKGROUND

Council gave third reading to the amending bylaws at the November 27th Regular Council meeting and passed a motion requiring that, as a condition of approval, a covenant be registered on title requiring the property be connected to municipal sanitary sewer if and when the service is extended to the Arrowsmith Heights neighborhood. The covenant has now been registered.

Subject Property

Figure 1 – Subject Property Map

ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

1. *THAT "Official Community Plan Amendment (2780 Burde Street) Bylaw No. 5084" be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Corporate Officer and numbered 5084.*

   THAT "Zoning Amendment (2780 Burde Street) Bylaw No. 5085" be now finally adopted, signed by the Mayor and Corporate Officer and numbered 5085.

2. Council may decline to give final reading.

3. Council may direct staff to provide additional information.

IMPLICATIONS

The applicant has satisfied all conditions of approval. Adopting the amending bylaws would enable construction of a single-detached dwelling at 2780 Burde Street.

COMMUNICATIONS

A Public Hearing was held on November 13, 2023. No correspondence was received in response to notices and no residents spoke at the Public Hearing. Council gave third reading at their November 27, 2023 Regular Council meeting.

BYLAWS/PLANS/POLICIES

1. *Official Community Plan*
   The application proposes to change the land use designation from *Future Residential (FUR)* to *Residential (RES).* The proposed land use aligns with the Residential designation and OCP policy in *Section D: Plan Policies – 4.2 Residential (RES): Permits one and two family residential.*

2. *Zoning Bylaw No. 5074, 2023:*
   The application proposes to amend the Zoning Bylaw map to change the classification from *FD Future Development* to *RR2 Semi-Rural Residential.* This aligns with purpose of the *RR2* zone in Zoning Bylaw *Section 5.10: The purpose of this zone is to provide for low density development of a semi-rural character.*

SUMMARY

Staff support Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 5084 and Zoning Bylaw Amendment No. 5085 to change the land use designation to *Residential (RES)*, and the zoning classification to *RR2 Semi-Rural Residential* at 2780 Burde Street. The applicant has registered the required covenant and staff recommend that the amending bylaws now be finally adopted.

ATTACHMENTS/REFERENCE MATERIALS

- *OCP Amendment (2780 Burde Street) Bylaw No. 5084*
- *Zoning Amendment (2780 Burde Street) Bylaw No. 5085*

C: D. Monteith, Director of Corporote Services
R. Gaudreault, Building/Plumbing Inspector
J. MacDonald, Director of Infrastructure Services

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

BYLAW NO. 5084

A BYLAW TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN FOR THE CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

The Municipal Council of the City of Port Alberni in Open Meeting Assembled Enacts as follows:

1. Title

   This Bylaw may be known and cited for all purposes as **"Official Community Plan Amendment (2780 Burde Street) Bylaw No. 5084".**

2. Official Community Plan Amendments

   Respecting *Lot B, Block 27, District Lot 1, Alberni District, Plan VIP1562 See EP71136 (PID: 024-836-117)* located at **2780 Burde Street** and shown outlined in bold on Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this bylaw, the following amendments apply:

   2.1 **Schedule A (Land Use Map)** that forms an integral part of Official Community Plan Bylaw, No. 4602 is hereby amended to change the designation on the property from 'Future Residential' use to **'Residential'** use.

READ A FIRST TIME this 23rd day of October, 2023.

READ A SECOND TIME this 23rd day of October, 2023.

A PUBLIC HEARING WAS HELD this 13th day of November, 2023.

READ A THIRD TIME this 27th day of November, 2023.

FINALLY ADOPTED this day of , 2024.

Mayor

Corporate Officer

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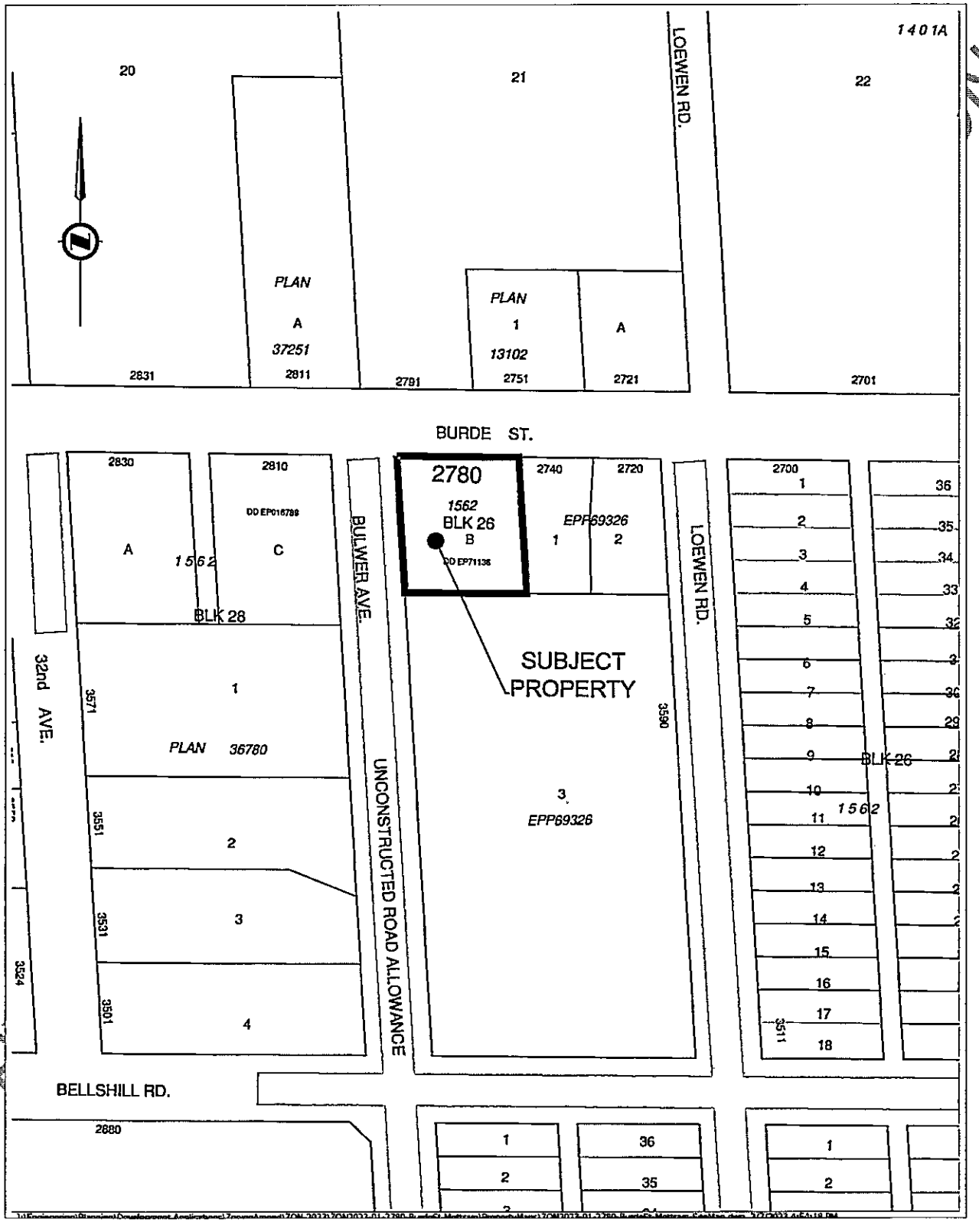
Schedule "A" to Bylaw 5084



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CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

BYLAW NO. 5085

A BYLAW TO AMEND PORT ALBERNI ZONING BYLAW NO. 5074, 2023

The Municipal Council of the City of Port Alberni in Open Meeting Assembled Enacts as follows:

1. Title

   This Bylaw may be known and cited for all purposes as **"Zoning Amendment (2780 Burde Street) Bylaw No. 5085".**

2. Zoning Amendment

   The property legally described as *Lot B, Block 27, District Lot 1, Alberni District, Plan VIP1562 See EP71136 (PID: 024-836-117)*, and located at **2780 Burde Street,** as shown outlined in heavy black line on Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this bylaw, is hereby rezoned from, 'Future Development' to **'RR2 Semi Rural Residential'** zone.

3. Map Amendments

   Schedule "A" (Zoning District Map) which forms an integral part of Port Alberni Zoning Bylaw, Bylaw No. 5074 is hereby amended to denote the zoning outlined in Section 2 above.

READ A FIRST TIME this 23rd day of October, 2023.

READ A SECOND TIME this 23rd day of October, 2023.

A PUBLIC HEARING WAS HELD this 13th day of November, 2023.

READ A THIRD TIME this 27th day of November, 2023.

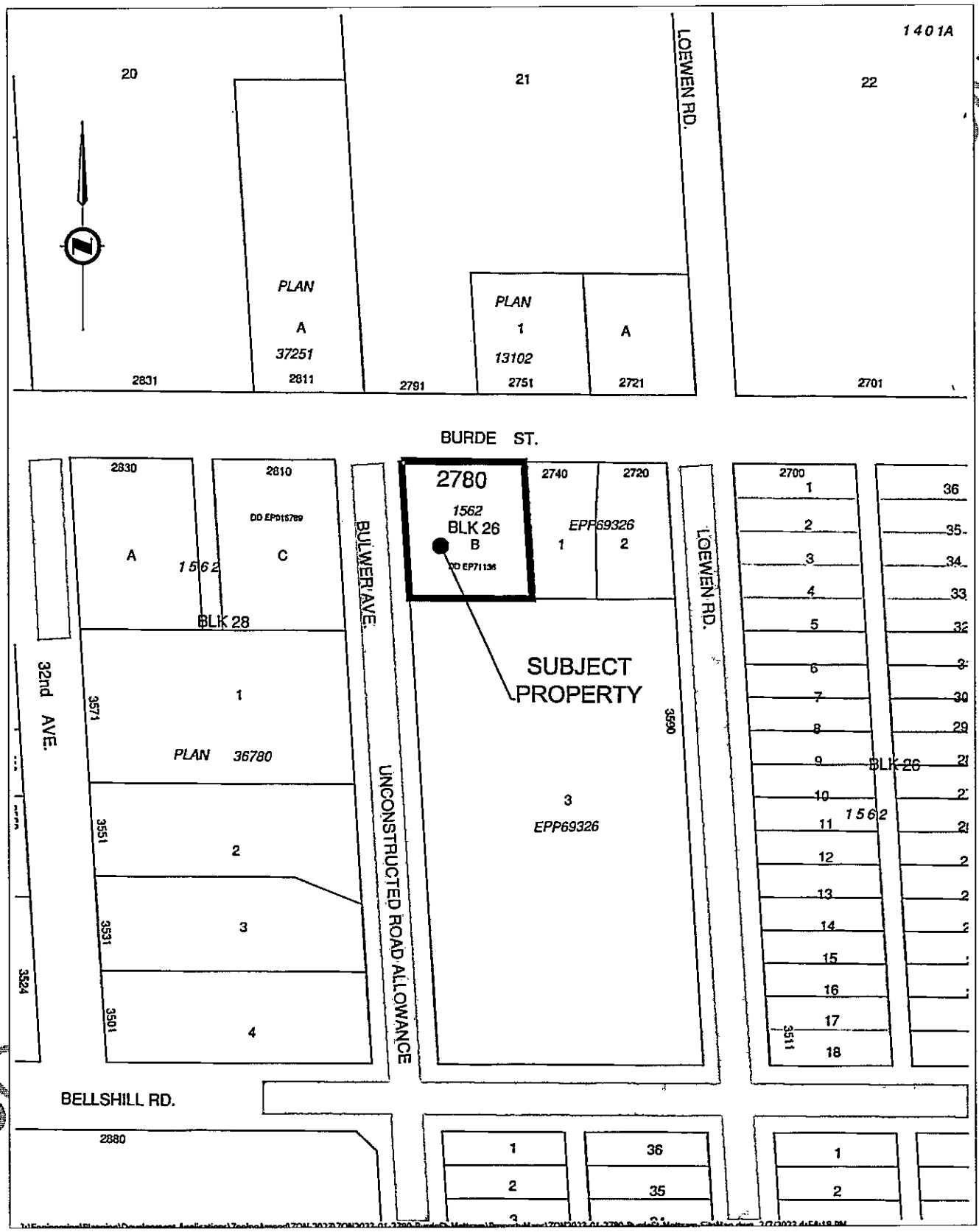
FINALLY ADOPTED this day of , 2024.

Mayor

Corporate Officer

COPY AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

Schedule "A" to Bylaw No. 5085



ALBERNI ATHLETICS

Soccer Club (AASC)

4200 Wood Ave. Port Alberni, BC V9Y 7S6

RECEIVED
JAN 18 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Jane 16, 2024

Dear Mayor Sharie Minions and City Councillors,

We hope this letter finds you well. We are writing on behalf of the Alberni Athletics Soccer Club (AASC) to introduce the City of Port Alberni to an upcoming event that is integral to youth soccer: the Upper Island Soccer Association Mini World Cup (MWC). Our Club will be hosting this event April 27 and 28, 2024. This year, MWC is dedicated in memory of Gordon Jones; a lifetime volunteer of AASC and Referee in Chief.

AASC aims to provide a tournament where our young athletes aged seven-10 years can celebrate the value of teamwork, dedication, and discipline. Hosting this tournament will not only bring together nearly 100 teams from Vancouver Island but will also showcase the hospitality and warmth that define Port Alberni as "The Community with a Heart".

We kindly request the support of the City Council in this endeavor. Specifically, we would greatly appreciate a letter of welcome addressed to the athletes of the tournament. In order for this tournament to be a success, we need to collaborate with the City Works Department and Parks and Recreation Department to ensure fields, amenities and municipal services are organized to support the safety and efficiency of the tournament. In addition, we would like to formally invite a representative from the City Council to participate in the opening ceremony. Your endorsement and encouragement would significantly contribute to the success of this event and further amplify the positive impact it will have on our community

If you require any additional information or details to facilitate this collaboration please let us know. Your support in fostering community engagement and promoting youth development through sports would be invaluable to the AASC.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to the opportunity to work together in making the Mini World Cup 2024 a memorable and successful event for all involved.

Warm regards,

M[redacted] Cross, AASC Board of Directors, MWC Lead

M[redacted] Lange, MWC Co-lead

☑ Council ☐ Economic Development
☐ Mayor ☑ Engineering/PW
☑ CAO ☑ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Finance ☐ Development Services
☑ Corporate Services ☐ Community Safety
☑ Agenda RCM Feb 12/24 ☐ Other
File # 0230-01

Email: avsoccermwc2024@gmail.com

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FEB 05 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Coastline ENDURANCE RUNNING

VANCOUVER ISLAND TRAIL RUNNING SERIES

☑ Council
☐ Mayor
☐ CAO
☐ Finance
☑ Corporate Services
☑ Agenda
☐ Economic Development
☑ Engineering/PW
☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Development Services
☐ Community Safety
☐ Other
RCM Feb 12/24
File # 8100-01

Dear Mayor and Council of the City of Port Alberni,

We would like to bring the Vancouver Island Trail Running Series back to Port Alberni in 2024. We are looking to host the event in the City of Port Alberni on Saturday June 1st, 2024.

The event team has all necessary equipment to host the event and will also ensure we recruit the volunteers required to help put on this event. We have secured the track and field at EJ Dunn Elementary School for the event for June 1st.

Here are some specifics about our proposed event for Port Alberni:

Course Set Up: Friday May 31, 2024 – All day
Race Date: Saturday June 1, 2024
Long Course Start: 10:45am
Short Course Start: 11:00am
Kid's Race Start: 10:30am
Event day preparations will begin at 8am and event will be finished no later than 4pm with course and event.

I have attached a rough map of the long course route (subject to change based on final approval). There is no change to the route from the 2022 and 2023 other than a change in venue – the new venue is next to the previous venue. We will need approval for runners to run across Burde Street and along 21st avenue.

- Burde Street will have runners crossing and we will have crossing volunteers who help runners cross the road, keeping traffic open and allowing runners to cross only when there is no traffic. Burde Street is extremely light for traffic so this would be of minimal disruption.
- 21st Avenue (dirt road portion) off Argyle Road will have runners run along the road to connect trail systems. Traffic will not be closed.

The run route would be marked with pink surveyors flagging tape attached to branches and vegetation and we use black arrows on yellow laminated signs attached to stakes hammered into the ground at major intersections. This practice of course marking has been very effective and causes no damage or disruption to the environment. Course markings will be taken down by race staff at the conclusion of the event.

We will be posting signs at the trail heads a few weeks prior to the next to notify trail users of the event, however, we do not need to close the trails and will ensure the public has equal access to the trails on the day of the event.

We would need approval to use city trails as per the attached map. I can provide an insurance certificate with $5 million liability (please let me know who needs to be listed on the certificate). We will also coordinate with local emergency services to ensure they are aware of the event.

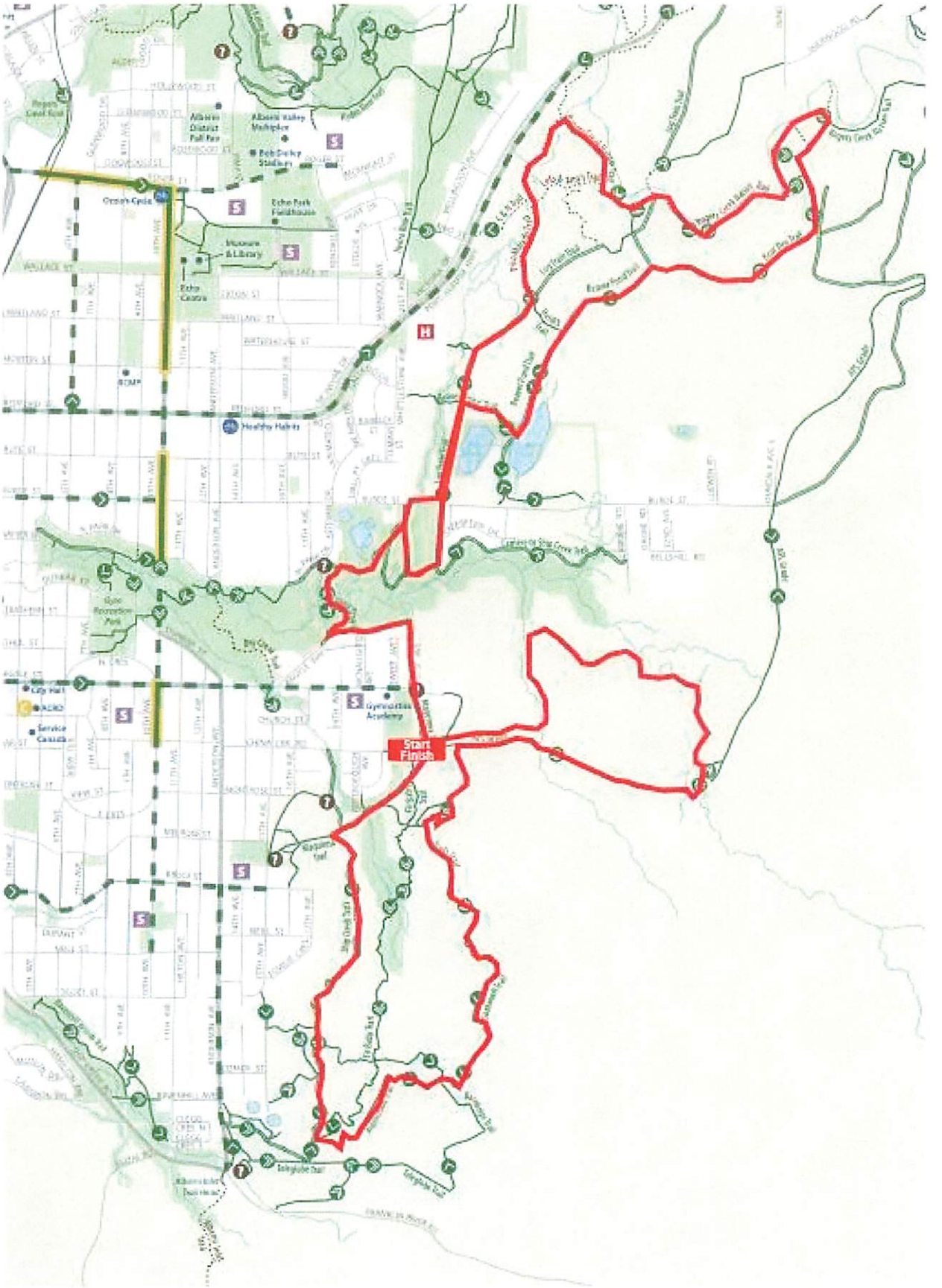
Our races are very family-oriented events. We host a long course distance and a short course distance event along with a kids race. We host post-race food as well (we did grilled cheese sandwiches at our Cobble Hill event, perogies at our Nanaimo event and Pancakes at our Royal Roads events). We will ensure proper Island Health temporary food permits are acquired prior to the event.

Here is a link to our event photographer (Matt Cecill Visuals) photo essay from last year's event to give you a visual about what our events look like: https://mattcecill.exposure.co/port-alberni

Please let me know what else you need, and I will get it to you promptly,

[redacted]

M[redacted] LaBelle
Owner/Head Coach/Race Director,
Coastline Endurance Running
Phone: [redacted]
Instagram: @coastline.endurance
Facebook: www.facebook.com/coastline.endurance
Website: http://www.coastlineendurancerunning.com


Start
Finish

RECEIVED
FEB 05 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

☑ Council ☐ Economic Development
☑ Mayor ☐ Engineering/PW
☑ CAO ☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Finance ☐ Development Services
☑ Corporate Services ☑ Community Safety
☑ Agenda RCM, Feb 12/24 ☐ Other
File # 8100-01

Wounded Warrior Run BC
[redacted]

February 5, 2024

City of Port Alberni
4850 Argyle Street
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 1V8

RE: Wounded Warrior Run BC February 25 to March 3, 2024

Dear Mayor Minions & Council,

Wounded Warrior Canada (WWC) is a nationally-recognized mental health service provider dedicated to serving ill and injured Trauma Exposed Professionals (TExP) and their families. A TExP is an individual who, through the course of their regular job duties is continually exposed to traumatic events involving actual or threatened: death, serious injury, and/or sexual violence. TExPs include but are not limited to the following professions: Military, Police Officer, Fire Fighter, Paramedic, Corrections Officer, Security Officer, and Health Care.

Our range of clinically facilitated programs have been developed to support the unique needs of Veterans, First Responders and their families. Our programs support individuals, couples, spouses, surviving Family members, and children of those who serve or have served our country and communities. WWC recognizes that only through ongoing partnerships, multi-organizational collaboration, and sustained community involvement can TExP's and their families recover from their injuries and return to a state of well-being in community.

In 2024, we will be embarking on the 11th annual Wounded Warrior Run BC, where a team of 8 dedicated runners will run the length of Vancouver Island relay-style from Port Hardy to Victoria in just 8 days covering 800 kms. This event has become the largest fund raiser for Wounded Warriors Canada on Vancouver Island, and our goal is to raise $250,000 this year. We need your help in reaching this goal. **Please consider a minimum $2,000 donation.**

We would also like to extend the invitation to Mayor Minions & Council to meet the team on Thursday, February 29, 2024, when we arrive at 5:30 p.m. at Legion Br#239. We would be honoured to have Mayor Minions make a short address to our team.

> *To assist us in ensuring the event is safe and causes the least amount of disruption to residents, we would like to ask if the event be added to your community calendar and signage placed along the highway.*

Thank you for your incredible support to Wounded Warriors Canada and for continuing to grow our partnership. Please contact the undersigned for any questions.

Much respect,

[redacted]

J[redacted] Zweng
Director
Wounded Warrior Run BC
[redacted]

8 days · 8 runners · 800kms

RECEIVED
FEB 05 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

RIDGE VIEW
HEALTH + PERFORMANCE

2024-02-05
☐ Council ☐ Economic Development
☐ Mayor ☑ Engineering/PW
☐ CAO ☑ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Finance ☐ Development Services
☐ Corporate Services ☐ Community Safety
☑ Agenda ☐ Other
File # 5100-01

City of Port Alberni

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to inform you of our plans to host the annual McLean Mill 10K on Sunday, April 7, 2024.

As you may remember, we partnered with the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce to host this race last year. We successfully hosted over 400 runners along our new race route which starts/ends at the McLean Mill Historic Site. This year, Ridge View Health & Performance is the sole organizer of the event, which is held in partnership with the Vancouver Island Race Association (VIRA).

As was the case in 2023, we are thrilled to donate proceeds from this event to KidSport Port Alberni.

Below are key pieces of information regarding our plans for the event:

- The McLean Mill 10K is part of the VIRA series. More information can be found on islandseries.org.
- Insurance is provided through VIRA.
- Cherry Creek Volunteer Fire Department will be on site to assist with traffic control at key locations. The remainder of the route will be managed by our volunteers.
- Parking will be managed by our volunteers. Vehicles will be directed to parking lots at McLean Mill, and onto the property of a neighbour who generously volunteered to host vehicles during the race.
- First Aid will be provided to us by MEDIX BC who has supported many races in the past.
- Neighbours will be advised of the event well in advance.
- A short post-race reception will be held in the McLean Mill courtyard.
- The RCMP, City of Port Alberni and Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce will all be notified of this event via cc of this letter.
- A map of the race route has been attached to this letter for your reference. The route was professionally certified last year and remains the same for 2024.

We greatly appreciate your support of this event! We believe that it is a fantastic way to promote fitness in our community, highlight the history and natural beauty of the Alberni Valley and raise funds for a worthy cause. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Sasha Visona
Owner – Ridge View Health & Performance
Race Director - 2024 McLean Mill 10K

CC: RCMP – Port Alberni Detachment
City of Port Alberni
Terry Deakin – AVCOC President
Jolleen Dick – AVCOC CEO
Daniel Sailland - ACRD

#3 – 4905 Cherry Creek Road, Port Alberni, BC. V9Y 7M6
Phone: (250) 731-8929 Fax: (250) 731-8910
Email: ridgeviewhp@gmail.com Web: www.ridgeviewhealth.ca

Athletics Canada Certified
BC-2023-002-PTBA
Certification Expires 2032-12-31

ATHLETICS ATHLÉTISME CANADA

START

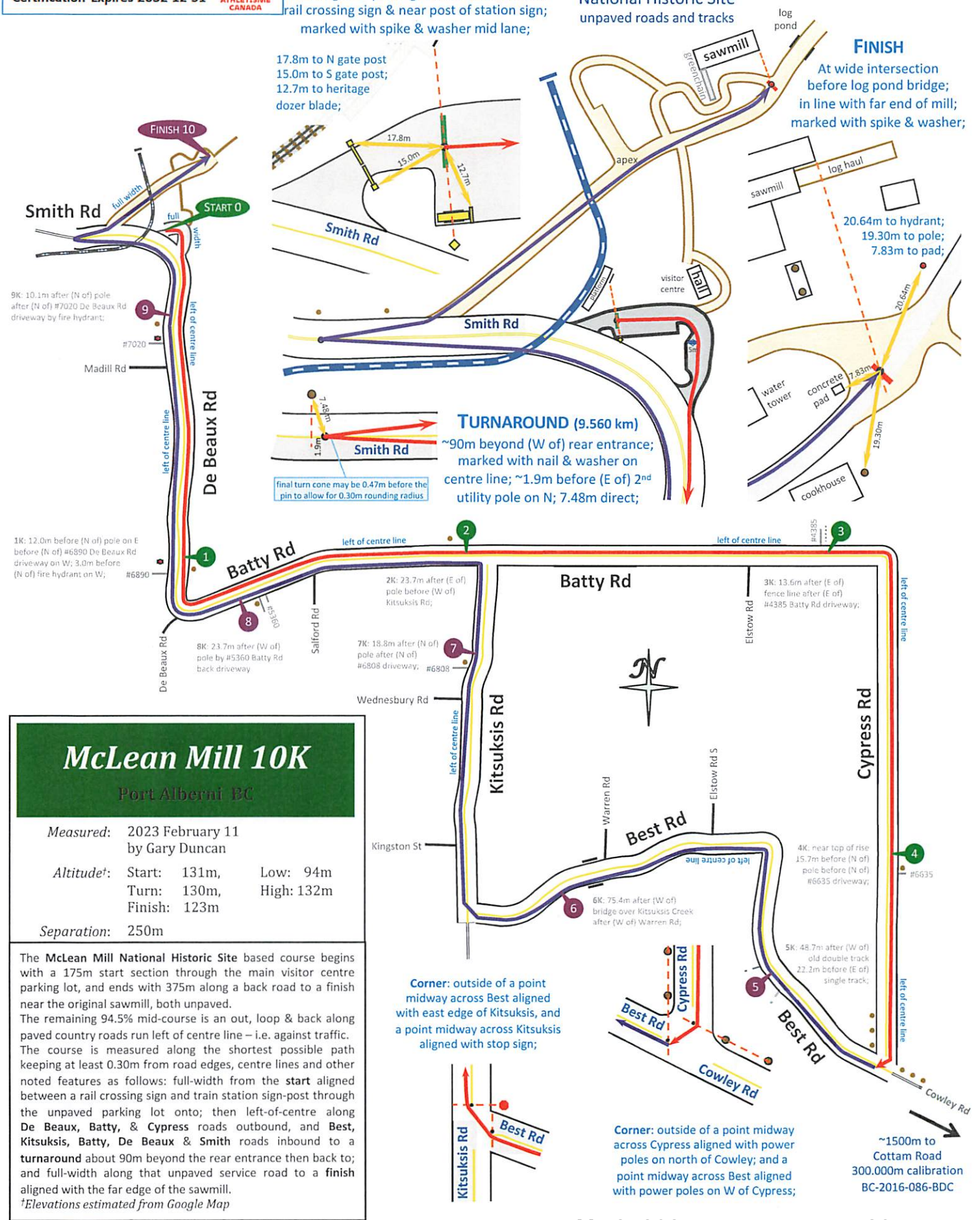
In main gravel parking lot on a line between rail crossing sign & near post of station sign; marked with spike & washer mid lane;

MCLEAN MILL

National Historic Site
unpaved roads and tracks

FINISH

At wide intersection before log pond bridge; in line with far end of mill; marked with spike & washer;



TURNAROUND (9.560 km)

~90m beyond (W of) rear entrance; marked with nail & washer on centre line; ~1.9m before (E of) 2nd utility pole on N; 7.48m direct;

McLean Mill 10K

Port Alberni BC

Measured: 2023 February 11 by Gary Duncan

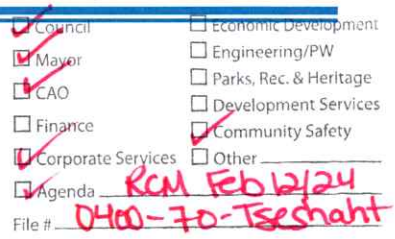
Altitude†: Start: 131m, Low: 94m
Turn: 130m, High: 132m
Finish: 123m

Separation: 250m

The **McLean Mill National Historic Site** based course begins with a 175m start section through the main visitor centre parking lot, and ends with 375m along a back road to a finish near the original sawmill, both unpaved.
The remaining 94.5% mid-course is an out, loop & back along paved country roads run left of centre line – i.e. against traffic.
The course is measured along the shortest possible path keeping at least 0.30m from road edges, centre lines and other noted features as follows: full-width from the **start** aligned between a rail crossing sign and train station sign-post through the unpaved parking lot onto; then left-of-centre along **De Beaux, Batty,** & **Cypress** roads outbound, and **Best, Kitsuksis, Batty, De Beaux** & **Smith** roads inbound to a **turnaround** about 90m beyond the rear entrance then back to; and full-width along that unpaved service road to a **finish** aligned with the far edge of the sawmill.
†*Elevations estimated from Google Map*

ridewithgps.com/routes/41981532 Gary Duncan, AIMS – World Athletics 5 Measurer gary.duncan@telus.net 250.721.2912

Template support letter for the for local, regional, First Nations governments and organizations with respect to the Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy. Please feel free to copy and paste this to your organization's letterhead, sign and send a copy to kenwatts@tseshaht.com



DATE
NAME
ADDRESS
EMAIL

RE: Letter of Support for the Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of _____, we would like to express our gratitude to the Tseshaht First Nation for organizing a strategic planning session in 2023 with many stakeholders/partners in the Alberni Valley as we know we must work together in the spirit of collaboration and cooperation to address the current Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis

Please consider this a formal letter of support from _____ for the draft Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis as presented on January 31, 2024.

Our organization fully supports the signing of the Declaration of Commitment and this letter of support as signals to all governments and funders that our organization/government stands behind resourcing this Strategy. We also fully support a political action team advocating for resources from governments and applicable authorities.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact ____(primary contact)_____ at ____(insert phone and/or email)____.

Kleco, kleco,

SIGN HERE
Name
Position

cc: Wahmeesh (Ken Watts), Elected Chief Councillor
Tseshaht First Nation (kenwatts@tseshaht.com)

Declaration of Commitment

Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioids) Crisis Strategy

Introduction and Purpose

As partners we came together to develop a strategy to combat this crisis which has impacted us all in the Alberni Valley. Thanks to the Tseshaht First Nation for facilitating this strategy, we now have a path forward through the draft Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioids) Crisis Strategy

This non-legally binding Declaration is open to any individual, organization, government, or First Nation to sign, sharing their commitment with respect to the Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioids) Crisis Strategy

Vision

A thriving Alberni Valley: united, resilient, and free from the devastating impact of poisoned drugs, substance disorders and overdoses where First Nations and all local and regional governments stand together, guided by the wisdom of our ancestors, and driven by a shared commitment to the wellbeing of every individual.

Values

The following values provide a foundation for implementation of this strategy and serve as guiding principles to shape decision-making, actions, and interactions throughout the process.
They emphasize the significance of collaboration, cultural respect, empathy, and resilience in addressing the crisis and creating a supportive and inclusive environment in the Alberni Valley.

1. ***Collaboration and Unity***: We value collaboration and unity as we recognize that only through collective efforts, involving the Tseshaht First Nation and all local and regional governments, can we effectively address the crisis of poisoned drugs, substance disorders and overdoses in the Alberni Valley.

2. ***Cultural Respect and Sensitivity***: We value cultural respect and sensitivity, ensuring that the traditions, teachings, and values of First Nations are honoured and integrated into every aspect of our strategy's implementation, fostering a culturally safe, interconnected, inclusive and holistic environment for all.
3. ***Empathy and Compassion***: We value empathy and compassion, acknowledging that every individual impacted by substance use disorders deserves understanding, trauma informed support, with the opportunity for recovery, and ensuring that our practices reflect a genuine concern for their well-being.
4. ***Resilience and Hope***: We value resilience and hope, as we believe in the inherent strength of our community to overcome challenges, to uplift and inspire individuals in their recovery *journey, and to provide a beacon of hope for a brighter future in the face of this crisis.*

Collaboratively we commit to:

1. Fully supporting/endorsing the Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioids) Crisis Strategy as presented on January 31st, 2024, by the Tseshaht First Nation,
2. Fully supporting/endorsing continued collaboration and cooperation of individuals, organizations, health authorities, governments and First Nations working together to combat this crisis together, as one,
3. Fully supporting/endorsing a political and technical team in lobbying and advocating to resource the Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioids) Crisis Strategy.

Name	Organization (if applicable)	Date

RECEIVED
JAN 18 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

☑ Council
☑ Mayor
☑ CAO
☐ Finance
☑ Corporate Services
☑ Agenda
☐ Economic Development
☐ Engineering/PW
☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Development Services
☐ Community Safety
☐ Other
Rcvd Feb 12/24
File # 0630-01

From: S[redacted] Velji [redacted]
Sent: January 18, 2024 10:17 AM
To: Corporate Services Department <corp_serv@portalberni.ca>
Subject: Request for Proclamation from the City of Port Alberni

As you may already be aware, epilepsy is one of the most common neurological conditions, however, it currently has the least recognition in society.

My name is Deirdre Syms, and I am the Executive Director of the BC Epilepsy Society, which is a provincially incorporated non-profit organization and a federally registered charitable organization. We support the over 50,000 people living with epilepsy in BC and their families, friends and loved ones and work to raise awareness of epilepsy in the communities in which we live.

We are excited to let you know that International PURPLE DAY® for Epilepsy Awareness is coming up and will be taking place on March 26th, 2024. International PURPLE DAY® for Epilepsy Awareness is a time when people in countries around the world take part in events and activities to raise much-needed awareness of epilepsy.

We would like to request a Proclamation from the Mayor and Council designating March 26th, 2024, as International PURPLE DAY® for Epilepsy Awareness in the City of Port Alberni. Included with this email correspondence is a document outlining our draft Proclamation.

Through your participation in International PURPLE DAY® for Epilepsy Awareness on March 26th, 2024, you will not only be able to show people living with epilepsy that they are not alone but will also get people talking about epilepsy in an effort to raise awareness of epilepsy in the community.

We look forward to working with you on International PURPLE DAY® for Epilepsy Awareness on March 26th, 2024, and in the future. Please feel free to contact me via email at [redacted] or via telephone at [redacted] should you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,
D[redacted] Syms
Executive Director
BC Epilepsy Society
--
Kind regards,
S[redacted] Velji
Provincial Manager of Programs and Services
BC Epilepsy Society

[redacted]
Website: www.bcepilepsy.com

Social Media:
Instagram: BCEpilepsySociety
Facebook: BC Epilepsy Society
Twitter: BCEpilepsy

The BC Epilepsy Society empowers, educates, and supports British Columbians living with epilepsy.

2024 Proclamation Draft

"Purple Day"

WHEREAS Purple Day is celebrated on March 26 annually, during Epilepsy Awareness Month, to increase the knowledge and understanding of epilepsy in the community;

AND WHEREAS Purple Day was founded in 2008 by Cassidy Megan, a nine-year-old girl from Nova Scotia, who wanted people living with epilepsy that they were not alone;

AND WHEREAS On Purple Day, people in communities around the world are encouraged to wear purple and host events in support of epilepsy awareness;

AND WHEREAS There are over 50,000 people in British Columbia, over 380,000 people in Canada and over 65 Million people worldwide living with epilepsy;

AND WHEREAS The onset of epilepsy can occur at any stage of life and does not discriminate against age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic status, geographic location, or sexual orientation;

AND WHEREAS Purple Day can improve the quality of life of people living with epilepsy, create a society that embraces the beauty of difference and help us understand how we can all come together to make the world a better place:

NOW THEREFORE I **[Insert Name and Title]** DO HEREBY PROCLAIM Tuesday March 26th, 2024 as

"PURPLE DAY"

in the **[Insert Name of Province/City/Municipality/Town/Village]**.

RECEIVED
JAN 18 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

☑ Council
☑ Mayor
☑ CAO
☐ Finance
☑ Corporate Services
☑ Agenda
☐ Economic Development
☐ Engineering/PW
☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Development Services
☐ Community Safety
☐ Other
RCM Feb 12/24
File # 0630-01

From: R[redacted] Quak [redacted]
Sent: January 18, 2024 12:16 PM
To: Sharie Minions <sharie_minions@portalberni.ca>
Subject: Request for Proclamation – Parkinson's Awareness Month

[redacted]

Dear Mayor Minions,

My name is Rachael, and I work with Parkinson Society British Columbia (PSBC). We are a non-profit organization committed to raising awareness about Parkinson's disease and supporting individuals and families affected by this neurodegenerative disorder.

I am writing to request a proclamation recognizing Parkinson's Awareness Month, which takes place in April. This proclamation serves as a valuable tool to inform the public and our community about the challenges faced by those living with Parkinson's disease (PD).

PD is the second most common degenerative neurological disorder after Alzheimer's, but it receives significantly less attention. It is cruel and unforgiving, causing tremors, rigidity, instability, speech difficulty, and in some cases, depression, anxiety, and dementia. Contrary to popular belief, Parkinson's is not exclusively diagnosed in the senior population, but can affect individuals of all ages. The debilitating effects of Parkinson's are felt not only by the person with the disease, but their entire family and the broader community. There is currently no known cure. An estimated 17,500 people in British Columbia live with PD, with the worldwide incidence of the disease expected to double by 2040.

To streamline the proclamation process, we have attached a draft that you can use as a guide to create the official proclamation document. We appreciate your consideration of this request and the recognition it will bring to Parkinson's Awareness Month.

Please inform us if there are any further requirements for the proclamation process in your municipality. Additionally, if there are municipal meetings where proclamations are approved, kindly share the relevant information, as we may need to follow up to ensure the proclamation's approval.

We sincerely thank you for your consideration of the request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Warm regards,

R[redacted] Quak

Marketing & Communications Assistant
Parkinson Society British Columbia

[redacted]

[redacted] www.parkinson.bc.ca

Renew or join as a member! It's that time of the year again. If you haven't already, considering joining or renewing your membership with Parkinson Society BC to take advantage of a variety of benefits and lend your voice to the community. Together, we're better.

Join or renew at: http://www.parkinson.bc.ca/membership

| Education Events | Support Services | Resources | Membership |

As a provincial organization, our work extends across many Indigenous lands and territories throughout British Columbia. We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our Vancouver office is located on the shared traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and sel̓íl̓witulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

Information provided by Parkinson Society British Columbia is intended to be used for general information only and should not replace consultation with healthcare professionals. Please speak with a qualified healthcare professional before making medical decisions.

PROCLAMATION DRAFT

PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS	Parkinson's disease, for which there is no known cause or cure, is a progressive, degenerative neurological disorder which causes tremor or trembling of the arms and legs, muscular rigidity, slowness of movement and difficulty with speaking and swallowing; and
WHEREAS	Parkinson's affects approximately 17,500 adults in the Province of British Columbia; and
WHEREAS	Parkinson Society British Columbia is providing information, consultation, support services and educational seminars for people with Parkinson's and their families; and is promoting a better understanding of this disorder; and
WHEREAS	It is desirable to increase the level of understanding of Parkinson's and the needs of persons living with Parkinson's.
NOW, THEREFORE	I, Sharie Minions, Mayor of Port Alberni, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2024 as **"Parkinson's Awareness Month"** in the City of Port Alberni, Province of British Columbia.

RECEIVED
JAN 24 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

BRITISH COLUMBIA

☑ Council ☐ Economic Development
☑ Mayor ☐ Engineering/PW
☐ CAO ☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Finance ☐ Development Services
☑ Corporate Services ☐ Community Safety
☑ Agenda ☐ Other
File # RCM Feb 12/24
0400-20-MPSEFS

January 22, 2024
Our Ref. 131397

Their Worship Sharie Minions
Mayor
City of Port Alberni
4850 Argyle Street
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 1V8

Email Address: [redacted]

Dear Mayor Sharie Minions:

Thank you for your letter of November 20, 2023, following the UBCM Convention Meeting.

Our government values the essential contributions nurses are making to support British Columbians and recognizes the critical need for more health care workers. While there is more work to be done, we are committed to strengthening and supporting nursing in the province. Since 2017, the Province has significantly expanded the number of nursing seats in BC. This includes more than doubling nurse practitioner seats, a 46% increase in practical nursing seats, and a 22% increase in Bachelor of Nursing seats.

My Ministry funds health education programs based on priorities established by the Ministry of Health. Expanding health programs is a complex undertaking that needs to fit within the larger provincial post-secondary ecosystem. Many factors influence the expansion of these programs and my Ministry works collaboratively with the Ministry of Health to ensure funding for health education seats is aligned with student and population demand in communities across the province.

Last fall, the Ministry of Health launched a multi-year Health Human Resources strategy to optimize the health system, expand training and further improve recruitment and retention for priority health professions. An important component of this strategy is promoting the recruitment and retention of staff in high need regions and occupations.

.../2

Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills
Office of the Minister
Mailing Address:
PO Box 9080 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2
Location:
Parliament Buildings
Victoria

In February 2022, Government announced an expansion of 602 new nursing seats at post-secondary institutions across the province, including more than 140 on Vancouver Island. It may be helpful to note that North Island College currently delivers a Licensed Practical Nursing program in Port Alberni and Vancouver Island University offers a Registered Nursing program in Nanaimo. Students in these and other nursing programs may undertake practice education at the West Coast General Hospital, allowing local students to complete some of their training in their home community and providing an opportunity to recruit nursing students from elsewhere.

My Ministry will continue to work with the Ministry of Health, post-secondary institutions and communities across the province to explore future opportunities for high-demand health education program expansions.

Thank you again for writing to me.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Honourable Selina Robinson
Minister

Pacific Rim School District
4690 Roger Street, Port Alberni, B.C. V9Y 3Z4 Ph: (250) 723-3565 Fax (250) 723-0318

City of Port Alberni
4850 Argyle Street,
Port Alberni, BC
V9Y 1V8
corp_serv@portalberni.ca

RECEIVED
JAN 19 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

☑ Council ☐ Economic Development
☐ Mayor ☐ Engineering/PW
☑ CAO ☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Finance ☐ Development Services
☑ Corporate Services ☐ Community Safety
☐ Agenda RCM Feb 12/24 ☐ Other
File # 0400-80

November 30, 2023

Re: Appointment of Pacific Rim School District's City of Port Alberni Representative

To whom it may concern,

I trust this letter finds you well. On behalf of the Pacific Rim School District, I am writing to officially communicate the appointment of representative(s) to serve as the Pacific Rim School District's City of Port Alberni Representative for the upcoming year. In cases where the required length of term is longer than one year, the Board Trustee(s) named below will be happy to fulfill said term.

After careful consideration and consultation, the following Pacific Rim School District's Board Trustee(s) have been selected to represent our District:

1. **Name:** Trustee Cherilyn Bray
   Position: Representative
   Contact Information: cbray@sd70.bc.ca
2. **Name:** Trustee Helen Zanette
   Position: Alternate
   Contact Information: hzanette@sd70.bc.ca

Representative(s) have been chosen for their dedication to education, community involvement, and the betterment of our schools. We are confident that their contributions will greatly benefit the collaborative efforts between the Pacific Rim School District and the City of Port Alberni.

We kindly request that you extend any necessary information, support, meeting agendas and minutes to the appointed Trustee(s) as they engage in their duties on the Committee. Furthermore, we look forward to a productive and mutually beneficial partnership throughout the upcoming year.

If there are any additional details or arrangements that need attention, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

[redacted] Manager of Corporate Services | School District 70 Pacific Rim
Direct 250.720.2770 | Office 250.723.3565
4690 Roger Street, Port Alberni, BC V9Y 3Z4 | www.sd70.bc.ca

Pacific Rim School District is situated on the ha-houlthee of the čišaaʔatḥ, huupačasʔ'atḥ, ƛaʔuukʷiʔatḥ, huuʕiiʔatḥ First Nations and yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government, and acknowledges that we work alongside all nuučaaʔuł Nations as well as the Métis Nation of British Columbia to serve the children and youth of the Alberni-Clayoquot region. The district strives to increase awareness, understanding and integration of nuučaaʔuł culture, history, and language in all Pacific Rim School District schools. It is part of our ongoing commitment to Truth and Reconciliation.

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

RECEIVED
JAN 22 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

☑ Council ☑ Economic Development
☑ Mayor ☑ Engineering/PW
☑ CAO ☑ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☑ Finance ☑ Development Services
☑ Corporate Services ☐ Community Safety
☑ Agenda RCM Feb 12/24 ☐ Other
File # 0400-60

January 19, 2024

Re: Legislative Reform Initiative Update

Dear Local Government Colleagues:

On September 21, 2023, the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN), Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, Fraser Valley Regional District (City of Chilliwack), and Don Lidstone, K.C., hosted an interactive, discussion-based panel session (Legislative Reform Initiative) focused on reform of the *Local Government Act* (*LGA*) at the UBCM Annual Convention in Vancouver. While the lack of powers for regional districts in the *Act* was a major spark for this initiative, the session was intended for both municipal and regional district officials because many aspects of municipal operations are contained in the *LGA* and municipal issues with the *Act* have been the subject of numerous UBCM resolutions over the years. Similar workshops have been held previously at the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities' Annual Conventions in 2022 and 2023. Approximately 80-85 people attended the September 2023 UBCM session, indicating a broad interest in this evolving topic.

Concerns about the dated *Local Government Act* have been widespread for some time among local governments. Although the Ministry of Municipal Affairs has made significant incremental changes in the legislation over time, without a comprehensive modernization of the *LGA* regional districts are left without sufficient tools or authority to meet expanding responsibilities or to legislate in key areas in comparison with municipalities. Moreover, the evolving social, political, and economic environments that both municipalities and regional districts operate within, such as climate change, environmental stewardship, and a recognition of the importance of First Nations' participation in regional governance, should be reflected in updated and modernized legislation. A key component of our discussions is that any additional powers or tools granted to local government are opt-in so that local governments can choose to implement tools based on what is best for their area.

The goals of the September 2023 UBCM interactive panel session were:

- to provide context and background about the Legislative Reform Initiative
- to discuss whether to proceed with the Legislative Reform Initiative
- to discuss options for the best path forward to steer the process

Prior to the session, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs provided some background information and several questions to consider during the group's discussion. This material was useful and very much appreciated.

The RDN committed to sending UBCM members a "What We Heard" document summarizing discussion at the session and next steps. We are attaching that document to this letter for your information, as well as the material provided by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs that was considered as part of the September 2023 panel discussion at UBCM. In addition, we are attaching the slide deck presented at the UBCM session.

6300 Hammond Bay Road, Nanaimo, BC V9T 6N2 www.rdn.bc.ca

We encourage other local governments to participate in this important initiative. As indicated in the "What We Heard" document, the RDN is currently following up with UBCM on the possibility of requesting that the UBCM Executive form a working group on this topic. Having letters of support from local governments across the province would be helpful in demonstrating interest. Should you wish to send a letter of support, have any questions, or wish to share examples of legislative challenges stemming from the *Local Government Act,* please contact RDN Chief Administrative Officer Douglas Holmes at dholmes@rdn.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

V[redacted]Craig
Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo

Encl.

LEGISLATIVE REFORM INITIATIVE: NEXT STEPS
UBCM ANNUAL CONVENTION, September 21, 2023
Summary of Session and What We Heard

SUMMARY OF SESSION

On September 21, 2023, the Regional District of Nanaimo, Fraser Valley Regional District (City of Chilliwack), Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, and Don Lidstone, K.C., hosted an interactive, discussion-based session on legislative reform. The session was intended for both municipal officials as well as regional district officials because many aspects of municipal operations are contained in the *Local Government Act*.

The goals of the session were:

- to provide context and background about the Legislative Reform Initiative
- to discuss whether to proceed with the Legislative Reform Initiative
- to discuss options for the best path forward to steer the process

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs provided background and several questions to consider during the group's discussion (Attachment 1).

Approximately 80-85 people attended the session, indicating a broad interest in this evolving topic.

Concerns with the dated *Local Government Act* include restrictions on taxation and revenue sources, complexities in establishing services, and the lack of provisions in comparison with Section 8 of the *Community Charter* which gives municipalities powers to regulate, prohibit, and impose requirements by bylaw without provincial approval or establishing bylaws. Regional districts are limited in their legislative authority in comparison with municipalities in several key areas such as business licensing authority (which the province is now addressing as part of its efforts around short-term rental housing), subdivision approval, regulation of fireworks discharge, parking enforcement, tree management, and taxation and funding models. Further, social, political, and economic environments that local governments operate within continue to evolve in areas such as climate change, environmental stewardship, and a recognition of the importance of First Nations' participation in regional governance. These realities should be reflected in a modernized legislative framework.

During the session, Slido polls were used to conduct two "straw polls" of the participants, on these questions: 1) whether or not to proceed with the Legislative Reform Initiative, and 2) whether a UBCM working group or a joint local government project is the best path forward to steer the process.

The majority of participants indicated support for the Legislative Reform Initiative, and indicated their preference would be for a UBCM working group to steer the initiative. These polls were conducted to gain a sense of the sentiments of the session participants only, and are not assumed to represent the views of the UBCM membership as a whole.

WHAT WE HEARD

WHY A COMPREHENSIVE MODERNIZATION EFFORT IS NEEDED

- The Ministry of Municipal Affairs has made important incremental changes in the legislation over time, but a more comprehensive modernization project is needed.
- Extensive downloading of responsibilities from the Province to local governments has exacerbated the problems local governments face; outdated legislation prevents local governments from addressing these issues effectively.
- Over 90% of the province is rural and is not under the *Community Charter;* these areas should not be governed by legislation that was drafted in 1966.
- Regional districts and municipalities have restricted powers where they have delegated authority only, are not constitutionally protected, and have few tools or resources to address local problems.
- Particular challenges with the *Local Government Act* (LGA) raised by participants at this session:
    - responding effectively to emergencies and natural disasters
    - taking measures to mitigate the effects of climate change
    - dealing with old infrastructure and the ability to fund these projects solely through property taxes
    - population growth and migration from cities during the pandemic is rapidly changing the character of rural areas; incoming residents have higher expectations for services
    - incorporation should not be the only other governance option for rural areas; there should be an intermediate step available
    - Electoral Areas lack power and resources
    - business licensing authority[1] and subdivision approval are difficult for regional districts
    - small municipalities and regional districts are unable to fund necessary projects costing millions, such as recycling, dikes, etc., to continue to provide the quality of life that residents cherish in these communities.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR PURSUING LEGISLATIVE REFORM RAISED AT THIS SESSION

- The background and questions provided by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs were very helpful in this discussion.
- Need to identify and list specific, concrete, local community issues and distill them from a 10,000-foot level to provide the Ministry of Municipal Affairs with evidence for the need to modernize the *Local Government Act.*
- Legislative reform should be viewed as supporting the Province, not in conflict with the Province.
- The Ministry of Municipal Affairs should be involved from day one.
- The Ministry should provide funding for this initiative's research and policy work, as they have done for the Northwest Benefits Alliance.

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[1] The Province is addressing this as part of its efforts around short term rental housing. Amendments to the *Local Government Act* allow Regional Districts to regulate and licence short-term rentals and other businesses in similar ways to municipalities see link

- What is working well in the legislation should be left as is.
- If legislative reform is successful in providing new powers and tools for local governments, that does not mean all local governments must use them.
- Islands Trust has an even smaller toolbox than municipalities and regional districts.
- Metro Vancouver has excellent models and best practices, especially in the area of climate change; we can borrow good ideas.
- Local governments need a legislative framework that recognizes the importance of, and facilitates working together with, First Nations in a respectful, effective, and inclusive manner.
- When First Nations participate at the Board level, it changes the conversation and the votes. Local governments often are not well informed regarding Indigenous rights and title.
- The inclusive governance goals in UNDRIP legislation and provincial action plans can be reinforced and worked on concurrently with the Legislative Reform Initiative.
- Need to consider 7 generations into future when modernizing the LGA.
- Planning and land use issues should not be included in this initiative.
- Several participants stressed the need to draft a new charter rather than revise portions of the LGA in a continuation of the "band aid" approach.
- Area associations of UBCM should be included in the conversation.
- A retired CAO or Chair could be a primary resource person for this project, conducting research and policy work and keeping the project on track.

DECIDING WHETHER TO PROCEED WITH THE LEGISLATIVE REFORM INITIATIVE

- Slido poll #1: Is there an interest in proceeding with the Legislative Reform Initiative? (96% yes, 4% no)

OPTIONS FOR STEERING AND MANAGING THE LEGISLATIVE REFORM INITIATIVE

Option 1: UBCM Executive could form a working group on legislative reform, comprised of representatives from municipalities, regional districts, First Nations, UBCM, and ministerial staff

Option 2: This could be structured as a joint local government project, with local governments contributing funding to form a working group on legislative reform, comprised of representatives from municipalities, regional districts, First Nations, UBCM, and ministerial staff

Considerations for Option 1:

Pros:

- UBCM has an efficient network, broad reach, consistency, research capacity, and impact with the province.
- UBCM can be representative.
- UBCM has already been doing some work on legislative reform, and has experience.
- UBCM can allocate resources if legislative reform is identified as a priority.
- Reporting back will happen at UBCM.

Cons:

- Last UBCM working group report in 2010 did not meet expectations.
- Some uncertainty on the part of some participants as to how a UBCM working group functions.
- A UBCM working group may be more distant from local governments than is ideal.

Considerations for Option 2:

Pros:

- May insulate the project from getting sidetracked, if the Province does not assist with resources for UBCM.
- With a group of passionate people committed to working together on the project, the Legislative Reform Initiative may not need UBCM.

Cons:

- Challenges with resources and capacity: initiative will require significant buy-in and continued long-term commitment from local governments in terms of funding and staff time.
- Difficult to achieve forward momentum "off the side of the desk".
- The complex coordination required for the project will be a challenge.

➢ Slido poll #2:

- Option 1: UBCM Executive forming a working group (85% in favour)
- Option 2: Joint local government project (15% in favour)

NEXT STEPS

- A "What We Heard" document summarizing the session will be distributed to UBCM members.
- It is noted that although there was significant enthusiasm for the initiative, including from areas outside the AVICC region, some representatives indicated they would like additional information on the initiative.

UPDATE: December 2023

Following the UBCM Annual Convention, Douglas Holmes, CAO of the Regional District of Nanaimo had the opportunity to discuss the Legislative Reform Initiative and the September 21, 2023, interactive panel session with Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director, UBCM. Mr. MacIsaac is in the process of seeking direction on this matter from the President's Committee.

Attachment 1: Ministry of Municipal Affairs background and discussion questions

Background and Discussion Questions

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI) is committed to listening to local governments about their evolving needs and how the existing legislated framework accommodates new responsibilities and challenges. Much of the legislative agenda sponsored by MUNI in recent years has responded to critical local government needs uncovered as a result of the pandemic and in response to UBCM resolutions. The development of legislative change is a lengthy, complex, and resource intensive process. Therefore, it must be rooted in and supported by a clear gap in existing tools and authorities to fix an identified problem that the current legislation or other tools don't resolve. The mere desire for regional district (RD) legislation alone needs to be tested against a real need, with a clear path on policy development for the province to consider.

Government Priorities

The province has been clear in its priorities and focus on pressing issues of affordability and housing supply – allocating significant resources from both the Ministry of Housing and MUNI to initiatives in this space. That scarce allocation is determined by elected decision makers. The priority on affordability and housing supply also presents an opportunity and recognizes that issues of housing availability and affordability are not just urban issues – and that there is a role for regional approaches to support this work that may require new thinking of how RDs are better able to participate in solutions that will have direct implications for RD regulatory authorities.

In addition, MUNI along with other agencies and ministries, are working on other initiatives that have a direct impact on RD authorities, these include:

- The local government financial review working group, made up of staff from the province and UBCM, where work has been underway to review the local government finance system in B.C., analyzing the recommendations in the 2021 UBCM report, and discussing matters of mutual interest;
- Inclusive regional governance to explore First Nations' interests on RD boards (explore issues such as geographic implications/boundaries of the current RD system and alignment with First Nation territories, election mechanics, and service provision);
- Consideration of business licensing and enforcement authorities for RDs, as previously requested by RDs.

Discussion questions – Are there specific RD challenges and legislative concerns that align with the current provincial priorities? What are the clearly defined problem statements/lack of authority for RDs not already accommodated for?

Other Approaches and Taols

In the past, RD officials have expressed a range of concerns such as lack of regulatory authority – in some cases the authorities in question may exist or it may be facilitated through regulation (recent examples include fireworks and source separation regulations). Other identified concerns relate to some of the fundamental foundations of RD structures and principles – such as the principle that cost-recovery for services being matched with the beneficiaries of the service, or the unique ability of RDs to balance rural and urban interests. Any changes contemplated need to be evidence-based and targeted

and not be change for "a nice to have" versus a particular business or governance need for which a policy rationale exists and no other tools exist.

Discussion questions – given the inherent flexibility in the RD system, are there other tools or approaches that may address challenges that could support RDs in the absence of legislative changes?

Process for further engogement

Given the key and pressing priorities that the province is currently engaged on (e.g., housing and homelessness, climate change and emergency planning, health, and the opioid crisis) there are practical considerations about how the local government system (including municipalities and RDs) will partner and collaborate with the province to address these issues. MUNI remains committed to understanding the broad views and perspectives of local government officials (both regional and municipal) across BC on the issues facing their regions and communities including the need for legislative change. We will take under consideration the results of this session.

Discussion questions – Have inclusive, broad meaningful conversations about RD outcomes and authorities occurred across all RDs? And have those been shared with MUNI? How will RDs organize themselves to ensure that all voices will be heard?

Legislative Reform Initiative: Next Steps

To log into Slido for this session:

Join at slido.com
Enter code: #UBCM1

In Slido, please tell us where you are from and whether you are an EA Director or from a municipality.

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

Agenda

2:30-2:40 Welcome/introductions/objectives of session

2:40-3:40 Legislative Reform Initiative: A Summary

- Context and background
- Challenges with the Local Government Act
- 20 years of resolutions: a quick review
- Actions taken on this initiative
- Themes from previous sessions and discussions
- Priorities identified in previous discussions
- Background and questions from Ministry of Municipal Affairs
- Reflections from the panel and discussion
- Decision: Is there an interest in proceeding with the leg reform initiative?

3:40-4:20 Options for steering and managing the legislative reform initiative

- UBCM working group
- Joint local government project
- Other ideas
- Decision: decide the best path forward to manage the initiative

4:20-4:30 Conclusion/wrap up

Welcome and Introductions

- **Vanessa Craig**, Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo
- **John Jack**, Chair, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District; Chief, Huu-ay-aht First Nation
- **Jason Lum**, Chair, Fraser Valley Regional District; Council Member, City of Chilliwack
- **Don Lidstone**, K.C., Managing Partner, Lidstone & Company

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Objective of Today's Session

- Provide context and background about the Legislative Reform Initiative
- Decide whether to proceed with the Legislative Reform Initiative
- Decide the best path forward to steer the process

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Legislative Reform Initiative: Context and Background

- Community Charter replaced Municipal Act 2003
  - Excellent piece of municipal legislation in Canada
- Local Government Act (LGA) created in 1966
  - Not overhauled in early 2000s as planned
- Comprehensive modernization of LGA has not been done
  - Accountabilities of RDs continuing to increase
  - RDs lack tools and authority to meet expanded responsibilities
  - Many aspects of municipal operations that need updating are in the LGA (planning)

Challenges with the Local Government Act

- Limits on legislative authority no longer supported by policy rationales
- Demographics/population growth/increased development/sparsely populated areas
- Business licensing, subdivisions, fireworks, parking, tree management
- Is such a distinction between authority of regional districts and municipalities still supportable?
- Revenue generation, models of taxation, funding for services – lack of flexibility in current paradigm

Challenges with the LGA (continued)

- Establishing services to optimize scale, cost distribution, fair participation
- Urban/rural friction
- Social, political, economic values have shifted significantly since legislation was drafted
- *The Province has implemented incremental legislative change over time - which is welcome and beneficial - but it is time for a comprehensive review and update.

20 Years of Resolutions: A Quick Review

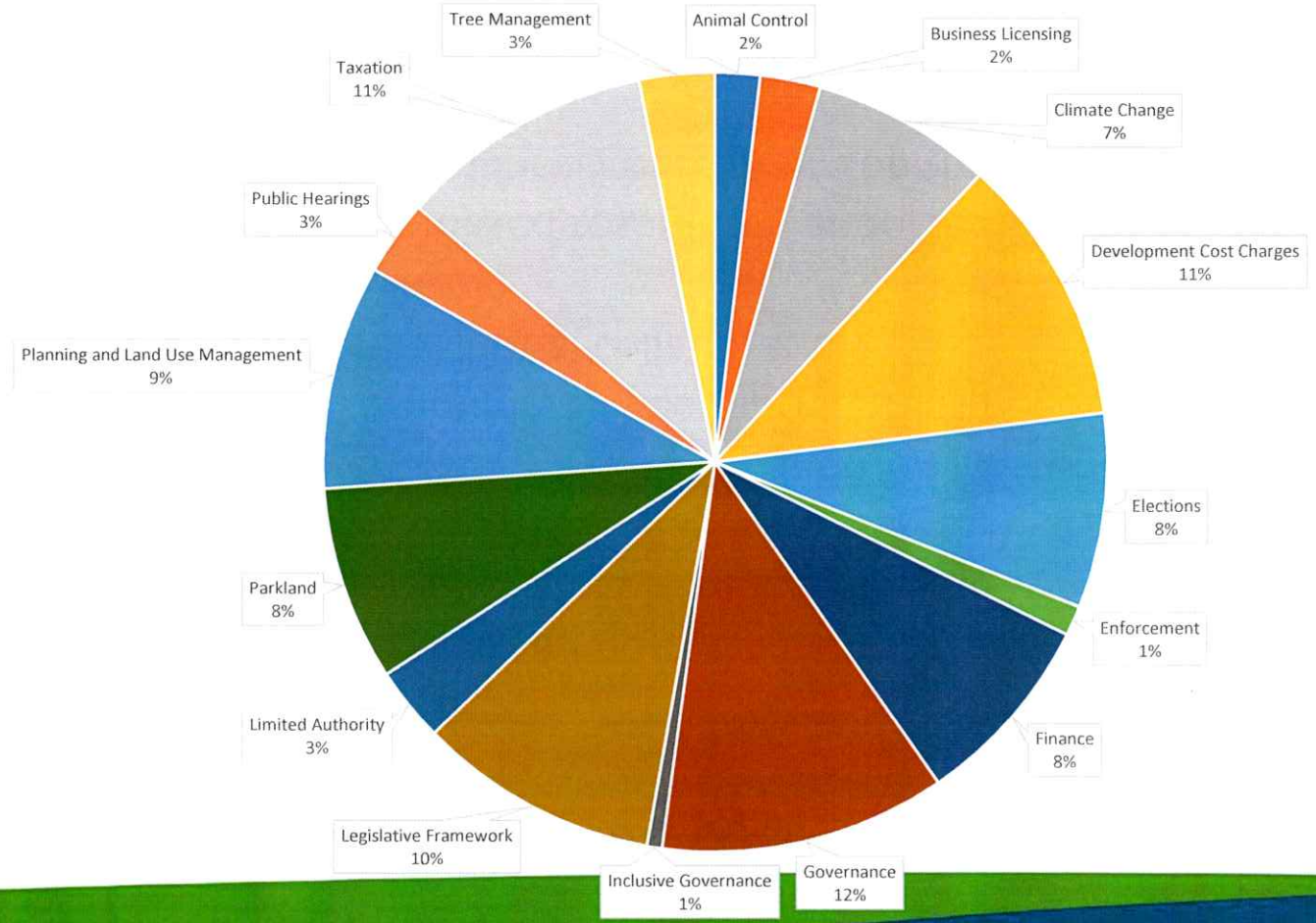
- From 2003 to 2022, 161 endorsed resolutions specifically mentioned amending the Local Government Act. 34% were sponsored by regional districts. The rest are from municipalities.

- An additional 71 resolutions requesting an LGA amendment were submitted to UBCM for consideration and were either not endorsed or not admitted for debate.

- Of the 161 endorsed resolutions, three have called specifically for modernization of the LGA and one has called for the creation of a Regional District Charter.

- The 5 most common themes are:
  - Governance
  - Development Cost Charges
  - Taxation
  - Legislative framework
  - Planning and land use management

Resolutions At a Glance



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Actions Taken on this Initiative

- **April 2021 –** RDN initially presented this topic to Chair/CAO Forum for preliminary discussion
- **June 2021** – RDN and Don Lidstone hosted a half-day session with BC Chairs and CAOs to explore a collaborative effort to modernize the LGA
- **April 2022** - AVICC convention – RDN, ACRD and Don Lidstone hosted a 2-hour workshop with local governments to hear about areas needing reform, and to build support for interjurisdictional collaboration
- **September 2022** - RDN submitted resolution, endorsed by UBCM, proposing that UBCM work with Ministry and local government on this initiative

Actions Taken on this Initiative, cont'd

- **September 2022 –** RDN and ACRD met with former Minister of Municipal Affairs Nathan Cullen to discuss moving project forward

- **March 2023** - Provincial response to RDN 2022 UBCM resolution on legislative reform received:
  - "The current framework mostly works well"
  - RDs can be innovative, creative in targeting issues
  - RDs should work with Ministry for tailored regulations
  - New tools/authorities must be based on a clear analysis
  - Consensus is needed for system-wide change
  - January 2022 "MOU on Local Government Financial Resiliency" (UBCM/Province) establishes a working group to review challenges

Actions Taken on this Initiative, cont'd

- **March 2023** – RDN again presented on this initiative to CAO Forum and Chairs/CAOs Forum to gather ideas and specific examples

- **April 2023 -** RDN, ACRD and Don Lidstone hosted a second panel session at the 2023 AVICC Convention in Nanaimo, building on ideas from 2022 AVICC workshop and seeking guidance on how to move the project forward

- **September 2023** – UBCM Convention (Vancouver), RDN, ACRD, City of Chilliwack, and Don Lidstone hosting a third panel session, building on ideas from the April 2022 and April 2023 AVICC sessions, and seeking guidance on next steps, process and timeline, and priorities to be addressed

Themes from Previous Sessions and Discussions

- UBCM may be the most effective avenue for shepherding this initiative
- First Nations must be invited to be part of modernizing exercise
- A new legislative scheme should contemplate seven generations into the future; establish a framework responsive to future societal changes
- "Be careful what you wish for": more authority may require more resources
- Ensure core task of modernizing legislation is not sidetracked by other issues
- RDs need more flexibility with revenue sources.
- Municipalities have authority to use fees to shape behaviour.

Themes from Previous Sessions and Discussions, cont'd

- Community amenity contributions should be addressed as part of this initiative
- Consultation with Boards, First Nations, stakeholders, developers, owners, citizens, Province is key
- Identify specific, concrete, local community issues to build ongoing grassroots pressure on local politicians
- Planning and land-use issues should not be included in this initiative
- Connect issues to ministerial mandates
- Capacity and resourcing (financial and staff time) will be major challenges for moving project forward

Priorities to Be Addressed:
Ideas from March 2023 Chair/CAO Forum

- Legislative Powers
  - Clarify respective powers of Mayor and Council
  - Amending legislation that provides the ALC with powers to supersede the OCP and RGS
  - Give local governments time to make those changes within the land use plan in the OCP and RGS
- Weighted Voting Structure
  - EA Directors outvoted by municipalities (Planning and Land Use Management)
  - Unfair voting practices on RD assets/service establishment bylaws and their taxation with limited and ineffective representation

Priorities to Be Addressed:
Ideas from March 2023 Chair/CAO Forum, cont'd

- Subdivision Approval
  - Maximum build-out to water availability to ensure sustainability. Water consumption needs to be met by raw water source without affecting other current infrastructure, forced to create potable water service
- Inclusive Governance
- Revenue Alternatives
  - Sales tax revenue alternatives, competing for grant funding
  - Ability to have additional revenue streams
  - Additional tools to meet residents' quality-of-life expectations

Priorities to Be Addressed:
Ideas from March 2023 Chair/CAO Forum, cont'd

- Long-term Borrowing
  - For regulated infrastructure (water treatment) and essential services (sewer where there are health and/or environmental issues). Not requiring AAPs/referendums.
- Service Establishment – reduce complexity
- Business Licensing – enable RDs to have licensing
- Bylaw Enforcement – declared nuisances

Background and Questions from Ministry of Municipal Affairs

- Legislative reform is a resource-intensive process
- Need to demonstrate a clear gap in tools and authorities
- Must show a real need and a clear path
- Must be evidence-based and targeted
- Consider options other than legislative reform
- Provincial priority on affordability and housing supply presents urban/regional opportunities to participate in solutions

Background and Questions from Ministry of Municipal Affairs, cont'd

- Province has several other initiatives that impact regional district authorities (e.g., inclusive governance study, financial review working group, consideration of business licensing)
- Demonstrate how local government challenges align with provincial priorities
- Local government needs an effective process to organize this project and to enable broad, inclusive and meaningful consultation

Questions for Consideration from Ministry of Municipal Affairs

- Are there specific RD challenges and legislative concerns that align with the current provincial priorities? What are the clearly defined problem statements/lack of authority for RDs not already accommodated for?
- Given the inherent flexibility in the RD system, are there other tools or approaches that may address challenges that could support RDs in the absence of legislative changes?
- Have inclusive, broad, meaningful conversations about RD outcomes and authorities occurred across all RDs? And have those been shared with MUNI? How will RDs organize themselves to ensure that all voices will be heard?

Reflections from the Panel

Why this initiative is important...

Slido Poll:
Is there an interest in proceeding with a legislative reform initiative?

YES

NO

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Discussion: Options for Next Steps

- What process would be most effective to steer and manage this initiative?
  - UBCM working group
  - Joint local government-led project

A Refresher: Process Suggested at April 2023 AVICC Workshop

Option 1: UBCM Working Group

UBCM to manage this initiative; establish working group to steer the legislative review process:

- Working group comprised of reps from municipalities, regional districts, First Nations, UBCM, ministerial staff
- Research and policy work on the framework/approach to reviewing and modernizing the LGA
- Report back to UBCM membership in 2024 (if there is a resolution from the floor in 2023) or in 2025 (if resolution is submitted in 2024)
- Discuss pros and cons of this option (unified, centralized, broad reach, consistency, mechanisms in place)

Alternative Process To Consider

Option 2: Joint Local Government Project

Local governments could contribute funding to establish a working group to oversee the legislative review process.

- Working group possibly comprised of reps from municipalities, regional districts, First Nations, UBCM, ministerial staff
- Undertake research and policy work on the framework and approach to reviewing and modernizing the LGA
- Report back to UBCM membership? Local governments?
- Discuss pros and cons of this option (challenges with capacity, resources, complex coordination)

Slido Poll: Choose One Option

- Option 1: The Legislative Reform Initiative should be steered and managed by a UBCM Working Group.
- Option 2: The Legislative Reform Initiative should be steered and managed as a joint local government project.
- Option 3:

Conclusion and Wrap Up

- Action(s) depending upon results of today's polls
- RDN staff will follow up with a "What We Heard" document

Thank you!

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JAN 18 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

☑ Council
☑ Mayor
☑ CAO
☐ Finance
☑ Corporate Services
☑ Agenda
☐ Economic Development
☐ Engineering/PW
☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Development Services
☐ Community Safety
☐ Other
RCM Feb 12/24
File # 0400-60

From: C[redacted] Jackson [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 10:59 AM
To: pm@pm.gc.ca; DFO.Minister-Ministre.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca; ministre-minister@ec.gc.ca; ps.ministerofpublicsafety-ministredelasecuritepublique.sp@ps-sp.gc.ca
Cc: CityPa <citypa@portalberni.ca>;
Subject: Letter from Okanagan Basin Water Board re: federal funding to prevent spread of invasive mussels

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Ministers,

We are extremely concerned to hear that federal funding to support B.C.'s Invasive Mussel Defence Program may be reduced or cancelled this year. This, despite recent news that invasive quagga mussels were discovered in Idaho's transboundary Columbia Basin and are now closer than ever to spreading into Western Canada.
Please find attached a letter from the Okanagan Basin Water Board with updated calls to action to help protect the West's freshwater ecosystems.

We look forward to hearing from you and working with you to address this critical issue.

Thank you,
Corinne

C[redacted] Jackson — Communications Director
Okanagan Basin Water Board
1450 KLO Road, Kelowna, B.C. V1W 3Z4
Office: [redacted]
www.obwb.ca
www.okwaterwise.ca
Stay connected! Follow us on

I respectfully acknowledge that I live and work within the traditional and unceded territory of the Syilx people.

Okanagan Basin
WATER BOARD

1450 KLO Road, Kelowna, BC V1W 3Z4
P 250.469.6270 F 250.762.7011
www.obwb.ca

Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A2
pm@pm.gc.ca

January 18, 2024

Honourable Diane Lebouthillier
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard
200 Kent St Station 15N100
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E6
DFO.Minister-Ministre.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Honourable Steven Guilbeault
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Fontaine Building 12th Floor
200 Sacré-Coeur Blvd
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3
ministre-minister@ec.gc.ca

Honourable Dominic LeBlanc
Minister of Public Safety, Democratic Institutions and Intergovernmental Affairs
269 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0P8
ps.ministerofpublicsafety-ministredelasecuritepublique.sp@ps-sp.gc.ca

Re: CALL FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PREVENT INVASIVE MUSSEL INTRODUCTION TO B.C.

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Ministers,

It has come to our attention that federal funding to support B.C.'s Invasive Mussel Defence Program may be reduced or cancelled this year, and further, that other funding partners are citing a lack of federal leadership as justification to cancel or reduce their funding. This is just as the threat of invasive mussels has dramatically increased, with a confirmed infestation in the transboundary Columbia Basin. In addition to the actions we called for in our letter, dated Oct. 18, 2023 and which included a temporary moratorium on boats coming into B.C., we are calling for immediate, long-term federal funding assistance for the Province of B.C. to support invasive zebra and quagga mussels prevention efforts. The Government of Canada should provide funds to at least match provincial government efforts across the West, or plan for significant higher management costs in the near future.

In September, Idaho announced that quagga mussels had been found in the state's Snake River, a tributary of the Columbia River, less than a day's drive to the border of B.C. and Alberta. Idaho's pre-planned rapid response was to spread more than 116,000 litres of toxic copper chelate into Snake River, killing almost

seven tonnes of fish, and poisoning a 26 km stretch of the river. Wholesale killing of fish, invertebrates, amphibians, and plants in the river was considered better than letting these mussels take hold. We won't know until this coming spring if the treatment has worked. Also in September, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) declared zebra mussels were discovered in New Brunswick. And then in November, Parks Canada declared zebra mussels had spread another 100km west to Clear Lake in Manitoba's Riding Mountain National Park.

DFO has a mandate to sustainably manage fisheries, work with Indigenous communities to enable their continued prosperity from fish, ensure aquatic ecosystems are protected from negative impacts, and protect the environment when emergencies arise. If invasive mussels arrive in B.C., they will severely impact Pacific salmon by depleting the food web in their spawning and rearing habitats in the Fraser and Columbia River systems. First Nations in B.C. have spent decades restoring these systems and their salmon populations, and an infestation will undermine the recovery of these fisheries. Knock-on effects will be seen in marine environments, where reductions in Pacific salmon populations will reduce a key food source for Orcas and other marine species. Protecting B.C.'s freshwaters from invasive mussels is squarely within the mandate of DFO.

The Canada Border Services Agency also has a responsibility to enforce the prohibition against importation of invasive mussels under the federal Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations. While we applaud the work of border service officers to intercept infested watercraft at many land crossings, CBSA is not fulfilling its responsibility for enforcement. Instead, it relies on provincial inspectors to follow up and decontaminate high-risk watercraft once they are identified.

The new Canada Water Agency has a mandate to improve freshwater management in Canada by providing leadership, effective federal collaboration, and improved coordination and collaboration with provinces, territories, and Indigenous Peoples to proactively address national and regional transboundary freshwater challenges and opportunities. Invasive mussels represent one of the biggest national and regional transboundary threats, yet none of the $750 million allocated to the Canada Water Agency addresses this threat. The Great Lakes region alone will receive more than $420 million in funding over 10 years to deal with issues such as algae blooms which have been exacerbated by invasive mussels. It would take only $4 million/year allocated to B.C. invasive mussel inspections to protect the Canadian Columbia Basin, the Fraser Basin, Peace Region, and other major western river systems. The Province of B.C. already allocates over $1 million/year to this program, but without federal and other partner funding, these efforts will likely fail.

In addition to the threat to Pacific salmon, these mussels are known to stimulate toxic algae blooms, killing migratory birds and contaminating drinking water. They hurt local economies, requiring ongoing maintenance to remove them from in-water infrastructure such as bridges and docks, as well as water systems used to deliver water for agriculture, domestic, industrial, and commercial use. And of course, they degrade the quality of the shoreline environment for human enjoyment.

We view it as unacceptable and unjustifiable, given all the resources and responsibilities of the federal government and your departments, that no federal funding has been allocated to protect freshwater ecosystems from the extreme threat of invasive mussels in Western Canada. Protecting the west from these

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mussels is of national importance, and it will take federal leadership to meet this inter-provincial and transboundary threat.

Understanding that protection of freshwater ecosystems and prevention of invasive species falls within federal mandates, regulations, and laws, we hope your departments will work together to find the resources to properly support western provinces in this important work. This is truly a case where a small investment now will prevent massive costs for years to come.

Yours truly,

[redacted]

S[redacted]McKortoff, Chair
Okanagan Basin Water Board

CC:

- British Columbia MPs
- British Columbia MLAs
- British Columbia Assembly of First Nations
- Okanagan Nation Alliance, Chiefs Executive Council
- Okanagan First Nations Chiefs and Councils
- B.C. Local Government Chairs and Mayors
- Pacific NorthWest Economic Region: Matt Morrison, Chief Executive Officer
- Invasive Species Council of B.C.: Gail Wallin, Executive Director
- B.C. Chambers of Commerce
- Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association
- Union of BC Municipalities
- Shuswap Watershed Council
- Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society

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JAN 25 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

☑ Council ☐ Economic Development
☑ Mayor ☐ Engineering/PW
☑ CAO ☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☑ Finance ☐ Development Services
☐ Corporate Services ☑ Community Safety
☑ Agenda RCM Feb 12/24 ☐ Other
File # 0400-20-MSOPR

BRITISH COLUMBIA

January 19, 2024

Ref: 220862

Their Worship Sharie Minions
and Councillors
4850 Argyle Street
Port Alberni BC V9Y 1V8

Dear Mayor Minions and Council:

Thank you for meeting with me during the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Convention in Vancouver in September, and for your follow-up letter to me dated November 20th.

Our conversation at the convention included tackling poverty, fostering an accessible and inclusive community, and accessing ministry employment services provided through WorkBC. It was encouraging to hear about your recent work to encourage active transportation in your community, as well as your current and upcoming work to establish a local detox centre. My ministry's work is directly informed by the experience of those on the ground, so it is important to me to hear your advice and perspective.

I recognize that many residents of Port Alberni—like in all BC communities—struggle with poverty and other intersecting issues like youth poverty, unemployment, and the overdose crisis. BC's *Poverty Reduction Strategy Act* commits our government to reducing overall poverty by 25 percent and child poverty by 50 percent by 2024, based on 2016 levels. As of 2021, BC has reduced overall poverty by 45 percent and child poverty by 54.6 percent, but with the impacts of global inflation and the greatly increased cost of food, we know there is much more work to do.

As required under our legislation, BC will table a new poverty reduction strategy in March 2024. To help inform this work, my ministry heard from over 10,000 people—70 percent with lived experience of poverty—through regional virtual town hall sessions, small group sessions, and a public survey.

...2

Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction | Office of the Minister | **Mailing Address:** PO Box 9058 Stn Prov Govt Victoria BC V8W 9E2 | **Location:** Parliament Buildings Victoria BC V8V 1X4

Reducing poverty requires a coordinated approach across all levels of government. We will continue to work with local governments to reduce poverty and support struggling families across the province, and we appreciate Port Alberni's interest and commitment to working with the Province to tackle poverty and ensure that everyone has equitable access to reach their full social and economic potential.

Through the *Accessible BC Act*, the Province is working to remove barriers, promote fairness and equity, and support a culture of inclusion throughout BC.

As part of this implementation, my ministry funded $5 million to the Social Planning and Resource Council of BC for the Local Community Accessibility Grant Program to remove barriers to accessibility in local governments. All local and regional governments are eligible to apply for up to $25,000 to support the implementation of projects identified within their Accessibility Plan or by their Accessibility Committee. I have attached the program overview and application form for the Grant Program.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to my ministry's Accessibility Directorate team at engageaccessibility@gov.bc.ca if you require any additional support.

I also appreciated hearing about your ideas to encourage youth employment in response to the current youth poverty and unemployment crisis. In terms of ministry employment services, WorkBC Employment Services is a client-centred, integrated program of employment services and supports designed to be flexible, responsive, inclusive, and accessible. WorkBC offers a comprehensive suite of services—provided through 102 WorkBC Centres across the Province—including holistic career and disability assessments, life skills workshops, basic certification, skills training, work experience placements, and on-the-job support.

For individuals who are not yet ready to consider employment, WorkBC provides coaching and support to help clients achieve Community Attachment (e.g., volunteering) to help gain confidence and work experience as they move along the employment continuum, as well as Customized Employment, which involves an intensive process of getting to know the client and their ideal working conditions. WorkBC offers 10 free personal counselling sessions for any client identified as having challenges which pose a barrier to employment; youth formerly in care can access unlimited personal counselling and job coaching for the first year of employment.

...3

In the 2022/23 fiscal year, my ministry provided one time funding grants to organizations such as the Foundry and the Canadian Mental Health Association to explore how evidence-based models for youth and individuals with barriers can support the broader employment service system and include virtual services and supports accessible by people anywhere in the province. We are also exploring options for additional services and supports to address the needs of individuals who are furthest from the labour market.

I am grateful that you took the time to meet, exchange ideas, and share information. Meetings like this help me better understand the challenges faced by communities across BC. And thank you for the good news in your recent letter that Port Alberni has appointed an individual whose work will focus on advancing our shared priorities. I'm grateful for your leadership and I look forward to more conversations and work together.

With thanks,

Sheila Malcolmson
Minister

Enclosures (2)

Local Community Accessibility Grants

About this initiative

Under the *Accessible BC Act,* local governments are required to develop a feedback mechanism, Accessibility Committee and Accessibility Plan.

This initiative provides one-time funding for local governments, of up to $25,000, to support the implementation of projects or priorities identified in their Accessibility Plan or in partnership with their Accessibility Committee.

Who can apply?

All local and regional governments in British Columbia can apply provided you meet the conditions of Part 3 of the Accessible B.C. Act.

Funding Streams

Eligible organizations can apply for funding **up to $25,000** and may select one of the following streams:

Stream 1—Local Government led projects	Stream 2—Capacity Building and Support
This funding stream is designed to provide support for local governments who have a clear project in mind that they would like to implement.	This funding stream is designed to assist local governments who are unsure about where to start in terms of implementing a project.
Under this stream are projects and initiatives designed to identify barriers and improve the overall level of accessibility and inclusion related to: • **The Built Environment:** This could include projects designed to improve the overall physical accessibility of existing spaces and places to better meet the needs of the community. • **Education and Awareness:** This could include using information and education as a tool to build a deeper awareness and understanding of the disability needs in your community. • **Policy and Programs:** This could include developing local policies, bylaws, guidelines, or other materials designed to promote and support greater accessibility and inclusion across different policies and programs. • **Modelling Inclusive Practices:** This could include undertaking a review of current practices and programs to explore ways to identify and remove potential barriers to participation. • **Communication and Engagement:** This could include exploring ways to strengthen current communication and engagement practices to meet a broader range of needs and to promote and support a deeper sense of belonging and inclusion. • **The Use of Technology:** This could include exploring ways to support more active participation and engagement of persons with disabilities in all aspects of community life (economic, social, cultural and recreational) through the use of assistive devices and technology.	Under this stream, SPARC BC will assist in the development and delivery of a capacity building workshop to be delivered in person or held over zoom with a focus on supporting your community in advancing shared accessibility goals. **Supports Available:** For those choosing this stream, SPARC BC will assist in the design and delivery of a workshop that will include the development of tools, resources, or other materials. **Identifying a Specific Project Priority Area:** Each of the workshops will be customized to meet the specific needs/ interest of your community and could include the design and delivery of workshops related to: – The Built Environment – Education and Awareness – Policy and Program Design – Modelling Inclusive Practices – Communication and Engagement – The Use of Technology **Moving To Implementation:** Once a project has been identified, SPARC BC will work with the community to assist with the preparation of the grant application form as well as help to provide relevant contact information, materials, and other resources.

Examples of Projects that You Might Want to Consider:

The Built Environment	
– Designing or building ramps – Adding elevators or lifts – Making washrooms and other facilities more accessible	– Making entrances more accessible including adding automatic door-openers) – Adding audio signals, tactile strips, hearing loops and other features

Education and Awareness	
– Participating in anti-bias training to develop knowledge of conscious and subconscious bias	– Training workplaces in service delivery to enable employees to meet a broader range of needs

Policies and Programs	
– Development of local policies (parking, housing, building standards, bylaws) – Funding for legal and consulting advice	– Development and implementation of local recreation or other types of programs

Modelling Inclusive Practices	
– Training to review and amend interview processes – Including ASL interpreting for events	– Accessibility audit of workflow – Remuneration for Accessibility Advisory Committee etc.

Communication and Engagement	
– Creating job task checklists in pictorial form – Creating wayfinding signage in braille – Creating an ASL version of information, training materials or policies	– Application forms accessible to screen readers – Reprinting hardcopies of material in large font – Update web pages for accessibility, etc.

The Use of Technology	
– Purchasing software that enables production of accessible documents – Flashing fire alarms for deaf employees – Specialized headsets	– A tablet for communication – Laptops for remote working – Buying specialized tools for workplaces

Funding

- All projects must be completed by the end of the grant program, which ends on March 31, 2026.
- Successful applicants will be required to submit a final report to SPARC BC by March 31, 2026.
- For projects $10,000 or less funding will be disbursed in 1 transaction of 100%. Grants above $10,000 will be dispersed in 2 transactions—80% upon return of the Terms & Conditions document and 20% upon receipt of Final Report.

Council and Accessibility Support
The project that is to be funded through this grant program, must be part of your local Accessibility Plan and must have the support of the local Council and Accessibility Committee. Please supply a letter of support from your Accessibility Committee. Council support can be shown in the form of a formal council or Board resolution, or in the form of a letter of support from the CAO for the local/ regional government.

How to Apply
Proposals must be completed using the Local Community Accessibility Grant Program Application Form which you can find on SPARC BC's website.

The Province has allocated five million dollars to support local communities and regions. Applications will be received and approved on a rolling basis and are open from June 5th 2023.

Please ensure to provide a current e-mail address as ALL correspondence and documentation will be forwarded via this e-mail address.

Applications will be reviewed by SPARC BC and representatives from the Accessibility Directorate at the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. All applicants will be notified about the status of their application within three weeks of their submission to accessibility@sparc.bc.ca.

Compliance Questions
For questions related to compliance with the Accessible B.C. Regulation please contact: engageaccessibility@gov.bc.ca

Thank you for your interest in the Local Community Accessibility Grants Program. If you have questions, please contact:

Louise O'Shea
Chief Operational Officer , SPARC BC
Phone: 604-718-7748
E: accessibility@sparc.bc.ca

Local Community Accessibility Grant

About this initiative

To provide local governments with up to $25,000 in funding to remove barriers for persons with disabilities by implementing one of the initiatives identified in their Accessibility Plan, or by their Accessibility Committee. It could also be an initiative that the community would like to implement based on feedback received from service users based on their feedback mechanism.

Eligible Applicants

All municipalities and regional districts in British Columbia are eligible to apply for this funding.

1. Each municipality or regional district is eligible to submit an application
2. Priority will be given to local governments that are fully compliant with Part 3 of the *Accessible B.C. Act.*

Nature of the Funding

Each local government is eligible for up to $25,000 and may select one of the following streams:

Stream 1—Local Government led projects – new

This stream is designed for local governments that already have a project that will advance accessibility or build the local-level capacity when responding to local accessibility needs or priorities.

Stream 2—Capacity support – existing/expanding

This stream is designed for local governments that may be unsure of where to start, and will focus on working together with others to build a deeper sense of existing and emerging accessibility needs or priorities.

Local governments in this stream will work with SPARC BC to define their needs and select a specific area of focus (built environment, attitudes, practices, policies, information and communication or technology). The funding will then be used to implement the specific projects or initiatives identified.

☐ Stream 1—Local Government led projects – new
☐ Stream 2—Capacity support – existing/expanding

Please provide a short overview of your proposed initiative or area of focus:

About your Project

The funding is available to support projects of varying sizes, types and complexity including projects, both new and existing, designed to:

- Remove physical barriers in the built environment
- Understand and address attitudes, practices, and policies
- Enhance information, communication, and technology

Please describe the needs or types of barriers that your initiative will address:

Which specific needs or disability groups will be served through your initiative?

What geographic area does your initiative cover?

What is the type of knowledge or insight that you hope to gain?

Types of Activities Covered

What types of activities will be delivered through your initiative?

- Ramps, elevators, lifts, accessible washrooms, power door operators, accessible doors, audio signals and loops and lighting/color contrasting for visually impaired etc. (The completed infrastructure must be open for public use)
- Anti-bias training, service delivery training
- Training or supports needed to promote safer economic inclusion, interview processes, ASL interpretation and supports for events, Accessibility Audits of workflow, remuneration for Accessibility Advisory Committee reviewing and members.
- Funding for legal and consulting advice as well as internal staff resources.
- Funding to strengthen communication designed to allow for greater inclusion
- Job task checklists in pictorial form, wayfinding signage, ASL version of policies, application forms accessible to screen readers, reprinting hardcopies of material in large font, Braille versions of documents, accessibility enhancement to the website.
- Purchasing software that enables the production of accessible documents, specialized equipment and productivity tools (headsets, tablets, laptop screenreaders).
- Other ideas as identified through your Accessibility Committee.

Funding Amounts

Funding will be dispersed in the following methods, all successful applicants must have all project completed by end of the grant programme and are required to submit a final report to SPARC BC by 31st March 2026.

1. For projects $10,000 or less funding will be disbursed in 1 transaction of 100%.
2. Grants above $10,000 will be dispersed in 2 transactions—80% upon return of the Terms & Conditions document and 20% upon receipt of Final Report

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS: KEY STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS INCLUDING KEY MILESTONES

Please tell us about the specific steps and actions to be taken, key milestones and critical dates. Please note, it is possible to add additional pages if required. However, project applicants are only expected to provide high-level details and that SPARC BC will seek additional information or clarification if required. Completion of this table is optional for stream 2.

Key Steps and Actions	Key Milestones/Outcomes	Critical Dates
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
Conclusion: Project Outcomes Report Submission		

REQUESTED PROJECT BUDGET

The following sets out the proposed budget to complete the scope of work as outlined in the previous section. Completion of this table is optional for stream 2.

Specific Steps and Actions	Proposed Budget
1.	$
2.	$
3.	$
4.	$
5.	$
6.	$
7.	$
8.	$
9.	$
10.	$
11.	$
12.	$
TOTAL REQUESTED BUDGET AMOUNT	**$**

Third-party contributions

Third-party means any person or legal entity, other than the Province, who participates in the implementation of an eligible project by means of contract. The Province's share is calculated once all third-party contributions (provincial, federal, and private funds) have been deducted from the total eligible costs of the project. If third-party funding is available, it may be applied to the project outside the provincial grant portion.

In-kind Contributions

In-kind or donated contributions are not an eligible cost. In-kind contributions may include volunteer hours and/or donated professional labour, services, space and materials, which are provided at no cost or below fair market value to the Recipient.

ABOUT THE APPLICANT

Tell us about your organization and key project implementation partners for this initiative:

Organization Name_____

Address_____

Contact Information

Name:	Position:
Email:	Phone:

Population:

Population size: ☐ Less than 15,000 ☐ Between 15,000 and 25,000 ☐ Over 25,000

Accessibility in your organization

Please provide a link to your organization's accessibility plan

_____

Please provide a link to your organization's feedback mechanism

_____

Does your organization currently offer service delivery training to staff? ☐ yes ☐ no

Does your organization measure the number of employees who identify as persons with disabilities? ☐ yes ☐ no

Which service area is responsible for advancing accessibility in your community?

_____

Do you have existing partnerships and relationships which focus on advancing shared accessibility goals?

_____

Letter of Support

Please provide a letter of support from your accessibility committee. This letter should be submitted alongside this application form as a Word document or PDF.

Signature

The signature below certifies that all the information provided in this application is complete and correct.

Applicant Name:_____

Digital Signature:_____

Date:_____

Application Checklist

- ☑ Accessible Communities Grant Application Form
- ☐ Workplan (only required for applicants in Stream 1)
- ☐ Proposed budget (only required for applicants in Stream 1)
- ☐ Letter of Support from Accessibility Advisory Committee
- ☐ Board Resolution/Letter of Support from CAO

Submit your Application

If you have any questions or would like to submit your application, please email accessibility@sparc.bc.ca

Thank you for your application!

Accessibility includes *all*

Forest Enhancement Society of BC

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☑ Council ☐ Economic Development
☑ Mayor ☐ Engineering/PW
☑ CAO ☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☑ Finance ☐ Development Services
☑ Corporate Services ☐ Community Safety
☑ Agenda RCM Feb 12/23 ☐ Other
File # 0230-01

January 26, 2024

Dear Mayor and Port Alberni (City) Council,

In January 2023 at the Truck Logger's Association convention, Premier David Eby announced that the Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC) would be entrusted to administer $50 million of funding for forest enhancement projects. These projects would have two specific purposes: to utilize more waste wood from the forest and to reduce wildfire risks for communities.

Our team at FESBC got to work right away and by late spring, that same year, rolled out a funding intake for First Nations, community forests, and communities throughout the province to apply to for funding. Just one year after the Premier's announcement, 66 projects have been approved valued at $47.9 million and the work on the ground is active now. The enclosed report shares an overview of these newly funded projects in regions all throughout the province.

We are very proud of the various project partners who have stepped forward with creative and thoughtful projects which not only utilize more waste wood or reduce wildfire risk, but have additional benefits such as improving wildlife habitat, developing recreational opportunities, creating or maintaining forestry-related jobs often in rural communities, and improving the health and resilience of our forests.

Additionally, 39 of these 66 projects are either led by, or involve, First Nations.

The enclosed Accomplishments Update showcases three of these newly funded forest enhancement projects. Industry leaders Gordon Murray, Executive Director of the Wood Pellet Association of Canada, and Joe Nemeth, General Manager of BC Pulp & Paper Coalition, share how critical this funding has been to help address some of their members' needs to keep people working, harness innovation to help B.C.'s bioeconomy, and take action on climate change.

FESBC projects show there doesn't need to be a trade-off between the environment or the economy – it can be a win for both.

[redacted]
S[redacted] Kozuki, RPF
Executive Director, FESBC

P.S. Keep up to date on FESBC funding and funded projects. Visit www.fesbc.ca and sign up for our monthly newsletter.

(335) MC

FESBC

January 2024

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Enhancing B.C.'s Forests By Using the Entire Tree

How First Nations and local communities are innovating to lead the way in the green economy

Left to Right: Daniel Persson, Forestry Superintendent with Central Chilcotin Rehabilitation, Joe Webster, Manager with Tŝideldel Biomass, Philippe Theriault, General Manager with Tŝideldel Enterprises, and Steve Kozuki with the Forest Enhancement Society of BC.

"Over the last four years, close to one million cubic metres of fibre has been recovered in our region, and much of the recovery work was supported with funding from FESBC's fibre utilization program."

PERCY GUICHON
Executive Director
Central Chilcotin Rehabilitation Ltd.

2023-2025 Fibre Utilization & Wildfire Risk Reduction Programs*

67,765 TRUCK LOADS

An estimated 67,765 truck loads of wood fibre is being utilized instead of piled and burned in slash piles.

229,382 CARS OFF THE ROAD

Avoided greenhouse gas emissions from these projects is equivalent to taking over 200,000 cars off the road.

1,060,168 AVOIDED EMISSIONS

As a result of these projects, over one million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, or CO2e, will be avoided, helping take action on climate change.

*as of December 2023

It's not the Environment or the Economy—it's Both

In a world where issues are increasingly being framed as being divisive and polarized, it is refreshing to see new and innovative examples of win/win solutions. Instead of rehashing the decades-old debate of "jobs versus the environment," the **growing forestry bioeconomy** in British Columbia uses waste wood and biomass from the forest that otherwise would be slash burned or left behind to instead create green energy and sustainable forest products.

Slash burning of waste wood, wood left over from timber harvesting or other treatments, creates significant greenhouse gas emissions, which can be avoided if waste wood is used. Using that waste wood also creates many family-supporting jobs throughout the supply chain.

Thus, the creation of sustainable jobs and taking action on climate change is the very essence of what a bioeconomy should look like.

Win/win solutions for the environment and the economy is something the Clean BC Plan strives for.

FESBC Forest Enhancement Society of BC

Learn more about innovative people and projects throughout B.C.

1. A work crew helping with the Osoyoos Indian Band's project. Photo Credit: Rob Svendsen.
2. A view of Central Chilcotin Rehabilitation Ltd's Pressy Lake work site. Photo Credit: Tiffany Christianson Photography.
3. Stuwix Resources Joint Venture and Valley Carriers project is to reduce waste and enhance the utilization of fibre. Photo Credit: Stuwix Resources Joint Venture.

Fibre Utilization Throughout B.C.

1 PROJECT: OLIVER

This project is focused on bringing a culture change to how low value fibre is viewed in the Southern Interior. The goal is to find ways to enable the full utilization and delivery of pulp fibre in line with the traditional values and harvesting practices of the Osoyoos Indian Band.

3,284 TRUCK LOADS
of fibre will be diverted from being burned.

14,381 Cars off the Road
The avoided emissions as a result of the project is like taking 14,381 cars off the road.

"The Osoyoos Indian Band (OIB) values the sustainable uses of natural resources throughout their traditional territory. Fibre utilization through improved forest practices results in less burning of debris piles, cleaner air and waterways, and the financial benefit from processing what would normally be left behind due to uneconomic viability. Managing the larger landscape for wildfire risk reduction, climate change adaptations, and mitigating insect infestations are critical to the OIB, and FESBC funding has provided the means to meet numerous management objectives on our traditional lands." —**DAN MACMASTER**, Forest Manager | Nk'Mip Forestry of the Osoyoos Indian Band

2 PROJECT: 70 MILE

This project contributes to the restoration of a fire damaged forest while supporting the development of capacity to efficiently utilize fibre for local facilities and support First Nation participation in the forest bioeconomy.

1,369 TRUCK LOADS
of fibre will be diverted from being burned.

6,704 Cars off the Road
The avoided emissions as a result of the project is like taking 6,704 cars off the road.

"By avoiding 'business as usual' pile and burn practices, we will transform the removed fibre into pulp chip and biomass resources, aligning with FESBC's mission to enhance environmental values and supporting rural economies. This project stands as a beacon of First Nations' approach to modern forestry, showcasing the harmonious integration of ecological restoration, fire hazard mitigation, and forward-thinking solutions for a resilient and sustainable future." —**PHILIPPE THERIAULT**, RPF General Manager, Tŝideldel Enterprises | Senior Advisor, Central Chilcotin Rehabilitation Ltd.

3 PROJECT: MERRITT

This project represents a broad partnership between local First Nations, industry, and government to maximize the utilization of forest fibre to support local facilities and avoid the emissions associated with the burning of debris.

78 TRUCK LOADS
of fibre will be diverted from being burned.

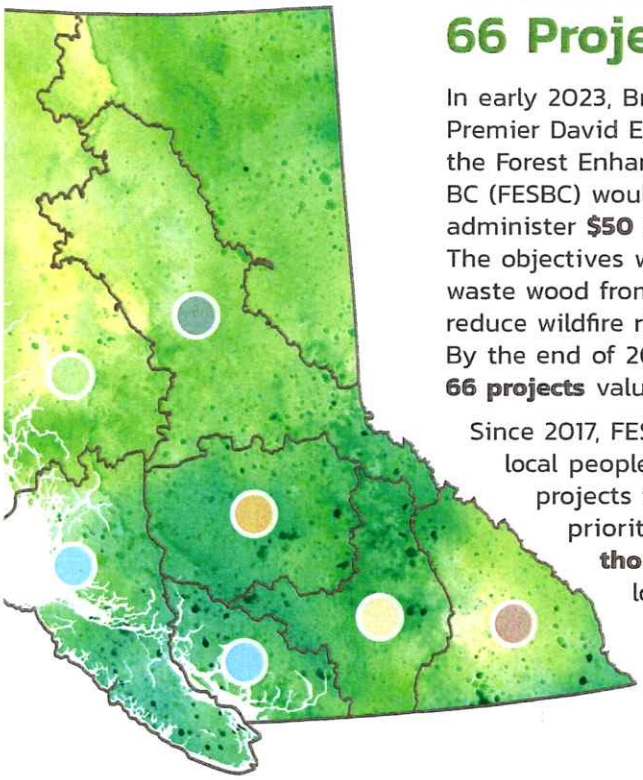
277 Cars off the Road
The avoided emissions as a result of the project is like taking 277 cars off the road.

"This funding from FESBC allows us to further transport waste fibre from farther distances to ensure the maximum utilization of this important resource in our local community. Partnering with Stuwix, we are able to provide additional local jobs and fulfill the value of maximizing their resource by finding new markets for what used to be waste wood. Further, this will help us transform logging residuals into value-added products, utilize [illegible] and decommissioning industries in B.C." —**BEN KLASSEN**, CEO | Valley Carriers Ltd.

HON. BRUCE RALSTON
Minister of Forests
@BruceRalston

Insights from the Minister

"The Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC) supports First Nations, community forests, rural communities, and many others who take on projects to help strengthen forest health and ecosystems, while creating good jobs in communities across the province. As we look ahead to a new year, it's vital we build on the lessons learned in 2023, specifically following the worst wildfire season in our province's history. With the help of the 66 projects funded in 2023, B.C. is taking necessary steps in battling climate change and becoming more resilient in the face of worsening wildfire seasons. Thank you to the entire team at FESBC for a job well done."



Connecting The Dots:
66 Projects with Multiple Outcomes

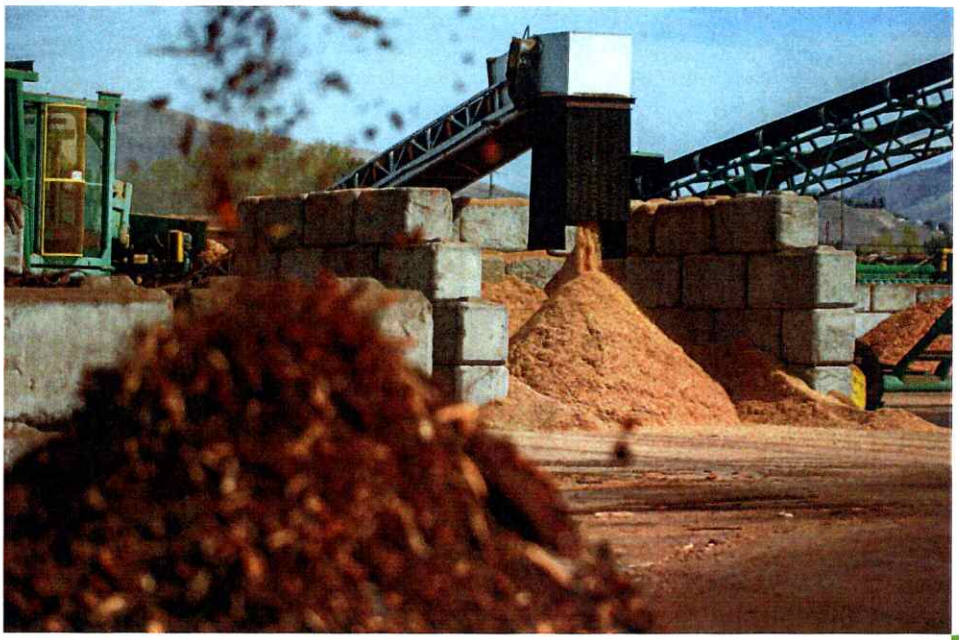
In early 2023, British Columbia Premier David Eby announced that the Forest Enhancement Society of BC (FESBC) would be entrusted to administer **$50 million of funding.** The objectives were to use more waste wood from the forest and to reduce wildfire risks for communities. By the end of 2023, FESBC approved **66 projects** valued at **$47.9 million**.

Since 2017, FESBC has been inviting local people to propose forestry projects that align with local priorities. The **creativity and thoughtful innovation** of local people throughout British Columbia is reflected in the projects funded by FESBC, which always achieve multiple objectives. Projects that use waste wood **reduce greenhouse gases** while at the same time **create jobs** and **reduce wildfire fuels.** Projects that reduce wildfire risks for communities are done in a manner which also **improves wildlife habitat, creates recreational opportunities,** and **improves the health and resilience of forests.** Overall, about 30% of FESBC projects are led by Indigenous people, which is said to **contribute to reconciliation.** Each dollar of FESBC funding works to accomplish several goals, all of which are important to British Columbians now, and for future generations.

Overview of Newly Funded Projects

	FOREST REGIONS						
	South & West Coast	Thompson-Okanagan	Kootenay-Boundary	Cariboo	Omineca	Skeena	TOTALS
Total Number of Projects	12	17	5	16	7	9	66
Total FESBC Funds Allocated	$5,220,334.00	$9,364,130.00	$3,704,808.00	$16,205,555.00	$8,024,861.00	$5,354,661.00	$47,874,349.00
Total Fibre Utilized in cubic metres	391,213	626,761	283,286	567,545	837,367	369,585	3,075,757
Total Fibre Utilized in truck loads	8,668	14,407	6,449	12,324	17,704	8,213	67,765
Total Avoided Emissions (CO_2e)	144,132	193,350	123,229	197,455	257,249	144,753	1,060,168
Equivalent Number of Cars off the road (in terms of emissions)	32,101	43,063	27,445	40,594	54,341	31,838	229,382
Total Number of Hectares Treated	—	84	78	487	—	—	649
Total Number of Hectares Planned	—	—	24	410	—	—	434
Projects Led by First Nations	9	8	—	9	1	5	32
Projects that Improve Wildlife Habitat						2	

Funded projects are utilizing over **3 million cubic metres of fibre** normally burned. This results in the equivalent of over 225,000 cars off the road.



"Healthy forests are essential to thriving and diverse ecosystems that support healthy people, secure communities along with a sustainable B.C. economy. They also have a key role in address climate change impacts, given their ability to absorb and store large amounts of carbon from the atmosphere. We are proud to work with FESBC, First Nations, and local communities to strengthen forest stewardship so forests, watersheds and our communities are more resilient to the changing climate."

HON. GEORGE HEYMAN
Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
@GeorgeHeyman

GORD MURRAY
Executive Director
Wood Pellet Association of Canada

"Today B.C. is experiencing longer wildfire seasons and more extreme fire behaviour, placing growing risks on communities, critical infrastructure, economies, people's health and safety, and long-term forest health. Until recently, the role of biomass in fire mitigation has largely been overlooked. The reality is that the wood pellet sector has a **critical role** to play by converting excess forest floor debris from harvested areas into wood pellets. Today, what was once considered waste, is now **opening new doors** into the bioeconomy and providing renewable energy around the world and making our communities safer."

JOE NEMETH
General Manager
BC Pulp & Paper Coalition

"FESBC funding is allowing the forest sector to fundamentally improve the utilization of our forest resource. This includes initiatives such as recovering logging waste that would otherwise be piled and burned, salvaging fire damaged timber, and supporting the development of First Nations led bio-hubs. It's about doing more with less. And the benefits are threefold: **Environmental**—significant reduction in carbon emissions by reducing slash burning; **Social**—meaningfully engaging/employing First Nations and independent contractors from small communities whose livelihoods depend upon the forest sector and; **Economic**—without this initiative, more pulp mills would have to shut, putting thousands of people out of work."

Learn More

If you'd like to learn more about the Forest Enhancement Society of BC and how people in British Columbia's forests are helping create climate change solutions, reduce wildfire risk, and keep workers employed through our funded projects, connect with us!

FESBC

Steve Kozuki
FESBC Executive Director
skozuki@fesbc.ca
or 1.877.225.2010

Subscribe to our FESBC Newsletter:

www.fesbc.ca

Follow us on:

FESBC would like to gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Forests.

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JAN 31 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

☑ Council
☑ Mayor
☑ CAO
☐ Finance
☑ Corporate Services
☐ Agenda
File # 0400-20-Premier
☐ Economic Development
☐ Engineering/PW
☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Development Services
☐ Community Safety
☐ Other
RCM Feb 12/24

PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE

Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A2

January 24, 2024

Dear Mayor Minions:

Thank you for your correspondence.

The Government of Canada extends its deepest condolences to all those who have lost family members and loved ones, including Canadian citizens. During this extremely difficult time, our hearts are also with Canadians who have family and friends in the region.

Canada unequivocally condemns Hamas' terror attacks on Israel on October 7, the appalling loss of life, and the heinous acts of violence perpetrated in those attacks, including sexual violence. We condemn Hamas' unacceptable treatment of hostages and call for the immediate and unconditional release of all remaining hostages. The International Committee of the Red Cross must be granted full access to the hostages and be allowed to deliver medical assistance.

We support Israel's right to defend itself in accordance with international law. In defending itself, Israel must respect international humanitarian law.

Canada previously called for humanitarian pauses on hostilities in order to allow for hostages to be released and for much-needed humanitarian aid to reach Palestinian civilians. When a pause occurred, it allowed for the release of more than 100 hostages and supported an increase in humanitarian access to affected civilians. We want to see this pause resumed and support urgent international efforts towards a sustainable ceasefire.

A sustainable ceasefire cannot be one-sided. Hamas must release all hostages, stop using Palestinian civilians as human shields, stop intentionally occupying civilian sites for terrorist purposes, and lay down its weapons. Hamas can have no future in the governance of Gaza.

We are alarmed at the diminishing safe space for civilians in Gaza. The price of defeating Hamas cannot be the continuous suffering of all Palestinian civilians. We remain deeply concerned by the scale of the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and ongoing risks to all Palestinian civilians. Safe and unimpeded humanitarian access must be increased and sustained. Canada was among the first

Ms. Sharie Minions
Mayor
City of Port Alberni

nations to provide humanitarian assistance, and we have provided tens of millions of dollars to partners to address urgent needs. Canada will ensure that no money goes into the hands of Hamas.

Canada remains committed to working with partners toward a just and lasting peace in the region, based on a two-state solution, where Israelis and Palestinians can live side by side in peace and security, with dignity and without fear.

Thank you for taking the time to write. Please accept my warmest regards.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

City Hall · 4850 Argyle Street · Port Alberni, BC · V9Y 1V8
Office of the Mayor
Phone: 250.723.2146
Fax: 250.723.1003
portalberni.ca

Our File: 0400-40

January 2, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister

Re: Call for a Ceasefire in Gaza

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to you today with a heavy heart, as the ongoing conflict in Gaza continues to claim innocent lives and exacerbate the suffering of countless individuals. I implore you to consider the urgent need for a ceasefire in Gaza, as an immediate step towards peace and stability in the region.

The escalating violence in Gaza has led to unimaginable loss and devastation. The lives of innocent civilians, including women and children, are being tragically cut short, while countless others are left traumatized and displaced. The humanitarian crisis unfolding before our eyes demands immediate attention and action.

I understand the complexities and challenges involved in resolving this conflict, but I firmly believe that a ceasefire is an essential first step towards a lasting solution. It is crucial to halt the violence, allow for the provision of much-needed humanitarian aid, and create an environment conducive to dialogue and negotiation.

A ceasefire would not only save lives, but it would also demonstrate a commitment to peace and willingness to engage in constructive dialogue. It would provide an opportunity for both sides to reassess their positions, explore avenues for de-escalation, and ultimately work towards a just and lasting resolution.

I urge you, as the leader of our nation, to use your influence and diplomatic channels to advocate for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. Your voice and actions can make a significant difference in bringing an end to this senseless violence and restoring hope to the affected communities.

Furthermore, I implore you to engage with international partners, regional organization, and key stakeholders to support efforts towards a comprehensive and sustainable peace agreement. It is only through collective action and a commitment to dialogue that we can achieve a future where all people in the region can live in peace and security.

I understand the immense pressure and responsibility that comes with your position, but I firmly believe that by taking decisive action towards a ceasefire, you will be remembered as a leader who prioritized the lives and well-being of innocent civilians.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I trust in your wisdom and leadership to make the right decision for the sake of peace and humanity.

Yours truly,
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

[redacted]

Sharie Minions
Mayor

c: G. Johns, MP
J. Osborne, MLA
Council
M. Fox, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Monteith, Director of Corporate Services

J:\EFS\0100_0699 Administration\0400 Cooperation_Liaison\0400_40 Federal Government\2023_12_19_PM Trudeau_Gaza Ceasefire.docx

RECEIVED
JAN 30 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

District of Sicamous
446 Main Street
PO Box 219
Sicamous, BC
V0E 2V0

T: 250 836 2477
F: 250 836 4314
E: info@sicamous.ca
sicamous.ca

Sicamous
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☑ Agenda ☐ Other RCM Feb 12/24
File # 0400-60

January 26, 2024

The Honourable David Eby, MLA
Premier of the Province of British Columbia
premier@gov.bc.ca

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Re: Support for Bill-34

Dear Premier,

District of Sicamous council would like to express its support for Bill 34 and the *Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act.*

We are disappointed by the Supreme Court's decision to grant a temporary injunction against Bill-34, which would protect children and youth from being exposed to illicit drug use and impose fines on those who choose to use drugs openly in public parks, sports fields and beaches.

Council urges the Province to appeal the Supreme Court decision.

When decriminalization came into force, council saw that the pilot program lacked guardrails and undermined provincial legislation regulating the possession and consumption of alcohol, tobacco and cannabis in public spaces.

For Sicamous, it was important to ban drug use in our parks, aligning with existing prohibitions for smoking, alcohol and cannabis. We knew we had to keep parks safe and welcoming for families. Amending our parks regulation bylaw allowed the District to implement its own guardrails and we were pleased to see the Province taking a similar approach.

Public spaces should continue to be enjoyed and used for their intended purpose.

Decriminalization aims to reduce the stigma that prevents illicit drug users from accessing lifesaving supports and services. We fear decriminalization will not solve the toxic drug crisis. Many of us have either lost a friend or loved one from toxic drugs or know someone who has lost a friend or family member. The number of overdoses, the lives lost, in our Province is devastating.

Increased funding and immediate access to addiction supports and treatment beds are

needed to help individuals and families suffering from addiction.

When help is sought, and a glimmer of hope exists, it must be available at that moment for there to be healing and change.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Colleen Anderson, Mayor
DISTRICT OF SICAMOUS

cc. Mel Arnold, MP North-Okanagan Shuswap
Greg Kyllo, MLA Shuswap
B.C. Municipalities and Regional Districts

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JAN 31 2024
CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

☑ Council
☐ Mayor
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☐ Finance
☑ Corporate Services
☑ Agenda RCM Feb 12/24
File # 0400-60

☐ Economic Development
☐ Engineering/PW
☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Development Services
☑ Community Safety
☐ Other

Mayor
Ross Siemens

Councillors
Les Barkman
Kelly Chahal
Patricia Driessen
Simon Gibson
Dave Loewen
Patricia Ross
Dave Sidhu
Mark Warkentin

ABBOTSFORD

January 31, 2024

File: 0530-003/0400-60

Via email

UBCM Member Municipalities

Dear UBCM Members:

Re: Support for Resolution

I am writing on behalf of Abbotsford City Council, requesting favourable consideration and resolutions of support for our proposed UBCM Resolution for additional detox beds to be added to the Fraser Health Region at the upcoming LMLGA Convention, in advance of the UBCM Convention this fall.

At the January 30, 2024 Council Meeting, City Council approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Province of BC, through their 2023 Pathway to Hope progress report committed to "eliminating gaps in the mental health care and substance use treatment system," and to "building an integrated system of care that includes access to a full spectrum of treatment and recovery options" so that "no one falls through the cracks"[1];

AND WHEREAS the Fraser Health Region which covers nearly two million people in 20 diverse communities from Burnaby to Fraser Canyon has only one publicly funded facility that offers rapid access to detox with a total of 24 beds for both youth and adults which results in wait times for persons wishing to enter detox;

AND WHEREAS wait times for detox beds are a known barrier for those seeking the option of treatment for addiction when they are ready;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities lobby the provincial government in order to provide more funding to open detox centres in the Fraser Health Region where they are needed and where accessing existing ones would be difficult for individuals needing the service.

We look forward to, and appreciate your support on this matter.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Ross Siemens
Mayor

c. Council members
Peter Sparanese, City Manager

[1] https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/government/ministries-organizations/ministries/mental-health-addictions/a_pathway_to_hope_progress_report.pdf

Mayor's Office 32315 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford, BC, V2T 1W7 | **T**: 604.864.5500 | **F**: 604.853.1934

www. abbotsford.ca

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BRITISH COLUMBIA

☑ Council
☑ Mayor
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☐ Engineering/PW
☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Development Services
☐ Community Safety
☑ Other
RAM Feb 12/24
File # 0400-20-MMA

Ref: 273978

Their Worship Mayor Sharie Minions
and Members of Council
City of Port Alberni
4850 Argyle St
Port Alberni BC V9Y 1V8

Dear Mayor Minions and Councillors:

On behalf of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and the Province of British Columbia, please accept my sincere condolences for the sudden passing of former councillor Helen Poon. We are very sad to hear of this devastating loss to her family and the Port Alberni community.

Helen was a vibrant councillor who left a lasting impact on the community and council. In particular, her work on the acquisition of the Somass Lands helped drive lasting change in Port Alberni and supported her vision for the community's potential.

Please extend my deepest sympathies to Helen's family and express to them my thanks for her work as a dedicated elected official and community builder.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Anne Kang
Minister

pc: Okenge Yuma Morisho, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs
Tara Faganello, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs
Michael Fox, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Port Alberni

Ministry of Municipal Affairs Office of the Minister
Mailing Address:
PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2
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Fax: 250 387-4312
Location:
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4
http://www.gov.bc.ca/muni

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☑ Council ☐ Economic Development
☐ Mayor ☐ Engineering/PW
☑ CAO ☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Finance ☐ Development Services
☑ Corporate Services ☐ Community Safety
☑ Agenda RCM Feb 12/24 ☐ Other
File # 0230-20- AVCF

From: M[redacted] - Econ[redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 12:29 PM
To: Development Services <developmentservices@portalberni.ca>
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Alberni Valley Community Forest FSP3#

Hi,

The Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation (AVCFC) has submitted our Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) for renewal and it is now posted on our web page. Please make sure this document is referred to the proper person(s) at the City of Port Alberni.

The updated FSP is submitted according to the requirements of the Forest and Range Practice Act. It has a five year term and contains maps of each Forest Development Unit, and the results and strategies designed to meet legislated forest management objectives. The updated FSP contains text edits, changes to several results and strategies and new stocking standards.

The public may review the updated FSP and associated maps between Feb. 1 and April 1 at the AVCFC office, [redacted] Port Alberni. Please call [redacted] to arrange a viewing time. The plan can also be viewed online at http://www.communityforest.ca/forest-stewardship-plan.

Written comments must be received no later than April 8th and can be sent to M[redacted] Davis RPF, [redacted] or mailed to the following address:

Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation, [redacted] Port Alberni, BC, V9Y 8Y9

Thanks,

M[redacted] Davis, RPF
Econ Consulting
[redacted]

ALBERNI VALLEY
COMMUNITY FOREST CORPORATION

Alberni Valley Community Forest

DRAFT

Forest Stewardship Plan #3

2024-2029

Prepared by:

I certify that this work fulfills accepted standards and that I did personally supervise this work

Date: Jan. 2024

Mike Davis R.P.F.
Econ Consulting

Authorized by:

I certify that this draft Forest Stewardship Plan replacement is authorized on behalf of the Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation.

Chris Law R.F.T.
Chair, Alberni Valley
Community Forest Corporation

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation would like to acknowledge the traditional territories of the Hupacasath and Tseshaht First Nations who's historical relationship with the land continues today.

This Forest Stewardship Plan has been prepared for the Alberni Valley Community Forest Licence (AVCF), operated by the Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation (AVCFC). This document is replacement Forest Stewardship Plan #2 approved on June 16, 2016. The AVCF is located within the Sproat Landscape Unit (LU) west of Port Alberni, and is comprised two operating areas known as `Sproat` and `Taylor`. (Figure 1). The Alberni Valley Community Forest (AVCF) has a total land base of 6391 ha and an allowable annual allowable cut of 18,156m^3.

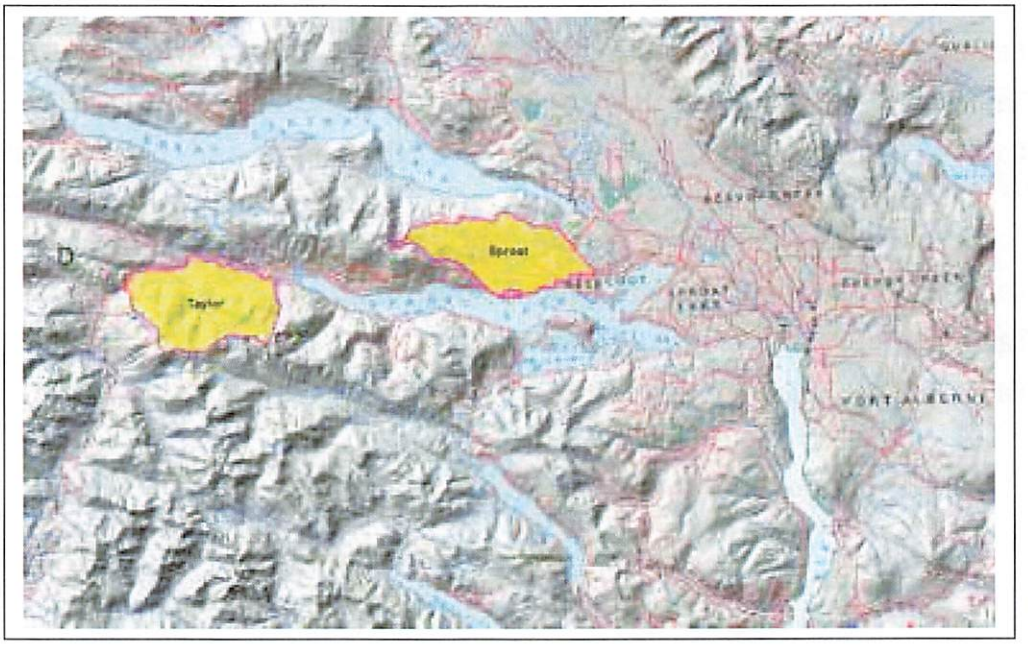

Figure 1: Location of Alberni Valley Community Forest

The Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) is a requirement of the *Forest Range and Practices Act (2004)*. A FSP is a landscape level plan, which is focused on establishing strategies and results for conserving and protecting timber and non-timber resource values for forest management activities over the life of the plan. The FSP states measurable, enforceable results and strategies that must be consistent with objectives set by government for a variety of forest values (e.g. fish, water, biodiversity cultural and heritage resources, etc). This FSP is a plan, which shows how the AVCFC will manage all stated government objectives from a site-specific level to the landscape level over the life of the plan. FSPs are intended to allow tenure holders to be responsive to changing market conditions and to allow forest professionals to be innovative in applying management

strategies to meet and exceed environmental standards in a manner specific to their operating area.

This FSP takes direction from the Vancouver Island Land Use Plan (VILUP), the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA), the Land Act (LA), the Government Actions Regulation (GAR), the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR), grandfathered sections of the Forest Practices Code Act of British Columbia (FPC), and other pertinent legislation that governs primary forest activities in British Columbia. This FSP has also considered the objectives, results and strategies stated in the approved Management Plan for the Alberni Valley Community Forest (which includes references to the Hupacasath First Nation Land Use Plan) and incorporates these where applicable.

The FSP is intended to be a succinct document stating the management objectives for the resources present in the operating areas or Forest Development Units (FDU) as they are called in the FSP. The FSP is not intended to state methodology or give direction regarding how the management objectives are to be met; that is the role of the AVCFC and their forest professionals to decide. The FSP results and strategies must be consistent with government objectives for the management of all resources, and they must be measurable and verifiable.

Throughout the FSP there are several references to the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) and the sections therein that are relevant to the FSP document. The FPPR can be viewed at the BC Laws website:

http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/14_2004

There are also references to higher-level plans, government orders and related documents applicable to the FSP. For more information about objectives set by government and links to this related information visit the South Island Forest District `Objectives Matrix` which can be found at the South Island Natural Resource District website:

http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/dsi/Stewardship/Objectives_Matrix.htm

The FSP is the primary referral process, together with the Community Forest Management Plan, for increasing community awareness and providing a notification and engagement process for the public, First Nations, and government agencies as to the future location of Forest Development Units (FDU's) and of the intended results and strategies.

1.1 Acronyms used in this FSP

In this forest stewardship plan:

"AVCF"	means Alberni Valley Community Forest Agreement.
"AVCFC"	means the Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation.
"CWAP"	means the coastal watershed assessment procedure
"DSI"	means South Island Forest District
"FDU"	means a forest development unit.
"FPPR"	means the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation B.C. Reg 14/2004.*

"FRPA"	means the *Forest and Range Practices Act.*
"FSP"	means this forest stewardship plan.
"MAMU"	mean marbled murrelet
"MOE"	means the Ministry of Environment.
"MFLNRO"	means the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, (formerly the Ministry of Forests and Range, (MOFR).)
"OGMA"	means old growth management area.
"SEDRSS"	means single entry dispersed stocking standard
"SMZ"	means special management zone
"RMZ"	means resource management zone
"VILUP"	means Vancouver Island Land Use Plan Higher Level Plan Order
"VQO"	means visual quality objective.
"WHA"	means wildlife habitat area

1.2 Definitions used in this FSP

"Qualified Professional " means

A Qualified Professional person is one who possesses the specified knowledge, skills, training, experience and other requirements to perform a specified type of work as:

- set out in legislation
- set out in government policy or
- required by an organisation satisfactory to government that has the responsibility for specifying the requirements.

"Primary Forest Activities" means

A prescribed activity (including but not limited to: road construction, reactivation or deactivation, road maintenance, harvesting, and/or silviculture treatment) that is carried out by the AVCFC on the community forest (see FRPA definition)

2.0 DATE OF SUBMISSION

The date of submission of this Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) is XXX.

3.0 TERM OF THE FSP AND COMMENCEMENT

The term of this plan was 5 years from the date specified in the approval. The approval date was XXX.

4.0 FSP MAP

The area to which this Forest Stewardship Plan applies, including the boundaries of the FDU's and all designations in effect, are indicated on the 1:10,000 scale FSP maps located in Appendix 3.

4.1 Forest Development Units

Forest Development Units (FDU's) identify areas of planned development activities for the next five years that will have a common set if objectives, results and strategies. FDU's are general in nature and do not reflect specific development plans (i.e. roads and blocks) for a particular FDU.

There are two FDU's included in this plan (based on the two operating areas) and they cover the entire community forest licence area (both operable and inoperable areas). Both FDU's are located within the Sproat Landscape Unit.

The Sproat FDU overlaps the Ash-Central-Sproat General Management Area (RMZ #35), which has no legally established land use objectives. The majority of the Taylor FDU is located within the Strathcona-Taylor Special Management Zone (SMZ #17), which does have land use objectives described in Section 5.1.1. A small area of the Taylor FDU also overlaps the Nahmint Special Management Area SMZ #13). The SMZ 13 land use objectives do not apply to the AVCF as this area is very small and is outside of the timber harvesting land base.

Table 1: Forest Development Units

FDU	Area (ha)
A (Sproat)	3019
B (Taylor)	3380
Total	6391

4.2 Designations in Effect at Date of Submission of this FSP

The FSP maps identify the designations and requirements described in FPPR S.14(3) that apply and were in effect on the Date of Submission. These designations are listed below:

Table 2: FPPR 14(3) Designations in effect for AVCF FSP

FPPR 14 (3)(e)	LU	Date Designated
Scenic Areas		
2 (Highway 4 from Parksville to Ucluelet and Tofino) 3 (Sproat lake)	Sproat	November 13, 1998 Established in GAR order effective December 15, 2005.
FPPR 14 (3)(g)	**LU**	**Date Designated**

Community Watershed		
Sproat Community Watershed	Sproat	June 15, 1995
FPPR 14 (3)(h)	**LU**	**Date Designated**
Old Growth Management Area		
OGMAs as per Sproat Landscape Unit Plan	Sproat	July 18, 2005

4.3 Areas to which FRPA S196(1) or (2) or FPPR S.110 Applies

There are no areas to which FRPA Section 196(1) or (2) apply within this FSP's FDUs.

4.4 Areas within FDUs Subject to a RP but not subject to this FSP

The FSP maps identify the areas that are within the outer boundaries of the FDUs and are subject to an existing road permit (RP) but not to this FSP as per *FPPR S.14(3)(k)*.

4.5 Provincial Old Growth Deferrals

The British Columbia Government and the Ministry of Forests announced on Nov. 2, 2021 the deferment of old growth stands throughout BC. The Technical Advisory Panel priority old growth deferral areas were a response by Government to recommendation #6 of the *New Future for Old Forests* report (April 2020).

No FSP results and strategies are required to address the ongoing old growth deferral process at this time. Until such time as new old growth objectives are released by Government, the AVCFC will:

- Continue to implement the strategy listed for the Order Establishing Provincial Non-Spatial Old-Growth Objectives;
- Ensure that priority old growth deferral areas are mapped and considered in strategic resource planning within the AVCF;
- Ensure that priority old growth stands identified by the Technical Advisory Panel as deferral areas are not harvested; and
- Field verify deferred Priority Old Growth stands according to spatial location, and the Priority Deferral Criteria according to the *Field Verification of Priority Old Forest Deferral Areas: Technical Guidance Document* (July, 2022).

This FSP may be amended to align with new Government and First Nations old growth objectives with the Old Growth Strategy is fully implemented.

5.0 RESULTS, STRATEGIES AND MEASURES

- Landscape level objectives for the Sproat Landscape Unit apply to the FSP areas.
- The Vancouver Island Land Use Plan (VILUP) Higher Level Plan Order includes several objectives related to resource management zones that apply to the FSP area.
- The Order for the Recovery of Marbled Murrelet (MAMU) includes several objectives that apply to the FSP area. The FPPR Schedule 7 Order also lists MAMU habitat area target and threshold objectives for the FSP area.
- The Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) identify government objectives that must be defined in an FSP. The Government Actions Regulation (GAR) lists measures that may be applicable to an area in an FSP. These are listed in tables 3 and 4 along with their applicability to the AVCF.

Table 3: Higher Level Plan Order and GAR Objectives and their Relevance to the AVCF

Category of Objective or Measure	Relevance to AVCF	FSP Table (section)
From Order to Establish A Landscape Unit and Objectives: Sproat Lake Landscape Unit, Legal Objectives		
Objective 1: Old Growth Management Areas	Sproat + Taylor FDU	5.1.1a
Objective 2: Wildlife Tree Retention	Sproat + Taylor FDU	5.1.1b
Objective 3: Special Management Zone 17	Taylor FDU	5.1.1c
From Vancouver Island Land Use Plan Higher Level Plan Order (section II A)		
Objective 1. Sustain Forest Ecosystem Structure and Function in SMZ (17)		
a) Creating or maintaining stand structures and forest attributes associated with mature and old forests	Taylor FDU	5.1.2a
b) Retaining within cutblocks structural forest attributes and elements with important biodiversity functions	Taylor FDU	5.1.2b
c) Applying a variety of silvicultural systems, patch size and patch shapes across the zone subject to maximum cutblock sizes	Taylor FDU	5.1.2c
Objective 2.		
Larger cutblocks may be approved if harvesting is being carried out to recover timber that was damaged by fire, insects, wind or other similar events, cutblock to incorporate structural characteristics of natural disturbances.	Taylor FDU	5.1.2d

Marbled Murrelet Order and Notice (2021)		
The *Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development Ministerial Order for the Recovery of Marbled Murrelet (Brachyramphus marmoratus), Dec. 2021* establishes land use objectives pursuant to Section 93.4 of the *Land Act*. Its intent is to ensure the maintenance of suitable Marbled Murrelet habitat through aspatial management objectives.	Sproat + Taylor FDU	5.1.3a
The *FPPR S. 7(2) Notice – Indicators of the Amount, Distribution, and Attributes of Wildlife Habitat Required for the Survival of Marbled Murrelet (Brachyramphus marmoratus). The Notice* establishes target and minimum WHA, OGMA, and aspatial MAMU requirements, and is applicable to the Sproat WNVI Landscape Unit (LU) portion.	Taylor FDU	5.1.3b
Order by Government Action Regulation		
SIFD - Visual Quality Objectives GAR Order (12.15.2005) and Amendment 12.30.2011) for established scenic areas	Sproat + Taylor FDU	5.3.1
Order to Identify Karst Resource Features – Jan. 15, 2010	Sproat + Taylor FDU	5.3.2

Table 4: FPPR objectives and their relevance to the AVCF

Category of Objective or Measure	Legislation	Relevance to AVCF	FDU	FSP Table (section)
Objectives from Forest Planning and Practices Regulation				
Soils	FPPR s.5	Practice requirements are indicated	All	5.2.1
Timber (including forest health)	FPPR s.6	Strategies and results not required (FPPR 12(8))	N/A	N/A
Wildlife	FPPR s.7	Results and Strategies required for Marbled Murrelet	All	5.2.2
Water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity within riparian areas	FPPR s.8	Practice requirements are indicated and strategies and results developed	All	5.2.3
Fish habitat in fisheries sensitive watersheds	FPPR s.8.1	No designated fisheries sensitive watersheds within plan area therefore no strategies or results developed.	N/A	N/A
Water in Community Watersheds	FPPR 8.2	Practice requirements are indicated and strategies and results developed	All	5.2.4
Wildlife and biodiversity – landscape level	FPPR s.9	Practice requirements are indicated	All	5.2.5
Wildlife and biodiversity – stand level	FPPR s.9.1	Practice requirements are indicated	All	5.2.6
Visual Quality	FPPR s.9.2	Superseded by GAR to establish VQO for identified scenic areas	All	5.3.1
Cultural Heritage Resources	FPPR s.10	Strategies and results developed	All	5.2.7

Objectives, strategies and results have been developed for the AVCF. They are organised into tables on the following pages.

5.1 Land Use Objectives

5.1.1 Order Establishing Sproat Lake Landscape Unit and Objectives

5.1.1a Sproat Lake Landscape Unit Objective 1

5.1.1a	Order Establishing Sproat Lake Landscape Unit and Objectives	Objective 1: Old Growth Management Areas
Objective	*1. Maintenance or recruitment of old growth forests.* *Maintain or recruit old growth forests in established old growth management areas (OGMAs), as shown on the attached Sproat Lake Landscape Unit map dated June 30, 2005, subject to subsection 2 below.* *2. Permissible Activities.* *a) Minor OGMA boundary adjustments for operational reasons:* *To accommodate operational requirements for timber harvesting and road or bridge construction, boundaries of OGMAs that are 10 ha or greater in size may be adjusted, provided that:* i) *the boundary adjustment does not affect more than 10 per cent of the area of the OGMA* ii) *road or bridge construction is required to access resource values beyond or adjacent to the OGMA and no other practicable option for road or bridge location exists,* iii) *suitable OGMA replacement forest of at least equivalent quantity is identified either (in order or priority) directly adjacent to, or in the same variant and landscape unit as the adjusted OGMA, and* iv) *boundary adjustments and OGMA replacement areas are documented, mapped and submitted to the delegated decision maker at the end of each calendar year.* *In the case of distrii) above, as an alternative to finding replacement area the licensee may permanently deactivate and rehabilitate a temporary road or bridge site within four years after construction.* *b) Other permissible activities:* i) *Boundary pruning of trees to improve wind firmness.* ii) *Timber harvesting to prevent the spread of insect infestations or diseases that pose a significant threat to forested areas outside of OGMAs. Salvage within OGMAs will be done in a manner that retains as many old growth forest attributes as possible.* iii) *Maintenance, deactivation, removal of danger trees, or brushing and clearing on existing roads under active tenure within the right-of-way for safety purposes.* iv) *Felling of guyline clearance, tailhold anchor trees, or danger trees (except high value wildlife trees) along*	

	cutblock boundaries or within the right of way on new road/bridge alignments to meet safety requirements v) *Construction of rock quarries and gravel pits under authority of forest tenure where the development will be located immediately adjacent to existing roads under tenure and will affect the OGMA by less than 0.5 ha in total.* vi) *Intrusions, other than those specified that affect an OGMA by less than 0.5 hectares in total.* *OGMA replacement forest is required as a result of activities under 2b) above, if the total net change to the OGMA exceeds 0.5 ha in size. Replacement forest must be biologically suitable, of at least equivalent quantity and situated (in order of priority), either immediately adjacent to the existing OGMA, or in the same variant and landscape unit as the existing OGMA.*
Results	1. In these results, **"suitable OGMA replacement"** is forest that is biologically suitable and is of at least equivalent quantity and is identified either (in order of priority) directly adjacent to the existing OGMA, or in the same variant and landscape unit as the adjusted OGMA. 2. The AVCFC will not carry out road construction or timber harvesting within Old Growth Management Areas (OGMAs) except under the circumstances described in the permissible activities under S. 10.2 (2) of the Sproat Lake Landscape Unit Plan (July 18, 2005) (see objectives above). 3. OGMA replacement forest is required as a result of activities under S. 10.2 (2)(b) under the *Sproat Lake Landscape Unit Plan* (July 18, 2005), if the total net change to an OGMA exceeds 0.5 ha in size. Replacement forest must be biologically suitable, of at least equivalent quantity and situated (in order of priority), either immediately adjacent to the existing OGMA, or in the same variant and landscape unit as the existing OGMA. 4. Any OGMA boundary adjustments and OGMA replacements will be proposed to DSI staff. Proposals will include a rationale and supporting information which will be reviewed by the DSI biologist. Permissible boundary adjustments and replacements will be submitted to the District Manager for approval.
Objectives, Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units	**Sproat** √ **Taylor** √

5.1.1b Sproat Lake Landscape Unit Objective 2

5.1.1b	Order Establishing Sproat Lake Landscape Unit and Objectives	Objective 2 Wildlife Tree Retention
Objective	*Maintain stand-level structural diversity, by retaining wildlife tree patches (WTPs).* *Over each 5 year period, commencing on the date the objectives are established, the target percentage of the harvest area as noted in Table 1, must be achieved, by each licensee and tenure, through retention of adequate amounts of wildlife tree patches on cutblocks, except minor salvage cutblocks in which harvesting has not been competed[11].* *In addition:* 1. *WTPs must be well distributed across the BEC subzone* 2. *When designated at the operational site plan level, WTPs must be located within or immediately adjacent to a cutblock.* 3. *No timber harvesting, including singletree selection is to occur within WTPs, except as noted in 4 below.* 4. *Salvage of windthrown timber is permitted within WTPs where windthrow impacts 25% to 50% of the dominant or co-dominant stems. Salvage of windthrown timber and harvesting of remaining standing stems is permitted within WTPs where windthrow exceeds 50% of the dominant or co-dominant stems; or where forest health issues pose a significant threat to areas outside the WTP. Where salvage/harvesting is planned and authorized, suitable replacement WTP of at least equivalent quantity must be identified concurrently to achieve the retention target.* 5. *WTPs should include, if present, remnant old-growth patches and live or dead veteran trees, excluding danger trees.* 6. *WTPs must include representative larger trees for the stand (dbh>average operational cruise) and any moderate to high value wildlife trees if available (excluding danger trees).* 7. *BEC subzones and variants will be determined by operational site plan information.* 8. *In WTPs with a likelihood of windthrow, pruning and/or topping may be carried out to maintain the integrity of the WTP.*	

[1] A minor salvage cutblock is defined in the Sproat Lake Landscap Unit Plan as less than 2.0ha of harvesting and/or less than a total volume of 2000m^3 excluding volume harvested from any road clearing width, if the road is required to facilitate the removal of timber within the minor salvage cutblock

Table 1. Wildlife Tree Retention by BEC subzone in the Sproat Lake Landscape Unit.

Biogeoclimatic Subzone	% WTP requirement
CWH mm (Coastal Western Hemlock, moist maritime)	7
CWH vm (Coastal Western Hemlock, very wet maritime)	5
CWH xm (Coastal Western Hemlock, very dry maritime)	12
MH mm (Mountain Hemlock, moist maritime)	0

Results

1. In these results "wildlife tree patches (WTP)" is the same as "wildlife tree retention areas (WTR)" which is defined in FPPR (Part 1, 1) as an area occupied by wildlife trees that is located in a cutblock, in an area that is contiguous to a cutblock, or in an area that is sufficiently close to the cutblock that the wildlife trees could directly impact on, or be directly impacted by, primary forest activities carried out in the cutblock.
2. When harvesting is completed in one or more cutblocks, except for minor salvage cutblocks, during any 5 year period beginning on January 1 of any calendar year, the AVCFC will ensure that, at the end of the 5 year period, the total area covered by wildlife tree retention areas that relates to the cutblocks meets or exceeds the percent of the total area of the cutblocks by subzone presented in Table 1 of the objective above.
3. In addition to (2) above, the AVCFC will ensure that WTP representation is consistent with FPPR S. 66.
    a) When harvesting is completed in one or more cutblocks during any 12 month period beginning on April 1 of any calendar year, the AVCFC will ensure that at the end of that 12 month period, the total area covered by wildlife tree retention areas that relate to the cutblocks is a minimum of 7% of the cutblocks (FPPR S. 66 (1)).
    b) At the completion of harvesting, the total amount of WTP that relates to any cutblock is a minimum of 3.5% of the cutblock (FPPR S. 66 (2)).
    c) For the purposes of (a) and (b), a WTP may related to more than one cutblock if all of the cutblocsk that relate to the WTP collectively meet the applicable requirements (FPPR S. 66 (3)).
4. The AVCFC will ensure that:
    a. WTPs are distributed across the BEC subzone;
    b. WTPs are located within or immediately adjacent to a cutblock when designated at the operational site plan level;
    c. no timber harvesting, including single tree selection, is allowed to occur within a WTP except:

	i. salvage of windthrown timber within WTPs where windthrow impacts 25% to 50% of the dominant or co-dominant stems, ii. salvage of windthrown timber and harvesting of remaining standing stems within WTPs where windthrow exceeds 50% of the dominant or co-dominant stems, or iii. where forest health issues pose a significant threat to areas outside the WTP; d. Further to c (ii),(iii) where salvage/harvesting is planned, a suitable replacement WTP of at least equivalent quantity will be identified concurrently to achieve the retention target. e. WTPs include, if present, remnant old-growth patches and live or dead veteran trees (except danger trees); f. WTPs include representative larger trees (dbh > average operational cruise) for the stand and any moderate to high value wildlife trees if available (except danger trees); g. BEC subzones and variants will be determined by operational site plan information; h. WTPs with a high likelihood of windthrow, as determined by a Qualified Professional, may be pruned or topped to maintain the integrity of the WTP.
Objectives, Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units:	**Sproat √** **Taylor √**

5.1.1c Sproat Lake Landscape Unit Objective 3

5.1.1c	**Order Establishing Sproat Lake Landscape Unit and Objectives**	**Objective 3: Special Management Zone 17**
Objective	*Sustain forest ecosystem structure and function within the portion of Special Management Zone (SMZ) 17 located in the Sproat Lake Landscape Unit, by retaining mature and old forests (i.e. > 80 years of age) on an area covering at least 25 per cent of the total forested area of the SMZ portion located within the landscape unit.*	
Description	The Taylor FDU is located within SMZ 17 forming a portion (28%) of the overall area of SMZ17.	
Results	1. In these results: **"spatially defined"** is area that can be mapped at a 1:20 000 scale. **"mature forest"** is forest > 80 years and < 250 years of age. **"old forest"** is forest > 250 years of age. 2. The AVCFC will participate in landscape unit planning processes for SMZ 17.	

	3. Within the portion of SMZ 17 that is within the Taylor LU, the AVCFC may carry out timber harvesting or road construction if doing so will not result in the amount of old or mature forested area to drop below 25% within the total SMZ 17 area. 4. During the term of this plan, if at least 25% of the forested landbase within SMZ 17 is not spatially defined as being mature or old, the AVCFC will not carry out or authorize timber harvesting in mature or old forest in the Taylor LU.
Objectives, Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units:	**Taylor √**

5.1.2 Vancouver Island Land Use Plan Higher Level Plan Order

The Vancouver Island Land Use Plan, Higher Level Plan (VIHLP) Order (effective December 1, 2000) establishes Resource Management Zones and Resource Management Zone Objectives within the area covered by the Vancouver Island Land Use Plan (VILUP). The applicable Higher Level Plan Order Objectives for the Special Management Zones (SMZs) are listed in the following table and described below.

Table 5: VILUP Special Management Zones

Special Management Zone	Applicable HLP Objective	FDU
SMZ 13 – Nahmint *	N/A*	Taylor
SMZ 17 – Strathcona-Taylor	1, 2	Taylor

* SMZ 13 borders and occasionally overlaps the southern tenure boundary in the Taylor LU. The SMZ 13 area that is located within the Taylor LU is located in inoperable areas, outside of the timber harvesting landbase. For the purpose of this FSP, VILUP objectives for SMZs have not been included for SMZ 13.

5.1.2a VILUP HLP II A Objective 1a

5.1.2a	Vancouver Island Land Use Plan Higher Level Plan Order	Section II A, Objective 1a
Objective	1. *Sustain forest ecosystem structure and function in SMZs, by:* a. *Creating or maintaining stand structures and forest attributes associated with mature[2] and old[3] forests subject to the following:* i. *The target for mature seral forest should range from one quarter to one third of the forested area of each SMZ[4]; and* ii. *In the SMZs where the area of mature forest is currently less than the mature target range referred to in (i) above, the target amount of mature forest must be in place within 50 years.*	
Result	1. Sustain forest ecosystem structure and function in SMZ 17 as per VILUP Section II A Objective 1a). Manage according to the strategy for Objective 3 of the Sproat Lake Landscape Unit Order, included in section 5.1.1 of this FSP.	
Objectives, Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units		**Taylor √**

5.1.2b VILUP HLP II A Objective 1b

5.1.2b	Vancouver Island Land Use Plan Higher Level Plan Order	Section II A, Objective 1 b
Objective	1. *Sustain forest ecosystem structure and function in SMZs by:* b. *Retaining, within cutblocks[5], structural forest attributes and elements with important biodiversity functions[6].*	
Results	1. In these results, 'structural forest attributes with important biodiversity functions' includes but is not limited to snags, wildlife trees and downed logs. 2. Within areas designated as SMZ 17, the AVCFC will: a. design cutblocks in a manner that is consistent with the objective of retaining structural forest attributes and elements with important biodiversity functions that exist in each of the	

[2] The mature seral forest is defined as generally 80 to 120 years old or older, depending on species and site conditions. The structure of mature seral forests generally includes canopies that vary vertically or horizontally, or both. The age and structure of the mature seral stage will vary significantly by forest type and from one biogeoclimatic zone to another.

[3] The old seral forest is defined as generally greater than 250 years old, containing live and dead (downed and standing) trees of various sizes, including large diameter trees, and of various tree species, including broad-leaved trees. The structure of old seral forest varies significantly by forest type and from one biogeoclimatic zone to another.

[4] Mature seral targets will be established through landscape unit planning. See transition provisions under III.

[5] Within cutblocks: generally means non-contiguous with cutblock boundaries.

[6] This includes, but is not limited to snags, wildlife trees, and downed logs.

	following: i. wildlife tree retention areas; ii. no-work zones; iii. riparian management areas; iv. other potential leave areas, that are generally within cutblock boundaries, and b. carry out primary forest activities only if the activities are consistent with the design for the cutblock referred to in paragraph (a), and such that the result is consistent with the objective.	
Objectives, Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units		**Taylor √**

5.1.2c VILUP HLP IIA Objective 1c

5.1.2c	Vancouver Island Land Use Plan Higher Level Plan Order	Section II A, Objective 1 c
Objective	1. *Sustain forest ecosystem structure and function in SMZs by:* c. *Applying a variety of silvicultural systems, patch sizes and patch shapes across the zone, subject to a maximum cutblock size of 5 ha if clearcut, clearcut with reserves or seed tree silvicultural systems are applied, and 40 ha if shelterwood, selection or retention silvicultural systems are applied*[7].	
Results	1.Within areas designated as SMZ 17, the AVCFC will: b. design cutblocks in a manner that is consistent with: i. establishing a variety of silvicultural systems and patch sizes and shapes across the SMZ, and ii. for shelterwood, selection, or retention silvicultural systems: A. maintaining varying levels of retention within the cutblock based on a consideration of the site-specific site conditions and the forest values, and B. limiting the Net Area to be Reforested (NAR) to 40 hectares except as provided in the result or strategy for VIHLP Objective 2, and iii. for clear-cut, clear-cut with reserves or seed tree silvicultural systems, limiting the NAR to 5 hectares except as provided in the result or strategy for VIHLP Objective 2, and c. carry out primary forest activities only if the activities are consistent with the design for the cutblock referred to in paragraph a), and such that the result is consistent with the objective.	
Objectives, Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units		**Taylor √**

[7] Maximum cutblock sizes refer to net area to be reforested.

5.1.2d VILUP HLP Objective 2

5.1.2d	Vancouver Island Land Use Plan Higher Level Plan Order	HLP Objective 2
Objective	*2. Despite subsection 1(c) above, cutblocks larger than 5 or 40 ha as the case may be, may be approved if harvesting is being carried out to recover timber that was damaged by fire, insects, wind or other similar events and wherever possible, the cutblock incorporates structural characteristics of natural disturbances.*	
Results	1. If, within areas designated as SMZ 17, timber harvesting is to be carried out in a cutblock to recover timber damaged by fire, insects, wind or other similar events, the AVCFC may design the cutblock to have a NAR that exceeds a. 40 hectares for shelterwood, selection, or retention silvicultural systems, and b. 5 hectares for clear-cut, clear-cut with reserves or seed tree silvicultural systems provided that the design incorporates structural characteristics of natural disturbances into the cutblock where safe, and practicable.	
Objectives, Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units		**Taylor** √

5.1.3 Marbled Murrelet Notice and Order

5.1.3a Order for the Recovery of Marbled Murrelet, Objectives for MAMU nesting habitat

5.1.3a	Order for the Recovery of Marbled Murrelet *(Brachyramphus marmoratus), Dec. 2021*
Objectives	1. Maintain Suitable Habitat as follows: a) For each: landscape unit aggregate in the order area: Retain all timber in an amount equal to or greater than the minimum habitat threshold listed in Column "A" in Table 1 in Schedule "7". b) For each: landscape unit portion in the order area: Retain all timber in an amount equal to or greater than the suitable habitat target listed in Column "A" in Table 2 in Schedule "7"; 2. Despite subsection (1)(b), the amount of timber that must be retained within a landscape unit portion in the West and North Vancouver Island and Southern Mainland Coast Conservation Regions may be less than the suitable habitat target listed in Column "A" in Table 2 in Schedule "7", provided that: The amount of timber retained is equal to or greater than the minimum habitat threshold listed in Column "B" in Table 2 in Schedule "7". 3. Despite subsection (1)(a), Suitable Habitat polygons shown in Schedule "1 to 6" in the East Vancouver Island Conservation Region may be harvested, provided that harvesting is required for road access, other infrastructure, or to address safety concerns, where there is no practicable alternative. 4. Variance from the Objectives in Sections 3.(1) to 3.(3) for the Suitable Habitat polygons shown in Schedule "1 to 6" may be allowed, provided that: (a) A Qualified Professional: (i) Completes a field assessment that identifies the characteristics of Suitable Habitat using established standards; and (ii) Confirms the alteration will result in no net loss or functional loss of Suitable Habitat (b) A Regional Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development biologist approves the alteration of the Suitable Habitat polygons

Marbled Murrelet Order – Schedule 7 Tables

The following tables describe the portions of the Order overlapping the area covered by this FSP.

Table 1

Landscape Unit Aggregate	Column "A" Suitable Habitat Target (Hectares Suitable Habitat)
East Coast (Easter Vancouver Island Conservation Region – EVI)	6,916
Central (West and North Vancouver Island Conservation Region – WNVI)	2,238

Table 2

Landscape Unit Portion	Landscape Unit Aggregate	Column "A" Suitable Habitat Target (ha Suitable Habitat)	Column "B" Minimum Habitat Threshold (ha Suitable Habitat)
Sproat Lake EVI	East Coast	883	883
Sproat Lake WNVI	Central	293	234

Results

1. Sproat Lake EVI

Within the Sproat Lake EVI area, the AVCFC will conserve all suitable MAMU habitat within the AVCF (K2D) agreement area, to contribute to meeting the Land Use Order and Section 7 targets.

2. Sproat Lake WNVI

Within the Sproat Lake WNVI area, the AVCFC will ensure the conservation of suitable MAMU habitat within the AVCF (K2D) agreement area, which will contribute to meeting the Land Use Order and Section 7 targets.

3. Special Situations Where Harvest Will Be Allowed

In both the Sproat EVI and Sproat WNVI Landscape Unit Portions, suitable MAMU areas may be harvested, in situations where it is required for road access, or other infrastructure, or to address other safety concerns, where there is no other practical alternative, as per S.3(3) of the Order.

Where MAMU spatial layers are not consistent with field verification, these areas may be harvested provided that a Qualified Professional completes a field assessment, and confirms that the alteration will not result in a net loss of suitable MAMU habitat, as per S.3(4)(a) of the

	Order. The alteration of a suitable habitat polygon must also be approved by the Regional Biologist for the South Island Forest District as per S.3(4)(b) of the Order.
Objectives, Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units	**Sproat √ Taylor √**

5.1.3b FPPR S. 7(2) Notice target and minimum WHA, OGMA, and Aspatial MAMU Requirements

5.1.3b	**FPPR S. 7(2) Notice for Marbled Murrelet - Backgrounder**
FPPR S.7(2) Notice	The FPPR S. 7(2) Notice for Marbled Murrelet establishes target and minimum WHA, OGMA, and aspatial MAMU requirements, and is applicable to the Sproat WNVI Landscape Unit (LU) portion. The Sproat EVI LU portion is not covered by the FPPR S.7(2) Notice. The following tables describe the portions of the Notice overlapping the area covered by this FSP. Table 2 provides the minimum amount of Suitable Habitat to be maintained within both Marbled Murrelet WHAs and OGMAs combined and the minimum amount of Suitable Habitat to be maintained within Marbled Murrelet WHAs within landscape unit aggregates.

Table 2. South Island Forest District

Landscepe Unit Aggregate	MAMU WHA and OGMA Suitable Habitat Minimum (ha)	MAMU WHA Suitable Habitat Minimum (ha)
Central	1296	1041

Table 3 provides the target and minimum amount of suitable habitat to be maintained within both Marbled Murrelet WHAs and OGMAs combined and the minimum amount fo Suitable Habitat to be maintained within Marbled Murrelet WHAs within landscape unit portions

Table 3. Sproat WNVI LU Portion

MAMU WHA and OGMA Suitable Habitat Target (ha)	MAMU WHA and OGMA Suitable Habitat Minimum (ha)	MAMU WHA Suitable Habitat Target (ha)	MAMU WHA Suitable Habitat Minimum (ha)
157	126	64	51

Results	1. <u>Participation in Regional Working Groups</u> The AVCFC will participate in working groups with other licensees and the South Island Natural Resource District to ensure that suitable habitat is maintained within the Sproat Lake LU, in the West and North

	Vancouver Island Conservation Region (WNVI). As per FPPR S.7(2), a WNVI working group will establish areas that will be suitable for: a) Establishment of new WHAs as well as addition to existing WHAs, b) Establishment of new OGMAs, c) Meeting aspatial targets from the Section 7 notice, and d) If a working group is not able to come to an agreement, the AVCFC will seek a ministerial established habitat target under FPPR S.19. 2. Sproat Lake WNVI Within the Sproat Lake WNVI LU portion, the AVCFC will ensure the conservation of all suitable MAMU habitat area that will contribute to meeting the FPPR S.7(2) targets, until such time as a working group can complete planning for the Sproat WNVI LU portion.
Objectives, Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units	**Taylor √**

5.2 Objectives prescribed under FRPA S.149

5.2.1 Objectives set by government for soils [FPPR s.5]

5.2.1	Objectives set by government for wildlife [FPPR S.5] Soils
Objective	*The objective set by government for soils is to conserve the productivity and the hydrologic function of soils.*
Results	In accordance with FPPR s. 12.1(1), the AVCFC is exempt from the requirement to specify intended results and strategies set out in FPPR S. 5.
Practice Requirements	The AVCFC will comply with FPPR S.35 (*soil disturbance limits*) and s.36 (*permanent access structure limits*).
Objectives, Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units	**Sproat √** **Taylor √**

5.2.2 Wildlife

5.2.2	Objectives set by government for wildlife [FPPR S.7] Wildlife
Objective	1. *The objective set by government for wildlife is to conserve sufficient wildlife habitat in terms of amount of area, distribution of areas and attributes of those areas, for* a. *the survival of species at risk,* b. *the survival of regionally important wildlife, and* c. *the winter survival of specified ungulate species.* 2. *A person required to prepare a forest stewardship plan must specify a result or a strategy in respect of the objective stated under subsection (1) only if the minister responsible for the Wildlife Act gives notice to the person of the applicable* a. *species referred to in subsection (1), and* b. *indicators of the amount, distribution and attributes of wildlife habitat described in subsection (1).* 3. *If satisfied that the objective set out in subsection (1) is addressed, in whole or in part, by an objective in relation to a wildlife habitat area or an ungulate winter range, a general wildlife measure, or a wildlife habitat feature, the minister responsible for the Wildlife Act must exempt a person from the obligation to specify a result or strategy in relation to the objective set out in subsection (1) to the extent that the objective is already addressed.* 4. *On or after December 31, 2004, a notice described in subsection (2) must be given at least 4 months before the forest stewardship plan is submitted for approval.*

Context	The Dec. 4, 2004 FPPR S. 7 Species at Risk Notice for Southern Vancouver Island specifies the amount, distribution and attributes of wildlife habitat required for "Queen Charlotte" Goshawk, MAMU, and Scouler's Corydalis. Exemptions from the obligation of preparing a result or strategy for the South Island Forest District have been provided as set out FPPR S. 7(1) for the Queen Charlotte Goshawk and the Scouler's Corydalis. Therefore, this FSP does not contain any results or strategies for these two species. The Notice does specifiy the amount, distribution and attributes of suitable habitat required for MAMU.
Results	Results and strategies relating to MAMU can be found under the MAMU Order in section 5.1.3.
Objectives, Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units	**Sproat** √ **Taylor** √

5.2.3 Water, Fish, Wildlife and Biodiversity within Riparian Areas

5.2.3	**Objectives set by government for water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity within riparian areas (FPPR S. 8)**	**Water, Fish, Wildlife and Biodiversity within Riparian Areas**
Objective	*The objective set by government for water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity within riparian areas is at the landscape level, the water quality, fish habitat, wildlife habitat and biodiversity associated with those riparian areas.*	
Results	1. In respect of **FPPR Section 8,** the AVCFC will comply with as a result/strategy, **FPPR Section, 47 (2), 47 (1) to (6), 48(3) to (5), 49(2) to (3), 50(1), 51(1), 51(3), 52(2) and 53, *(riparian management area, reserve zone and management zone standards and restrictions)* as they were on the date of submission** except in those circumstances as described below. a. The AVCF is located within the Sproat Lake Community Watetershed. Riparian classification within community watersheds is specified under **FPPR Section 47(2).** b. For areas of primary forest activity carried out by the AVCFC, the widths of the riparian management area, riparian reserve zone and riparian management zone will be conditional as per (i) and (ii) below: i. As specified in **FPPR Sections 47(2), 47(4) to (6), 48(3) to (5) and 49(2) to (3), *or*** ii. As per FPPR S. 12.1(2), an alternative riparian management area, riparian reserve zone and riparian management zone width provided that: I. A written rationale is prepared by a Qualified	

	Professional, prior to the commencement of primary forest activity, II. Any increase or decrease in width from section 1a)(i) of this result/strategy considers the factors in FPPR Schedule 1, Section 2, III. An alternative width is consistent with *Legislated Riparian Assessment in BC Professional Practice Guidelines (FPBC, CAB, APEGBC).*
Objectives, Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units	**Sproat √** **Taylor √**

5.2.4 Community Watersheds

5.2.4	**Objectives set by government for water in community watersheds (FPPR S. 8.2)** **Community Watersheds**
Description	The majority of the AVCF area is located within the Sproat Lake Community Watershed.
Objective	1. *In this section, "**community watershed**" refers to the Sproat Community Watershed as designated on 15 June 1995 under the Forest Practices Code and continued under FRPA S 180(e).* 2. *The objective set by government for water being diverted for human consumption though a licensed waterworks in a community watershed is to prevent the cumulative hydrological effects of primary forest activities within the community watershed from resulting in* a. *a material adverse impact on the quantity of water or the timing of the flow of the water from the waterworks, or* b. *the water from the waterworks having a material adverse impact on human health that cannot be addressed by water treatment required under* i. *an enactment, or* ii. *the licence pertaining to the waterworks.*
Results	1. In respect of FPPR S. 8.2 (2), the AVCFC will comply with, as a result, practice requirements in FPPR S. 59 (*protecting water quality*), 60 (*licensed water works*) and 61(*excavated or bladed trails*). 2. With respect to managing cumulative watershed effects or primary forest activities within the AVCF, the AVCFC will work with other tenure holders operating within the Sproat Lake Community Watershed to monitor, assess and management cumulative effects. Watershed assessments will be done according to the current *Community Watershed Assessment Procedure Guidebook* (1999), and the *Watershed Assessment and Management of Hydrologic Risk and Geomorphic Risk in the Forest Industry* (2022) procedures.

3. Where the Sproat Watershed Assessment makes recommendations that are specific to sub basins or the community watershed as a whole, and/or are applicable to AVCFC primary forest activities, then the AVCFC will incorporate the recommendations into primary forest activities variance to the recommendations is supported by a rationale written by a Qualified Professional.
4. With regards to primary forest activities, the AVCFC will:
    a. Design cutblocks and roads in a manner that is consistent with a cumulative low to moderate risk threshold for material adverse hydrological effects as defined in current CWAP methodology, and minimizes sediment erosion and transport to local streams,
    b. Minimize road requirements,
    c. Deactivate roads where appropriate, in a timely manner,
    d. Plan for temporary rather than permanent roads where there is a high likelihood of erosion into streams,
    e. Design road ditchlines so that they filter out into the forest rather than entering streams,
    f. Carry out frequent road inspections and minimize delays in road repairs,
    g. Minimize soil disturbance during harvesting,
    h. Install adequate culverts to ensure natural water drainage is maintained,
    i. Revegetate right-of-ways, cut slopes, road surfaces, and landings where revegetation will reduce soil erosion into watercourses,
5. With regards to road sections occurring on sensitive slopes (terrain stability class IVR, IV, or V, or as prescribed by a Qualified Professional), upstream of a licensed water work where the water is diverted for human consumption, or where road surface drainage has the potential to enter into a stream flowing into Sproat Lake, stream, or licensed water work, the AVCFC will apply the following best practices:
    a. Ditch Cleaning: where needed, ditches are to be cleaned when conditions are dry. Ditch spoil is not to be windrowed along the road shoulder. On moderate slopes, the ditch spoil could be thinly spread on the slope below the road, but not heaped or piled against trees. Where the road is on steep slopes, the ditch spoil should be end hauled to a suitable spoil site.
    b. Culvert replacement: Where required culvert replacements are to be done during dry weather (except for emergency repairs or replacements). The inlet and outlet areas on new culverts, and the adjacent fill slopes,

	will be armored to prevent erosion or sloughing. c. Rock Ballasting of road surface: The road surface is also to be rock ballasted with clean rock for 30 metres either side of stream culverts. d. Road grading practices: grading is to be avoided during heavy rain. e. Shutdown or harvest completion: In preparation for a shutdown for a period longer than 30 days or at a harvest completion, the following measures will be taken: i. No excavated or end hauled material will be left piled in such a way as to become unstable during the shutdown period. Spoil sites, piles and fills will be sloped uniformly to prevent instability. ii. Ditches and culverts will be left clear and functional, with adequate inlet basins to minimize the potential for plugging. iii. Cross ditches and back-up swales will be constructed where needed to minimize ditch erosion. iv. If road construction has reached a drainage course but a drainage structure has not been installed prior to shutdown, the drainage course will be left open and unimpeded. v. Where exposed fine textured soils could erode and enter surface streams or ditches connected to streams, silt fences and hay bales will be applied within streams or ditches as needed for temporary protection. Erosion blankets, grass seeding, or spreading of logging debris over exposed mineral soil will help to prevent erosion.
Objectives Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units:	**Sproat √** **Taylor √**

5.2.5 Wildlife and Biodiversity – Landscape Level

5.2.5	**Objectives set by government for wildlife and biodiversity – landscape level [FPPR S. 9]**	**Wildlife and Biodiversity – landscape level**
Objective	*The objective set by government for wildlife and biodiversity at the landscape level is, to design areas on which timber harvesting is to be carried out that resemble, both spatially and temporally, the patterns of natural disturbance that occur within the landscape.*	
Results	1. The AVCFC will comply with FPPR Sections 64 (*cutblock size*) and 65 (*cutblock adjacency*), as results or strategies under this FSP. 2. Further to subsection 1, cutblocks located in SMZ 17 will have a net	

	area to be reforested in accordance with the result or strategy for VILUP HLP Order Objective 1(c) or HLP Order Objective 2.
Objectives Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units:	**Sproat √** **Taylor √**

5.2.6 Wildlife and Biodiversity – Stand Level

5.2.6	**Objectives set by government for wildlife and biodiversity – stand level [FPPR S 9.1]**	**Wildlife and Biodiversity – stand level**
Objective	*The objective set by government for wildlife and biodiversity at the stand level is, to retain wildlife trees.*	
Results	1. The AVCFC will comply with section 66 (*wildlife tree retention*) and 67 (*restriction on harvesting*) of the FPPR. 2. Further to subsection 1, the AVCFC will comply with the wildlife tree retention targets in Sproat Lake Landscape Unit Order by biogeoclimatic subzone. 3. Where bear dens are located during cutblock layout, they will be protected. A management strategy for these will be guided by the assessment and recommendations of a Qualified Professional.	
Objectives Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units:		**Sproat √** **Taylor √**

5.2.7 Cultural Heritage Resources

5.2.7	**Objectives set by government for cultural heritage resources [FPPR S. 10]**	**Cultural Heritage Resources**
Description	The AVCF lies within the asserted traditional territories of the Hupacasath and Tseshaht First Nations.	
Objective	*The objective set by government for cultural heritage resources is to conserve, or, if necessary, protect cultural heritage resources that are* *a. the focus of a traditional use by an aboriginal people that is of continuing importance to that people, and* *b. not regulated under the Heritage Conservation Act.*	
Results	1. In these results: "cultural heritage resource" means a cultural heritage resource, other than a resource feature, that includes: a. the focus of a traditional use by the Hupacasath or Tseshaht peoples that is of continuing importance to those peoples, b. cultural heritage resources not regulated under the Heritage	

	Conservation Act, c. "monumental western redcedar or cypress " (which refers to western redcedar or cypress used for making paddles, masks, totems, canoes, and other traditional use items), or d. cultural heritage resources identified by the Hupacasath or Tseshaht First Nations. The following steps will be undertaken by the AVCFC: 2. The AVCFC will refer to the Hupacasath and Tseshaht First Nations, areas within their traditional territories, identified for potential timber harvesting and road construction: a. on an ongoing basis, using a process that is jointly developed and mutually acceptaple to each First Nation, with consideration to the factors described in the FPPR schedule 1 (4), b. to request information respecting special cultural heritage resources within the identified areas, and c. with the intention of adhering to the overall cultural and forest management objectives contained in First Nations land use planning processes. 3. If the AVCFC identifies that adhering to one or more standards and expectations of the Hupacasath First Nation Land Use Plan will conflict with other objectives, results or strategies contained in this FSP, the AVCFC will consult with the Hupacasath First Nation and the District Manager to review options and seek mutually acceptable solutions. 4. The AVCFC will, prior to submitting a cutting permit and/or road permit application: a. engage with the appropriate First Nation(s) in advance to: allow for a field assessment and/or comment relating to cultural heritage resources, b. consider the factors listed in the FPPR schedule 1 (4), and c. mutually develop measures to manage identified cultural heritage resources. d. where a First Nation has provided comment relating to a cultural heritage resource, the AVCFC will notify the applicable First Nation in writing as to: i. whether the cultural heritage resource is to be preserved, and ii. if the cultural heritage resource is to be preserved, what constraints, if any, are to apply to primary forest activities carried out in that area. 5. For each cultural heritage resource that has been identified, the AVCFC will carry out primary forest activities only to the extent that

	it is consistent with measures developed in subsection 4. 6. If, within a cutblock or road where the AVCFC is carrying out primary forest activities, a previously unidentified special cultural heritage resource is encountered, the AVCFC will: a. require operations within the cutblock or road to cease or be modified to the extent necessary to protect the special cultural heritage resource, b. involve the appropriate First Nation(s) to determine: i. the nature of the special cultural heritage resource, ii. whether the special cultural heritage resource is to be protected, and iii. if the special cultural heritage resource is to be protected, what constraints or measures, if any, are to apply to primary forest activities carried out on the area, c. modify the design of the cutblock or road to conform with subsection 6(b)(iii), and d. resume operations within the cutblock or road to the extent that the operations are consistent with the modified design. 7. The AVCFC recognizes that mature western red cedar and cypress located within the identified FDUs are special cultural heritage resources to the Hupacasath and Tseshaht First Nations and the AVCFC will ensure that, in addition to subsections 2 through 6, a. western red cedar and cypress, where ecologically suited, will be planted on areas referred to in section 29 (1) of the Act in accordance with the stocking standards specified in this forest stewardship plan, b. where requested by the Hupacasath or Tseshaht First Nation, the AVCFC will assist in developing a strategy for and in the identification of monumental western red cedar or cypress within their traditional territory, and c. where a strategy for monumental western red cedar or cypress as outlined in 7(b) has been developed and agreed upon by the AVCFC, the applicable First Nation and the Ministry Natural Resource Operations, the AVCFC will seek an amendment to this section of the current FSP.
Objectives Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units:	**Sproat** √ **Taylor** √

5.2.8 Recreation

5.2.8	Interpretative forest sites, recreation sites and recreation trails [FRPA 56(1)] Recreation Features
Description	A number of recreation trails as shown on the FSP maps are known to the AVCFC including the Teodore and Sproat Lake Lookout Trails in the Sproat FDU (including access to karst features) and the Mt Adder, Gibson-Klitsa (Brigade Lake) [Rec 6390 1] and the Klitsa (aka Brooke George) trails in the Taylor FDU. The AVCFC is also aware of a trail system in the Weiner Creek watershed (Weiner Falls) and connecting the Teodore and Sproat Lake Lookout trails, along with numerous trials motorcycle trails, which have not yet been mapped. There are also several popular camping sites that exist along the south side of the Taylor River between the river and South Taylor Main, which also serves as an access point for the Snow Creek campsite on the North Side of Sproat Lake (located outside of the AVCF). Existing recreation features are further described in the AVCFC Management Plan section 13.3.4.
Objective	There are no legally established (FRPA 56(1)) interpretative forest sites, recreation sites or recreation trails within the community forest area and consequently no legally established objectives for these features. Although not legally required, this section is retained within the FSP for information purposes only reflecting the importance of recreational features within the community forest. The AVCFC objective is that industrial activities will coexist and complement recreational opportunities within the community forest.
Strategies	When planning for primary forest activities, the AVCFC will: 1. Engage recreation users to find solutions where conflicts between primary forest activities and recreation features occur, 2. Work with local user groups to maintain, enhance, and improve recreation features, including preparing and developing directional and informational signage at trailheads, 3. Consider recreation features where they conflict with primary forest activity operations, 4. Where trails run through cutblock areas, consider maintenance, improvement, or alteration to showcase forest practices and/or provide an interesting viewscape, 5. Where appropriated, provide interpretive signs to explain multiple forest use concepts, harvesting techniques, and silviculture practices, 6. Keep and inventory of roads required to recreation access, and maintain these roads where practicable, 7. Reach out to the District Recreation officer if there are plans to

	complete road maintenance or closures on the South Taylor FSR, so that appropriate notification can be put in place to avoid potential conflict with recreation users, and 8. In coordination with BC Rec Sites and Trails, explore opportunities for additional recreation features, where they do not interfere with primary forest activities.	
Objectives Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units:		**Sproat √** **Taylor √**

5.3 Objectives Established under the GAR

5.3.1 Visual Quality

5.3.1	Objectives Established under the Government Actions Regulation — Visual Quality Objectives
Objective	Visual Quality Objectives (VQO) are established for the South Island Natural Resource District, including areas of the Alberni Valley Community Forest, pursuant to Section 7(2) of the Government Action Regulation (GAR) by an approved GAR order dated December 15, 2005 and amended effective December 30th, 2011. These VQOs apply to the scenic areas identified as known in the district manager's letter dated November 13, 1998 and grand parented under Section 180 of the Forest and Range Practices Act. These objectives apply to the crown land portions of the South Island Forest District, and to the private land within Woodlot Licenses and Tree Farm Licenses.
Results	1. In these results: **"applicable scenic area"** means a scenic area that was made known in the South Island Forest District by letter dated November 13, 1998, and **"applicable visual quality objective"** means the visual quality objective established for a scenic area in the South Island Forest District pursuant to Section 7(2) of the Government Actions Regulation and as defined in the FPPR Section 1.1. 2. Within each applicable scenic area, the AVCFC will: a. ensure that each cutblock or road is designed in a manner such that the alteration to the forest landscape of the applicable scenic area, when assessed from a significant public viewpoint[8], will be consistent with the applicable visual quality objective, b. where necessary, visual quality assessments will be completed by a Qualified Professional and follow the principles that are described in the *Visual Impact Assessment Handbook* (May 2022), and c. carry out primary forest activities only if the activities are consistent with the design for the cutblock or road referred to in paragraph (a) and that the result is consistent with the applicable visual quality objective.
Objectives Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units:	**Sproat** √ **Taylor** √

[8] The Visual Impact Assessment Handbook (2022) defines a public viewpoint as a place or location on the land or water that is accessible to the public and provides a direct viewing opportunity to the alteration and landform being assessed, including but not limited to travel routes, settlements, public use areas, tourism facilities, and parks.

5.3.2 Karst

5.3.1	Objectives Established under the Government Actions Regulation — Karst Resource Features
Objective	The 2010 Order to Identify Karst Resource Features identifies surface and subsurface elements of a karst system as resource features wherever they are found in the South Island Resource District. These features include: • Karst caves, • Significant surface karst features, and • Important features and elements within high and very high vulnerability karst terrain. Areas shown in Appendix 1 of the Order contain surface and subsurface elements of karst systems as per GAR Section 5(1)(a). While none of the areas listed in the Order are located within the AVCF, known karst features are found within the AVCF.
Strategies	1. The AVCFC will ensure that primary forest activity does not damage karst resource features as per FPPR S. 70(1). 2. Agreement holders must satisfy annual reporting requirements for karst resource features as per FPPR S. 86(3)(b). 3. The AVCFC will communicate with local caving clubs when undertaking primary forest activities near known cave features.
Objectives Strategies and Results apply to these Forest Development Units:	**Sproat** √ **Taylor** √

5.4 Measures

5.4.1 Measures to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive plants

Measures to Prevent the Introduction and Spread of Invasive Plants (FRPA S.47, FPPR S.17) FRPA S. 47 requires that:

A person carrying out primary forest activities or a range practice must carry out measures that are

(a) specified in the applicable operational plan, or

(b) authorized by the minister to prevent the introduction or spread of prescribed species of invasive plants. FPPR S. 17

For the purpose of section 47 [invasive plants] of the Act, a person who prepares a forest stewardship plan must specify measures in the plan to prevent the introduction or spread of species of plants that are invasive plants under the Invasive Plants Regulation, if the introduction or spread is likely to be the result of these activities.

Therefore, the AVCFC's objective with regards to invasive plants is:

" to prevent the introduction or spread of species of plants that are invasive plants under the Invasive Plants Regulation, if the introduction or spread is likely to be the result of primary forest activities."

5.4.1	Measures to Prevent the Introduction and Spread of Invasive Plants
Measures	The AVCFC will: a. identify known locations of invasive plants within the FSP area using the provincial InvasivesBC database and/or ongoing observation, b. distribute information to staff and contractors on priority invasive plants (as defined in the *Invasive Plants Regulation* S.2) that exist or threaten to establish within the FSP area, c. direct staff to monitor and report new incidences of priority invasive plants and enter them into the provincial InvasivesBC database, d. require contractors or staff carrying out timber harvesting, road building, and/or silviculture activities to inspect equipment and vehicles to be used within the FSP area for soil and invasive plant material, and to clean equipment prior to transporting equipment to a worksite within the FSP area. e. require that outside sources of road ballast materials (eg. pits, quarries or borrow areas) be inspected for the presence of invasive plant species before transport, and that material containing invasive plant seed not be transported into the AVCF. 2. If the AVCFC carries out primary forest activities in an area where invasive plants are likely to spread (due to nearby or adjacent occurrence of invasive plants or well used public access corridors), and where revegetation is likely to prevent the spread of invasive plants, the AVCFC will, within one year of completing the activity: a. revegetate contiguous areas of exposed soil resulting from primary forest activities that exceed 0.1 ha. This includes roadsides, spoil sites, stream crossings, temporary access structures or areas of soil disturbance within or adjacent to cutblocks, b. use only Common # 1 Forage grade seed mixtures or better that: are of native origin, and have been certified by the Canadian Seed Growers Association for varietal purity and free of weed and/or invasive species. Certificates of seed analysis reports will be verified by the AVCFC prior to seed mixing and purchase, and c. promptly control invasive species infestations resulting from primary forest activities.
These measures apply to these Forest Development Units:	**Sproat** √ **Taylor** √

5.4.2 Measures to Mitigate the Effect of Removing or Rendering Ineffective Natural Range Barriers

5.4.2	Measures to Mitigate the Effect of Removing or Rendering Ineffective Natural Range Barriers.	
	Not applicable to the AVCF. There are no agreements under the range act in the vicinity of the community forest nor livestock grazing within the FDU.	
These measures apply to these Forest Development Units:		**Sproat** **Taylor**

6.0 STOCKING STANDARDS

6.1 Situations or Circumstances that determine whether Free Growing is assessed on a Block Basis or Across Blocks

FPPR S. 44(1) applies in all situations or circumstances under the FSP where a free growing stand is required to be established under FRPA S. 29(1).

6.2 Regeneration Date and Stocking Standards, Free Growing Height

The Stocking Standards specify the regeneration date, free growing height and stocking standards for the situations or circumstances where FPPR S. 44(1) applies.

The even aged stocking standards for the AVCF are found in Appendix 1, Table A.

6.3 Situations or Circumstances that Determine when FPPR S. 44(4) and the Standards Applicable Under FPPR S.16(4) Applies

Uneven aged stocking standards as per FPPR S.44(4) will apply, if the AVCFC carries out harvesting involving commercial thinning, removal of individual trees, intermediate cutting or harvest of special forest products as per FPPR S.44(3)(h) and S.44(3)(i). The uneven aged stocking standards for the AVCF are found in Appendix 1, Table B. The AVCFC will ensure that harvested areas to which these stocking standards apply will conform to these stocking standards for a period of 12 months after the completion of harvest

In situations where post-harvest stands do not meet the Appendix 1, Table B uneven aged stocking standards, the AVCFC will default to the Appendix 1, Table A stocking standards. The stocking standards in Appendix 1, Table A are only appropriate where $<8m^2$/ha is prescribed for retention in Hw and Cw stands and $<5m^2$/ha is prescribed for retention in Fd stand. The stocking standards in Appendix 1, Table B are only appropriate where $>40m^2$/ha is prescribed. In specific situations where a cutblock is proposed with an uneven aged standard, an amendment to this FSP will be proposed, based on the Single Entry Dispersed Retention Stocking Standard (SEDRSS).

For salvage of timber resulting from windthrow, root rot mortality, or other similar events, openings of up to 0.1 ha in size are acceptable and do not require a site plan or associated requirements for the regeneration and establishment of a free growing stand. No long-term impact on timber yield is expected as the subject areas are likely to regenerate naturally or will be planted concurrent with harvest in adjacent areas. For openings larger than 0.1 ha, the even-aged stocking standards found in Appendix 1, Table A will apply.

7.0 REVIEW AND COMMENT

The AVCF's Forest Stewardship Plan #3 went through a referral process from Feb. 1 to April 1 2024. This was advertised in the Alberni Valley News on Jan. 31st, 2024. The Plan was also referred directly to the Hupacasath and Tseshaht First Nations and forwarded to the following organizations:

- Guide Outfitter – Darren Deluca
- Guide Outfitter – Sean Lingl
- City of Port Alberni
- Alberni Clayoquot Regional District
- BC Timber Sales
- Western Forest Products
- Mosaic Forest Management
- Alberni Valley Outdoors Club
- Sproat Lake Community Association
- Bingo Bay Landowners

8.0 REVISIONS

This edition of FSP #3 includes the following edits and revisions to FSP #2. Numerous minor changes have been made throughout the document to provide clarity and consistency with other plans and legislation. This section reflects the major revisions from the previous FSP document.

Cover Page

- Updated document and signature dates

Table of Contents

- Updated table of contents

Section 1.0 Introduction

- Inclusion of territory acknowledgement
- Updated to conform with the Order for the Recovery of Marbled Murrelet, Dec. 2021 – paragraph 2
- Deleted paragraph 8: there are no plans for future FDUs to be added to the AVCF at the present time
- Updated S1.1 – Acronyms used in this FSP
- Changed "Forest Practice" to "Primary Forest Activities"

Section 2.0 Date of Submission

- Updated date of submission

Section 3.0 Term of the FSP and Commencement

- Updated to include the term of FSP #3

Section 4.0 FSP Map

- Updated S4.1 to include reference to the Nahmint SMZ #13 and the non-legal Ash-Central-Sproat General Management Area RMZ #35.

- Updated S4.5 to clarify that the AVCFC intends to preserve deferred provincial old-growth polygons until such time that an old growth strategy is completed

Section 5.0 Results, Strategies, and Measures

Table 3
- Updated to include the Order for the Recovery of Marbled Murrelet Nov. 2021
- Added Karst GAR Order

Table 4
- Updated section numbers

5.1.1a
- Reworded Results to refer specifically to the Sproat Lake Landscape Unit Plan

5.1.1c
- Changed wording of Description and Result to ensure consistence with the objective

Table 5
- Added SMZ 13 – Nahmint – note that this area is outside of the AVCF timber harvesting landbase

5.1.3a
- Added new objecetives and results for MAMU nesting habitat relating to the Order for the Recovery of Marbled Murrelet Dec. 2021

5.1.3b
- Added new objectives and results relating to the FPPR S. 7(2) Notice – Indicators of the Amount, Distribution, and Attributes of Wildlife Habitat Required for the Survival of Marbled Murrelet

5.2.1
- Removed *without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests* from Objective as per Feb. 13, 2023 FPPR update.

5.2.2
- Removed *without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests* from Objective as per Feb. 13, 2023 FPPR update.
- Updated result referencing the Dec. 2021 Order for the Recovery of Marbled Murrelet

5.2.3
- Removed *without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests* from Objective as per Feb. 13, 2023 FPPR update.
- Updated Result #1 to Reference FPPR S.12.1(2)
- Deleted Result #3. It is the AVCFC's intention to cooperated with local groups promoting improved fish habitat, but this would not be a measurable or verifiable result

5.2.4
- Deleted Objective #3 as it no longer applies
- Deleted Result #4(b). As above, the cooperation with local groups is not a measurable or verifiable result.

5.2.5
- Removed *without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests* from Objective as per Feb. 13, 2023 FPPR update.

5.2.6
- Removed *without unduly reducing the supply of timber from British Columbia's forests* from Objective as per Feb. 13, 2023 FPPR update.

5.2.7
- Updated strategy 1(b) to be inclusive of all First Nations values
- Deleted Strategy #4. Evaluation of the nature and extent of site-specific cultural heritage resources is also covered in other listed strategies within this section
- Deleted Strategy #9. These species are cultural heritage resources covered in other strategies within this section.

5.2.8
- Changed wording relating to trail mapping
- Insluded a reference to upmapped trials motorcycle trails existing within the Sproat FDU
- Added strategies from the AVCFC Community Forest Agreement Applicaiton and Forest Management Plan (April 16, 2009)
- Added strategy to inform District Recreation Officer of road maintenance plan on the South Taylor FSR.

5.3.2
- Section added to include objective and strategies to comply with the Jan. 15, 2010 Order to Identify Karst Resource Features

5.4.1
- Measures added to subsection 2

Section 6.0 Stocking Standards
- Updated S6.3 to include clarification of when Appendix 1, Table B stocking standards will be used

Section 7.0 Review and Comment
- Updated review and comment section

Section 8.0 Revisions
- Updated revisions list

Section 9.0 Signatures
- Updated signatures and dates

Appendix 1 – Stocking Standards

Table 1 – Even-Aged Stocking Standards

- Updated even-aged stocking standards for consistence with the Sept. 7 2021 Chief Foresters Reference Guide for Forest Development Stocking Standards
- Added CWHxm 01/05 deciduous stocking standards
- Updated reference notes for stocking standards
- Updated forest health section to include balsam wolly adelgid, spruce weevil, and hemlock dwarf mistletoe, and added a note regarding use of resistant stock for western white pine blister rust

Table 2 –

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Appendix 2 – Rationale in Support of Stocking Standards

- Updated text to provide clarification relating to the use of alternative root rot, and broadleaf stocking standards
- Updated text to include clarification regarding procedures for broadleaf and mixedwood management strategies
- Deleted text regarding free growing damage criteria not having been developed for broadleaf species.
- Updated text to incude survey procedures for the Local Geographic Free Growing Assessment Criteria.

Appendix 3 – FSP Maps

- There have been no changes to FDU boundaries
- Maps have been updated to reflect up to date information from the BC Geographic Warehouse (BCGW) and from new development and resource information updates since FSP #2.

9.0 SIGNATURES

Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation

RPF Signature: _____
Name: Mike Davis RPF
Position: Consulting Forester, Econ Consulting
Date:

AVCFC Signature:_____
Name: Chris Law R.F.T.
Position: Manager, Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation
Date:

APPENDIX 1: STOCKING STANDARDS

Table A: Even-Aged Stocking Standards

ADMINISTRATION				
Coast Forest Region	South Island Forest District	Alberni Valley Community Forest	K2D	Jan. 2024

Standards ID	ID #	BEC		Preferred Species								Acceptable Species						Stocking (w/s)			Min Inter Tree Dist (m)	Regen Delay	FG Date	Tree Ht > Brush (min %)	Comments:
		Zone & variant	Site Series	1	Ht (min)	2	Ht (min)	3	Ht (min)	4	Ht (min)	1	Ht (min)	2	Ht (min)	3	Ht (min)	Target P&A (sph)	Min P&A (sph)	Min P (sph)	MITD (m)	Max (yrs)	Late (yrs)		
	1	CWHmm1	01	Fd	3.0	Cw	1.5					Hw[10]	2.0					900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
	2	CWHmm1	02	Pl	1.25	Fd	2.0					Cw	1.0					800	400	400	2.0	6	20	150	
	3	CWHmm1	03	Fd	2.0							Cw	1.0	Hw*	1.75			800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	4	CWHmm1	04	Fd	2.0							Cw	1.0	Pw[31]	2.5	Hw*	1.75	900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	5	CWHmm1	05	Fd	3.0	Cw	1.5					Pw[31]	2.5	Hw*	2.0	Ba*	0.75	900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	6	CWHmm1	06	Cw	1.5	Hw	2.0					Fd[7]	3.0	Ba*	0.75			900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
	7	CWHmm1	07	Cw	2.0	Fd	4.0					Ba*	1.0	Hw*	2.5			900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	8	CWHmm1	12	Cw[1]	1.0							Hw[1]	1.5	Ss[1]	2.0			800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	9	CWHmm1	05,07	Dr	4.0	Mb	4.0					Act	4.0					1200	1000	800	1.5	3	20	150	Broadleaf management***
	10	CWHmm2	01	Hm[13]/Hw	1.0/1.25	Cw	1.0	Fd[10]	2.25	Yc	1.0	Ba	0.75					900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
	11	CWHmm2	02	Pl	1.25	Fd	1.5					Cw	0.75					800	400	400	2.0	6	20	150	
	12	CWHmm2	03	Fd	1.5	Hw	1.0					Cw	0.75	Hm[13]	0.75	Yc	0.75	800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	13	CWHmm2	04	Fd	1.5							Cw	0.75	Yc	0.75			900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	14	CWHmm2	05	Ba[47]	0.75	Cw	1.0	Yc	1.0	Fd[9]	2.25	Pw[31]	2.5	Hw*	1.5			900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
	15	CWHmm2	06	Hw	1.25	Cw	1.0	Yc	1.0			Ba[47]	0.75	Hm[13]	1.25	Fd[14]	2.25	900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
	16	CWHmm2	07	Cw[1]	0.75	Hw	1.0	Ba[47]	0.75			Hm[13]	0.75	Yc[1]	0.75			800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	

Standards ID	ID #	BEC		Preferred Species								Acceptable Species						Stocking (w/s)			Min Inter Tree Dist (m)	Regen Delay	FG Date	Tree Ht > Brush (min %)	Comments:
		Zone & variant	Site Series	1	Ht (min)	2	Ht (min)	3	Ht (min)	4	Ht (min)	1	Ht (min)	2	Ht (min)	3	Ht (min)	Target P&A (sph)	Min P&A (sph)	Min P (sph)	MITD (m)	Max (yrs)	Late (yrs)		
	17	CWHmm2	08	Cw	1.25	Yc	1.25	Ba[47]	1.0			Hw[9]	1.75	Fd[9]	3.0			900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	18	CWHmm2	10	Cw[1]	0.75							Pw[31]	2.5	Yc[1]	0.75			800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	19	CWHvm2	01	Hw	2.5	Cw[14]	1.5	Yc[13]	1.5	Ba[47]	1.75	Fd[1,14]	2.25	Hm[13]	1.0	Yc[13]	1.5	900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
	20	CWHvm2	03	Cw	1.0	Hw	1.75	Fd[9]	1.5	Yc[13]	1.0	Pw[31]	2.5					800	400	400	2.0	6	20	150	
	21	CWHvm2	04	Cw	1.0	Hw	1.75	Fd[9]	1.5	Yc[13]	1.0	Ba[47]	1.5	Pw[16]	2.5			900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
	22	CWHvm2	05	Cw	1.5	Hw	2.5	Yc[13]	1.5	Ba[47]	1.75	Fd[1,8,9]	2.25					900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	23	CWHvm2	06	Cw	1.5	Hw	2.5	Yc[13]	1.5	Ba[47]	1.75							900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
	24	CWHvm2	07	Cw	2.0	Hw	3.5	Yc[13]	2.0	Ba[47]	2.25							900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	25	CWHvm2	08	Cw[14]	2.0	Hw	3.5	Yc[13]	2.0	Ba[47]	2.25							900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	26	CWHvm2	09	Cw[1]	1.0	Hw[1]	1.75	Yc[1,13]	1.0			Ba[47]	1.5	Hm[13]	0.75			800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	27	CWHvm2	11	Cw[1]	1.0	Yc[1,13]	1.0					Hw[4]	1.75					800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	28	CWHxm	01	Fd	3.0							Hw	2.0	Cw	1.5	Pw[31]	2.5	900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	29	CWHxm	03	Fd	2.0	Pl[6]	1.25					Cw	1.0	Hw*	2.0			800	400	400	2.0	8	20	150	
	30	CWHxm	04	Fd	3.0							Cw	1.5	Pw[31]	2.5			900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	31	CWHxm	05	Cw	2.0	Fd	4.0					Pw[31]	2.5	Bg*	3.5	Hw*	2.0	900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	32	CWHxm	06	Cw	1.50	Hw	2.0					Fd	3.0	Bg*	3.0			900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
	33	CWHxm	07	Cw	2.0	Fd	4.0					Bg[47]	3.5	Hw*	2.0			900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	34	CWHxm	12	Cw[4]	1.0							Hw	1.25					800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	
	35	CWHxm	01,06	Dr	4.0							Mb	4.0	Act	4.0										Broadleaf Management ***
	36	CWHxm	05,07	Dr	4.0	Mb	4.0					Act	4.0					1200	1000	800	1.5	3	20	150	Broadleaf Management ***

Standards ID	ID #	BEC		Preferred Species							Acceptable Species						Stocking (w/s)			Min Inter Tree Dist (m)	Regen Delay	FG Date	Tree Ht > Brush (min %)	Comments:
		Zone & variant	Site Series	1	Ht (min)	2	Ht (min)	3	Ht (min)	4	Ht (min)	1	Ht (min)	2	Ht (min)	3	Ht (min)	Target P&A (sph)	Min P&A (sph)	Min P (sph)	MITD (m)	Max (yrs)	Late (yrs)		
	37	CWHxm	01/06	Cw	1.5	Pw^{31}	2.5					Fd	3.0	Hw	2.0			900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	Alternate species Fd root rot treatment **
	38	CWHxm	03	Cw	1.0	Pw^{31}	2.5					Fd	2.0	Pl^{31}	1.25			800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	Alternate species Fd root rot treatment **
	39	CWHxm	04	Cw	1.5	Pw^{31}	2.5					Fd	3.0					900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	Alternate species Fd root rot treatment **
	40	CWHxm	05/07	Cw	2.0	Pw^{31}	2.5					Fd	4.0	Bg^{47}	3.5			900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	Alternate species Fd root rot treatment **
	41	MHmm1	01	Ba^{4}	0.6							$Hm^{1,3/}$ Hw^{14}	1.0	$Fd^{9,14}$	1.25	Yc^{13}/Cw^{14}	1.0	900	500	400	2.0	7	20	125	
	42	MHmm1	02	Hm	0.75	Yc	0.75					Ba^{47}	0.6					800	400	400	2.0	4	20	125	
	43	MHmm1	03	Ba^{47}	0.6	Hm	1.0	Yc	1.0			Hw*	1.0					900	500	400	2.0	4	20	125	
	44	MHmm1	04	Ba^{47}	0.6	Hm	1.0	Yc	1.0			Hw*	1.0					900	500	400	2.0	7	20	125	
	45	MHmm1	05	Ba^{47}	0.6	Yc	1.0					Hm	1.0	Hw*	1.0			900	500	400	2.0	4	20	125	
	46	MHmm1	06	Hm^{1}	0.75	Yc^{1}	0.75					$Ba^{1,47}$	0.6					800	400	400	2.0	7	20	125	
	47	MHmm1	07	$Ba^{1,47}$	0.6	Yc^{1}	0.75					Hm^{1}	0.75					900	500	400	2.0	4	20	125	
	48	MHmm1	09	Yc^{1}	0.75							Hm^{1}	0.75					800	400	400	2.0	4	20	125	

Reference Notes for stocking standards

Tree Species

'Act' is black cottonwood
'Ba' is amabilis fir
'Bg' is grand fir
'Cw' is western red cedar
'Dr' is red alder
'Fd' is coastal Douglas fir
'Hm' is mountain hemlock
'Hw' is western hemlock
'Mb' is bigleaf maple
'Pl' is lodgepole pine
'Pw' is white pine
'Ss' is sitka spruce
'Yc' is yellow cedar

'Biogeoclimatic unit' or 'BGC classification' means the zone, subzone, variant and site series described in the most recent field guide published by the Ministry of Forests for the identification and interpretation of ecosystems, as applicable to a harvested area.

MIN' or 'Min' means minimum

Stocking Standard Footnotes

1	suitable on elevated microsites
4	suitable on medium textured soils
6	suitable on nutrient-very-poor sites
7	suitable on nutrient-medium sites
8	suitable on steep slopes (>50%)
9	suitable on warm aspects
10	suitable on cool aspects
13	suitable at upper elevations
14	suitable at lower elevations
31	must use Pw blister rust resistant stock. See BC Journal of Ecosystems and Management 10(1):97-100 for supplementary information
35	must use resistant Ss stock to mitigate risk of spruce weevil damage – See Ss Weevil Decision Tool: http://pubs.cif-ifc.org/doi/abs/10.5558/tfc2013-042
47	risk of balsam wolly adelgid within quarantine area – See http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/animals-and-crops/plant-health/insects-and-plant-diseases/nursery-and-ornamentals/balsam-woolly-adelgid
*	Species are listed as tertiary in the Vancouver Forest Region (VFR) recommended stocking standards, but not listed as acceptable species. They have been included as acceptable for a minor portion of the stand if a cruise report indicates it was present as merchantable and utilized volume in the pre-harvest stand comprising =>20% of the cruised volume. The percentage of the free-growing stand that may be comprised of the species will be a maximum of 20%, as per the 2023 Silviculture Survey Procedures Manual.

** Alternate species root rot treatment stocking standards is to be used in SUs that have been diagnosed by a Qualified Professional of having a >50% incidence of Douglas-fir laminated root rot (*Phellinus weirii*).

*** Broadleaf management stocking standards may to be prescribed on a limited, where it is proposed as a forest health treatment or where a major component of broadleafed trees are found in the pre-harvest stand. More information is available in the Rational in Support of Stocking Standards in Appendix 2.

The Table A Even-Aged Stocking Standards are based on the Vancouver Forest Region *Reference Guide for FDP Stocking Standards* dated Sept. 7, 2021. BEC zones and variants not present within the AVCF licence area have been excluded from this table.

Where standards units (SUs) are comprised of an un-mappable mosaic of site series, the practice will be to manage for the stocking standards of the dominant site series (>50% representation with a SU).

Reduction of inter-tree spacing to 1.5m is acceptable for site-specific conditions involving bedrock, large blocky colluvium or hygric sites, or on disturbed roadside areas. This reduction in minimum inter-tree spacing may be applied generally, in situations where plantable spots are limited due to these conditions.

Balsam Woolly Adelgid (*Adelges piceae*)

A risk of balsam woolly adelgid exists throughout Vancouver Island and applies to all Abies species. To be considered as acceptable in a free growing survey, a balsam tree must be free of adelgid damage. Severely infested trees should be brushed and destroyed during the fall or winter months, in order to limit the infestation of other trees in the area.

White Pine Blister Rust (*Cronartium ribicola*)

Western white pine (Pw) occur naturally within the plan area and are susceptible to white pine blister rust. The use of resistant stock, and/or first lift pruning mitigates the risk of white pine blister rust. To be considered as acceptable in a free growing survey, a tree must be free of blister rust, and either grown from resistant stock or first lift pruned.

White pine pruning will follow the following regime:

First Lift –

- Trees will be pruned when mean height of white pine is 1.0 to 2.5 m for plantations.
- Natural white pine will be pruned when height is 1.5 to 3.0 m
- Trees will be pruned to 50 to 65% of total tree height.
- Infected branches above target pruning height will be selectively pruned
- In high hazard areas, early pruning will be considered

Second Lift –

- Trees will be pruned when mean height of white pine is > 5m
- Trees will be pruned to 3.0 m or 50% of total height
- Trees < 5 m will be pruned to 50% of total height

Third Lift (optional) –

- May be performed to approx. 5.5 m to improve wood quality, mainly when used to reforest areas infected with root disease

Spruce Weevil (*Pissodes storbi*)

The risk of spruce weevil is high for the plan area below 700m elevation. For this reason Sitka spruce (Ss) will be limited to minor components (<20%) within planted stands, unless planted spruce comes from improved 'A' seed or 'B+' seed selected for resistance from naturally resilient stands.

Dwarf Hemlock Mistletoe (*Arceuthobium tusgense*)

Hemlock dwarf mistletoe (DMH) occurs endemically throughout the plan area. To mitigate the effects of DMH on regenerating stands, non-host trees (Fd, Cw, Yc, Pw) will be planted within 8m of an affected residual tree. In heavily infested DMH stands, all western hemlock (Hw) greater than 3m in height will be knocked down concurrent with harvest.

Stocking Standards for FPPR S.44(4) areas

FPPR S.44(4) areas include areas subject to commercial thinning, the removal of individual trees, areas subject to single/group tree selection, salvage of scattered windthrow or root rot mortality, or other types of intermediate cutting, and areas subject to the harvest of special forest products.

Table B: Stocking Standards for FPPR S.44(4) areas

Stocking Standard ID	BEC Zone/Variant	Site Series	Ecologically Suitable Species	Stocking Basal Area		Stocked Stand Declaration Date	
			Layer 1*>= 12.5cm DBH	Minimum**	m^2/ha	Earliest	Latest
	CWHmm1	01	Fd, Cw, Hw	>=	40	1	2
	CWHmm1	04	Fd, Cw, Hw, Pw	>=	40	1	2
	CWHmm1	05	Fd, Cw, Pw, Hw, Ba	>=	40	1	2
	CWHmm1	06, 07	Cw, Hw, Fd, Ba	>=	40	1	2
				>=	40	1	2
	CWHvm2	01	Ba, Fd, Hw, Cw, Ss, Yc, Hm	>=	40	1	2
	CWHvm2	03	Cw, Hw, Fd, Yc, Hm, Pl, Pw	>=	40	1	2
	CWHvm2	04	Cw, Hw, Ba, Fd, Yc, Pw, Ss, Hm	>=	40	1	2
	CWHvm2	05	Ba, Cw, Fd, Hw, Ss, Yc, Hm	>=	40	1	2
	CWHvm2	06, 07	Ba, Cw, Fd, Hw, Yc, Hm, Ss	>=	40	1	2
	CWHvm2	08	Ba, Cw, Hw, Ss, Yc, Hm	>=	40	1	2
	CWHvm2	09	Ba, Cw, Hw, Yc, Hm, Pl	>=	40	1	2
	CWHvm2	11	Cw, Yc, Hm, Hw, Ss	>=	40	1	2
	CWHxm	01	Fd, Hw, Cw, Pw	>=	40	1	2
	CWHxm	04	Fd, Cw, Pw	>=	40	1	2
	CWHxm	05	Cw, Fd, Bg, Hw, Pw	>=	40	1	2
	CWHxm	06/07	Cw, Hw, Fd, Bg	>=	40	1	2

*Layer 1 crop trees >12.5cm DBH must meet the damage criteria outlined in Section 27 of the FS 660 field card and the SEDRSS Framework Implementation Guide (Coastal) 2014.
**Minimum is the average basal area across a standard unit post harvest with no openings >0.1ha.

The standards listed above in Table B apply to FPPR S.44(4) areas and will be assessed during a post harvest assessment. Post harvest assessments will focus on remaining layer 1 trees only. Layer 1 refers to dominant, over-story trees ≥ 12.5cm dbh of ecologically suitable species that are free of damage as per applicable damage criteria described in Section 17 of the FS 660 field card and the SEDRSS Framework Implementation Guide (Feb. 14, 2014). Retained layer 1 trees must be healthy and have suitable silvical characteristics including sufficient live crown (typically >30%) to respond to increased light availability and be of suitable form to increase in volume and value over time. These stocking standards are not intended to act as a guide for commercial or pre-commercial thinning prescriptions. They provide minimum stocking standards that ensure adequate site occupancy and stocking of the residual stand is maintained and subsequent regeneration is not required. In all cases areas harvested under these situations or circumstances must conform to the applicable stocking standards for a period of 12 months after the completion of harvest. Prescriptions for these areas will consider the factors relating to stocking specifications (FPPR Schedule 1(6)).

APPENDIX 2: RATIONALE IN SUPPORT OF STOCKING STANDARDS

Alternate Root Rot Stocking Standards

Alternative broadleaf and root rot stocking standards are proposed given the high root rot risk in the CWHxm and the licensee's full intent to facilitate the best practices in forest management and to improve site productivity and species/product diversity.

Site plans will be prepared for each cutblock as per Section 10 of FRPA. At this stage the fundamental decision will be made as to what stocking standard will apply and the Standard Unit ID will be assigned. In the case of site plan, prescriptions relating to forst health, survey and assessment must be completed by a Qualified Professional according to relevant methodology (see 2021-2023 Coast Area Forest Health Overview, May 2023, v.3.0)

Forest health concerns raise additional issues as to the appropriateness of the defaults in areas where root rot (e.g. Phellinus weirii) impacts the regeneration and long-term health and productivity of the preferred species. The proposed alternative stocking standards for root rot promote healthy stands that protect adjacent resources and values. For example on infected zonal sites (01) adjacent to an S4 creek or recreational trail where stumping is not appropriate to control sediment or to maintain visual appearance. In these cases the establishment of Douglas fir (preferred) may prove difficult and unsuited in the long-term due to re-infection.

Broadleafed Stocking Standards

The Chief Forester's stocking standards indicate black cottonwood (Act), red alder (Dr) and bigleaf maple (Mb) as being a productive, reliable and feasible regeneration options on some site series within the CWHxm and CWHmm1. The use of broadleaf species is proposed in consideration of the Chief Forester's memorandums dated August 22nd, 2000 and May 1st, 2008 and the supporting note 'Common Principles for the Management of Red Alder within the Coast Forest Region' dated August 2004.

The management for broadleaf species is proposed on a limited scale, in site series 05 and 07 of the CWHmm1, and in site series 01, 05, 06, and 07 of the CWHxm. Site plan prescriptions proposing a broadleaf or mixedwood management regime may be used as a forest health treatment or where it can be shown that a major component of broadleafed trees (>50%) are found in the pre-harvest stand.

As per the Coastal Mixedwood Management Strategy in section 9.3.3.1 of the 2023 Silviculture Survey Procedures Manual, where broadleafed species are proposed as part of a mixedwood management strategy, mixedwood regimes must be stratified into forest types (>0.5ha) based on the leading species component:

- Conifer leading (C): >80% conifer;
- Conifer leading mixedwood (CD): >50% but <80% conifer;
- Broadleaf leading mixedwood (DC): >50% but <80% broadleaf; or
- Broadleaf leading (D): >80% broadleaf.

For site plan prescriptions with conifer leading (C) and conifer leading mixedwood (CD) strata, regular CWHxm stocking standards will be used. For site plan prescriptions with broadleaf (D) and broadleaf leading mixedwood (DC) strata, CWHxm broadleaf management stocking standards will be used.

The minimum height criterion for broadleaf species is based on the tallest conifer standard of the particular site series since the listed hardwoods are at least as rapid growing as their conifer counterpart. If a cedar or Sitka spruce understory is planted in addition to the full hardwood stocking, then the natural pruning of the alder would be enhanced. However, the stand's status will only be measured using the broadleaf standards. The removal of the alder at harvest age is operationally possible, while leaving a fully stocked, semi-mature conifer pole stand behind.

A limited number of scattered broadleaf trees will be tolerated on all conifer plantations to provide a nurse crop, promote nutrient cycling and for general biodiversity objectives. Up to 50 stems per hectare (sph) of broadleaf trees will be allowed such that they do not influence the free to grow status of adjacent conifers. Because the standard methodology (3.99m radius plot) is too small to reflect appropriate broadleaf densities only 1 broadleaf tree per 4 sample plots will be allowed.

The Local Geographic Free Growing Competition Assessment Criteria, described in Appendix 8.1 of the 2023 Silviculture Survey Procedures Manual may also be used in site series 01 and 03 of the CWHxm. In this assessment criteria:

- Herb and shrub competition must not be taller than crop trees in more than one quadrant;
- Mb and Act must meet the Conifer/Brush ratio;
- For 01 site series, 1 Dr is allowed per plot that is taller than the median free-growing crop tree height; and
- For 03 site series, 2 Dr are allowed per plot that are taller than the median free-growing crop tree height.

Broadleaf and mixedwood management standards are supported by the following literature:

- Hibbs et al. The Biology and Management of Red Alder (1994),
- E.B. Petersons et al. FRDA Report 250 – Black Cottonwood and Balsam poplar manager's handbook for British Columbia (1996).
- L. Sigurdson et al. 2nd draft report on Weyerhaeuser's Red Alder Management Practices (1998),
- P.J. Courting et al. Forest Research Extension Note 016 - Red Alder management trials in the Vancouver Forest Region (2002).
- Province of B.C. (2020), Silviculture Survey Procedures Manual, Ministry of Forests, Land, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development - Resources Practices Branch

APPENDIX 3 - FSP MAPS

Overview Map
FDU A – Sproat Operating Area
FDU B – Taylor Operating Area

Overview Map

Licensee:	Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation
Forest Region:	Coast
Forest District:	South Island
Reference Map:	92F024, 025, 026 F035, 036
Datum, UTM Zone:	NAD 83, 10
Drafted:	January 7, 2011
By:	ECON

Alberni Valley Community Forest K2D

Overview Map

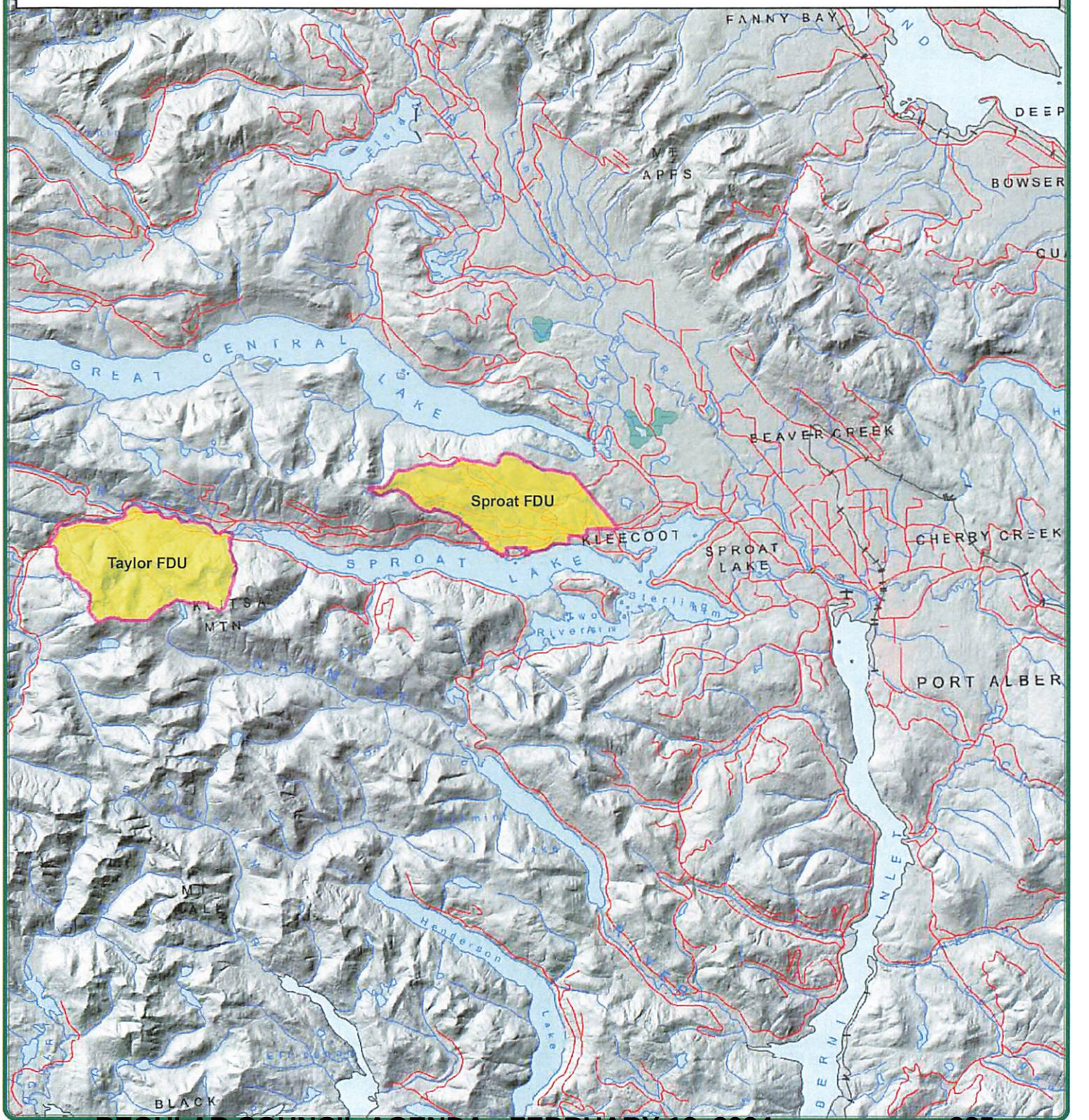
N

1:250,000

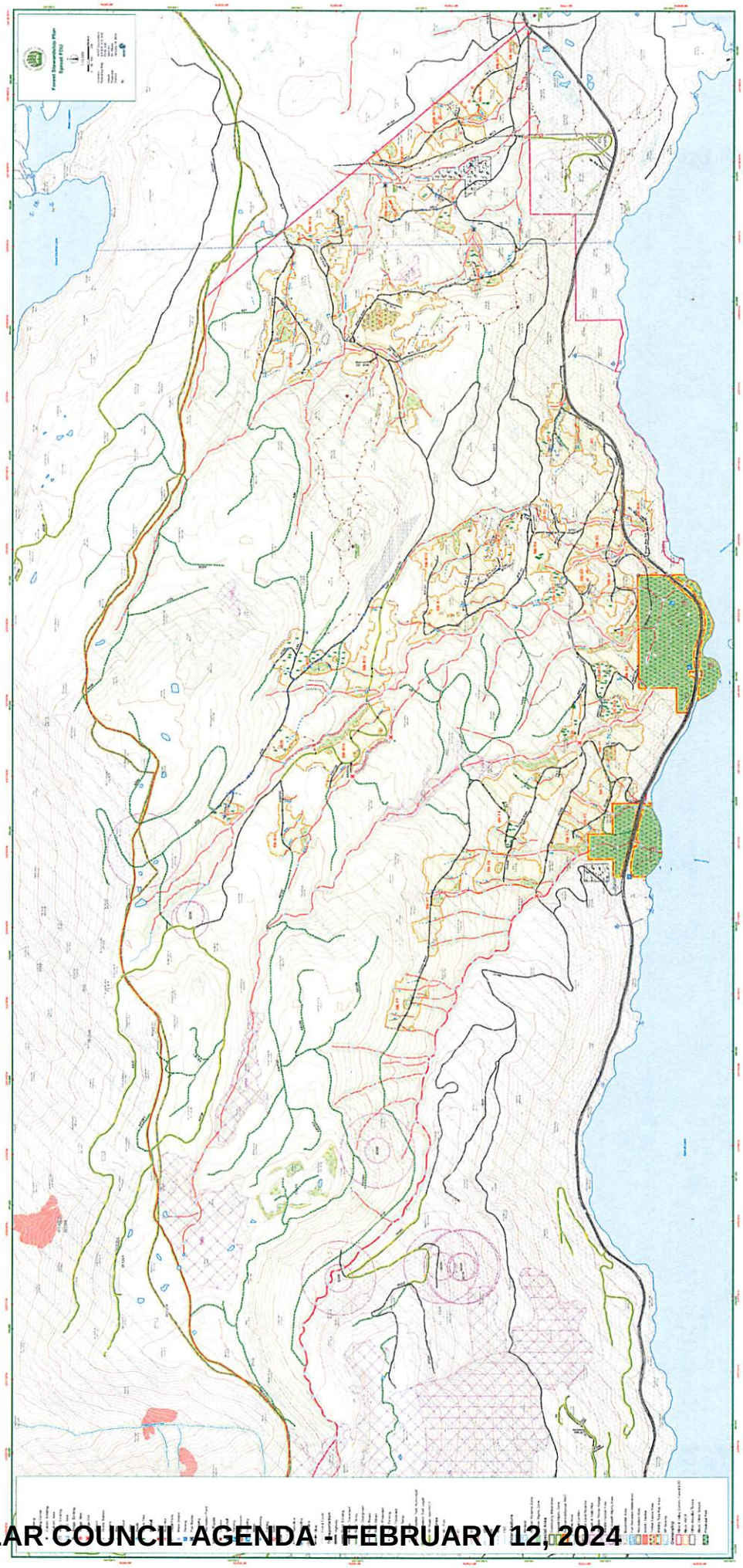
0 2,500 5,000 10,000 Meters

econ

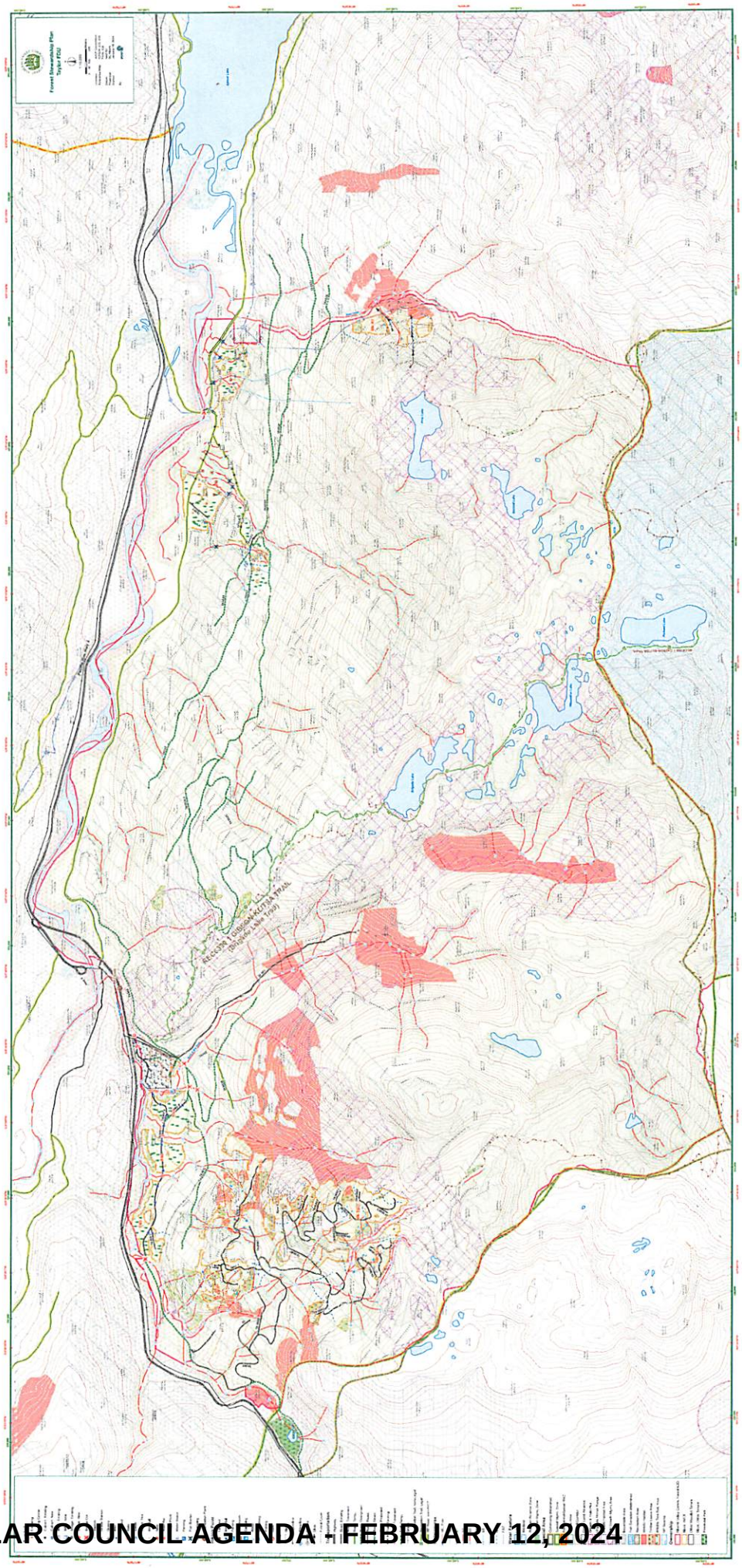
Community Forest Area



FDU A – Sproat Operating Area



FDU B – Taylor Operating Area



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CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

WildSafeBC Annual Report 2023

Alberni Valley

Prepared by: Maude Tanguay, WildSafeBC Alberni Valley Coordinator

☑ Council
☐ Mayor
☑ CAO
☐ Finance
☑ Corporate Services
☑ Agenda RCM Feb 12/24
File # 5280-09
☐ Economic Development
☐ Engineering/PW
☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Development Services
☐ Community Safety
☐ Other

British Columbia Conservation Foundation

Executive Summary

This report describes the activities of the WildSafeBC Alberni Valley Program between May 15th and November 30th 2023. The program covers the City of Port Alberni and the surrounding Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) electoral areas of Sproat Lake, Cherry Creek, Beaver Creek and Beaufort which reside on the traditional territory of the Hupačasath and Tseshaht First Nations (Figure 1).

The WildSafeBC Community Coordinator (WCC) performed outreach activity with the goal of preventing conflict with wildlife in the community. The following summarizes key program deliverables over the course of the season:

- 17 WildSafe Ranger Program presentations and 691 youth reached.
- 4 presentations given to community groups and 44 participants.
- 35 people reached through door-to-door in person and 19 door hangers left.
- 11 display booths and 1,052 people reached.
- 3 Facebook posts (excluding posts shared from Provincial page) and 42 new Facebook page followers from January 1 to November 30, 2023.

In total, the WildSafeBC Alberni Valley program was successful in reaching over 1800 individuals through face-to-face conversations that lead to opportunities to deliver WildSafeBC messaging. In the context of the 8th Annual BC Goes Wild, the WCC participated in the Alberni Valley Rivers Day in collaboration with WildSafeBC Pacific Rim, BC Parks, local First Nations and other local groups. The WCC also supported a local fruit-gleaning initiative, The Gleaning Project, by sharing information about the program with residents.

A huge challenge for the Alberni Valley was the wildfire that crossed Highway 4 making access to the Alberni Valley more difficult. The situation was well managed by the organizations in charge, but the WCC lived outside the area with limited access throughout the season. The community would benefit from Bin tagging and WildSafe Business Pledge next year since these programs were not worked on this year.

WildSafeBC would like to thank its generous sponsors, including the Province of British Columbia, the British Columbia Conservation Foundation, and the ACRD, for making the program possible. WildSafeBC also thanks local staff, organizations, and community residents for their continued support of the program.

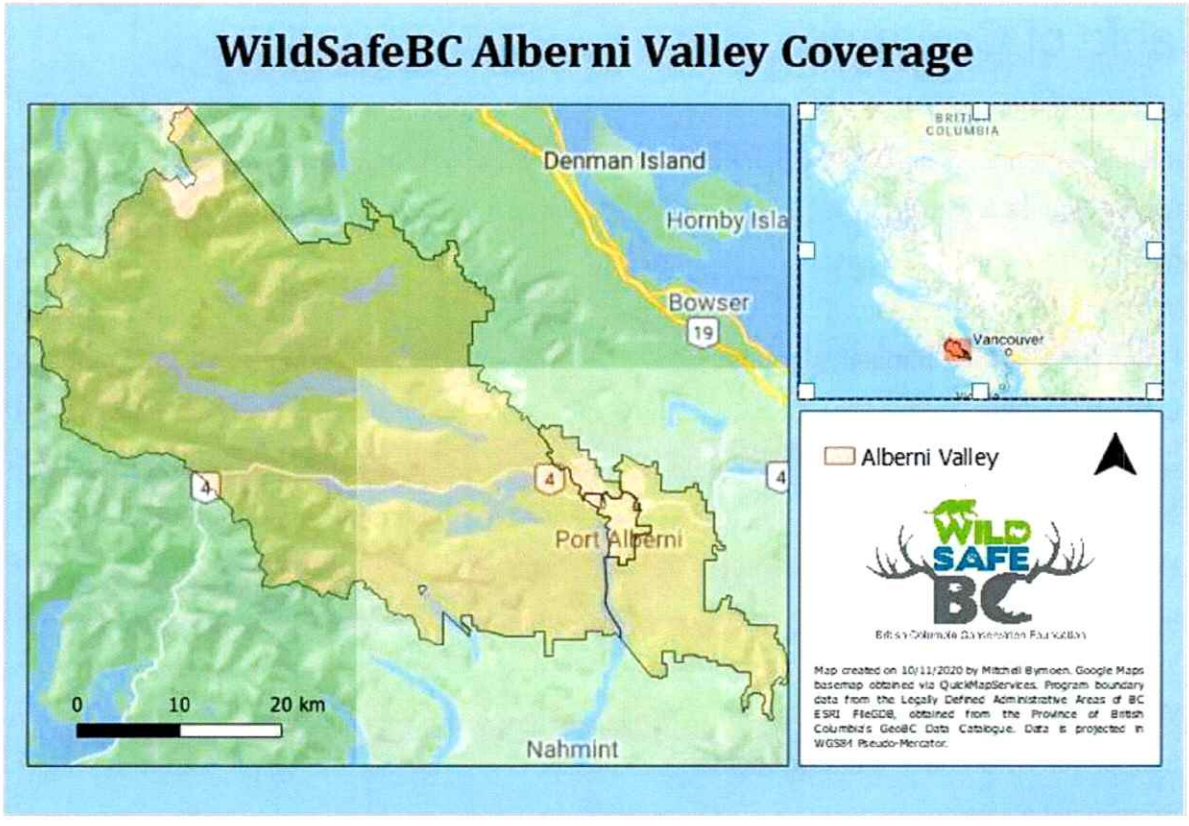

Figure 1. WildSafeBC Alberni Valley program coverage area.

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Cover Photo: Stamp River Provincial Park

Highlights from the 2023 Season

WildSafe Ranger Program

The WildSafe Ranger Program (WRP) introduces youth to the concept of human-wildlife conflict, including causes and prevention. A total of 5 schools participated in the WRP with over 690 students becoming WildSafe Rangers and receiving activity kits (Table 1). The WCC received positive feedback from both the students and the youth camp leaders.

Table 1. Schools that received the WildSafe Ranger Program in 2023.

School	Grade	Students
Alberni District Secondary School	9 to 12	400
Haahuupayak school	6 and 7	44
John Howitt Elementary School	1 to 7	142
Tsuma-as Elementary	1, 5 and 6	49
Wood Elementary	K, 1, 2, 4 and 5	56
Total Participants		**691**

Presentations to Community Groups

WildSafeBC provides a variety of community presentations depending on the interest of the group, including wildlife awareness and safety, bear spray workshops, and electric fencing workshops. The WCC gave a total of 4 presentations to 40 participants providing information on general wildlife safety and awareness or electric fencing (Table 2). A bear spray workshop was scheduled and had to be canceled due to the road closure cause by the wildfire.

Table 2. Presentations provided in 2023.

Type of Presentation	Location	Participants	Date
Wilderness Safety & Awareness	United Church	16	May 31, 2023
Wilderness Safety & Awareness	Harbour Quay	8	July 27, 2023
Wilderness Safety & Awareness	Blair Park	14	August 3, 2023
Electric Fencing Workshop	Stamp River Provincial Park	6	September 24, 2023 (World Rivers Day)
Total Participants		**44**	

Display Booths

Display booths are an excellent way to reach multiple people over a short period of time to increase awareness about WildSafeBC and its messaging. This year, the WCC participated in 12 display booths and delivered education to over 1100 members of the public (Table 3 and Figure 2).The main topics discussed with booth attendees included wildlife attractant management and

how to stay safe in wildlife country. Booth attendees often shared their experiences with wildlife. The WCC also answered questions and discussed topics brought by attendees.

Table 3. WildSafeBC booths in 2023.

Location	Public Interactions	Date
Healthy School Caravan at EJ Dunn Elementary	51	June 8
Summer Pop Up	20	July 19
Uptown Market	41	July 19
Friday Night Market	62	July 21
Spirit Square Farmers' Market	85	July 22
Summer Pop Up	12	August 2
Friday Night Market	68	August 4
Spirit Square Farmers' Market	86	August 5
Alberni Fall Fair	545	September 7-10
Friday Night Market	47	September 22
Spirit Square Farmers' Market	35	September 23
World River Day	133	September 27
Total Interactions	**1185**	

Figure 2. WildSafeBC Display Booths at World River Day (left) and Summer Pop-Up (right).

Door-to-Door Education and Bin Tagging

Through door-to-door education, a total of 35 people were reached during in-person conversations and over 19 homes were reached by leaving door hangers. Areas were prioritized for this activity due to reported black bear activity, including Margaret Street (Blair Park) and Klista Drive.

Garbage bin tagging consists of placing a highly visible and removable warning sticker on top of containers set curbside the night before collection. Garbage bin tagging was not complete this year due to the difficulty of commuting to Port Alberni with the wildfire and the closure of the Highway 4. This activity should be prioritized in the future, as it has proven to be an effective educational tool in past seasons.

Social Media and Press

Social Media was an effective way to share WildSafeBC messaging across the Alberni Valley. In 2023, the WCC shared 4 posts and the WildSafeBC Alberni Valley Facebook page grew 9% from 459 to 501 page followers. The Port Alberni Valley Vibe published an article on actions that could be taken to keep wildlife wild and Alberni Valley community safe (Figure 3).

Alberni
WILDSAFE

WildSafeBC is the provincial leader in preventing conflict with wildlife through collaboration, education and community solutions. It is a program managed and delivered by the BC Conservation Foundation in communities across BC. Maude Tanguay, as the WildSafeBC Coordinator for Alberni Valley, will be working in the community to reduce human - wildlife conflict for the upcoming season. WildSafeBC acknowledges the land these programs operate on as the unceded traditional territories of the Hupačasath and Tseshaht First Nations.

From May to the end of November, we will be involved in a number of initiatives including education programs, training sessions and outreach at various events. You will see us at events around town as we spread the word about how to safely keep wildlife wild and communities safe.

In the past years, there have been several reports of animals including black bears, deer, and cougars in the area. When animals have access to garbage and other unnatural food sources, conflict situations can develop. Some animals may become food conditioned, and/or habituated to people. Habituated black bears tolerate humans in much closer proximity than what is safe for both black bears and humans. Food-conditioned black bears may become very motivated to access unnatural food sources, which can lead to property damage or increased concerns regarding public safety. It is particularly unfortunate to see sow black bears teaching cubs to forage for unnatural food among people - potentially leading to future conflicts and shorter lives.

The most effective action we can take to keep wildlife wild and our communities safe is to keep all attractants secure, including:

- Do not store garbage or other organic waste outdoors. If you have curbside collection, only put the containers out on the morning of collection day – never the night before. Make sure recyclables have been cleaned.

- Protect fruit trees with electric fencing or pick fruit early and do not let windfall accumulate. Ensure your compost is well-managed and does not smell.

- Avoid feeding birds when black bears are most active (April to November) and ensure birdfeeders are always inaccessible to non-target species such as bears, deer, squirrels and raccoons. Do not let seeds accumulate that may attract rats and other rodents.

- Feed pets indoors and keep pets inside at night.

- Keep your barbecue clean by burning off uncooked food and emptying the grease container.

To volunteer or for further information on reducing human-wildlife conflict, visit our website wildsafebc.com, follow WildSafeBC Alberni Valley on Facebook, or contact your local Community Coordinator, Maude, at albernivalley@wildsafebc.com.

Please report sightings of bears, wolves or cougars in urban/residential areas, or wildlife in conflict, to the Conservation Officer Service at 1-877-952-7277.

WildSafeBC Alberni Valley is grateful for the generous support the program receives from its funders including Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, the British Columbia Conservation Foundation and the BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy.

Article and Photos Submitted by Wildsafe BC

Figure 3. Article in the Valley Vibe Fall 2023. Source: https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/803d97de-d4f2-4794-a3d3-78e5c501d8b1/downloads/Valley%20Vibe%20Fall%202023.pdf?ver=1698962621633

Wildlife in Area Signs

"Wildlife in Area" signs were placed in areas of high wildlife activity throughout the season. In residential areas, specific residential "Bear in Area" signs were posted to encourage residents to take extra care when it comes to securing their garbage and compost before collection day.

Collaborations

Several collaborations were helpful to advance the WildSafeBC Alberni Valley program this season. First, the WCC shared resources from the Alberni Valley Gleaning Project, including a brochure, to people who had human-wildlife conflicts due to fruit trees. The Alberni Valley Gleaning Project connects property owners who have excess produce with volunteers. The WCC also collaborated with the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service to identify hot spots of

wildlife activity where door-to-door canvassing or wildlife in area signs would be helpful to the community. Lastly, the WildSafeBC Alberni Valley Coordinator collaborated with the WildSafeBC Nanaimo Coordinator to offer more WRP presentations.

WildSafe Business Pledge

The WildSafe Business Pledge Program has been developed to encourage businesses to be good examples in their community on how to safely co-exist with wildlife. To take the pledge, a business is required to follow best practices in solid waste management, provide adequate training to staff and support WildSafeBC's safety and conflict reduction information. In return, WildSafeBC will provide ongoing support to the business in the form of staff training, WildSafeBC materials, and a WildSafeBC Business Pledge poster. No new businesses were approached or signed up this season and this should be prioritized by future WCC's.

WildSafeBC Bare Campsite Program

Through the WildSafeBC Bare Campsite Program, WildSafeBC is able to provide clear guidelines and resources to assist campground operators in maintaining a safe campsite for both people and wildlife. No new campsites were approached or participated in the program this season and this should be prioritized by future WCC's due to the high volume of recreational camping and tourism in the area.

Indigenous Awareness and Engagement

Indigenous Awareness and Engagement is an important aspect of the provincial WildSafeBC Program. This year, all WCC's across the Province completed an Indigenous Awareness Training with the Indigenous Corporate Training Inc. Further, the WCC for the WildSafeBC Alberni Valley program delivered the WildSafe Ranger program to 44 students at Haahuupayak School.

Special Initiatives

BC Goes Wild is a campaign to celebrate wildlife in BC and it occurs in September which is typically the month when human-bear conflicts are at their highest in BC. In the context of the 8th Annual BC Goes Wild, the WCC collaborated with WildSafeBC Pacific Rim, BC Parks, local First Nations and other local groups in the organization of Alberni Valley Rivers Day (Figure 4). The event was successful in celebrating our province's great biodiversity and spreading awareness regarding human-wildlife conflicts. A primary focus of the event was the essential interconnectivity between bears and salmon and the value of our local watersheds.

Figure 4. WildSafeBC Alberni Valley and WildSafeBC Pacific Rim collaborating at World River Day.

Challenges and Opportunities

A major challenge this season included the major wildlife in the area and the closure of Highway 4. The WCC did not live in the Alberni Valley and had limited access throughout the season, limiting some programming activities. This included bin tagging, the business pledge program, and the bare campsite program. Despite this challenge, the WCC was successful in reaching over 1800 people.

Garbage and organics continue to be a significant attractant for bears in the Alberni Valley reported to the COS. In the past, bin tagging education has proven to be a highly effective method of changing behavior. This should be a focus for the 2024 season. This could be combined with door-to-door education on bear-resisted bin options to increase the number of residential garbage bins equipped with a bear-resistant locks.

Fruit trees also continue to be a source of attractants in the community that draw wildlife into residential areas. To address the abundance of fruit in the community, the following initiatives should be implemented in 2024:

- Electric fence demonstrations
- Increased door-to-door campaigns in hotspots areas

Next season, the WCC should use social media as a means to share more educational messaging. This includes collaboration with the ACRD and the City of Port Alberni to share WildSafeBC messaging on their websites and social media pages to provide more cohesive educational messaging about human-wildlife conflict management.

Acknowledgements

The WCC would like to thank Paulo Eichelberger, Brenda Sauve and Jodie Frank from the ACRD and Anna Lewis for their support and assistance in the delivery of the WildSafeBC program. The WCC would also like to thank Conservation Officers Katelyn Dyck, Andrew Riddell, and Sergeant Daniel Eichstadter for their support. Lastly, the WCC would like to thank Bylaw Enforcement Officers Andrea Alexander and Nathan Bourelle. The WCC would like to thank the Alberi Valley Community Coordinator, Sachin Sethi, for completing WRP in the Fall when capacity was limited. Special thanks to the BCCF team including Kathy Murray for their ongoing support throughout the season.

☑ Council ☐ Economic Development
☑ Mayor ☐ Engineering/PW
☑ CAO ☐ Parks, Rec. & Heritage
☐ Finance ☐ Development Services
☑ Corporate Services ☐ Community Safety
☑ Agenda ☐ Other RCM Feb 12/24
0540-20-APC

Summary Report / Minutes of the Advisory Planning Commission Meeting held on December 21, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.
(Council Chambers, Port Alberni City Hall, 4850 Argyle Street)

Commission Members Present
Stefanie Weber (Vice-Chair)
Sandy McRuer
Dan Holder
Christine Washington, (SD70 Liaison)
Harley Wylie (Alt. – Tseshaht (ċ išaaʔatḥ) F.N)
Callan Noye
Derrin Fines (P.A.F.D. Liaison)
Councilor Dustin Dame (Council Liaison)

Regrets
Ed Francoeur (Chair)
Serena Mayer, (Hupačasath F.N)
Ken Watts (ECC, Tseshaht (ċ išaaʔatḥ) F.N)
Joe McQuaid

Staff
Scott Smith, Director of Dev. Services/Deputy CAO
Cara Foden, Planning Technician
Haley Stevenson, Planner I

Guests
Applicant/s: None present

Alternates and Staff not in attendance
Larry Ransom (Alt.– S.D.70)
TBD (Alt.– RCMP)
Councilor Deb Haggard (Alt. Council Liaison)
Brian McLoughlin, Manager of Planning
S./Sgt. Mike Thompson, (R.C.M.P. Liaison)
Wayne Mihalicz (Parks Liaison)

1. **Acknowledgements and Introductions**
   - The Vice-Chair acknowledged that this meeting is being held within the un-ceded, traditional territories of the Hupačasath Nation and the Tseshaht (ċ išaaʔatḥ) First Nation.

2. **Adoption of previous meeting minutes:**
   - Summary Report / Minutes from the APC Meetings held on October 19, 2023

(McRuer / Holder) CARRIED

3. **DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION: Development Variance Permit**
   4821 Heath Rd. - *Lot 2, Block 2, District Lot 11, Alberni District, Plan 618B (PID: 008-735-042)*
   APPLICANT: D. Sneddon

   - The Planner 1 presented a summary of the application. A full report dated December 14, 2023 was included in the Agenda package for this meeting.

   - Attendees discussed the proposed Variance as follows:
     - Site coverage was discussed and clarified with respect to what structures are/are not included in the site coverage calculation. It was also clarified that site coverage regulation is one factor that helps to determine the 'character' of a particular zone designation.

Motions:

1. *That the Advisory Planning Commission recommends to City Council that Council support the application.*

(Washington / Holder) CARRIED

4. **DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION: Proposed OCP & Zoning Bylaw Amendments**
2856 4th Avenue. - *Lot 5, Block 57, District, Lot 1, Alberni District, Plan 197-B, (PID: 000-845-710)*
APPLICANT: Lindsay Baker dba Le Fevre Group

- The Planner 1 presented a summary of the application. A full report dated December 14, 2023 was included in the Agenda package for this meeting.

- Attendees discussed the proposed amendments as follows:
  - APC members evaluated the proposed amendments with consideration to the adjacent site (2846 4th Ave.) being developed in the same manner and by the same developer. The Director of Development Services noted that the applicant had chosen to pursue the amendments for each site separately rather than in combination.
  - The APC members supported the application.

Motions:

1. *That the Advisory Planning Commission recommends to City Council that Council support the application.*

(Washington / Noye) CARRIED

5. **Updates from the Director of Development Services**
   - Zoning Bylaw 5074 amendment applications:
     - Bylaw for Zoning amendment (Bylaw 5096) on Kingsway Ave. was given 1st reading by Council.
     - Application for Micro-Hotel on Johnston Rd. – a new Architect has been hired and a meeting with staff is scheduled to discuss next steps for the project.
     - New legislation from the Province has been passed that will require municipalities to incorporate new Zoning regulations by June 2024. The regulations will not permit Public Hearings where an application aligns with an Official Community Plan (OCP). The APC discussed the potential impact of these new regulations. Port Alberni public transit does not meet the 15-minute frequency set by the Province that could permit 6-Plex on nearby properties.
   - DVP 117 – 4735/4715 Dunbar St. – approved by Council on December 11/23 with conditions.

6. **Other Business:** The Director of Development Services thanked C. Noye and S. Weber for their past service and their willingness to serve another term with the APC. E. Francoeur (Chair) was thanked for his past service on the APC although he was unable to attend this meeting.

7. **Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for 12:00 pm on **Thursday, January 18, 2024**

[redacted]

(Chair)

Councillor Report

For February 12, 2024

Councillor Debbie Haggard

January 17 – 18, 2024 – Mayor Minions and I attended the annual **Truck Loggers Association Convention**. The theme this year was *Solutions from our Forests.*

- ***How to be a Climate Optimist*** – One of the leading voices on climate change solutions reported on the global energy transition and state of the art renewable energy, clean tech and urban design that will allow individuals and businesses alike to not only survive but thrive.
- ***Wildfire Mitigation and Innovation*** – With BC's escalating wildfire frequency in recent years, we must look at better mitigating our risk and identifying the requirements to help make it happen.
- ***Artificial Intelligence: Today and in the Future*** – Exploring practical implications of AI for the forestry business and how they can be utilized now and into the future.
- ***The Evolution of Partnerships*** – Positive and evolutionary changes are happening to the structure of BC's forest tenures. Representatives from the Nanwakolas Council and Western Forest Products talked about their recently announced partnership, the path on achieving the partnership and the benefits to both parties.
- ***A Path to Collective Advocacy*** – There are numerous challenges in today's forestry sector. Discussions focused on strategies to improve and enhance advocacy efforts in the political and public arena.
- ***Leaders Luncheon with Premier Eby*** – The provincial government seemed to have heard the forestry industry's need for additional fibre. However, there will be no additional allowable cut in the near future. The message was that the forestry industry will have to be innovative and do more with less.

January 23, 2024 – I met with the representative from the Alberni Clayoquot Regional District appointed to the Vancouver Island Regional Library. We discussed possible future strategies to help assist with the ongoing large increases from VIRL.

January 24, 2024 – Alberni Clayoquot Regional District Committee of the Whole - The ACRD began the budgeting process and identified priorities for this year and identified items that can be included in the financial planning at a later date.

January 24, 2024 – Alberni Clayoquot Regional District Board meeting – Highlights include:

- The Board approved the 2024 ACRD Standing/Select Committee appointments and Appointments to Outside Boards.

- Two resolutions were approved to bring forward to AVICC;
    - Request the Ministry of Water, Land and Resources conduct a current inventory of surface and groundwater availability, as well as future needs, in order to facilitate planning of freshwater requirements to supply all residential, commercial, industrial, agriculture, Indigenous, emergency and environmental needs to a minimum of a 50 year threshold.
    - Request that the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resurce Operations, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with communities that have only one access road in and out of their community, to ensure the permanent establishment and maintenance of alternative and emergency transportation routes for use in the event of an emergency and also request that the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, coordinate with the Ministry of Transportation, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, and appropriate local governments to conduct an inventory of active forestry roads that could be maintained for emergency evacuation purposes and that the roads be maintained for these purposes by the province in perpetuity.

January 30, 2024 – Matthews West Development came to Port Alberni to meet Council, staff, local First Nations, community stakeholders and the community at large. A media event was held at the Somass site.

January 31. 2024 – Tseshahat First Nation presented the draft Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy to the community at large. Tseshaht asked that all Councils and Boards support the strategy.

February 2, 2024 – I attended the Business Leaders Breakfast hosted by the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce. Susan Mowbray, Chief Economist at MNP, gave a presentation on the Valley's economic progress. This was an opportunity to understand factors and trends influencing our local economy.

sponsorship package
february 24, 2024

The **Coldest Night of the Year** is a winterrific family-friendly walk to raise money for local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness. This year, Sage Haven Society is hosting an event with fantastic community sponsorship opportunities!

bluesea FOUNDATION

Blue Sea Foundation
260-659 King St. East,
Kitchener, ON, N2G 2M4
Phone 1.877.743.3413
Web bluesea.org

About Sage Haven

We offer a place of safety and support for women and children who are experiencing domestic violence.

We provide a welcoming space for men, women, and children to step in from the cold in our Drop-in Centre

With help from companies like yours, we:

- Provided 2205 bed stays for women and children last year at our Transition House
- Provided 6803 supports through our Drop-in Centre
- December 2023, in partnership with BC Housing, we will be opening the doors of Wiikšaḥiquʔiɬ, Second Stage Housing. This will provide longer-term housing and support for women and children.

To find out more about our programs and services, please visit our website at cnoy.org

ONE OF CANADA'S *fastest-growing peer-to-peer events!*

9 out of 10 participants recommend CNOY

#1 Fundraising Walk in Canada

To become a Coldest Night of the Year sponsor, please contact:
Ellen Frood, Executive Director
Phone: 250.736.0702
Email: executivedirector@sagehavensociety.org

Next Steps

1. Confirm Your Sponsorship Level
Please call or email us to discuss your sponsorship type and financial level (see contact area above for more info.)

2. Email Logo
Please email us a high-quality copy of your corporate logo (JPG or PNG). Your logo will appear on the national sponsor list – **cnoy.org/sponsors** and on our local CNOY location page: **cnoy.org/portalberni**

3. Make a Payment
Once you have confirmed your sponsorship type and amount with your rep, you will receive an invoice directly from Blue Sea Foundation (the charity who operates CNOY). From there, you can quickly and securely pay your invoice online via **Credit Card**.

Note: Blue Sea Foundation also accept cheques (allow 1-4 weeks for processing). Please make payable to "Coldest Night of the Year", and mail directly to Blue Sea Foundation, 260-659 King St. East, Kitchener, ON, Canada, N2G 2M4.

bluesea
FOUNDATION

Blue Sea Foundation is a registered Canadian charity (819882655 RR0001) that exists to help other charities thrive financially by providing easy access to profitable turn-key fundraising events and services, like the **Ride for Refuge**, the **Coldest Night of the Year**, and **The Grand Parade**.

Become a Sponsor!

Sponsorship in the Coldest Night of the Year is a unique opportunity for businesses to reach a wider audience while aligning with a charity dedicated to supporting your community. Sage Haven Society relies on businesses like yours to continue our work. Consider a sponsorship today to bring hope to our city.

Lead Sponsor in our Location - $10,000+

- Opportunity for opening remarks at the event
- Option for Event Day booth or display
- Tagged social media posts throughout the campaign
- Key volunteer roles set aside (where applicable)

Supporting Sponsor - $2000+

- Sponsors at this level have the option to be the Meal sponsor, Photo Booth sponsor, or something else of preference (where applicable)
- Recognition during opening ceremonies
- Option for CNOY Day booth or display
- Key volunteer roles set aside (where applicable)

Rest Stop Sponsor - $1000+

- Your name and logo displayed at the Rest Stop
- Option for Event Day booth or display at the Rest Stop
- Rest Stop volunteer roles set aside

Route Sponsor - $500+

- Your name and logo displayed along the route

IN 2023

over **37,000 walkers** and **138,000+ donors** in over **182 locations**

(from Newfoundland to Yellowknife to Vancouver Island)

helped raise over

$13.1 million

Did you know? CNOY Walkers and volunteers are **70% more likely** to support a CNOY Sponsor

facts + stats

- 117 walkers participated in the Port Alberni CNOY last year
- Together we raised over $45,000
- Across Canada, over 200 communities are involved with the Coldest Night of the Year
- Average age is 42
- Over 60% of participants walk 5 kms

all sponsors receive:

Logo displayed on CNOY Day PowerPoint

Recognition on emails, web, + social media

Clickable logo on participant + team pages

Don't see what you're looking for? **Talk to us!** We can work with you to create your own customized sponsorship opportunity.

Councillor Report
January 8, 2024

January 25th
Chamber Board Meeting
2024 Budget Review
Discussion on 3rd avenue businesses and issues they are having with shop lifters (recognizing it is happening all over the community) smash and grabs. How can the Chamber support them? Community Policing volunteers walking in areas of the community? No bathrooms for the public to use on 3rd or Redford.

January 30th
Meeting with Somass Developer Mathew West and attended Somass Lands media event.

January 31st
Tseshaht presented the AV Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy Draft at the Maht Mahs Gym. So many representatives from many organizations as well as front line workers, individuals, provincial and federal governments heard the draft. Everyone wants to move forward, and just not want but WE NEED TOO! After the presentations I found it very enlightening to talk to the front-line workers. It made me angry regarding the suppliers who sell these drugs and sadness on their victims.

February 1st
Alberni Valley Learning Council Meeting
Councillor Douglas was not available so stepped in for him. Discussion on a variety of topics. Shortage of employees in the Forest sector- hoping to have a career day in our community, workshops for people starting a business. entrepreneur shortages, wildfire training available (5 spots left), meat processing training filled, building deconstruction training 30 registered students, etc....

February 2nd.
Chamber Breakfast Meeting
Round of introductions and meeting new businesses that have opened in our community. Susan Mowbray an Economist from MNP presentation State of the Island. Discussed economies. Mentioned housing prices in Port Alberni is more affordable than the rest of the island and it can attract people to our community. She believes 2024 there will be a slower population growth, tourism will continue to grow. Natural resources will continue to slide. Investments in technology is important. Ms. Mowbray commented about the GDP that during Covid the government spent 400 billion to support businesses (which some will eventually be repaid) and 70 billion in healthcare and because of this it contributed to inflation. Vancouver Island has an older population and she believe innovation in health care is important and then export it. A copy of the slide presentation is attached in the following pages very interesting of our agenda.

February 5th
Committee of the Whole Meeting
City introduced the 2024-2028 Financial Plan

February 7th

White Cane Week

Represented on behalf of Mayor Minions for a group photo with citizen's using a white cane.
They have 18 members who met at Abby Field. Interesting at their meeting discussion around branches hanging over sidewalks from people's houses which makes it difficult when you can't see them. Some issues regarding city sidewalk accessibility. Explained that the committee have their first meeting March 5th. Finally if anyone has concerns regarding accessibility issues in our community please let me know since I represent the City on this committee.

February 8th

North Island College -Working Together Community Lunch

Approximately 30 people from Port Alberni and Comox attended this networking lunch alot of discussion regarding NIC.

Respectfully Submitted
Cindy N. Solda
City Councillor

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Regular Council Meeting
For the Meeting of February 12, 2024

Date: January 19, 2024
File No: 0390-20-FCM

To: Mayor & Council
From: M. Fox, Chief Administrative Officer
Subject: **FCM | 2024 Annual Conference and Trade Show |Authorize Council Registration**

Prepared by:	Supervisor:	CAO Concurrence:
S. Darling	*D. Monteith*	
Deputy Director of Corporate Services	*Director of Corporate Services*	*M. Fox*

RECOMMENDATION[S]

THAT Council authorize [name to be inserted] to participate with the Mayor in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2024 'Redefining our Future' Annual Conference and Trade Show taking place June 6-9, 2024 in Calgary, AB with authorization to include reimbursement of expenses incurred as per Travel Policy 3009-2.

PURPOSE

To provide Council with information regarding the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2024 Annual Conference and Trade Show taking place June 6 – 9, 2024 in Calgary, Alberta and request direction regarding the registration of a member of Council to join the Mayor.

BACKGROUND

Held on an annual basis, the FCM annual conference is the largest pan-Canadian gathering of elected officials.

The 2024 theme 'Redefining our Future', will explores how we can prepare for a future that empowers municipalities to provide the essential quality of life and services that Canadians depend on.

Through activities and programming, the conference will assist Council in fostering connections with peers, partners and federal representatives while providing the tools and insights needed to scale up growth in their respective communities.

In accordance with City *Travel Policy 3009-2*, the Mayor and one member of Council, selected through resolution of Council, are authorized to attend the annual conference of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

1. That Council authorize [name to be inserted] to participate with the Mayor in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2024 'Redefining our Future' Annual Conference and Trade Show taking place June 6-9, 2024 in Calgary, AB with authorization to include reimbursement of expenses incurred as per *Travel Policy 3009-2*.
2. That Council not authorize members of Council to participate in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2023 Annual Conference and Trade Show.

ANALYSIS

Option 1- While the 2023 – 2027 Financial Plan includes $ 73,233 to fund 2024 Council and Travel Development. Should Council wish to authorize member's attendance at this convention, staff estimate total costs to be approximately $3,800.00 per person. This estimate includes convention registration, accommodation, flights, per-diem and vehicle mileage.

Option 2 – It is Council's prerogative to either support and/or deny the attendance of additional Council members at a particular conference/convention outside of those identified in the City's *Travel Policy 3009-2*. When considering an item based on policy, Council is encouraged to consider the merits of the conference and development being offered and how City representation will contribute to the betterment of the City.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial implications associated with participation are approximately $3,800.00 per participant.

The 2023-2027 Financial Plan includes $ 73,233 to fund 2024 Council and Travel Development.

COMMUNICATIONS

n/a

BYLAWS/PLANS/POLICIES

In accordance with City *Travel Policy 3009-2*, the Mayor and one member of Council, selected through resolution of Council, are authorized to attend the annual conference of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

The request also aligns with Council's Strategic Priorities, in particular, No. 2 | Enable the new economy. Council's representation at this Conference will enable networking amongst local leaders across a range of municipalities, provide a platform to discuss key challenges, learn best practices and gain new insights through a variety of workshops, study tours and panel discussions that Council members can then utilize in the community.

SUMMARY

In accordance with City policy, the Mayor and one member of Council, selected through resolution of Council, are authorized to attend the annual conference of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. The 2023-2027 Financial Plan includes $ 73,233 to fund 2024 Council and Travel Development. Costs associated with participating in-person are estimated to be $3,800.00 per participant. Council members will benefit from a variety of workshops, plenaries, networking opportunities, and tools that will assist in building a sustainable and prosperous future for the City.

ATTACHMENTS/REFERENCE MATERIALS

1. *Travel Policy 3009-2 [ref.]*
2. *2023-2027 Corporate Strategic Plan [ref.]*

c: A. McGifford, Director of Finance

CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

Regular Council Meeting
For the Meeting of February 12, 2024

Date: February 5, 2024
File No: 0360-20-CAT

To: Mayor and Council
From: M. Fox, CAO
Subject: **Port Alberni CAT Blueprint Strategies | Toxic Drugs**

Prepared by:	Supervisor:	CAO Concurrence:
M.C. Massicotte	*D. Monteith*	
Manager of Community Safety & Social Development	*Director of Corporate Services*	*M. Fox*

RECOMMENDATION[S]

That City of Port Alberni Council endorse the Port Alberni Community Action Team document entitled Blueprint of Transformative Strategies to the Toxic Drugs Catastrophe for the Alberni Valley and British Columbia and dated February 5, 2024.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider endorsing the Port Alberni Community Action Team *Blueprint of Transformative Strategies to the Toxic Drugs Catastrophe for the Alberni Valley and British Columbia.*

BACKGROUND

In response to the Provincial Public Health Emergency declaration on April 14, 2016, Community Action Teams (CAT) were created by the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions through the Community Action Initiative. Port Alberni was one of the communities identified as being high risk for the opioid overdose crisis and was one of the first CATs in the Province.

The Port Alberni CAT is an administrative committee of the City reporting to the Manager of Community Safety and Social Development. The CAT team is comprised of:

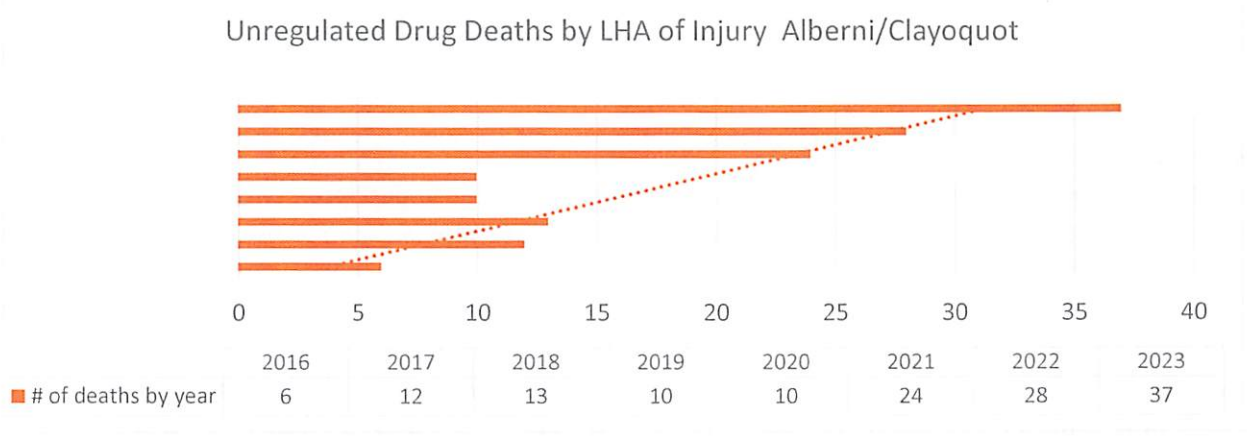
- First Nations
- Elected officials and City of Port Alberni officials
- Persons with Lived/Living Experience
- Health Care Professionals such as the Medical Health Officer, Clinicians, and Island Health representatives
- Mental Health and Substance Use providers
- First Responder agencies (RCMP, Fire, and BCEHS) and Public Safety departments and agencies
- Social Service agencies

- Chamber of Commerce
- Other agencies and organizations, as appropriate

In 2023, there were 2,522 suspected unregulated drug deaths. This is the highest number of suspected deaths ever recording in a year, 5% higher than the number of deaths in 2022 (2,383). This equates to 7.2 deaths per day. Alberni/Clayoquot had 37 deaths in 2023.

By Local Health Area, in 2023, the highest rates of death were in Vancouver – Centre North, Hope, Alberni-Clayoquot, Terrace, and Greater Campbell River. See the graph below depicting the numbers of deaths by Local Health Area Alberni/Clayoquot region from 2016-2023.

BC Coroner's Service Unregulated Drug Deaths by Local Health Authority (data to December 31, 2023)



The BC Coroner's Service reports that the drug death rates for the Alberni/Clayoquot Local Health Area region were 102.8/100,000 in 2023, compared to 18.6/100,000 in 2016. We have the highest number of deaths per 100,000 population on Vancouver Island. This translates to 31.84 deaths for a population of 30,981 (2016) in the Alberni/Clayoquot region.

The Blueprint builds on the leadership of the Tseshaht First Nation, who published the 2020 *Surviving the Flood Reconstructing the Village (Opioid Crisis) Report,* held a two-day call to action forum in March 2023, and developed the 2024 *Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy Report*. The Port Alberni CAT participated in all of these events, as well as on the working group for the 2024 action-oriented strategy report for the Alberni Valley.

ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

1. *That City of Port Alberni Council endorse the Port Alberni Community Action Team document entitled Blueprint of Transformative Strategies to the Toxic Drugs Catastrophe for the Alberni Valley and British Columbia.*

2. *That City of Port Alberni Council recommend amendments the Port Alberni Community Action Team document entitled Blueprint of Transformative Strategies to the Toxic Drugs Catastrophe for the Alberni Valley and British Columbia.*
3. *That Council not endorse the Blueprint document.*

ANALYSIS

The Blueprint document outlines short, easier-to-implement solutions, and longer-term solutions, plans, and policies the CAT supports to help resolve the challenges of the unregulated drug supply in BC.

It also identifies critical drivers and causes of the crisis and recommends solutions and strategy statements to drive change. It aims to create comprehensive opportunities for scalable projects by government and other organizations. The CAT outlines their role as driving change by moving organizations and people from existing comfort zones to innovative thinking and action through dialogue. They believe that sustainable solutions require addressing causes and solution factors at the community, provincial, and sometimes federal levels due to the complexity of issues.

The primary goal of the Blueprint is to define a forward-looking role for solution elements the CAT supports to significantly reduce death rates from the catastrophe in BC, and address underlying social factors contributing to the crisis. The Blueprint document defines and discusses the major drivers and causes that have contributed to the poisoned drug catastrophe in our community and throughout the province.

These include the following:

- Impact on First Nations/Indigenous people
- Toxicity of the unregulated drug supply
- Lack of regulated safer supply
- Mental health issues
- Housing issues
- Poverty and economic factors
- Lack of government resolve
- Issues with recovery programs
- Health system opportunities
- Challenges facing youth

For each cause, the Blueprint provides stories and examples from people who have experienced the negative impacts. These put a human face on the challenges. It then provides detailed recommendations aimed at each specific cause to try to address it as part of an overall solution. The recommendations are evidence-based and provide target tangible actions.

The overarching goal of the document is to identify drivers, causes, stories, and then comprehensive solutions that can be implemented collaboratively to significantly reduce deaths from the poisoned drug catastrophe. It is targeted at multiple levels of government and organizations.

Staff recommend supporting the Blueprint document to demonstrate Council's and the City's commitment to find solutions to address the impacts of the opioid crisis. In addition, the City of Port Alberni logo will be added to the final document.

IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications in endorsing the Blueprint document. The Manager of Community Safety and Social Development, will continue to support the Community Action Team on an ongoing basis.

COMMUNICATIONS

The final *Blueprint of Transformative Strategies to the Toxic Drugs Catastrophe for the Alberni Valley and British Columbia* will be announced and distributed initially through CAT, with support from the Manager of Communications as needed.

BYLAWS/PLANS/POLICIES

Endorsing this document helps fulfil Council's strategic priority of *Fostering a Complete Community (Safe, Healthy and Inclusive),* within the 2023 – 2027 Corporate Strategic Plan.

SUMMARY

This report is for Council to discuss endorsing the Port Alberni Community Action Team *Blueprint of Transformative Strategies to the Toxic Drugs Catastrophe for the Alberni Valley and British Columbia* in support of Council and the City's commitment to find solutions to address the impacts of the opioid crisis.

ATTACHMENTS/REFERENCE MATERIALS

1. Introduction of Our Blueprint Strategy Document
2. Port Alberni CAT | Blueprint of Transformative Strategies to the Toxic Drugs Catastrophe for the Alberni Valley and British Columbia.

c: *M. Fox, CAO*
S. Smith, Director of Development Services | Deputy CAO
D. Monteith, Director of Corporate Services
A. McGifford, Director of Finance

Feb 1, 2024

Resilience Unveiled: Blueprint of Transformative Strategies to the Toxic Drugs Catastrophe for the Alberni Valley and British Columbia

Introduction of Our Blueprint Strategy Document

Our greatest wish is to inspire transformation through networking, partnership, and engagement with the Community, (local governments and organizations) Health Authorities, the Province of British Columbia, the Federal Government, and others.

This Blueprint is born from the leadership of the Tseshaht First Nation, who provided community guidance in 2023 by holding a two-day workshop on the opioid crisis. Our Blueprint supports the release of their Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy Report on Jan 31st, 2024.

Our (Blueprint) document discusses recommendations from the Port Alberni Community Action Team to address the poisoned drug catastrophe in our community and British Columbia. It identifies key drivers behind the catastrophe including the toxicity of the unregulated drug supply, reluctance to try bold solutions like regulated safer supply, mental health issues, poverty, stigma, and more.

Recommendations are provided around systems, processes, and procedures of the Province, Ministry of Mental Health Addiction, Ministry of Health, Ministry of the Attorney General, Health Authorities, and other organizations contributing resources to solving the catastrophe. It includes examining processes and procedures that could be revised or implemented to deliver low-hanging fruit solutions. In addition, it examines more controversial and potentially longer-term or ongoing solutions like regulated safer supply, harm reduction, decriminalization, prevention, treatment, housing, and stigma reduction.

The recommendations aim to build an inclusive, evidence-based response and scalable initiatives across communities.

CONTACT THE PORT ALBERNI COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM – PTALBCAT@GMAIL.COM

Feb 1, 2024

Port Alberni Community Action Team:

The Port Alberni Community Action Team (CAT) is a community-led initiative in response to the poisoned drug supply/overdose catastrophe in British Columbia.

Our four guiding principles are harm reduction, stigma reduction, networking with the community, and social stabilization.

Since 2018, the CAT has focused on harm reduction programs like supporting the opening of an Overdose Prevention Site, distributing harm reduction materials, and educating the public through workshops, Learning Moments, and Social Media. Our knowledge efforts include all aspects of stigma and harm reduction.

Over time, we have recognized the need to define causes and solutions to better allocate resources. This document outlines short, easier-to-implement solutions, and longer-term solutions, plans, and policies we support to help resolve the challenges of the unregulated drug supply in BC.

Our Blueprint plan identifies critical drivers and causes of the crisis and recommends solutions and strategy statements to drive change. It aims to create comprehensive opportunities for scalable projects by government and other organizations.

The CAT sees their role as driving change by moving organizations and people from existing comfort zones to innovative thinking and action through dialogue.

We believe sustainable solutions require addressing causes and solution factors at the community, provincial, and sometimes federal levels due to the complexity of issues.

The primary goal is to define a forward-looking role for solution elements our CAT Team supports to significantly reduce death rates from the catastrophe in BC and address underlying social factors contributing to the crisis.

The Blueprint document defines and discusses the major drivers and causes that have contributed to the poisoned drug catastrophe in our community and the province. These include:

- Impact on First Nations/Indigenous people
- Toxicity of the unregulated drug supply

- Lack of regulated safer supply
- Mental health issues
- Housing issues
- Poverty and economic factors
- Lack of government resolve
- Issues with recovery programs
- Health system opportunities
- Challenges facing youth

For each cause, it provides stories and examples from people who have experienced the negative impacts. These put a human face on the challenges.

It then provides detailed recommendations aimed at each specific cause to try to address it as part of an overall solution. The recommendations are evidence-based and provide target tangible actions.

The overarching goal of the document is to identify drivers, causes, stories, and then comprehensive solutions that can be implemented collaboratively to significantly reduce deaths from the poisoned drug catastrophe. It is targeted at multiple levels of government and organizations.

This (Blueprint) can be used as a roadmap in successfully ending the poisoned drug catastrophe that has already affected tens of thousands of British Columbians.

Co-Chair
Ellen Frood

Co-Chair
Ron Merk

Resilience Unveiled:

Blueprint of Transformative Strategies to the Toxic Drugs Catastrophe for the Alberni Valley and British Columbia

Inspiring Transformation Through Dialogue
Port Alberni Community Action Team

DRAFT

Feb 5, 2024

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DRAFT

Dedication:

This report is dedicated to the memory of the 140 family members, friends and neighbours who have died from the Poisoned Drug Catastrophe in the Alberni - Clayoquot Region between 2016 and December 2023. Our hearts weep in grief.

DRAFT

1.0 Preface

This Blueprint is born from the leadership of the Tseshaht First Nation, who provided community guidance in 2023 by holding a two-day workshop on the opioid crisis. Our Blueprint supports the release of their Alberni Valley Toxic Poisoned Drugs (Opioid) Crisis Strategy Report on Jan 31st, 2024.

This is a living document. As such it will evolve, especially as new science-based information becomes available. It is also subject to edits and refinement from the input of our many members and friends of the Port Alberni Community Action Team.

This report focuses on opportunities to help the Port Alberni Community Action Team, community agencies that provide services, and all levels of government identify and embrace scalable initiatives, project solutions, and tactical actions needed to solve the poisoned drug catastrophe in British Columbia.

The year 2016 marked a critical juncture for British Columbia. That is the year the Province declared the poisoned drug catastrophe a health emergency. Since then, we have lost more than 14,000 family members, friends, and neighbours to this catastrophic health emergency. Some would say that much has been done, however, to date, the death rates have not lessened across our Province, nor has it in our community of Port Alberni. In fact, in the Alberni-Clayoquot Region last year, we experienced the worst death rate since the health emergency declaration. This catapulted our community into the position of the third-worst death rate in the Province.

After eight long years, an effective, composite resolution to the catastrophe continues to elude British Columbia.

The Port Alberni Community Action Team is a community-led initiative in response to the poisoned drug supply/overdose catastrophe in British Columbia.

1.1 Our Four Guiding Principles Are:

1. Harm Reduction, both in the distribution of material and education in the community.
2. Reducing Stigma associated with those who have mental health or substance disorders (concurrent disorders).
3. Networking in the community that supports treatment and recovery.
4. Social Stabilization, working to improve conditions to assist people with substance/ mental health disorders or both together (concurrent disorders).

Although the Port Alberni Community Action Team's terms of reference are primarily within the Alberni Valley, it is clear that sustainable solutions are not achievable for our community without addressing the cause and solution factors at the British Columbia

Provincial level and in some cases the Canadian Federal government level.

The poisoned drug catastrophe continues to change, as have the complexities of the causes and evolving proposed solutions. Recently, two opposing factions have appeared in the drug policy change movement. Both represent extreme opposites in addressing solutions:

1. One faction is lobbying for a return to more traditional policies, such as the “War on Drugs” position – the idea that harsh punishment prevents people from seeking out and using substances.
2. The other view is positioned on relaxing or ending all existing regulations on the control of substances.

Reconciling these two factions is a key driver in the creation of this document or our position between these extremes. — We look to define a forward-looking role for solution elements that the Port Alberni Community Action Team supports.

An overriding factor in defining our position on all aspects of the Poisoned Drug Catastrophe is that the main mandate of Community Action Teams in the Province is to drive change. For this reason, our position always favours innovative perspectives, especially in driving ground-breaking evidence-based solutions.

It also means that as change agents, our role is to create a dialogue with our citizens, all Government levels, Health Authorities, and other agencies that provide community services. By adhering to the defined intention of CAT Team roles, dialogue involves moving organizations and people from existing comfort zones into innovative thinking and action.

2.0 Executive Summary

Since the establishment of the Port Alberni Community Action Team (2018), the complexities of the Poisoned Drug Catastrophe have multiplied significantly. Many more substances have entered the unregulated drug supply. Primarily, fentanyl opioid-based substances continue to be the category that contributes to most poisoned deaths from unregulated drugs. However, additives like Benzodiazepines and Xylazine in all unregulated drugs have considerably worsened the situation. Other main unregulated drug categories include methamphetamines, cocaine derivatives, MDMA (Ecstasy), etc. also contributed to the catastrophe.

Unregulated substances, by their very nature, can include just about anything and almost always do in our BC unregulated drug supply. The unregulated drug supply of any main illicit drug category always includes contamination of other unexpected substances.

Although the British Columbia Provincial Government has moved forward on depenalization/decriminalization initiatives and some small trials of treatment options

that include access to certain types of regulated supplies, these steps have not curtailed the rising death toll in the Province. Nor have the trials made a dent in solving the major challenges.

The Port Alberni Community Action Team acknowledges the complexity and wide-ranging contributing factors that drive the poisoned drug catastrophe. We recognize that because of the complexities of the causes of the catastrophe in our Province, any plan(s) that deliver real, effective solutions that significantly reduce the death rate from the catastrophe in BC also have to be extensive, comprehensive, and inclusive in addressing not only the catastrophe but also the underlying social factors that contribute to the catastrophe.

When the Port Alberni CAT was first established in 2018, our original focus was on harm-reduction programs. These included supporting the launch of the Overdose Prevention Site (OPS), distributing harm reduction material, supporting a variety of programs by client services-based organizations in the community, and providing educational opportunities to increase the general public's awareness of the advantages of harm reduction.

Furthermore, we led community activities to increase stigma reduction awareness and the effects stigma has on those who are actively involved in substances/concurrent disorders. This includes people who are most visibly impacted, such as the visually marginalised in our community, those with concurrent disorders, and the under-housed. It also includes First Nation/Indigenous People, who are significantly overrepresented in the poisoned drug catastrophe. People are often discouraged from seeking help because of stigma. It demoralizes them and actively increases the continuance of their substance or concurrent disorders.

No one pillar in our terms of reference is more important than any other. To be a successful change agent, we focus on Networking with people and organizations at our table. The diversity of people that sit at our table is a key component of understanding the impact on those who may be affected by substance or concurrent disorders and the work that community agencies providing services are doing to combat the catastrophe. All voices are heard, always with respect. Especially the inclusivity and equality of the peer voice. Their voices provide the lived experience so very necessary for client/service organizations to deliver people-focused solutions addressing the catastrophe.

Our fourth pillar is addressing any challenges that contribute to social factors that add barriers to people impacted by the poisoned drug catastrophe. This piece of our work includes support, education, and informing the decision-making processes of all levels of government including First Nations government, Regional, Municipal, Provincial, and Federal levels.

Although the majority of health policies reside in the jurisdiction of the Provincial Government, all levels of government have influence. Leveraging that influence is

crucial in persuading change provincially and for the Province to understand that community-level governments actively support solutions in our community. In addition, we advocate with professional colleges, health authorities and other service-providing organizations who all play a part in driving change in policy and procedures that impact everyone affected by the poisoned drug catastrophe.

Throughout the work our Community Action Team has engaged in since its inception, it has become more and more apparent that defining causes and solutions is crucial in the allocation of our resources. Hence the main reason for defining solutions and policies that we support in this document.

Frankly, we never expected to be in a position where we would need to put down in writing long-term plans. In 2018, most of us fighting this catastrophe thought the then-referred to, “drug crisis”, would end quickly. We now find it necessary to re-evaluate objectives with an eye to longer-term actions in resolving the challenges of the unregulated supply in BC. For all intent and purpose, this document can be viewed as a 5-Year Plan.

This document identifies critical drivers and causes of the Poisoned Drug Catastrophe and solutions with stratgies we support to drive change in achieving those solutions. We believe our recommendations create comprehensive opportunities for scalable projects by the Province in collaboration with other levels of government and organizations to address the poisoned drug catastrophe. There is an opportunity here for the Province and all levels of government to be seen as world leaders, and best-in-class jurisdictions in addressing all aspects of substance and mental health disorders.

2.2 Overview – Key Causes and Drivers of the Catastrophe

We believe that the following key drivers and causes have contributed to both the creation of the Poisoned Drug Catastrophe as well as the continuation and ensuing severity of the catastrophe.

The “War on Drugs” has driven decades of public safety policies with this perspective: — that punishment, in some way reduces substance disorders. In addition, social policy and procedure factors add to the problem, such as:

- Increasing toxicity of the unregulated illicit supply.
- Stigma
- Homelessness.
- Poverty.
- Mental health disorders and lack of treatment, (as much as 70 per cent of people with substance disorders also have mental health disorders).
- Funding and access to recovery/detox facilities.
- Intergenerational trauma of First Nations/Indigenous People.
- Failure to embrace meaningful reconciliation strategies.
- Identifying addiction as a moral choice rather than a health condition.

- Lack of access to doctors who can prescribe and treat opioids and other substance addictions.
- Failure of health authorities to actively change and embrace new treatment options.
- Failure to embrace change culture in the delivery of services and best-in-practice addiction treatment medicine.

The most important driver of the continuation of the catastrophe is the Provincial Government's slow implementation of recommendations or investing enough resources in the majority of recommendations from their own committees' solutions for tangible sustainable transformation. For convenience, here is the list and links to those reports:

2.3 British Columbia Government Key Guiding Committee Reports

- Pathway to Hope Plan MMHA (pages 12)
- BC Corners Special Death Panel Review Toxic Drug Deaths – March 2022 (pages 33-36)
- BC Legislative Select Standing Committee on Health – Toxic Drug and Overdose Crisis Report Nov 2022 (pages 10 – 13)
- BC Corners Service Death Review, An Urgent Response – November 2023

On the solution side, we believe that significant change in deaths from the poisoned drug catastrophe relies on increased decriminalization of substances for personal use, and broadly distributed a regulated (safer) supply.

Our recommendations enhance the opportunities found in the mandate letters to the Minister of Mental Health and Addiction and the Minister of Health. In other words, we have provided a plan that will make these two important Government Ministries successful in achieving their mandate to the people of British Columbia.

These are only the first building blocks of a solution strategy. Best-in-class jurisdictions that enjoy far better statistics than British Columbia also allocated significant resources to social determinants including homelessness, poverty, health and well-being, enhancing life skills programs, and ongoing (long-term) support for people with substance and/or mental health disorders. We identify each of the major solutions in Section 4, Recommendations.

2.3 Stories from The Gap *(A Fissure, Crack, or Chasm in Our Systems That Hurts People)*

Throughout this document you will find (*Stories from The Gap*) – real-life stories given to us by people who have experienced what happens when we fail them. When the gaps in our system left them with no options and no help.

2.4 Social Return on Investments (SROI)

Metrics are crucial in understanding not only the reason to invest in social programs that address the poisoned drug catastrophe but also progress as we implement solutions.

The horrendous cost in lives is the quantifying measurement for most of us fighting on the front lines of the catastrophe. However, from a purely pragmatic level, we recognize that there are other ways of measuring the cost and the impact of the catastrophe and programs meant to address it. Other metrics may help the general public in coming to terms with newer, more innovative and evidence-based drug policy reform. The provincial government must embrace metric reporting to the general public regularly and transparently.

One methodology that can be used is Social Return on Investment (SROI). SROI is a way to measure the positive impacts of a project or organization in terms of money. It goes beyond just looking at profits and includes other good things like making people's lives better. SROI helps us see if we're getting good value for the money we're spending and how much extra social value we're getting in return. It's a tool that can help the general public, governments, organizations, and groups figure out if they're doing a lot of good for the investment they're putting in.

Of course, quantifying social costs, benefits or values can be sometimes difficult. However, we do have some excellent statistics available in Canada regarding substance use and the poisoned drug catastrophe.

The Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction puts out a report on substance use and harms (2015-2017. The next report update is scheduled for 2024). Their report is an excellent starting point and reference for SROI on the impacts of the poisoned drug catastrophe and corresponding programs addressing the catastrophe.

Some highlights from the report are:

- Opioid use costs in Canada accounted for $5.9 billion during the report period.
- The costs associated with the use of Opioids increased by 20.9% from the previous report period.
- Healthcare system costs alone amounted to $439 million.
- The largest increase in per-person lost productivity costs was associated with opioid use. These costs increased 34.1% from $87 per person in 2015 to $116 per person in 2017.
- Over $9.2 billion was spent on criminal justice costs associated with SU, which amounts to $253 for every Canadian. (Includes alcohol and unregulated substances)
- 2017 – 11.7% of people in Canada used Opioids.

3.0 Defining Key Drivers and Causes of the Catastrophe

Stories from The Gap – Facebook Post. *"Stop giving out free Narcan and the problem will go away ……"* – This single comment defines the huge gap in public understanding and the work that has to be done to solve the poisoned drug catastrophe.

The poisoned drug catastrophe in our community has emerged as a complex and multifaceted challenge with far-reaching consequences for individuals, families, and communities across BC and the country. To understand this catastrophe, it is imperative to delve into its key drivers and causes.

One of the primary factors contributing to the drug catastrophe is the proliferation of highly concentrated synthetic opioids, that have replaced organic opioids like Heroin. These include fentanyl and its analogues, which have inundated the unregulated/illegal drug market. The increased availability and potency of these substances have led to a surge in opioid-related overdose deaths, making it one of the most pressing public health concerns we have ever faced.

Furthermore, the catastrophe is worsened by systemic issues such as stigma, social inequality, housing, poverty, and mental health challenges, which disproportionately affect vulnerable populations and can drive people towards substance use as a coping mechanism.

The interplay of these factors has created a dreadful situation that requires comprehensive analysis and innovative intervention strategies.

Organized crime networks and illegal drug manufacturing, distribution, and trafficking operations have taken advantage of the catastrophe. These criminal enterprises thrive on the lucrative drug market, making it difficult for public safety agencies to stem the tide of unregulated/illicit substances.

Additionally, the lack of timely access to addiction treatment and harm reduction services remains a critical cause of the catastrophe. People struggling with substance use disorders often face barriers to seeking help and recovery. The lack of funding and resources for these services further hampers the efforts to combat the catastrophe effectively.

To address the poisoned drug catastrophe in our communities, it is crucial to unravel these key drivers and causes while implementing a wrap-around holistic approach that combines harm reduction, safer supply, public safety, and improved access to mental health and addiction services. A best-in-class system requires continuous care from an initial referral to detox programs to recovery programs, and finally to an outpatient model that follows people defined by their healing journey needs.

3.1 Impact on First Nations/Indigenous People

Hupacasath, Nuu-chah-nulth, Tseshaht First Nations and Metis People continue to be significantly over-represented in the Alberni Valley poisoned drug catastrophe. We acknowledge that the damage to First Nations/Indigenous People caused by residential

schools, and deliberate strategies including residential schools to separate Indigenous People from their culture has caused intergenerational trauma. In addition, racism and poverty continue to factor into preventing First Nation People from taking their rightful places as equal partners in our community.

Stories from The Gap – First Nations, Homeless and Hurting. *"I went to the ER because I had terrible sores on my legs. She said all I wanted was a bed to sleep on because I was a druggie living on the streets. I didn't even get to see a doctor. They made me leave. I felt less than human. She didn't call me any racist names, but I saw the look. I'm never going back!"*

3.2 Toxicity of the Unregulated Supply

A huge element in the British Columbia poisoned drug catastrophe is the ever-evolving addition of synthetic substances and their corresponding toxicity. The landscape of street drugs in 2023 is completely different than even a decade ago. The proliferation of fentanyl has completely replaced organic opioids like heroin in the illicit market. Add-on substances like benzodiazepines, xylazine and other substances aggravate an already dire situation. The constant addition of other substances being introduced onto the street like Nitazenes complicates both the treatment response for overdose care and the discovery and application of long-term solutions.

An accelerated evolution of the unregulated supply will almost certainly continue to occur, making corresponding innovative timely solutions imperative in addressing the poisoned drug catastrophe.

As an example, we are already experiencing that regulated safe supply options do not have the same high as unregulated substances, and are considered a sub-standard option by some people using substances. Some opponents of safer supply point to this dichotomy as a reason not to implement safe supply. However, our position is that any safer supply is better than none. In the end, closing the gap between a safer supply and unregulated supply potency will be a challenging obstacle for health professionals.

Stories from The Gap – I Believed and It Almost Killed Me. "*I always ask my dealer – I only want down. My dealer told me his stuff was the same as always. I don't remember taking it – when I woke up, paramedics were working on me. They told me they gave me 4 doses of naloxone and that I stopped breathing 3 times. I told my dealer when I saw him again that he almost killed me. He smiled and shrugged his shoulders."*

3.3 Lack of Regulated Safer Supply

In our view, the reluctance of the Provincial Government to act on evidenced-based research around the benefits of safer supply is difficult to understand. One very good recent science-based research article from the Ontario Drug Policy Research Network reviews twenty Canadian evidence-based research papers on safe supply (July 2023). The evidence on the benefits of a safer supply in these research papers is overwhelming. Even so, the Province continues to drag its feet on any meaningful implementation of safer supply. It has even rejected recommendations for increasing

safer supply by its own BC Coroners Service.

Quote from the BC Coroners' Death Review Panel – November 1st, 2023. "Providing people at risk of dying with access to quality-controlled, regulated alternatives is required to significantly impact the number of people dying."

You can have an unregulated supply that is known to contain poison and readily kills people or you can provide people with a safe pharmaceutical-grade supply. Replacing a poisoned supply with a regulated safe supply is a simple concept and should be completely obvious in every sense of the idea.

British Columbia was one of the first Provinces to put in safe supply trials. However, the existing small safer supply trials are at best reaching around 5000 people. That is only 2% of the estimated 225,000 people currently regularly using unregulated opioid supply in some manner in the Province.

In addition, increasing the penetration of safer supply across the Province has been agonizingly slow. Scalability and reducing barriers to access, especially for marginalised and rural demographics, are massive obstacles in decreasing deaths from the poisoned drug catastrophe/supply.

In short, the lack of a safer supply in any form is a major contributing factor in the ongoing deaths due to the poisoned drug catastrophe. Failure to rapidly expand/resolve the implementation barriers of safe supply will continue the catastrophe indefinitely.

Another excellent research article, (Tackling the Overdose Crisis: The Role of Safe Supply) takes an overall look at how Safe Supply can contribute to resolving the challenges we face.

3.4 Mental Health

Stories from The Gap – The Nightmare Never Ends. *"My 27-year-old son is in his bedroom in the basement, screaming at his walls. He is high on Meth again, which he thinks helps the voices in his head. I guess I'll call the police for the umpteenth time – they take him to the hospital, but he'll be back tomorrow and then we'll do another Groundhog Day. Maybe he'll burn the house down or kill us – that would end our suffering."*

The correlation between mental health and substance disorders is irrefutable. Statistics tell us that as many as 50% to 70% of people with substance disorders also have mental health disorder challenges. Concurrent disorders make treatment incredibly challenging.

Some of our health systems in BC continue to work under dated and obsolete policies that mental health disorders can not be defined or treated until patients are abstinent from unregulated substances. This delays or denies patients access to mental health treatment. It also sets up huge barriers, further isolating concurrent disorder patients

and families.

Lack of mental health facilities and professionals (psychiatrists, counsellors, etc.) contributes to non-treatment or delayed treatment. Referral wait times to the Ministry of Mental Health and Addiction services are often measured in weeks, rather than hours.

For example, for some time in the Alberni Valley, we have only had one psychiatrist in our community. This results in patients having limited access to a qualified psychiatrist, increasing wait times for referrals and treatment, including ongoing in-depth and timely case management. It also makes the response time greater and is less optimal for critical mental health events through our emergency department for concurrent disorder patients.

The Canadian Psychiatric Association of Canada recommends a ratio of 1 psychiatrist to 8,400 people. The Alberni Valley currently has a population of 27,771 (July 2022). At the recommended ratio, our community should have a minimum of three (3) psychiatrists.

The stigma of concurrent disorders continues to be a significant factor in barriers that patients experience. This stigma is not only evident in the general public but also within the primary care health system.

3.5 Housing

Stories from The Gap – Ridiculous – Female and Screwed Again *"I had nowhere else to go – our local slum lord offered me a bed in one of his rooms. I signed over my disability housing to him. What he didn't tell me was the place came with three "men" roommates.! The first night was a living hell. I left at 4 AM. Later I asked for my rent money back. He just laughed at me. Frankly, the streets feel safer, so that's where I live now."*

Our community has one of the highest unhoused percentages per population in the Province (Page 22 BC 2019 Homeless Cohort Phase 1 Findings). In 2023, 163 people in our region were identified as unhoused in the Point-In-Time Homeless Count (PiT). This is an increase of 30% from the 2021 numbers. Note: Although the PiT homeless count is a good snap-shot, it's well know and acknowledged as a gross understatement of actual homelessness in the province.

In 2019, Canada passed the National Housing Strategy Act, which recognizes housing as a **basic human right**. Unhoused people with substance disorders or concurrent disorders can never be expected to begin the healing journey until they have a safe place to lay their heads every night. Dr P Denning, (excerpt - Practicing Harm Reduction Psychotherapy 2000, revised 2005) states that housing is also a significant harm reduction strategy. It is completely unreasonable to expect people with complex concurrent or substance disorders to accept treatment while living homeless.

We also see a significantly disproportionate number of Indigenous People reporting

homelessness in our community. Sixty per cent of unhoused identify as Indigenous. (Page 32 of the 2021 BC Homeless Count and (Page 1 of the Port Alberni 2023 Homeless Count) This correlates with intergenerational trauma and increased representation of Indigenous people who experience substance disorders.

3.6 Poverty & Economic Factors

An estimated 382,000 British Columbians live in poverty according to the BC Government's 2023 Poverty Reduction Service Plan (Page 6).

During the last several decades, our community has seen significant changes in the industrial base that has long supported the economic welfare of the Valley. Changes in the fishing, lumber, paper and forest industries, have caused economic upheaval throughout the community.

These changes have had significant ramifications on the social/economic welfare of the community at large. There has been a shift from well-paying industrial-based jobs to lesser-paying service industry work. Combined with the highly marginalised demographics and high rates of poverty for Indigenous People, poverty is a key factor in our community contributing to substance and mental health disorders.

There is a very high correlation between poverty, substance disorders and, homelessness due to the inability to pay basic needs like rent. (2021 BC Homeless Count Page 20). In addition, the pressure felt by middle-class demographics due to economic shifts has resulted in significant stressors for many people. Stress drives substance use and mental health critical events.

3.7 Government Resolve

We recognize that the majority of work to solve the catastrophe is the responsibility of the Provincial Government. Internally, the Province has several committees and departments that have provided in-depth analyses and recommendations to the Government.

- Pathway to Hope Plan
- BC Corner's Special Death Panel Review Toxic Drug Deaths – March 2022
- BC Corners Service Death Review, An Urgent Response – November 2023
- BC Legislative Select Standing Committee on Health – Toxic Drug and Overdose Crisis Report Nov 2022

Although the Province has implemented parts of its own recommendations, it has not achieved the tipping point or momentum in any of the recommendation areas to drive any downward trend in the month-to-month overdose death rate in BC. We see this as a major disappointment of Government policy and resolve. We believe the lack of progress is driven by an absence of political will due to mixed public opinion and courage on the part of the Government to invest significant funds and resources to

reach the watershed moment we are so desperately waiting for in drug policy reform.

Even the simplest recommendations such as metric reporting on the catastrophe to the public, attachment of objectives to performance plans for senior ministry and health authorities leaders, and/or simple changes in policies to make practising substance/addiction medicine more attractive to physicians, nurse practitioners and pharmacists, have been left on the table unimplemented.

It is difficult not to compare the tremendous resources, funds, and effort that the Government expended on the COVID-19 Health Emergency to the Poisoned Drug Health Emergency response. Probably the most significant difference between the two declared emergencies was the willingness of the government to make, and speedily implement, difficult decisions.

In addition, some other levels of Government have told us the poisoned drug catastrophe is not in their mandate. Our position is that all levels of Government including Municipal, Regional, First Nations, and Federal Governments play key roles. Some set policies and provide funding, while others drive change through influence. The importance of influence can not be overstated.

The inconsistencies and beliefs that “it’s not our problem” between municipalities throughout BC have fractured the opportunity to speak as one voice with the Province. Many municipalities are mired in old ideas driven by the “War on Drugs” ideology of the mid-20th century. Their preference is to adhere to old punitive policies of the criminal justice system rather than accepting new evidence-based drug and social policy reform.

Often this old-style ideology is driven by confusing the symptoms of our existing failed social and drug policies with the solutions that would resolve the root causes. For many, it’s tempting to wholly focus on prosecuting petty crime resulting from the needs of people with dependencies to source unregulated substance supplies.

We also see it in attempts by local governments to “move people along” or hide the marginalised and homeless in their communities. This concept seems to be driven by flawed thinking that if things are made as difficult as possible for the marginalised, they will go somewhere else.

3.8 Recovery Programs – In-Residence Abstinence-Based, and Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT/OATi) Programs

The traditional private (pay-for-service) in-residential recovery models and many outpatient models in British Columbia have been primarily based on required abstinence before admission into these programs. Most are based on the 12 Step Model or the Minnesota Model. which originated in the mid-20th century.

In-residential abstinence-based recovery programs usually have defined treatment program lengths from 30 days to 12 months. Because these programs require patients to be abstinent before admittance, Detox programs and facilities in BC are effectively

completely separate from recovery programs. Often, abstinence recovery programs will eject patients if they relapse during their stay.

The latest evidence-based knowledge and preferred recommended Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment per the BC Centre on Substance Use website. Their clinical guides under publications recommend Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT), combined with counselling and life skill programs/models, with abstinence not a requirement, but rather driven by the patient's self-determination of what recovery looks like for them. Best-in-practice models recognize that self-determination goals set by the patient develop and mature as the patient progresses in the program. An example of a recovery model of excellence is the BC MHSUS Red Fish Centre.

The incongruity between these two approaches is a barrier to best practices and most importantly an access barrier to programs and retention of recovery for patients once they have begun recovery.

Programs that eject patients for relapse tell them only one thing – "You are not worth saving!"

3.9 Youth Challenges - Substance Use

Substance use among youth is a pressing issue in the Alberni-Clayoquot Region and British Columbia society. The consumption of drugs at a young age can have profound implications on both the individual and societal levels, affecting health, education, and future prospects.

The adolescent brain is still developing, and substance use can interfere with this process, potentially leading to long-term cognitive and emotional problems. Young people who use drugs are at risk for a variety of health issues, including but not limited to addiction, mental health disorders, and overdose. There's also an increased risk of engaging in unsafe behaviours, such as unprotected sex or driving under the influence, which can result in accidents, unintended pregnancies, or the transmission of sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Educationally, substance use can negatively impact a youth's academic performance. Attendance and grades often suffer, and the likelihood of dropping out of school increases. This can have a cascading effect on the individual's future employment opportunities and socio-economic status.

Socially, youth who use substances may experience strained relationships with family and friends. They might find themselves in conflict with the law, leading to a record that can affect their future. Moreover, there's a risk of associating with peers or groups that encourage further drug use or other risky behaviours.

The reasons behind youth substance use are multifaceted. They can include curiosity, peer pressure, a desire to escape or cope with stress or trauma, or a lack of awareness about the risks. Moreover, the portrayal of drug use in media and entertainment can

sometimes glamorize or normalize the behaviour, influencing young people's attitudes towards drugs.

Prevention and intervention strategies are critical in addressing this issue. Education about the risks associated with drug use, the development of life skills, and the promotion of healthy activities can serve as protective factors. Supportive environments, both at home and in schools, are essential. When substance use issues do arise, access to youth-friendly and evidence-based treatment and recovery services is crucial for the well-being of the affected individuals.

Addressing the problem of youth substance use requires a collaborative approach involving educators, healthcare professionals, community leaders, parents, and the youth themselves. By fostering open communication and providing the necessary support and resources, we can help guide young people towards making healthy choices and provide them with the tools to lead fulfilling lives.

Prevention is a major aspect of helping youth. For that information, please see sections 3.16 and 4.16.

3.10 Primary Care

Primary Care Physicians (Family Practice) and Nurse Practicioners play key roles in both identifying substance disorders and ongoing care of patients utilizing OAT/OATi Therapy. The ability to provide OAT/OATi Therapy in BC requires specialized training and authorization (POATSP education and training) for physicians and Nurse Practitioners. Currently, there are an estimated 1700 primary care physicians out of a total of 8000 holding certification to prescribe OAT/OATi Therapy in the Province.

Neither the overseeing professional colleges nor the government provides attractive incentive plans to Physicians and Nurse Practitioners to acquire this certification. This is a huge barrier to treatment options for patients. In our community, two physicians are prescribing OAT/OATi out of a base of approximately 45 family primary care doctors.

In addition, Emergency Department Doctors can not directly offer OAT/OATi to patients experiencing a substance disorder critical event via an ER visit without calling in one of the two doctors in our community who hold OAT/OATi therapy certification. This becomes a timeliness issue. Many patients suffering from withdrawal symptoms will leave before an OAT/OATi-qualified physician is available.

3.11 Criminal Justice System, Decriminalization/Legalization, Public Safety Measures

3.11-1 Criminal Justice System

The criminalization and harm done to citizens who use unregulated substances from the beginning of the 20th century to the present is well-documented. Especially in light of evidence-based research in the last few decades that clearly identified that problematic

substance use is a health disorder. Punitive punishment of sick people is reprehensible.

However, major unregulated producers and suppliers are a different case. Several factors determine appropriate enforcement directions for these groups. They are:

- Producers and suppliers prey on the most vulnerable in our communities with no regard for safety. They are a direct cause of unregulated substances often being toxic.
- The huge profit associated with supplying unregulated substances encourages organized crime.

Unfortunately, although vast dollars have been spent fighting the supply chain in Canada, we see very little return on those invested dollars. Occasionally news releases from the Police will announce a large “Drug Bust”. Overall these arrests are a drop in the bucket and represent a very small level of inventory shrinkage for organized criminal suppliers and producers.

Once arrests have been made, the court process is agonizingly slow. During that period, the accused are almost always released pending trial. This allows them to immediately go back to producing and distributing.

It should be pointed out that there is a contradiction in the successful enforcement of the producer/supplier chain. Without a safer regulated supply, as the unregulated supply dries up, people who use drugs will experience higher costs – this results in more crime to source funds to pay those higher costs. People who use substances will also experience substance withdrawal, which will result in critical healthcare events, possibly up to, and including, death.

Two final pieces play a part in our application of our current unregulated substances Justice System. The first is any person who perpetrates violence. Violent offences, no matter why, must be dealt with swiftly and definitively.

The second is people on parole with probation orders requiring forensic monitoring and intervention. (Forensics in BC is the process where a person with mental health challenges who has been convicted of a crime is court-mandated to be treated for their mental health or substance disorders) Many families who have loved ones in the probation system with forensic orders have told us that the follow-through for violations is at best ineffective. When people ignore forensic stipulations under their parole, the system referring back to the Courts is ineffective. If an incident does result in standing before a Judge again, the consequences are ineffectual. We believe this isn’t a symptom of the Forensic /Court system so much as it is a result of not enough mental health beds and an overtaxed prison system.

3.11-2 Decriminalization/Legalization

There is a huge difference between decriminalization and legalization. One maintains the status quo that substances are illegal, however, in certain cases, citizens will not be prosecuted. The other normalizes the consumption of substances. Examples of legalization are tobacco, alcohol and cannabis.

British Columbia made a start in February of 2023 by entering into a three-year trial agreement with the Federal Government to decriminalize certain drugs and quantities for adults in BC. Unfortunately, as of November 2023, the Province is considering legislation to roll back parts of the decriminalization trial. Specifically, around the use of substances in public places. This is a direct result of protests from many municipalities concerned about an upswing of people using substances on city streets in view of the general public. It seems as though the BC Provincial Government is reacting to political pressure rather than listening to their own health experts and evidence-based knowledge.

It is important to point out that a major benefit of decriminalization was to remove the stigma of using substances in our society. When people are no longer afraid they'll be arrested, they are more likely to seek help through official health channels. This drives the major principle of shifting substance use of people towards the public health system. A major component of this is referral options for police and others to health channels. Unfortunately, those channels were not increased or readily identified by the government for police and others as part of the decriminalization initiative.

In addition, the highest risk of overdose happens when people use substances alone. Forcing them off streets, to back alleys, or behind dumpsters directly contradicts harm reduction strategies.

Lastly, people who have homes would most likely go there when they want to use substances. The need to "police" people using substances in public is a symptom of the root cause – homelessness. Trying to address the root cause of anything by fixing only a symptom is doomed to failure.

3.11-3 Public Safety Measures

Stories from The Gap – Nowhere To Go! *"I set up my tent in a city park. The police and bylaw people came at 7 AM. They took my tent, and all my belongings, including my naloxone. All of it went into a dumpster, including my stash. No money to replace any of it and now I can feel drug sickness coming on."*

We also know that people with the most complex concurrent disorders often end up homeless. Our 2023 Point in Time Homeless count statistics show that 60% of respondents identified as having Mental Health Challenges and 70% identified as having substance disorders.

Although homelessness is not a crime, community public safety enforcement often endeavours to control the visibility of homelessness through oppressive measures. An example is, police or bylaw enforcement sweeps in areas of cities most populated by

marginalised people. These sweeps have included forcing homeless people to “move along” with the removal/destruction of personal property including tents, personal possessions, harm reduction equipment, (including naloxone kits and clean needles) and unregulated substances within quantity levels allowed under Provincial Guidelines. Thankfully our Alberni Valley has seen a minimum of these actions, although they have happened. Provincially this trend continues in many communities and is very troubling.

These punitive measures are almost always driven by community members reacting to the visibility of marginalised people in the community. It is a knee-jerk reaction that focuses on the symptoms of mental health, substance disorders and homelessness rather than addressing the root causes, which are far more difficult to solve. However, all this approach does is further marginalise and stigmatise the already most vulnerable in our community. A recent science-based research paper clearly shows the negative outcomes both for marginized people and the community at large. Seeps also increase criminal behaviour – replacing personal possessions and drugs requires money, which our marginalised population have precious little of. Finally, and most significantly it increases their risk of overdose death.

3.12 Harm Reduction

Harm Reduction has been a long-proven evidence-based strategy that is effective in addressing many health challenges including the poisoned drug catastrophe. Overall, harm reduction in BC is probably one of the most effective programs that have been implemented. For example, Overdose Prevention Sites (OPS) have saved countless lives. The Federal Government reports over 4.3 million visits to OPS Facilities between 2017 and 2023. The greater the access to OPS sites, the more lives will be saved.

Overall, OPS sites

- Save lives
- Reduce the sharing of needles that cause HIV and hepatitis C
- Increase the use of detox and addiction treatment services
- Provide opportunities to connect people to health care services, housing and other supports
- Reduce public drug use
- Reduce the number of inappropriately discarded needles
- Do not contribute to increased crime in the surrounding area

OPS sites are, of course, only one of many effective harm-reduction strategies. Any service that keeps people alive until they are ready for treatment is effective harm reduction.

Two areas that need continued improvement, are increasing channels for the distribution of harm reduction information and equipment, plus public awareness of the benefits of harm reduction. There remains a significant faction of the general public who continue touting the misinformation that harm reduction enables the use of substances despite the continued mounting science-based evidence and research to the contrary.

3.13 Stigma

Stories from The Gap – He Died Alone. *"I found my husband dead in our garage. They told me he died from an overdose of fentanyl. We never even knew he took drugs. He had a job and was a great father and husband. The kids don't understand. I'm a stay-at-home mom, but that ends because there was no insurance and I need a job to pay for the mortgage … if we can even keep this home."*

Stigma continues to be an enormous challenge for people with mental health and substance disorders. Both conditions carry huge negative connotations across a wide spectrum of our society.

Mental health stigma challenges are perpetuated by the lack of understanding of mental health causes, difficulty in seeing positive treatment outcomes and atypical behaviours that often accompany people suffering from serious mental health disorders, especially in the marginalised demographics so often seen living on our streets.

Substance disorder stigma is driven by decades of criminalization policies in Canada and across the world. Stigma not only impacts society in the perceived negative stereotype of a person who uses substances but also by people suffering from substance disorders. The majority of people who have substance disorders carry guilt and stigma that often prevents them from reaching out for help. Stigma is pervasive across our society. We even see it in our healthcare system. For example, people wishing to access help through our emergency departments are told they only want a bed for the night and are discharged rather than treated with dignity and the same expectations for care as any other health concern a patient might present.

It is important to talk about one demographic that often gets missed when discussing the stigma associated with substance disorders. We know from the BC Coroners Service report that 78% of the deaths in our Province are men, between the ages of 30 and 59. We also know that approximately 50% of all deaths occur in private residences.

Some thought around these numbers would lead us to conclude that there is a huge demographic of men that for want of a better term, are functional or recreational users of substances. These men have homes, jobs and families. Blue collar, white collar doesn't matter. They prefer to keep their use of substances secret (mostly because of stigma) Almost always they use substances alone, which is the worst possible scenario with the present toxic unregulated supply.

Stigma for concurrent disorders will continue to be a barrier to solving the poisoned drug catastrophe until as a society we normalize substance use and governments seriously invest in changing the narrative via acceleration and intensifying public relations strategies to educate the public on stigma and concurrent disorders.

3.14 Recovery Treatment Time Frames

Stories from The Gap – Detox and Then A Black Hole. *"I was lucky enough to get a*

bed in detox – 30 days later, they told me the only recovery program was a private one. I can't afford $15,000 – They told me a government recovery bed was a 3-month wait. I went home. Two days later, I was back using drugs."

One of the most serious gaps or barriers to resolving the poisoned drug catastrophe is the time frame for treatment. Best-in-class jurisdictions concentrate on a wrap-around model that begins with referrals to treatment measured in hours, rather than weeks. These best-in-class models include immediate referrals to detox within the initial admission into the hospital or treatment facility, similar to a patient needing an emergency X-ray. The referral and subsequent taking of the X-ray are done before the patient is discharged from the hospital – if required, the patient would be admitted for further treatment.

We continue to hear horror stories from people seeking treatment who have said, "I asked for detox or a referral to recovery and was told, here is a referral slip – someone will call you in a few weeks. I spent five hours in the ER for nothing. When I was discharged, I was getting dope sick, so I had to call my dealer. He was there in 20 mins"

The poisoned drug catastrophe is won or lost in seconds or minutes – not hours, days or weeks.

3.15 Treatment/Recovery Programs

Stories from The Gap – It Might as Well Be Forever! *"I want off drugs so bad! When I checked into a recovery centre, they said they had a 6-month wait. I asked about the detox at-home program. They said I'd have to go to Richmond, cause it's the only trial they knew about. I asked when the trial would come to our town. They laughed and said it would never happen."*

Best-in-class models in other jurisdictions have enveloping programs that include immediate referrals to detox, encompassing hand-offs to recovery programs that monitor and progress a patient from recovery to in-community care programs. Included in the recovery and in-community programs are life skills/employment education.

Typically, detox programs are approximately 30 days, recovery programs are a minimum of 3 months to a maximum of 2 years. Included in these best-in-class models are life skills assessment and training, job skill assessment and training, as well as housing placement before re-entering the community. Finally, the in-community programs are tailored to the needs of the patient. Some people may require a short time or in some cases, lifetime in-community follow-up. In-community programs also have a loopback component, wherein a patient may be referred back to recovery or detox.

Relapse is not seen as a failure, but rather a natural part of the journey of recovery.

All of these programs are interconnected which creates an umbrella-like system where once a patient enters, they are continuously supported until they no longer require

treatment.

BC has a long way to go to have such a system supporting people with substance or concurrent disorders. The closest we get to best-in-class models is our Red Fish Centre in the Lower Mainland.

Another very important barrier is the tendency to regionalize services into major centres in the Province. This creates obstacles to recovery by forcing patients to choose between in-community options or being ripped out of their family and community support networks. There may be a case for centralized detox centres, as those programs are typically one month long. However, recovery programs are a minimum of three months. To be removed from your family and community for an extended period is a legitimate hardship.

3.16 Prevention Programs

Stories from The Gap – What A Waste of Time! *"My kid came home from school. He told me this lady came and gave them a presentation on staying away from drugs. He said she was super nice but clueless about their real world. I realized how jaded he felt when he told me that was 30 minutes of his life he'd never get back!"*

Prevention is a missed opportunity that is sadly lacking in the Provincial strategies. Possibly because prevention messages have gotten a bad name over the last several decades. Campaigns that concentrated on (Just Say No) or (Your Brain on Drugs) messages did not resonate with the general population, especially youth.

The latest evidence-based research points out that prevention messages must be peer-driven and that messages must clearly explain the why part of the dangers of unregulated substances, rather than messages that just tell people not to use. In addition, recent marketing research tells us that messages that use "No" or other negative phrases actually create the desire to continue a behaviour.

Adults and youth are by far more suspicious of government-driven messages in today's web/social media world. Often people rely on opinion-based non-expert posts and websites. Public service messages around prevention must be focused on channels that adults and youth frequent.

No matter the difficulties of prevention strategies, they are crucial long-term required plans. If prevention messages stopped even 1 per cent of people from developing substance disorders, it would have a major impact on future community health and healthcare expenses.

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4.0 Solution Recommendations

The poisoned drug catastrophe in our community and across the country poses a significant and urgent challenge, demanding a comprehensive set of recommended solutions to address its complex and multi-layered nature.

In this pivotal section of this report, we present a series of evidence-based and holistic approaches that aim to tackle the root causes and consequences of the catastrophe. These recommendations have been developed using a variety of methodologies, including: research, experience, experts, and consultations with stakeholders, and community members (peers with lived experience) who have firsthand experience with the impact of substance disorders, including concurrent disorders and related issues.

To mitigate the poisoned drug catastrophe effectively, a multi-pronged strategy is essential. Firstly, implementing some form of safe supply universally and available as soon as possible is critical. In addition, enhanced and timely access to recovery treatment and mental health services stands as a cornerstone of our recommendations. By bolstering resources, formalizing some form of safe supply, expanding treatment capacity, and reducing barriers to entry, we can provide people struggling with substance use disorders the support they need to embark on the path to healing.

Furthermore, a strong emphasis on harm reduction strategies, such as supervised injection sites and naloxone distribution programs, is pivotal in preventing overdose deaths and mitigating the immediate risks associated with substance use. Alongside these efforts, public education campaigns and community outreach initiatives play a vital role in reducing stigma and raising awareness about the dangers of unregulated substance use. The interconnected nature of these solutions underscores the importance of a collaborative, community-driven approach to combating the poisoned drug catastrophe effectively.

Note – By necessity, in some sections, the same or similar recommendations will appear. Many of the same solutions address multiple causes.

4.1 First Nations Indigenous People Support Recommendations

The Port Alberni Community Action Team embraces recommendations that call for culturally sensitive and First Nations community-led initiatives that empower local First Nation leaders and organizations to develop and implement solutions tailored to their specific circumstances, led by them.

As a critical component of Indigenous-First Nations recommendations to address the poisoned drug catastrophe in our communities, we recognize and prioritize the unique needs and challenges faced by First Nations populations. Historically marginalized and underserved, First Nations communities have borne a disproportionate burden of the drug catastrophe, worsened by challenges including racism, intergenerational trauma caused by the residential school system and colonial policies, poverty, housing and inadequate access to healthcare services.

Any solutions for First Nations involve partnering with Indigenous organizations, respecting traditional healing practices, and promoting holistic wellness programs that address not only substance disorders but also all the underlying social determinants of First Nations People. By engaging in meaningful consultation and collaboration with First Nations, we seek to ensure that the solutions are First Nations-driven and are both culturally relevant and sustainable, fostering resilience and well-being within First Nation communities.

Recommendations:

- Actively support, participate and engage in **ALL** the calls for action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- We fully support all recommendations of the Tseshaht First Nations Alberni Valley Poisoned Drug Crisis Strategy 2023.
- Actively search for and implement partnership opportunities between First Nations, and the Port Alberni Community Action Team.
- Engage and actively support the needs of First Nations with the community at large, all service providers, Health Authorities and all levels of Government.

We acknowledge and support all the existing work First Nations have achieved in the following areas and support increases in these programs led by First Nations through increased support by all levels of Government:

  - Culturally Tailored Treatment Programs: Develop addiction treatment programs that incorporate traditional healing practices, cultural teachings, and spiritual guidance to resonate with the values and beliefs of First Nations communities.
  - Elders and Knowledge Keepers Involvement: Involve Elders and Knowledge Keepers in the healing process, allowing them to share their wisdom, provide mentorship, and support people in their journey to recovery.
  - Community Healing Circles: Facilitate community healing circles or talking circles, where members can openly discuss their challenges, seek guidance, and receive emotional support in a culturally appropriate setting. An example is the Walk With Me Program.
  - Land-Based Healing Programs: Offer land-based healing programs that connect individuals with the land, fostering a deeper sense of belonging and spiritual renewal. In Port Alberni, The Somass River is the lifeblood of its First Nations People.
  - Cultural Awareness Training: Provide cultural awareness training to healthcare professionals and service providers to ensure respectful and culturally competent care.
  - Community-Driven Solutions: Empower First Nations communities to design and implement their harm reduction and treatment programs, tailored to their unique needs and values.

- Language Revival Programs: Support language revival initiatives to strengthen cultural identity, which can be a protective factor against substance disorders.
- Traditional Medicine: Integrate traditional healing practices, such as smudging, and medicinal plant use, into substance disorder treatment and recovery plans.
- Family Support Programs: Establish family support programs that engage families and promote healing within the family unit, recognizing the importance of kinship ties in First Nations communities.
- Crisis Response Teams: Form culturally competent crisis response team(s) that can quickly address emergencies in a respectful and understanding manner.
- Cultural Mentorship for Youth: Offer cultural mentorship programs for youth to connect them with their heritage, promote positive self-identity, and steer them away from unregulated substance use.
- Community Public Safety Agreements: Collaborate with law enforcement agencies to establish community public safety agreements that prioritize cultural sensitivity and restorative justice principles.
- Community-Run Safe Spaces: Create community-run safe spaces for First Nations people to gather, share experiences, and access support without fear of judgment or discrimination. (Friendship Centres)
- Trauma-Informed Care: Ensure that all service providers are trained in trauma-informed care, recognizing the historical trauma that impacts many people in First Nations communities.
- Access to Traditional Elders and Healers: Facilitate access to traditional Elders and Healers as part of a support network for people in crisis or recovery.
- Cultural Resilience Programs: Promote cultural resilience through programs that celebrate cultural practices, art, storytelling, and song as a means to combat the negative effects of substance disorders.

4.2 Toxicity of the Unregulated Supply Recommendations

Stories from The Gap – Three Days! – It Might As Well Be Forever. *"I took a sample of my drugs in to get tested. They have to mail the sample to Victoria. I could come back in three days to get the results. It's pretty funny (sad) – I'll have used those drugs 4 times over when the results are ready."*

The challenges of the toxicity of the unregulated supply in our communities are by itself an incredibly complex and diverse problem. Toxicity is certainly driven by inconstancy in the purity and strength of the active substance in any unregulated supply. Toxicity is worsened by the "cutting" agents used by all levels of unregulated supply to increase profit margins.

Recommendations:

- The Province will lead the way, in partnership with the Federal Government, by implementing a scalable program of regulated Safe Supply to a minimum of 80% of the Province by the end of 2024. (Details of the recommended models of safe supply will be found in Section 4.3).
- The Province will Implement Overdose Prevention Sites in all communities in BC with populations of more than 15K by the end of 2024.
- The Province will Implement drug testing facilities including an onsite Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) or Paper-Spray Mass Spectrometry in all communities across BC with populations of more than 15K by the end of 2024.
    - The objective is to provide people who use substances testing results of samples in less than 15 minutes.
- Federal and Provincial governments modify the criminal code of Canada with graduating penalties for major suppliers of unregulated substances based on the level of toxicity. Suppliers caught with excessive quantities of illicit drugs, weapons or violence during an arrest are to be held without remand until trial.

4.3 Regulated Safer Supply Recommendations

Stories from The Gap – Shit! Crap! and Cement -*"I got something called (CVD) chronic venous disease from injecting drugs. It didn't take that long. It isn't just the damage from injecting all the time – stuff they (drug suppliers) use for fillers in drugs, including baby powder, flour, corn starch and baking soda did me in. At least that's what the doctor told me when I got gangrene in my leg."*

Any regulated safer supply model implementation is an enormous stumbling block for the BC Provincial Government. This is demonstrated by the absence of progress in rolling out the current small safe supply trials and more recently the rejection by the Government of the BC Coroners Service recommendation on a safe supply model.

The Port Alberni Community Action Team fully supports the BC Coroners Service November 1, 2023 recommendations.

We acknowledge the real-world aspects of the political obstacles the Government feels it faces in implementing some form of safer supply. However, it's important to point out that the slow progress towards safe supply is measured in lives lost every day safer supply is not available to the majority of British Columbians in need.

The science-based evidence is irrefutable in supporting safe supply models. Safe supply saves lives! Any safe supply model must meet people where they're at and reduce barriers while increasing the universality of access.

Recommendations:

- The Provincial Government will be at all times guided by its evidence-based health experts on drug policy implementation strategy.
- The Province adopts and implements innovative intensive education initiatives for physicians, health professionals and the general public on the benefits of safe supply
- The Province implement a graduated system of safe supply models, starting with a roll-out of the existing models to 80% of the Province by the end of 2024.
- On an ongoing basis, the Province will modify the safe supply model to reduce barriers and increase access.

4.4 Mental Health Recommendations

Stories from The Gap – In and Out in 2 Seconds. *"I got sent to the West Coast General Hospital for observations under the Mental Health Act because they say I have Schizophrenia. They put me in the mental health ward. The next day they sent me to the Nanaimo Hospital via Ambulance. That afternoon a psychiatrist talked to me and released me. Thirty-six hours total, and no way to get back home to Port Alberni! (Note: This person has years of documented mental health challenges, and after release spiralled down into serious psychosis that went untreated until a critical event occurred in their community. They were told at the time, there were no beds available.)*

Timely mental health interventions and programs are of vital importance in our communities. Many people who use substances also struggle with mental health disorders.

Concurrent disorders and their health challenges impact an ever-increasing portion of our community. When left unaddressed, they lead to severe consequences, including emotional distress, decreased quality of life, and even increased risk of self-harm or suicide. By providing timely concurrent disorders health intervention and programs, we can offer crucial support to those in need, helping them navigate the complexities of their mental health issues and build resilience.

These interventions not only alleviate individual suffering but also have broader societal benefits, such as reducing the strain on healthcare systems, improving productivity, and fostering healthier, more connected communities. Ultimately, recognizing the significance of timely concurrent disorders health support is a crucial step in creating a more compassionate and resilient society where everyone has the opportunity to lead a fulfilling and productive life.

Recommendations:

- Island Health actively recruit psychiatrists for the Alberni Valley, meeting the recommended guidelines of the Canadian Psychiatric Association of Canada which recommends a ratio of 1 psychiatrist to 8,400 people. This requires an additional two (2) psychiatrists in our community.
- Health authorities and the Province will increase mental health hospital beds and staff so that admitted patients through the ER can be treated until they are

stabilised. Currently, we hear many stories of people experiencing critical mental health events who are discharged from the ER without admission into the hospital or if they make it to the mental health ward, are discharged from the hospital, often within 24 hours. (See Stories From the Gap, Section 4.4)

4.5 Housing Recommendations

Stories from The Gap – Boy, Was That Ever A Mistake! *"I told my landlord I was having some health challenges with back pain and now I was hooked on pain (meds – my word for drugs). I guess he told everyone in our building. Somehow, I've become a leper. No one talks to me anymore. The landlord keeps coming up with problems that he says I'm causing. I think he's working his way up to trying to evict me. I won't ever make that mistake again."*

Housing for everyone is the bedrock of the foundation required to begin addressing the poisoned drug catastrophe. The catastrophe has disproportionately affected vulnerable and marginalised populations, many of whom lack stable housing.

Basic housing is not only a fundamental human right but also a crucial component in the fight against drug poisoning. It provides people with a safe and stable environment where they can access necessary support, healthcare, and rehabilitation services.

Ensuring that every person has access to adequate housing not only helps prevent substance-related harm but also offers a foundation for recovery and reintegration into our community. By recognizing and upholding the right to basic housing, we can take significant steps towards a more humane and effective response to the drug poisoning catastrophe, ultimately reducing the devastating impact it has on all communities in British Columbia.

Recommendations:

- All levels of government will increase the Point-in-Time homeless count to a quarterly count.
- BC Housing will match temporary shelter beds in the community to the annual point-in-time homeless count.
- In partnership, the Province, Regional District and City will create a long-term scalable plan to replace temporary shelter beds with permanent housing, including assisted living housing as required. (5-year plan for full completion of required units, reviewed annually)
- Provincially remove municipal bylaws intended to restrict shelter and housing projects oriented to serving the marginalised demographics in communities.
- The Province will Incentivise municipalities that embrace shelter and housing projects in their communities. — The faster the implementation, the greater the incentive.
- BC Housing and the Province in partnership with municipal bylaws will incorporate housing models that integrate the placement of units throughout the community. This is to prevent concentrated poverty and social exclusion. Distributing housing options throughout the community ensures that people from

diverse backgrounds and economic statuses have access to a range of housing opportunities. By avoiding the concentration of low-income or marginalized populations in one specific area, we can promote social inclusion, reduce stigmatisation, and create more inclusive, diverse, and vibrant communities.

- Local government, First Nation, Regional District and City will request from the provincial government for the implementation of a Complex Care Housing Facility in Port Alberni to be agreed upon by the end of 2024 and then implemented as soon as possible.

4.6 Poverty & Economic Recommendations

Stories from The Gap – If Only, I Would. "*I'm on social assistance. I get $560 a month. If I could find an apartment, my landlord would directly receive a few hundred dollars more from the Government. What a laugh. There is nothing decent in our town under $1000 a month to rent. If I could find something, I'd have to kick in most of my food money for rent. I'd be left trying to live on $60 a month. Yesterday, I was walking to the OPS and some guy drove by yelling at me to get a job! – I would, if I could.*"

21% of all residents in the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) live in poverty. Poverty worsens the risk of substance disorders as people facing economic hardship may turn to drugs as a coping mechanism or escape from their challenging circumstances.

Poverty also limits access to education, employment, and healthier lifestyles which further compound the challenges associated with substance and mental health disorders. It also worsens recovery outcomes. Moreover, impoverished families are often forced to live in areas that make them more vulnerable to drug-related harm.

Addressing poverty and its associated social determinants is crucial in breaking the cycle of the poisoned drug catastrophe. It plays a significant role in both the initiation of substance use and the challenges people face in seeking treatment and support.

Recommendations:

- The Port Alberni Community Action Plan fully supports the ACRD Poverty Reduction Action Plan, prepared by the Alberni Clayoquot Health Network 2021.
- We encourage the City of Port Alberni to build on its endorsement of the Alberni-Clayoquot Health Network Poverty Reduction Action Plan 2021 by creating its own tactical action plan to address economic prosperity, economic diversity and poverty reduction.

4.7 Government Resolve Recommendations

Stories from The Gap – A Mother's Grief. *"My son died four years ago. It took time, but I finally got to talk to the Minister of Health and the Minister of MMHA. I thought they listened. They assured me that changes were coming. That was 3 years ago. Nothing has changed. My son's death seems meaningless. Just another number in every increasing count of meaningless deaths."*

The BC Government bears the majority of responsibility for drug policy changes and implementation of programs that effectively address the poisoned drug catastrophe in our communities. We acknowledge that it faces barriers in making timely changes to drug policies to address the catastrophe, including the complexity of the issue, political challenges, public perceptions and the need for substantial resource allocation. So far, the government response has been agonisingly slow and ineffective in reducing the rates of deaths from the unregulated poisoned drug supply in the province.

However, the importance of the government's resolve to implement evidence-based recommendations cannot be overstated. Evidence-based policies are crucial in crafting effective solutions, as they draw on science and health expert data and research to inform decisions. By concentrating on expert health recommendations instead of choices driven by politics, the government can make timely, informed, targeted changes that prioritize harm reduction, treatment, and prevention. The most controversial opportunities are also those most likely to make significant differences in the catastrophe.

This commitment is not only vital in saving lives and reducing the devastating impact of the poisoned drug catastrophe but also in demonstrating a responsive, compassionate, and accountable approach to governance. Timely, evidence-based policy changes will set the foundation for a more resilient and supportive society that addresses the root causes of substance abuse, ultimately fostering a safer and healthier British Columbia.

Recommendations:

- The Province will Introduce metrics and consequences in Government Minister mandate letters for the Minister of Health and the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions. Current government ministers' mandate letters provide objectives but are very soft on measurable metrics and performance consequences.
    - The mandate – to reduce the impact of the poisoned drug catastrophe on British Columbians
    - The Metric – (example) Reduce the Provincial death rate by 10% by the end of the 2nd quarter of 2024.
    - The Consequence - This is a commitment to the well-being of all British Columbians. We recognize the complexity of the task, but make no mistake – we firmly expect this target to be met. Failure to do so will result in a critical examination of performance, including potential consequences, as we hold ourselves accountable to the people we serve. This is not merely a goal; it is a mandate, and we will not shy away from making

difficult decisions if our commitment is not upheld. The urgency of addressing the poisoned drug catastrophe requires nothing less than full accountability and action.

- The Province and Health Authorities introduce the same metrics and consequences to senior government bureaucrats of the MOH/MMHA ministries and senior Health Authority(s) Leaders' performance plans.
- Emphasize the importance of meeting performance metrics to reduce deaths from the poisoned drug catastrophe is so key, that failure to meet metrics set for government leaders, MOH/MMHA bureaucrats and health authorities, would at the very least result in no bonus payouts or wage increases, despite all other positive performance criteria.
- Our Community Action Team will advocate with the BC Government to embrace the courage to implement drug policy reforms based on the advice of its health experts and evidence-based knowledge. Exactly like it did with hard choices made during the COVID Crisis.
- The Province modify the BC Government Strategic Plan (Pathway To Hope) to include specific measurable goals with actionable dates.
- The Province implement a government-wide transparent monthly progress report on the Pathway to Hope action plan to the people of British Columbia.

4.8 Recovery Programs –, In-Residence Abstinence-Based, and Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) Programs Recommendations

Stories from The Gap – I Gave Up! *"I wanted to stop using drugs. My dad even paid for my first stay in recovery after I detoxed. It cost him over $20 grand. I never thought you could get drugs in a recovery place, but you can. Three weeks in, I broke down and took some. They caught me. I got kicked out – my dad lost all his money and won't talk to me anymore. – I guess I'm just not worth it."*

Frankly, the detox and recovery models in our province need to be completely revamped. We believe there are incredible opportunities to change the methodology of current detox programs, recovery programs, and how OAT (Opioid Agonist Treatment) is administered through physicians and nurse practitioners in the province.

The challenges posed by the poisoned drug catastrophe call for innovation and a bold reimagining of our approach to addiction treatment and recovery. By harnessing these opportunities, we can better serve our communities, empower people on their journey to recovery, and make substantial strides in addressing the complex and pressing issues associated with substance disorders.

The time has come for a fresh perspective, a commitment to current evidence-based practices, and a dedication to improving the lives of those affected by addiction. This transformative approach represents a cornerstone in our collective efforts to create a healthier and more resilient British Columbia.

Recommendations:

- The Province flip the current model of 20% recovery centres publicly funded versus 80% private pay to 80% public funded versus 20% private pay.
- The Province and Health Authorities base new or changing recovery centres on the clinical guidelines outlined by the BC Centre on Substance Use. The foundation of all recovery centres should be based on section 2.6 *Self-defined Recovery and Wellness-oriented Care* of those clincal guidelines. (Mirror the Red Fish Centre as much as possible throughout the province.)
- BC Ministry of Health adopt policies that recognize that abstinence from substance use before entering into recovery centres is predicated on obsolete models developed in the mid-20th century. Set in place plans to move the majority of recovery centres to models based on present evidence-based knowledge that accept that recovery can start before detox. That relapse is part of recovery and NOT a reason to be ejected people from recovery programs.
- BC Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions investigate amalgamating detox programs into recovery programs. This would decrease overall costs, but more importantly, make sure patients do not fall through the system cracks between detox and recovery programs. Embracing recovery models not requiring complete abstinence would allow the province to question the need for separate detox centres.
- The Province fund recovery beds in the province to meet the goal of every person wishing to enter into recovery having access to a recovery bed within 48 hours.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health change critical care procedures to provide beds in the hospital until recovery beds are available.
- The Province make OAT/OATi therapy available in every hospital with an ER.
- The Province expand access to the at-home detox model trials (Substance Use Treatment and Response Team (START)) to 80% across the province by the end of 2024.
- The Province makes OAT/OATi Therapy certification required for physicians or nurse practitioners specializing in ER medicine by the end of 2024.

4.9 Youth Challenges Recommendations

Addressing the problem of youth substance use requires a collaborative approach involving educators, healthcare professionals, community leaders, parents, and the youth themselves. By fostering open communication and providing the necessary support and resources, we can help guide young people towards making healthy choices and provide them with the tools to lead fulfilling lives.

To address youth substance use effectively, a comprehensive approach that involves various sectors of our community society is required. Here are several recommendations to help mitigate challenges youth face around substance use based on the issues identified:

- Increase support of organizations like ADAPS (Alberni Drug and Alcohol Prevention Services) offers information, counselling, and support for youth (age 12 - 24) and their supports affected by the use of substances. Services are harm-reduction-based and cover early intervention/information through intensive treatment and health maintenance. Open to anyone affected by a youth's use of substances, whether in their own use or someone else's. Organizations like ADAPS play a key role in solution-based work with youth.
- Education and Awareness: Implement age-appropriate drug education programs in schools that inform about the risks and consequences of substance use. This education should also extend to online platforms where youth spend a significant amount of time.
- Parental Involvement: Encourage open dialogue between parents and children about substance use. Parents should be educated on the signs of drug use and effective communication strategies.
- Mental Health Support: Enhance access to mental health services for youth. Early intervention for mental health issues can reduce the risk of self-medicating with drugs.
- Positive Role Models: Promote positive role models and mentors for young people. Having someone to look up to can inspire youth to make healthy choices.
- Healthy Alternatives: Provide and promote engaging activities and hobbies as alternatives to substance use. Sports, arts, and community service can offer a sense of belonging and accomplishment.
- Peer Support Programs: Develop peer-led initiatives and support groups where young people can share experiences and encourage each other to stay drug-free.
- Community Engagement: Involve the community in creating safe and supportive environments for youth. Community centres and programs can offer resources and a haven for young people.
- Enforcement: Ensure that police and public safety measures/regulations regarding the sale and distribution of substances are actively utilized to reduce the availability of drugs to minors.
- Early Intervention Programs: Implement programs that identify at-risk youth early and provide them with the support they need before they turn to drugs.
- Access to Treatment: Ensure that there are accessible, youth-friendly treatment programs that offer a range of services, including counselling, therapy, and rehabilitation.
- Aftercare and Relapse Prevention: Provide ongoing support for youth who have gone through treatment to prevent relapse. This could include mentorship programs, support networks, and educational opportunities.
- Research and Evaluation: Support research to better understand the reasons behind youth substance use and to evaluate the effectiveness of different intervention strategies.

Addressing youth substance use requires a balanced approach that combines prevention, treatment, and enforcement, as well as community involvement. These

recommendations must be tailored to the specific needs and circumstances of the youth population they aim to serve.

Prevention recommendations, including youth, are found in section 4.16.

4.10 Primary Care

Stories from The Gap – No Family Doctor Now! *"I told my family doctor I was hooked on opioids because my friend gave me some oxycontin when I hurt my back. He asked me how much and what I was taking. When I told him anything I could get from my dealer, he told me he couldn't treat me. Now what?"*

In the face of the ongoing unregulated poisoned drug epidemic/catastrophe, it has become increasingly evident that expanding the availability of Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) in primary care settings is both a pragmatic and compassionate response.

Physicans and Nurse Practionioners, with their unique position as frontline medical professionals, are well-placed to offer timely and comprehensive support to individuals struggling with substance use disorders. By integrating OAT into primary care, we not only enhance accessibility to treatment but also reduce stigma, improve coordination of care, and foster a more holistic approach to patients' health and well-being. This transformative shift holds the potential to save lives, alleviate suffering, and contribute significantly to our collective efforts in addressing the complex challenges posed by the unregulated drug catastrophe in our communities.

Recommendations:

- The Province make acquiring OAT/OATi certification so attractive for existing primary care physicians and nurse practitioners that it increases the base of primary health care professionals certified to administer OAT/OATi to a minimum of 80% of primary health care professionals by the end of 2024
- The province in consultation with the College of Physicians and Universities make OAT/OATi certification mandatory for graduating physicians and nurse practitioners. Also, existing healthcare professionals from other jurisdictions wishing to practice in British Columbia be required to obtain OAT/OATi certification before being issued a license in BC.
- Drop the requirement for mentorship after OAT/OATi training in favour of an examination model.

4.11 Criminal Justice System, Decriminalisation/Legalisation, Public Safety Measures Recommendations

4.11-1 Criminal Justice System Recommendations

The poisoned drug catastrophe in Canada is accentuating the urgent need for a transformative shift in our approach to our criminal justice system. The current system has been completely ineffective in addressing the complexities of unregulated substance supply, often worsening the challenges faced by people grappling with

substance disorders use and accompanying mental health challenges.

In addition, our justice system is not effective or timely in addressing those who supply and deal unregulated substances at the mid-level or top of the supply chain.

A call to action is required. We urge Federal and Provincial policymakers and stakeholders to commit to comprehensive reform immediately. The consequences of inaction are severe. It will result in more lives lost, families destroyed, and communities devastated. It is time to acknowledge that a new approach is needed, one that embraces innovation and progress in the Canadian criminal justice system.

By recognizing the importance of changing the criminal justice system, we acknowledge the need for a more compassionate, evidence-based, and rehabilitative approach for people who use substances. For them, we need to shift the focus from punishment to substance disorder treatment, mental health disorder treatment and harm reduction in breaking the cycle of substance use disorder and fostering rehabilitation. At the same time, we need to effectively deal with the major suppliers of unregulated substances.

This shift not only aligns with the principles of social justice but also holds the potential to reduce the burden on the legal system while simultaneously addressing some of the root causes of the poisoned drug catastrophe.

Recommendations:

Note: These recommendations exclude any criminal behaviours that result in violence, weapons possession, or people possessing more than 250 grams of substances identified as illicit drugs in Canada.

- The Province allocate resources to enhance and expand addiction treatment infrastructure, that ensures access of justice system clients to timely and comprehensive support for people seeking recovery.
- The Federal Government in partnership with Provinces expand restorative justice programs across Canada, especially for people who use substances and have committed nonviolent petty crimes in sourcing substances for their substance use disorders.
- The Province expand diversion programs - and roll out the implementation of Drug Courts. Drug treatment court is a special court that works to redirect non-violent offenders with substance disorders into programs of treatment and supervision, instead of sentencing them to prison. The court is supported by immediate access to programs consisting of addiction recovery services, social service agencies and individual case planning.
- The Province create systems and procedures that divert people with mental health disorders and substance disorders into immediate access to forensics-driven treatment and recovery. This includes making alternatives to incarceration a first choice for nonviolent offences related to substance use, such as community service, restitution, or supervised treatment programs.

- The Province establish a special diversion program for youth involved in non-violent offences driven by substance use, emphasizing education, counselling, and community service rather than punitive measures.
- All levels of government collaborate with Indigenous Justice Systems – where possible, refer Indigenous people to an Indigenous-led justice system.
- The Province introduce incentives within the justice system for people who complete substance disorder treatment programs, promoting positive outcomes and rehabilitation.
- All levels of government encourage proactive community policing models that prioritize harm reduction strategies over punitive measures, fostering trust and cooperation between law enforcement and communities.
- The Province Implement cross-sector collaboration programs between the justice system, healthcare providers, and community organizations to create a coordinated and comprehensive response to the poisoned drug catastrophe.
- The Province establish education and sensitisation programs for legal professionals, especially Judges and Crown Prosecutors to increase awareness of the complexities of substance use disorders and to reduce stigma.
- The province modify the current legal aid model to provide specialized legal aid for people facing legal challenges related to non-violent substance use/concurrent disorders. This would include specially trained Public Defenders who are trained in all the diversion opportunities.
- The Federal Government and Province, in partnership, develop metrics to continuously monitor changes to our justice system, and implement data-driven decision-making processes that evaluate the impact of interventions and adjust strategies accordingly.

4.11-2 Decriminalisation/Legalisation Recommendations

The Federal/Provincial trial of Decriminalization in British Columbia is a great first step in normalizing access to substances currently designated illegal. Like all controlled substances, the difference between decriminalisation and legalisation is huge

The decriminalization or legalization of substances stands as a paradigm shift in addressing the poisoned drug catastrophe. It offers a spectrum of benefits that transcend traditional punitive approaches. By moving away from criminalizing individuals for personal drug possession, society gains the potential to redirect resources towards more effective harm reduction, treatment, and prevention strategies.

Decriminalization fosters an environment where people with substance use disorders are viewed through a public health lens, encouraging them to access crucial services without the fear of legal repercussions.

In time as the perception of the general public changes, legalisation of certain substances should also be explored, as they offer potential benefits in reducing the harms associated with drug use. By regulating the drug market and implementing safety

measures, we can ensure quality control and protect the well-being of those who currently use unregulated substances.

Legalization, when carefully regulated, allows for safer drug consumption environments, reducing the risks associated with unregulated substances. Moreover, these approaches acknowledge the complex nature of substance disorders, aiming to destigmatize substance use and promote compassionate, evidence-based solutions. Embracing decriminalisation or legalisation offers a pathway to shift the narrative from punishment to rehabilitation, ultimately contributing to a more humane, equitable, and effective response to the poisoned drug catastrophe.

Recommendations:

- Stop police sweeps in municipalities intent on circumventing the BC provincial decriminalization trial.
- The Province evaluate decriminalisation/legalisation policies, allowing for adjustments on science and evidence-based emerging research, public health needs, and community feedback.
- The Province implement an extensive public service ad campaign focusing on the evidence-based advantages of decriminalization.
- Restore the original BC Provincial Government policies of the decriminalisation trial and legislation.
- The Federal Government and Province, in partnership, make the decriminalisation trial permanent as soon as possible
- The Federal Government and Province, in partnership, increase the decriminalised quantity of substances allowed for personal use to an average one-week supply.

4.11-3 Public Safety Measures Recommendations

Stories from The Gap – I Wasn't Doing Anything! *"I'm homeless in downtown Lower East Side, Vancouver. I was walking to the place that provides hot meals. A cop car and van pulled up beside me. Five cops got out. They demanded to know why I was there. Then they searched me. They took my drugs (I only had one dose of down, which is supposed to be okay now) and put me in a patty wagon. After four hours, they let me back on the streets, no drugs, no money to replace them and a long way to where I left my stuff. When I got back to my shopping cart, all my stuff was gone. Now I'm beginning to get drug sick."*

Public safety measures are tools that help deal with the poisoned drug catastrophe. They focus on keeping communities safe and helping people who are affected by substance disorders. However, it is crucial to reorient these methods to a health-based lens. Best-in-class public safety programs use smart, evidence-based ideas that we know work. They include prevention messages, working together, and being ready to help.

The goal is to stop harm from substances both for the person who is using drugs and also for the broader community. These recommendations empower communities to

tackle some of the root causes of the catastrophe and ensure the well-being of everyone. By embracing public safety measures, we lay the foundation for a more secure, informed, and compassionate response to the poisoned drug catastrophe, fostering a collective commitment to the safety and vitality of our communities.

Public Safety is about balancing the needs of the entire community. Striking a balance requires a compassionate approach that supports people experiencing homelessness and concurrent disorders while maintaining a standard for everyone within our community. Collaborative initiatives can be implemented to address the unique challenges faced by unhoused or people suffering from concurrent disorders, providing access to resources, shelter, and support services. Resolving root causes rather than symptoms should always be the priority approach.

Recommendations:

- The Province increase the accessibility of recovery treatment services, including detoxification programs, rehabilitation facilities, and mental health support, in-community to provide **timely** assistance to those in need. The goal is immediate referral into recovery through critical care hospital beds and then transfer to recovery programs within 48 hours.
- The Province nvest in increasing province-wide public awareness/education programs to raise understanding about the poisoned drug catastrophe, promote harm reduction practices, and reduce stigma associated with substance disorders.
- The Province expand the availability of safe consumption/overdose prevention sites, providing supervised environments for people to use substances safely while accessing support services. In Port Alberni, increase the OPS hours to a 24/7 model.
- Island Health investigate creating a 2nd OPS in the Argyle/3rd Ave corridor of Port Alberni. This area is frequented by many of our marginalized family, friends and neighbours of our community. It's also far enough away from our existing OPS that clients are unwilling to travel to the current OPS.
- The city provides public toilets in areas of the city frequented by our marginalized demographics.
- The Federal Government and Province, in partnership, accelerate the Implementation of community policing models that prioritize harm reduction strategies over punitive measures, building trust and collaboration between law enforcement and communities.
- The Province moves towards integrating mental health services with policing models, recognizing the co-occurrence of mental health challenges and substance use. 911 reports of a critical mental health event respond with police and mental health experts. We recommend the expansion of the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team in Port Alberni to enable them to respond in conjunction with police in mental health crises 24/7 by the end of 2024.

- The Province significantly increase public awareness campaigns to destigmatize substance disorders, increase understanding of the poisoned drug catastrophe, and encourage people to seek help without fear of judgment by the end of 2024.
- School Boards provide a formal training program for educators and school staff on recognizing signs of substance use, facilitating early intervention, and connecting students to appropriate support services.
- The Province significantly Increases the availability of all harm reduction material in communities. E.g. – vending machines, and/or distribution in all pharmacies using a (take what you need display) at the entrance doors of pharmacies
- The Province significantly increases public awareness that harm reduction and treatment are part of the same recovery process. Our strongest ask is for all levels of government, especially the provincial government, to campaign hard on educating the public with real information based on science/evidence-based information.
- The province increases support for programs like Community Action Teams (CAT). These programs are community-led initiatives and concentrate on networking with service providers, peers and the community. Community Action Teams focus on harm reduction, reducing stigma and addressing social determinants of the poisoned drug catastrophe. Support and funding of CAT Teams allow local communities to tailor strategies to their unique needs and challenges.

4.12 Harm Reduction Recommendations

Stories from The Gap – Only Once! *"I'm one of the few that still injects the drugs I use. It was a long way to the OPS to get more clean needles. I shared once. Now I have HIV."*

Harm reduction strategies stand as a basic building block in all the work addressing the complexities of the poisoned drug catastrophe. It requires aggressively challenging misconceptions and fostering a more informed and compassionate response within our communities.

The significance of harm reduction lies not only in its ability to minimize the adverse effects of substance use but also in bridging the gap of misunderstanding that seems so prevalent in the general public. By promoting evidence-based strategies for safe supply, needle exchange programs, supervised consumption sites, and supporting innovative programs like DULF, and education initiatives, harm reduction aims to mitigate risks and enhance the overall well-being of people affected by addiction. It emphasizes the need to meet people where they are, providing support without judgment.

Harm reduction is also the umbrella that resists the ban on public consumption legislation.

The benefits of harm reduction extend beyond the individual, contributing to safer communities and fostering a culture of empathy and understanding. By embracing harm

reduction recommendations, we are not only saving lives but also dismantling stigmas and building a foundation for healthier and more inclusive communities.

Recommendations:

- Island Health Authority increase the Port Alberni OPS hours of operation to a 24/7 model as soon as possible.
- The Province increases access to harm-reduction supplies.
- Significantly increase public awareness that harm reduction and treatment are part of the same recovery journey. Our strongest ask is for all levels of government, especially the provincial government to campaign hard on educating the public with real information based on science/evidence-based information.
- The Province implements mobile harm reduction units to reach underserved and remote communities, providing on-the-spot support, education, and resources.
- The Province significantly Increases the availability of all harm reduction material in communities. E.g. – vending machines, and/or distribution in all pharmacies using a (take what you need display) at the entrance doors of pharmacies
- The Province through its Ministry of Health, integrates harm reduction methods into primary care settings, ensuring that healthcare providers offer non-judgmental support and resources to people with substance use disorders based on trauma-informed care principles.
- All levels of government and service providers provide cultural competency training for healthcare professionals to ensure that harm reduction services are inclusive and respectful of the diverse backgrounds and experiences of all people, (especially indigenous – due to their over-representation in the catastrophe) seeking support.
- All levels of government and service providers collaborate with Indigenous communities to incorporate traditional healing practices into harm reduction strategies, respecting cultural diversity and enhancing the effectiveness of interventions.
- The Province increase access to transitional housing, permanent housing and support services for people with substance use disorders. This provides stability and assistance in their recovery journey. (no healing begins without a safe place to lay your head every night)
- School Boards integrate harm reduction education into school curricula to equip students with knowledge about substance use, risks, and harm reduction practices from an early age.
- The Province develop and support peer-based initiatives (Community Action Teams) that provide individuals with lived experience, and an opportunity to connect, share knowledge, and offer support in harm reduction efforts.
- The Province through Island Health augment existing drug-testing services in Port Alberni to allow people to test the contents of unregulated substances using an onsite FTIR Spectroscopy or Paper-Spray Mass Spectrometry by the end of 2024. This promotes informed choices and reduces the risk of unintentional poisoning.

- Island Health Authority to investigate a mobile drug testing unit that can meet people where they are. Possibly consider a scalable model that utilizes a travelling unit between communities. (Mondays and Fridays in Port Alberni, Tuesdays in Oceanside, etc.)

4.13 Stigma Reduction Recommendations

Stories from The Gap – I'm A Huge Failure. *"Nobody hates me more than me. Even so, when I walk on the streets, people yell vile comments all the time. When I go to the hospital, I see the looks. It all makes me hate myself even more. All I want is to get help."*

We reshape the narrative around stigma by addressing the profound impact of the societal judgment on people, families and communities affected by substance use disorders. By emphasizing the need to close the gap in the general public's perception, these recommendations strive to dispel misconceptions and foster empathy.

The benefits of stigma reduction extend beyond removing barriers to treatment and support. They also encompass the creation of more inclusive and understanding communities.

By challenging stereotypes and encouraging open conversations, stigma reduction initiatives aim to create an environment where people grappling with substance disorders are seen not as moral failures but as individuals with severe health disorders who are deserving of compassion, support, and access to comprehensive care.

Embracing stigma reduction recommendations is fundamental to building a more compassionate and informed community response to the poisoned drug catastrophe, ensuring that those affected can seek help without fear of judgment or exclusion.

Recommendations:

- The Province through Work Safe BC implement permanent strategies that include education for all employers on substance disorders, the impact on men (functional and recreational use) and harm reduction that specifically addresses stigma and using substances alone.
- Work Safe BC is to make the information in the bullet above a yearly mandatory subject in safety meetings for all employees in BC.
- The Province launch specific campaigns promoting the use of inclusive and non-stigmatizing language in public discourse, shaping a narrative that emphasizes health and recovery rather than moral judgment.
- The Province change the name of the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions to more inclusive language.
- The Province significantly increase targeted public awareness campaigns to educate the public about the complexities of substance use disorders and corresponding stigma, dispelling myths and challenging stereotypes by the end of 2024.

    - Utilize public figures, including policymakers, celebrities, and community leaders in media campaigns, to openly discuss and advocate for stigma reduction, leveraging their influence to challenge societal attitudes.
- The Province implement a targeted program to educate media professionals with sensitivity training to ensure accurate and compassionate reporting on issues related to substance use, avoiding sensationalism and reinforcing harmful stereotypes.
- The Province and Health Authorities promote storytelling initiatives where people with lived experience share their journeys of recovery. This humanizes people's struggle with substance disorders and challenges preconceived notions in the general public.
- The Province establish provincial support programs for families affected by substance use disorders, offering resources and guidance to reduce internalized stigma and foster healthy family dynamics.
- BC Emergency Health Services provide specialized training for all 1st Responders on stigma reduction, emphasizing compassionate approaches when interacting with individuals experiencing substance use challenges.
- All levels of government facilitate peer-led community events that bring together individuals in recovery, community members, and service providers, fostering a sense of unity and reducing isolation.
- All levels of government encourage community art projects and expressions that challenge stereotypes and showcase the diverse experiences of individuals affected by substance use, promoting understanding through creativity.
- The Province through BC Corrections, establish reintegration programs for individuals leaving correctional facilities, offering support, employment opportunities, and stigma-reduction initiatives to prevent recidivism.
- The Province develop programs that empower individuals in recovery through employment opportunities, reducing stigma by showcasing the potential for success and contribution to society.

4.14 Recovery Treatment Time Frames Recommendations

The poisoned drug catastrophe is won or lost in seconds or minutes – not hours, days or weeks.

Recovery treatment time frame recommendations place a strong emphasis on the urgency of initiating people into recovery at the earliest possible step. Recognizing the time-sensitive nature of substance disorders, these recommendations prioritize swift access to evidence-based treatments and support services.

We draw inspiration from the comprehensive approach adopted by world best-in-class jurisdictions, where the decriminalization of drug use is coupled with a robust system of treatment, harm reduction, addressing social determinants, and comprehensive, timely in-facility recovery programs and post-recovery programs in-community after discharge.

Recommendations:

- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities streamline referral processes between emergency departments, primary care providers, and treatment facilities to minimize delays in transitioning people from crisis to recovery.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities implement 24/7 crisis intervention services, providing immediate support and assessment for people in acute distress, with a focus on facilitating entry into treatment.
- The Province increase the availability of crisis stabilisation beds, providing short-term intensive support for people in acute distress while facilitating a smooth transition into longer-term treatment.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities expand inpatient detox services utilizing critical care beds in hospitals to accommodate the immediate needs of people seeking to overcome physical dependence on substances. (Model after the Vancouver St Paul's Hospital Seamless program)
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities expand at-home detox programs.
- The Province introduce mobile outreach and treatment units to reach underserved and remote communities, providing on-the-spot assessments and initiating the treatment process promptly.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities establish fast-track access for high-risk populations, such as people with a history of overdose or those facing severe health complications, recognizing the urgency of their treatment needs.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities expand telehealth and virtual treatment options to enhance accessibility for people in remote areas or those facing barriers to in-person visits, ensuring timely access to OAT treatment and recovery support.
- The Province prioritize same-day access to Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) (OAT/OATi) options, such as methadone or buprenorphine, reducing withdrawal symptoms and supporting people immediately.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities integrate peer support programs to assist people during transitions between different phases of treatment, providing guidance, encouragement, and understanding from those with lived experience.
- The Province increase access to primary care providers (GPs and Nurse Practitioners) to ensure seamless integration of substance use treatment into routine healthcare, minimizing delays in accessing comprehensive care.
- The province reduce waiting times for outpatient treatment services, ensuring people can access counselling, therapy, and support groups without prolonged delays.
- The Province develop post-overdose outreach programs that connect people who have experienced an overdose with immediate support and treatment options, promoting a pathway to recovery.

- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities implements strategies to engage and support families in facilitating the recovery process for loved ones, recognizing the crucial role of familial support in sustained recovery for people suffering from substance disorders.

4.15 Comprehensive Treatment/Recovery Program Recommendations

Stories from The Gap – What Help? *"I was helping my brother, who was trying to detox his son at his home, as there was no other option. To say the least, it was extremely stressful for all of us. As I was driving home one evening, I saw an Island Health bus-stop sign that read: "Too many men have been lost to overdose. We're here for you because we want you to be here too. Find help, hope, and connection. IslandHealth.ca/StopOverdose". I started laughing so hard that I had to pull off the road. Then I started sobbing. There is almost zero help for families in this life-and-death situation. - I should add, that Help is certainly not a phone call away."*

Comprehensive treatment and recovery program recommendations represent a holistic and transformative approach to addressing the poisoned drug catastrophe. We are advocating for an all-encompassing model that addresses the entire spectrum of a person's recovery journey.

Emphasizing the importance of comprehensive care, this model recognizes that the journey to recovery extends beyond isolated interventions and must be woven into the fabric of a person's substance disorder healing journey at every stage. Drawing inspiration from the pioneering efforts in world best-in-class jurisdictions, where a comprehensive program combines decriminalization with robust treatment and harm reduction measures, we see the profound impact of an all-inclusive approach.

By integrating prevention, early intervention, and sustained support throughout an individual's recovery journey, comprehensive treatment and recovery programs not only address immediate crises but also foster resilience, healing, and a sustained commitment to well-being. Embracing this model is fundamental to dismantling some of the most serious root causes of the poisoned drug catastrophe and nurturing communities where every person is valued and supported in their journey toward recovery.

Recommendations:

- At a provincial level, work towards creating a recovery model that embraces people beginning at critical events, hand-offs to detox, through to recovery and then onto outpatient recovery programs.
- The Province create a scalable end-to-end system that is provincially funded for 80% of the population of BC with a target date by the year-end of 2024.
    - Model this end-to-end recovery system to embrace the evidence-based concept that relapse is a necessary part of recovery and should not result in ejection from recovery programs.

- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities look at diversifying as much as possible regional facilities. One possible model is to have sub-facilities in communities that are part of a larger central regional facility.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities ensure that this inclusive model (hand-offs) is transparent to the patient. (Preceding programs must hold patients until succeeding programs can accept them) Once a patient embarks on the process, there are no gaps between programs.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities design programs to comprise social determinants skills including life skills, work skill training, job placement and housing placement before exiting to the out-patient program in the community.

4.16 Comprehensive Preventative Programs Recommendations

Preventive program recommendations intend to capitalize on current missed opportunities in the efforts to reduce the impact of the poisoned drug catastrophe through increasing prevention efforts in British Columbia.

By focusing on prevention at its core, these recommendations prioritize a spectrum of interventions designed to target risk factors, increase resilience, and create a community-wide understanding of the dangers associated with unregulated substance use.

From early childhood education initiatives to community outreach campaigns and targeted interventions for at-risk populations, we believe comprehensive preventive programs can disrupt the trajectory of people most at risk of substance use before it takes hold in their lives.

Emphasizing education, community engagement, and early intervention, these recommendations not only aim to reduce the incidence of substance use but also create a resilient and informed society that is equipped to address the catastrophe and build a healthier future for all residents of British Columbia.

Recommendations:

- The following recommendations require that they be driven Provincially.
- The Province Initiate transformative and innovative provincial prevention public awareness campaigns on TV, Radio, traditional media channels, and social media
    - Utilize famous people to deliver prevention messages.
- Implement age-appropriate substance use education in early childhood programs to build foundational awareness and resilience against future substance-related challenges.
- Develop comprehensive youth prevention programs in schools, combining education, mental health support, and positive recreational activities to discourage early substance use.

- Conduct ongoing community outreach and education campaigns to raise awareness about substance use, its risks, and available preventive resources, fostering a supportive community environment.
- Establish family-centred prevention services that engage and empower families in recognizing and addressing substance use issues, promoting a collaborative approach to prevention.
- Introduce school-based prevention and intervention services that identify and address substance use concerns among students promptly, providing counselling and support to prevent escalation.
- Implement targeted prevention programs for populations at higher risk of substance use, addressing social determinants and providing support for vulnerable communities, especially in Indigenous communities who are disproportionately impacted by the poisoned drug catastrophe
- Provide cultural competency training for educators to ensure that prevention programs are inclusive and respectful of the diverse backgrounds and experiences of students.
- Develop online and digital resources for preventive education, reaching a wide audience and leveraging technology to disseminate information about substance use risks.
- Conduct community-based prevention workshops that address local factors contributing to substance use, tailoring interventions to the unique needs and challenges of specific communities.
- Establish programs that provide parental guidance and support in navigating conversations about substance use with children, promoting open communication and early intervention.
- Implement peer-led prevention initiatives in schools and communities, leveraging the influence of peers to promote positive behaviours and discourage substance use.
- Develop programs that focus on building community resilience as a preventive measure, addressing underlying social and economic factors that contribute to substance use.
- Involve youth in the planning and implementation of prevention programs, ensuring that initiatives are relevant, engaging, and resonate with the youth audience.
- Integrate preventive measures within primary care settings, ensuring that healthcare providers actively engage in discussions about substance use risks with patients.
- Increase the accessibility of community health clinics, providing preventive services, resources, and information related to substance use in a community-centered setting.
- Forge partnerships with local businesses to promote preventive messages, providing resources and education to employees and customers about the risks of substance use.
- Incorporate preventive measures into recreation centres and community spaces, offering information, resources, and activities that discourage substance use.

Summary of Recommendations

4.1 First Nations Indigenous People Support Recommendations

- Actively support, participate and engage in **ALL** the calls for action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- We fully support all recommendations of the Tseshaht First Nations Alberni Valley Poisoned Drug Crisis Strategy 2023.
- Actively search for and implement partnership opportunities between First Nations, and the Port Alberni Community Action Team.
- Engage and actively support the needs of First Nations with the community at large, all service providers, Health Authorities and all levels of Government.

We acknowledge and support all the existing work First Nations have achieved in the following areas and support increases in these programs led by First Nations through increased support by all levels of Government:

- Culturally Tailored Treatment Programs: Develop addiction treatment programs that incorporate traditional healing practices, cultural teachings, and spiritual guidance to resonate with the values and beliefs of First Nations communities.
- Elders and Knowledge Keepers Involvement: Involve Elders and Knowledge Keepers in the healing process, allowing them to share their wisdom, provide mentorship, and support people in their journey to recovery.
- Community Healing Circles: Facilitate community healing circles or talking circles, where members can openly discuss their challenges, seek guidance, and receive emotional support in a culturally appropriate setting. An example is the Walk With Me Program.
- Land-Based Healing Programs: Offer land-based healing programs that connect individuals with the land, fostering a deeper sense of belonging and spiritual renewal. In Port Alberni, The Somass River is the lifeblood of its First Nations People.
- Cultural Awareness Training: Provide cultural awareness training to healthcare professionals and service providers to ensure respectful and culturally competent care.
- Community-Driven Solutions: Empower First Nations communities to design and implement their harm reduction and treatment programs, tailored to their unique needs and values.
- Language Revival Programs: Support language revival initiatives to strengthen cultural identity, which can be a protective factor against substance disorders.
- Traditional Medicine: Integrate traditional healing practices, such as smudging, and medicinal plant use, into substance disorder treatment and recovery plans.

- Family Support Programs: Establish family support programs that engage families and promote healing within the family unit, recognizing the importance of kinship ties in First Nations communities.
- Crisis Response Teams: Form culturally competent crisis response team(s) that can quickly address emergencies in a respectful and understanding manner.
- Cultural Mentorship for Youth: Offer cultural mentorship programs for youth to connect them with their heritage, promote positive self-identity, and steer them away from unregulated substance use.
- Community Public Safety Agreements: Collaborate with law enforcement agencies to establish community public safety agreements that prioritize cultural sensitivity and restorative justice principles.
- Community-Run Safe Spaces: Create community-run safe spaces for First Nations people to gather, share experiences, and access support without fear of judgment or discrimination. (Friendship Centres)
- Trauma-Informed Care: Ensure that all service providers are trained in trauma-informed care, recognizing the historical trauma that impacts many people in First Nations communities.
- Access to Traditional Elders and Healers: Facilitate access to traditional Elders and Healers as part of a support network for people in crisis or recovery.
- Cultural Resilience Programs: Promote cultural resilience through programs that celebrate cultural practices, art, storytelling, and song as a means to combat the negative effects of substance disorders.

4.2 Toxicity of the Unregulated Supply Recommendations

- The Province leads the way, in partnership with the Federal Government, by implementing a scalable program of regulated Safe Supply to a minimum of 80% of the Province by the end of 2024. (Details of the recommended models of safe supply will be found in Section 4.3).
- The Province Implement Overdose Prevention Sites in all communities in BC with populations of more than 15K by the end of 2024.
- The Province Implement drug testing facilities including an onsite Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) or Paper-Spray Mass Spectrometry in all communities across BC with populations of more than 15K by the end of 2024.
    - The objective is to provide people who use substances testing results of samples in less than 15 minutes.
- Federal and Provincial governments modify the criminal code of Canada with graduating penalties for major suppliers of unregulated substances based on the level of toxicity. Suppliers caught with excessive quantities of illicit drugs, weapons or violence during an arrest are to be held without remand until trial.

4.3 Regulated Safer Supply Recommendations

- The Provincial Government be at all times guided by its evidence-based health experts on drug policy implementation strategy.
- The Province adopts and implements innovative intensive education initiatives for physicians, health professionals and the general public on the benefits of safe supply
- The Province implement a graduated system of safe supply models, starting with a roll-out of the existing models to 80% of the Province by the end of 2024.
- On an ongoing basis, the Province modify the safe supply model to reduce barriers and increase access.

4.4 Mental Health Recommendations

- Island Health actively recruit psychiatrists for the Alberni Valley, meeting the recommended guidelines of the Canadian Psychiatric Association of Canada which recommends a ratio of 1 psychiatrist to 8,400 people. This requires an additional two (2) psychiatrists in our community.
- Health authorities and the Province increase mental health hospital beds and staff so that admitted patients through the ER can be treated until they are stabilised. Currently, we hear many stories of people experiencing critical mental health events who are discharged from the ER without admission into the hospital or if they make it to the mental health ward, are discharged from the hospital, often within 24 hours. (See Stories From the Gap, Section 4.4)

4.5 Housing Recommendations

- All levels of government increase the Point-in-Time homeless count to a quarterly count.
- BC Housing match temporary shelter beds in the community to the annual point-in-time homeless count.
- In partnership, the Province, Regional District and City create a long-term scalable plan to replace temporary shelter beds with permanent housing, including assisted living housing as required. (5-year plan for full completion of required units, reviewed annually)
- Provincially remove municipal bylaws intended to restrict shelter and housing projects oriented to serving the marginalised demographics in communities.
- The Province Incentivise municipalities that embrace shelter and housing projects in their communities. — The faster the implementation, the greater the incentive.
- BC Housing and the Province in partnership with municipal bylaws incorporate housing models that integrate the placement of units throughout the community. This is to prevent concentrated poverty and social exclusion. Distributing housing options throughout the community ensures that people from diverse backgrounds and economic statuses have access to a range of housing opportunities. By avoiding the concentration of low-income or marginalized populations in one

specific area, we can promote social inclusion, reduce stigmatisation, and create more inclusive, diverse, and vibrant communities.

- Local government, First Nation, Regional District and City request from the provincial government the implementation of a Complex Care Housing Facility in Port Alberni to be agreed upon by the end of 2024 and then implemented as soon as possible.

4.6 Poverty & Economic Recommendations

- The Port Alberni Community Action Plan fully supports the ACRD Poverty Reduction Action Plan, prepared by the Alberni Clayoquot Health Network 2021.
- We encourage the City of Port Alberni to build on its endorsement of the Alberni-Clayoquot Health Network Poverty Reduction Action Plan 2021 by creating its own tactical action plan to address economic prosperity, economic diversity and poverty reduction.

4.7 Government Resolve Recommendations

- The Province Introduce metrics and consequences in Government Minister mandate letters for the Minister of Health and the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions. Current government ministers' mandate letters provide objectives but are very soft on measurable metrics and performance consequences.
  - The mandate – to reduce the impact of the poisoned drug catastrophe on British Columbians
  - The Metric – (example) Reduce the Provincial death rate by 10% by the end of the 2nd quarter of 2024.
  - The Consequence - This is a commitment to the well-being of all British Columbians. We recognize the complexity of the task, but make no mistake – we firmly expect this target to be met. Failure to do so will result in a critical examination of performance, including potential consequences, as we hold ourselves accountable to the people we serve. This is not merely a goal; it is a mandate, and we will not shy away from making difficult decisions if our commitment is not upheld. The urgency of addressing the poisoned drug catastrophe requires nothing less than full accountability and action.
- The Province and Health Authorities introduce the same metrics and consequences to senior government bureaucrats of the MOH/MMHA ministries and senior Health Authority(s) Leaders' performance plans.
- Emphasize the importance of meeting performance metrics to reduce deaths from the poisoned drug catastrophe is so key, that failure to meet metrics set for government leaders, MOH/MMHA bureaucrats and health authorities, would at the very least result in no bonus payouts or wage increases, despite all other positive performance criteria.
- Our Community Action Team will advocate with the BC Government to embrace the courage to implement drug policy reforms based on the advice of its health experts and evidence-based knowledge. Exactly like it did with hard choices made during the COVID Crisis.

- The Province modify the BC Government Strategic Plan (Pathway To Hope) to include specific measurable goals with actionable dates.
- The Province implement a government-wide transparent monthly progress report on the Pathway to Hope action plan to the people of British Columbia.

4.8 Recovery Programs –, In-Residence Abstinence-Based, and Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) Programs Recommendations

- The Province flip the current model of 20% recovery centres publicly funded versus 80% private pay to 80% public funded versus 20% private pay.
- The Province and health authorities base new or changing recovery centres on the clinical guidelines outlined by the BC Centre for Substance Use. (Mirror the Red Fish Centre as much as possible throughout the province.)
- BC Ministry of Health adopt policies that recognize that abstinence from substance use before entering into recovery centres is predicated on obsolete models developed in the mid-20th century. Set in place plans to move the majority of recovery centres to models based on present evidence-based knowledge that accept that recovery can start before detox. That relapse is part of recovery and NOT a reason to be ejected people from recovery programs.
- BC Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions investigate amalgamating detox programs into recovery programs. This would decrease overall costs, but more importantly, make sure patients do not fall through the system cracks between detox and recovery programs. Embracing recovery models not requiring complete abstinence would allow the province to question the need for separate detox centres.
- The Province fund recovery beds in the province to meet the goal of every person wishing to enter into recovery having access to a recovery bed within 48 hours.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health change critical care procedures to provide beds in the hospital until recovery beds are available.
- The Province make OAT/OATi therapy available in every hospital with an ER.
- The Province expand access to the at-home detox model trials (Substance Use Treatment and Response Team (START)) to 80% across the province by the end of 2024.
- The Province make OAT/OATi Therapy certification required for physicians or nurse practitioners specializing in ER medicine by the end of 2024.

4.9 Youth Challenges Recommendations

- Increase support of organizations like ADAPS (Alberni Drug and Alcohol Prevention Services) offers information, counselling, and support for youth (age 12 - 24) and their supports affected by the use of substances. Services are harm-reduction-based and cover early intervention/information through intensive treatment and health maintenance. Open to anyone affected by a youth's use of

substances, whether in their own use or someone else's. Organizations like ADAPS play a key role in solution-based work with youth.

- Education and Awareness: Implement age-appropriate drug education programs in schools that inform about the risks and consequences of substance use. This education should also extend to online platforms where youth spend a significant amount of time.
- Parental Involvement: Encourage open dialogue between parents and children about substance use. Parents should be educated on the signs of drug use and effective communication strategies.
- Mental Health Support: Enhance access to mental health services for youth. Early intervention for mental health issues can reduce the risk of self-medicating with drugs.
- Positive Role Models: Promote positive role models and mentors for young people. Having someone to look up to can inspire youth to make healthy choices.
- Healthy Alternatives: Provide and promote engaging activities and hobbies as alternatives to substance use. Sports, arts, and community service can offer a sense of belonging and accomplishment.
- Peer Support Programs: Develop peer-led initiatives and support groups where young people can share experiences and encourage each other to stay drug-free.
- Community Engagement: Involve the community in creating safe and supportive environments for youth. Community centres and programs can offer resources and a haven for young people.
- Enforcement: Ensure that police and public safety measures/regulations regarding the sale and distribution of substances are actively utilized to reduce the availability of drugs to minors.
- Early Intervention Programs: Implement programs that identify at-risk youth early and provide them with the support they need before they turn to drugs.
- Access to Treatment: Ensure that there are accessible, youth-friendly treatment programs that offer a range of services, including counselling, therapy, and rehabilitation.
- Aftercare and Relapse Prevention: Provide ongoing support for youth who have gone through treatment to prevent relapse. This could include mentorship programs, support networks, and educational opportunities.
- Research and Evaluation: Support research to better understand the reasons behind youth substance use and to evaluate the effectiveness of different intervention strategies.

4.10 Primary Care

- The Province make acquiring OAT/OATi certification so attractive for existing primary care physicians and nurse practitioners that it increases the base of primary health care professionals certified to administer OAT/OATi to a minimum of 80% of primary health care professionals by the end of 2024

- The province in consultation with the College of Physicians and Universities make OAT/OATi certification mandatory for graduating physicians and nurse practitioners. Also, existing healthcare professionals from other jurisdictions wishing to practice in British Columbia must acquire OAT/OATi certification before being issued a license.
- Drop the requirement for mentorship after OAT/OATi training in favour of an examination model.

4.11 Criminal Justice System, Decriminalisation/Legalisation, Public Safety Measures Recommendations

5.10-1 Criminal Justice System Recommendations

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Note: These recommendations exclude any criminal behaviours that result in violence, weapons possession, or people possessing more than 250 grams of substances identified as illicit drugs in Canada.

- The Province allocate resources to enhance and expand addiction treatment infrastructure, that ensures access of justice system clients to timely and comprehensive support for people seeking recovery.
- The Federal Government in partnership with Provinces expand restorative justice programs across Canada, especially for people who use substances and have committed nonviolent petty crimes in sourcing substances for their substance use disorders.
- The Province expand diversion programs - and roll out the implementation of Drug Courts. Drug treatment court is a special court that works to redirect non-violent offenders with substance disorders into programs of treatment and supervision, instead of sentencing them to prison. The court is supported by immediate access to programs consisting of addiction recovery services, social service agencies and individual case planning.
- The Province create systems and procedures that divert people with mental health disorders and substance disorders into immediate access to forensics-driven treatment and recovery. This includes making alternatives to incarceration a first choice for nonviolent offences related to substance use, such as community service, restitution, or supervised treatment programs.
- The Province establish a special diversion program for youth involved in non-violent offences driven by substance use, emphasizing education, counselling, and community service rather than punitive measures.
- All levels of government collaborate with Indigenous Justice Systems – where possible, refer Indigenous people to an Indigenous-led justice system.
- The Province introduce incentives within the justice system for people who complete substance disorder treatment programs, promoting positive outcomes and rehabilitation.

- All levels of government encourage proactive community policing models that prioritize harm reduction strategies over punitive measures, fostering trust and cooperation between law enforcement and communities.
- The Province Implement cross-sector collaboration programs between the justice system, healthcare providers, and community organizations to create a coordinated and comprehensive response to the poisoned drug catastrophe.
- The Province establish education and sensitisation programs for legal professionals, especially Judges and Crown Prosecutors to increase awareness of the complexities of substance use disorders and to reduce stigma.
- The province modify the current legal aid model to provide specialized legal aid for people facing legal challenges related to non-violent substance use/concurrent disorders. This would include specially trained Public Defenders who are trained in all the diversion opportunities.
- The Federal Government and Province, in partnership, develop metrics to continuously monitor changes to our justice system, and implement data-driven decision-making processes that evaluate the impact of interventions and adjust strategies accordingly.

4.11-2 Decriminalisation/Legalisation Recommendations

- Stop police sweeps in municipalities intent on circumventing the BC provincial decriminalization trial.
- The Province evaluate decriminalisation/legalisation policies, allowing for adjustments on science and evidence-based emerging research, public health needs, and community feedback.
- The Province implement an extensive public service ad campaign focusing on the evidence-based advantages of decriminalization.
- Restore the original BC Provincial Government policies of the decriminalisation trial and legislation.
- The Federal Government and Province, in partnership, make the decriminalisation trial permanent as soon as possible
- The Federal Government and Province, in partnership, increase the decriminalised quantity of substances allowed for personal use to an average one-week supply.

4.11-3 Public Safety Measures Recommendations

- The Province increase the accessibility of recovery treatment services, including detoxification programs, rehabilitation facilities, and mental health support, in-community to provide **timely** assistance to those in need. The goal is immediate referral into recovery through critical care hospital beds and then transfer to recovery programs within 48 hours.
- The Province invest in increasing province-wide public awareness/education programs to raise understanding about the poisoned drug catastrophe, promote

harm reduction practices, and reduce stigma associated with substance disorders.

- The Province expand the availability of safe consumption/overdose prevention sites, providing supervised environments for people to use substances safely while accessing support services. In Port Alberni, increase the OPS hours to a 24/7 model.
- Island Health investigate creating a 2nd OPS in the Argyle/3rd Ave corridor of Port Alberni. This area is frequented by many of our marginalized family, friends and neighbours of our community. It's also far enough away from our existing OPS that clients are unwilling to travel to the current OPS.
- The city provides public toilets in areas of the city frequented by our marginalized demographics.
- The Federal Government and Province, in partnership, accelerate the Implementation of community policing models that prioritize harm reduction strategies over punitive measures, building trust and collaboration between law enforcement and communities.
- The Province moves towards integrating mental health services with policing models, recognizing the co-occurrence of mental health challenges and substance use. 911 reports of a critical mental health event respond with police and mental health experts. We recommend the expansion of the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team in Port Alberni to enable them to respond in conjunction with police in mental health crises 24/7 by the end of 2024.
- The Province significantly increase public awareness campaigns to destigmatize substance disorders, increase understanding of the poisoned drug catastrophe, and encourage people to seek help without fear of judgment by the end of 2024.
- School Boards provide a formal training program for educators and school staff on recognizing signs of substance use, facilitating early intervention, and connecting students to appropriate support services.
- The Province significantly Increases the availability of all harm reduction material in communities. E.g. – vending machines, and/or distribution in all pharmacies using a (take what you need display) at the entrance doors of pharmacies
- The Province significantly increases public awareness that harm reduction and treatment are part of the same recovery process. Our strongest ask is for all levels of government, especially the provincial government, to campaign hard on educating the public with real information based on science/evidence-based information.
- The province increases support for programs like Community Action Teams (CAT). These programs are community-led initiatives and concentrate on networking with service providers, peers and the community. Community Action Teams focus on harm reduction, reducing stigma and addressing social determinants of the poisoned drug catastrophe. Support and funding of CAT Teams allow local communities to tailor strategies to their unique needs and challenges.

4.12 Harm Reduction Recommendations.

- Island Health Authority increase the Port Alberni OPS hours of operation to a 24/7 model as soon as possible.
- The Province increases access to harm-reduction supplies.
- Significantly increase public awareness that harm reduction and treatment are part of the same recovery journey. Our strongest ask is for all levels of government, especially the provincial government to campaign hard on educating the public with real information based on science/evidence-based information.
- The Province implements mobile harm reduction units to reach underserved and remote communities, providing on-the-spot support, education, and resources.
- The Province significantly Increases the availability of all harm reduction material in communities. E.g. – vending machines, and/or distribution in all pharmacies using a (take what you need display) at the entrance doors of pharmacies
- The Province through its Ministry of Health, integrates harm reduction methods into primary care settings, ensuring that healthcare providers offer non-judgmental support and resources to people with substance use disorders based on trauma-informed care principles.
- All levels of government and service providers provide cultural competency training for healthcare professionals to ensure that harm reduction services are inclusive and respectful of the diverse backgrounds and experiences of all people, (especially indigenous – due to their over-representation in the catastrophe) seeking support.
- All levels of government and service providers collaborate with Indigenous communities to incorporate traditional healing practices into harm reduction strategies, respecting cultural diversity and enhancing the effectiveness of interventions.
- The Province increase access to transitional housing, permanent housing and support services for people with substance use disorders. This provides stability and assistance in their recovery journey. (no healing begins without a safe place to lay your head every night)
- School Boards integrate harm reduction education into school curricula to equip students with knowledge about substance use, risks, and harm reduction practices from an early age.
- The Province develop and support peer-based initiatives (Community Action Teams) that provide individuals with lived experience, and an opportunity to connect, share knowledge, and offer support in harm reduction efforts.
- The Province through Island Health augment existing drug-testing services in Port Alberni to allow people to test the contents of unregulated substances using an onsite FTIR Spectroscopy or Paper-Spray Mass Spectrometry by the end of 2024. This promotes informed choices and reduces the risk of unintentional poisoning.

- Island Health Authority to investigate a mobile drug testing unit that can meet people where they are. Possibly consider a scalable model that utilizes a travelling unit between communities. (Mondays and Fridays in Port Alberni, Tuesdays in Oceanside, etc.)

4.13 Stigma Reduction Recommendations

- The Province launch specific campaigns promoting the use of inclusive and non-stigmatizing language in public discourse, shaping a narrative that emphasizes health and recovery rather than moral judgment.
- The Province change the name of the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions.
- The Province significantly increase targeted public awareness campaigns to educate the public about the complexities of substance use disorders and corresponding stigma, dispelling myths and challenging stereotypes by the end of 2024.
    - Utilize public figures, including policymakers, celebrities, and community leaders in media campaigns, to openly discuss and advocate for stigma reduction, leveraging their influence to challenge societal attitudes.
- The Province implement a targeted program to educate media professionals with sensitivity training to ensure accurate and compassionate reporting on issues related to substance use, avoiding sensationalism and reinforcing harmful stereotypes.
- The Province and Health Authorities promote storytelling initiatives where people with lived experience share their journeys of recovery. This humanizes people's struggle with substance disorders and challenges preconceived notions in the general public.
- The Province establish provincial support programs for families affected by substance use disorders, offering resources and guidance to reduce internalized stigma and foster healthy family dynamics.
- BC Emergency Health Services provide specialized training for all 1st Responders on stigma reduction, emphasizing compassionate approaches when interacting with individuals experiencing substance use challenges.
- All levels of government facilitate peer-led community events that bring together individuals in recovery, community members, and service providers, fostering a sense of unity and reducing isolation.
- All levels of government encourage community art projects and expressions that challenge stereotypes and showcase the diverse experiences of individuals affected by substance use, promoting understanding through creativity.
- The Province through BC Corrections, establish reintegration programs for individuals leaving correctional facilities, offering support, employment opportunities, and stigma-reduction initiatives to prevent recidivism.
- The Province develop programs that empower individuals in recovery through employment opportunities, reducing stigma by showcasing the potential for success and contribution to society.

4.14 Recovery Treatment Time Frames Recommendations

- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities streamline referral processes between emergency departments, primary care providers, and treatment facilities to minimize delays in transitioning people from crisis to recovery.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities implement 24/7 crisis intervention services, providing immediate support and assessment for people in acute distress, with a focus on facilitating entry into treatment.
- The Province increase the availability of crisis stabilisation beds, providing short-term intensive support for people in acute distress while facilitating a smooth transition into longer-term treatment.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities expand inpatient detox services utilizing critical care beds in hospitals to accommodate the immediate needs of people seeking to overcome physical dependence on substances.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities expand at-home detox programs.
- The Province introduce mobile outreach and treatment units to reach underserved and remote communities, providing on-the-spot assessments and initiating the treatment process promptly.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities establish fast-track access for high-risk populations, such as people with a history of overdose or those facing severe health complications, recognizing the urgency of their treatment needs.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities expand telehealth and virtual treatment options to enhance accessibility for people in remote areas or those facing barriers to in-person visits, ensuring timely access to OAT treatment and recovery support.
- The Province prioritize same-day access to Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) (OAT/OATi) options, such as methadone or buprenorphine, reducing withdrawal symptoms and supporting people immediately.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities integrate peer support programs to assist people during transitions between different phases of treatment, providing guidance, encouragement, and understanding from those with lived experience.
- The Province increase access to primary care providers (GPs and Nurse Practitioners) to ensure seamless integration of substance use treatment into routine healthcare, minimizing delays in accessing comprehensive care.
- The province reduce waiting times for outpatient treatment services, ensuring people can access counselling, therapy, and support groups without prolonged delays.

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- The Province develop post-overdose outreach programs that connect people who have experienced an overdose with immediate support and treatment options, promoting a pathway to recovery.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities implement strategies to engage and support families in facilitating the recovery process, recognizing the crucial role of familial support in sustained recovery for people suffering from substance disorders.

4.15 Comprehensive Treatment/Recovery Program Recommendations

- At a provincial level, work towards creating a recovery model that embraces people beginning at critical events, hand-offs to detox, through to recovery and then onto outpatient recovery programs.
- The Province create a scalable end-to-end system that is provincially funded for 80% of the population of BC with a target date by the year-end of 2024.
    - Model this end-to-end recovery system to embrace the evidence-based concept that relapse is a necessary part of recovery and should not result in ejection from recovery programs.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities look at diversifying as much as possible regional facilities. One possible model is to have sub-facilities in communities that are part of a larger central regional facility.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities ensure that this inclusive model (hand-offs) is transparent to the patient. (Preceding programs must hold patients until succeeding programs can accept them) Once a patient embarks on the process, there are no gaps between programs.
- The Province through the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities design programs to comprise social determinants skills including life skills, work skill training, job placement and housing placement before exiting to the out-patient program in the community.

4.16 Comprehensive Preventative Programs Recommendations:

- The following recommendations require that they be driven Provincially.
- The Province Initiate transformative and innovative provincial prevention public awareness campaigns on TV, Radio, traditional media channels, and social media
    - Utilize famous people to deliver prevention messages.
- Implement age-appropriate substance use education in early childhood programs to build foundational awareness and resilience against future substance-related challenges.
- Develop comprehensive youth prevention programs in schools, combining education, mental health support, and positive recreational activities to discourage early substance use.

- Conduct ongoing community outreach and education campaigns to raise awareness about substance use, its risks, and available preventive resources, fostering a supportive community environment.
- Establish family-centred prevention services that engage and empower families in recognizing and addressing substance use issues, promoting a collaborative approach to prevention.
- Introduce school-based prevention and intervention services that identify and address substance use concerns among students promptly, providing counselling and support to prevent escalation.
- Implement targeted prevention programs for populations at higher risk of substance use, addressing social determinants and providing support for vulnerable communities, especially in Indigenous communities who are disproportionately impacted by the poisoned drug catastrophe
- Provide cultural competency training for educators to ensure that prevention programs are inclusive and respectful of the diverse backgrounds and experiences of students.
- Develop online and digital resources for preventive education, reaching a wide audience and leveraging technology to disseminate information about substance use risks.
- Conduct community-based prevention workshops that address local factors contributing to substance use, tailoring interventions to the unique needs and challenges of specific communities.
- Establish programs that provide parental guidance and support in navigating conversations about substance use with children, promoting open communication and early intervention.
- Implement peer-led prevention initiatives in schools and communities, leveraging the influence of peers to promote positive behaviours and discourage substance use.
- Develop programs that focus on building community resilience as a preventive measure, addressing underlying social and economic factors that contribute to substance use.
- Involve youth in the planning and implementation of prevention programs, ensuring that initiatives are relevant, engaging, and resonate with the youth audience.
- Integrate preventive measures within primary care settings, ensuring that healthcare providers actively engage in discussions about substance use risks with patients.
- Increase the accessibility of community health clinics, providing preventive services, resources, and information related to substance use in a community-centered setting.
- Forge partnerships with local businesses to promote preventive messages, providing resources and education to employees and customers about the risks of substance use.
- Incorporate preventive measures into recreation centres and community spaces, offering information, resources, and activities that discourage substance use.

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Alberni Community Foundation – 2023 Vital Report

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Report on Motorized Vehicles on Municipal Lands, such as Parks and the Log Train Trail

Recently at an Alberni Clayoquot Regional District meeting, it was resolved that motorized vehicles be allowed to use the Log Train Trail. A piece of the Log Train Trail, currently owned and operated by the City of Port Alberni leads into the piece owned by the ACRD. I am concerned that users of ATVs will migrate onto city owned property.

While off road vehicles have a purpose, there are numerous concerns regarding allowing them onto our publicly used lands.

- Environmental
  - Environmental damage from motorized recreation is well documented.
  - Motorized vehicles can cause soil erosion, damage vegetation and disturb wildlife.
  - Additionally, ATVs emit greenhouse gases and air pollutants.
- Noise Pollution
  - In addition to environmental concerns, ATVs can cause noise pollution. The noise generated by ATVs can be disruptive to both humans and animals. The disturbance of natural habitats can have significant consequences for local wildlife.
  - The noise generated by ATVs makes them incompatible with non-motorised activities and recreationists who seek the peace and tranquility of public lands.
- Wildfires
  - ATVs have been identified as a specific cause of wildfires.
  - The heat from the exhaust systems of ATVs can sometimes cause wildfires.
  - ATVs with their spark arrestors can release sparks that start wildfires.
- Safety
  - Another challenge is the safety of other trail users. Motorized vehicles can travel at high speeds and pose a risk to hikers, bikers and other non-motorized trail users.
  - Lack of enforcement leaves pedestrians unprotected.
- Health
  - Walkers and hikers are breathing in the exhaust from motorized vehicles.
  - There is an epidemic of diabetes and obesity in our society. We need to encourage exercise as a form of keeping healthy and active.
  - Hiking is a sports activity that prevents and improves cardiovascular diseases.
- Tourism
  - Alberni Valley Tourism has recently featured the Log Train Trail on its Facebook page.
  - Trail tourism is a growing segment of the tourism industry worldwide.

Currently, motorized vehicles are not currently allowed on the city owned Log Train Trail. I would like to ensure that the Log Train Trail property that is owned by the City of Port Alberni remains a passive area where our citizens and visitors can access nature and exercise as well as remain a popular tourist attraction without the fear and worry of the trail being overrun by ATV enthusiasts.

Therefore, I would like to ensure that the City of Port Alberni protects the integrity of the Log Train Trail and have it continue as a place for walkers, hikers and bikers to enjoy.

McLean Mill has been recommended in the Log Train Trail Management Plan as a location for parking to accommodate motorized vehicle users and to provide access to the Log Train Trail. The parking lot should

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remain available for patrons of the McLean Mill or for hikers/bikers that want to enjoy the Log Train Trail. However, we need to ensure that proper signage is on site.

With the recent decision of the ACRD, I would like to ask Council to direct administration to review all current signage and barriers on the Log Train Trail in order to ensure that the trail remains free of motorized vehicles.

Further, I would like to recommend that the City of Port Alberni write a letter to the Ministry of Transportation and Mosaic stating that we do not support motorized vehicles on the Log Train Trail and that our portion of the Trail will remain for hikers/bikers only.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Haggard