



SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 26, 2007 COUNCIL MEETING

This is an information report regarding the most recent meeting of Port Alberni City Council. This is not the official minutes of the meeting.

*For more information please contact Russell Dyson, City Clerk
720-2810 (e-mail: russell_dyson@portalberni.ca)*

► DELEGATIONS

Mayor McRae recognized **Champions from the Alberni Valley Track Club**.

Gayle Starratt from the **Friends of Westhaven Society** made a presentation regarding the purpose of the Society and upcoming fundraising event. They have developed a community garden for Westhaven and are looking for donations to help with hard surfaces to make the garden more accessible to residents.

Charlie Haggard presented plans and a **proposal for a new highway from the Alberni Valley**, for the information of Council. Council adopted a resolution in support of the proposal and will write a letter to the Ministry of Transportation.

Alesha Rata of Dancestreams Performers was in attendance and advised Council of the "**Entre Nous, Canada Dances**" in Port Alberni on March 2, 3 and 4.

► PROCLAMATIONS

Council proclaimed June 12, 2007 as "**BC Paraplegic Association Day – A World without Barriers**" in Port Alberni.

Council proclaimed April 22 to 28, 2007 as "**Arts and Culture Week**" in Port Alberni. This year the Arts Council are celebrating the three mosaics created to honour volunteerism within our community. The mosaics are located at North Island College, the Alberni Valley Multiplex and the Alberni Valley Museum.

► CORRESPONDENCE

Council endorsed the request of **CUPE BC** to write a letter in support of local **BC Assessment Offices** remaining in all communities and asking that the local office in Port Alberni be reinstated.

Council endorsed the request of **Tofino Bus** to write a letter of support for their application to the Passenger Transportation Board to reinstate the **Victoria-Port Alberni-Tofino/Ucluelet bus service**.

Council received a letter from **Pamela Finlayson** regarding the Post Office on **Argyle Street** and requesting that the City clean up the litter around 3rd Avenue. Council will share with the Uptown Merchants the City's regulations regarding maintaining property and sidewalks.

Council received a letter from the **Alliance of Concerned Citizens of BC** encouraging communities to monitor Manufactured Home Parks with regard to maintenance and requesting a copy of the City's Relocation Assistance Policy. The City of Port Alberni does not have such a policy.

Council received a letter from John C. Turner, **Gap Ministries Foundation** advising that the Foundation is in the process of founding the Corporation of Vancouver Island Charitable and Community Services, that its primary project is to develop a Vancouver Light Rail System from Victoria to Port Alberni.

Council received a letter from the **City of Abashiri** requesting that the City "keep the Twinning Society" and find someone to act as a contact/liaison between Port Alberni and Abashiri. The Twinning Society will continue and has elected a new slate of directors at its recent Annual General Meeting.

Council received a letter from **Timberwest** thanking the City for its January 23, 2007 letter regarding the **Martin Mars** and asking if the community is ready to accept the donation of a plane when they cease operation. The City will confirm that the Alberni Valley is still interested in receiving a plane.

Council authorized the City to enter into a **Statutory Right of Way for the China Creek Water Main Replacement project**.

► UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council received a report from the Director of Parks and Recreation advising that the flagging of a trail near Seaton and Somass Parks was placed by the Sproat Lake Park Commission to get a visual impression of the proposed alignment and there are no plans to develop trails at this time, and that the City supports development of additional **Regional Trails**. The City will ask the Regional District to consult with area residents as part of the planning process.

► DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Council received monthly reports from the **RCMP, Manager of Human Resources and Community Development and the Director of Parks and Recreation**.

► REPORTS

Council received minutes from the **Alberni Valley Museum and Heritage Commission** meeting held February 7, 2007.

Council endorsed the Fire Chief's recommendation for the City to sponsor the Deputy Fire Chief to attend as a member of the validation committee and as a member of the advisory committee for the **Vancouver Island Emergency Response Academy**.

Council received a report from the Alberni Valley Museum Director regarding **museum budget comparisons**.

Council approved the application to the **Union of BC Municipalities Tourism fund in the amount of \$85,000**. The funds are for development of a brand for the community, a redevelopment of the promotional materials for the Alberni Heritage Network and integration of the City's sign plan

Council received the minutes from the **Boundary Study Committee** meeting held February 12, 2007.

Council approved additional funds in the amount of \$357,834 from the Land Sale Reserve account to the **Library development project**, 2008 lease figures at the rate of \$15.28 per square foot, and award of the tender to renovate and expand the Library to the low bidder CMF Construction in the amount of \$1,109,985. The library expansion will be constructed this summer.

Council provided early approval for **two public works capital projects** in 2007, including a water and road resurfacing project on Bute Street between 13th and 14th Avenues for a cost of \$110,160 and a sewer and road resurfacing project within the 2400 and 2500 blocks of Hilton Avenue for a cost of \$174,620.

► OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Council directed that a letter be written to the **Vancouver Island Health Authority** to request that services be reestablished at West Coast General hospital including the nine acute care beds and the medical stores and supplies.

*Should you have any questions or require any further information,
please do not hesitate to call:*

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