

**MINUTES OF THE
RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2018, AT 4:30 PM
AT WEST COAST AQUATIC**

Committee: Sharie Minions (Co-Chair), Brandy Lauder, Wally Samuel, Ian Benoit and Sheena Falconer
Regrets: Cynthia Dick (Co-Chair), Jim Tatoosh, and Ann Robinson

City Staff: Alicia Puusepp, Manager of Communications

Public: John Douglas, Al Zimmerman and Mini H.

Sharie Minions welcomed guests to the West Coast Aquatic office and acknowledged the meeting was taking place on the unceded territories of the Hupacasath and Tseshahat First Nations. Dinner was provided.

1. Approval of Agenda

It was moved and seconded:

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2. Adoption of Minutes

It was moved and seconded:

That the minutes of the May 2, 2018 meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

3. Community-to-Community Forum Summary of Input - review

Sharie opened the review by discussing the May 12th meeting cancellation stating that the meeting was cancelled due to a death in the community. The funeral services were planned for May 12th. Sharie then went on to form the basis of the review discussion noting that the Committee would try to get through as many questions in the summary as possible and that a future meeting outside of the regularly scheduled ones may be required to complete the review.

The Committee then discussed its approach to reviewing and implementing actions from the summary. It was also mentioned that the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action would be kept separate from the review and discussed at a future meeting with Keith Hunter possibly facilitating the discussion.

Committee members also discussed the scope of the Reconciliation Committee and noted that Reconciliation in Port Alberni is much larger than what the Committee is mandated to do. Their mandate should be stated in all outreach materials so citizens understand the scope of the Committee’s work.

The Committee then went on to review the summary document.

Question 1: What does reconciliation mean to you?	
Theme	Opportunity
Improve Govt. to Govt. relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Encourage FN to run for City Council. There is an event that encourages women to run for Council; there should be a similar event for FN ○ Appoint a liaison from each Nation that represents FN interests on City Council. This could also be done in reverse where the City appoints a liaison to attend FN Council meetings. ○ A Protocol Agreement or the renewal of a Protocol Agreement would be a good first step in government to government relations. ○ Improve the working relationship by making engagement true. Not making the decision then engaging.
Reconciliation through education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Local schools are building FN education programs. We need to look at having Dave M. from School District 70 present to the Committee. The Committee can then look at how it can help further those efforts. <p>ACTION: Invite Dave M. to a future meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Highlight what actions/steps have been done to reconcile with local FN. Showcase people/organization that are trying to make a difference. <p>ACTION: Add Catholic school to stakeholder list</p>

Question 2: What can the community do to advance Reconciliation in Port Alberni?	
Theme	Opportunity
Cityscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The City needs to look at how it presents itself to the world; names are important, and there is an opportunity to showcase FN culture and heritage. <p>ACTION: Look at what other municipalities are doing. Squamish, for example, has a FN naming program.</p>

<p>Cityscapes cont.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Look at adding FN names to numbered streets within City limits. ○ The City should build a process around how it names streets/places/buildings and provide criteria for FN naming. An engagement process should be built into this process to ensure FN are consulted when using a FN word for streets/places/buildings. ○ Redesign the City’s flag to incorporate FN elements.
<p>Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hold events in common public spaces where it is visible and welcoming to all. People want to eat together and learn together in a more casual setting. <p>ACTION: Alicia to gather info on Aboriginal Day events around town and post to social media.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Note: Aboriginal Days is already planned within t FN communities so it would not be appropriate for the City to host an event on this day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ City (Sharie), Hupacasath (Brandy), Tseshaht (Cynthia) and Friendship Centre (Wally) reps work together to plan a summer event in a public space. <p>ACTION: Draft a joint letter to Scott Fraser’s office requesting funding for the event.</p>
<p>Language</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ FN cultures need to preserve and teach their traditional languages; however, there are fundamental flaws in the education system that hinders efforts from advancing. <p>ACTION: Draft letter endorsed by governments (City, Tseshaht, and Hupacasath) with recommendations on what needs to change in the educational structure for teaching traditional languages and enrolling for courses in traditional language within Port Alberni’s jurisdiction.</p>

4. UBCM Community-to-Community Forum Final Report

Alicia noted that Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) reviewed the final report and that grant funding was approved.

5. Next Steps

Alicia requested permission to send the Summary of Input to Forum attendees and the stakeholder database. The Committee agreed. The summary will be sent via email and posted to the City's website. The Addendum within the summary will not go via email but rather posted online should people wish to see the full version.

Alicia also requested permission to build a dedicated Reconciliation tile on the Let's Connect Port Alberni platform. The content will be provided to Reconciliation Committee members for review and comment.

Alicia recommended the two items (summary and platform) be sent live in tandem. The Committee agreed.

The Committee will continue with its summary review at the next Reconciliation Committee meeting.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be hosted by the City of Port Alberni at City Hall on **May 30, 2018, at 4:30 pm.**

7. Adjournment

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting adjourn at 6:56 pm

CARRIED

Sharie Minions, Chair

Davina Hartwell, City Clerk

Cynthia Dick, Chair